

Biology and Medicine Division Fall Newsletter

Fall Newsletter

October 2009

Special points of interest:

- Chairman's message
- Program Committee Report
- Vogt Scholarship Recipient
- MARC VIII Report
- Food Irradiation Statement
- Board of Directors Nominations
- MTAA Update

Officers:

Chair – Dennis James

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect –
Sheldon Landsberger

Secretary/Treasurer –
Steve Biegalski

Board Liason – Sama Bilbao y
Leon

Executive Committee Members

Wayne Newhauser (2010)

Nicholas Spyrou (2010)

Albert Wiley (2010)

Sam Glover (2011)

Jennifer Koop Wagner (2011)

Stephen LaMont (2011)

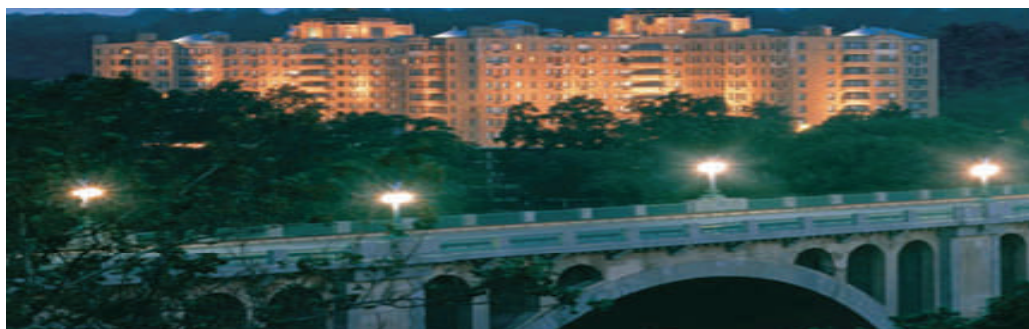
David Robertson (2012)

Bryan Tomlin (2012)

Rolf Zeisler (2012)

Elisabete Fernandes (Ex-officio)

Make plans to be at the BMD Special Session at the ANS Winter Meeting In Washington D.C., November 2009



Since 1930, the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC has played host to presidents, world leaders and inaugural balls, making it a true historic Washington landmark.

Welcome to the Fall edition of Biology and Medicine Division's newsletter. The following pages provide an overview of the Division's upcoming activities and other areas of potential interest to our members. Please check out our updated website as well. As always, your feedback is greatly appreciated. Opportunities abound for your participation in the Division. We have additional ANS position statements to update this year, paper reviews to be performed, sessions to be organized as well as needed participation in our special sessions. Please let us hear from you!

BMD Executive Committee

<http://bmd.ans.org>

Chairman's Message

Greetings from your division Chair. It is a great honor for me to have the opportunity to provide leadership to the division at a time of excitement and atmosphere of change within the Society. You will see in this newsletter that your officers and executive committee members are busy ensuring that the Biology and Medicine Division is included in the nuclear renaissance as embodied by the new "Get the Word Out" campaign initiated by Past-president Bill Burchill. Just as public perception is favorably altered towards nuclear power playing an increasing role in our nation's energy plan for the future, non-power nuclear technology is also increasingly embraced. In fact, medical and therapeutic technology leads the way in this regard as our society reaps the rewards in the form of unequalled health care. Let me provide a few comments as an overview, then peruse the paragraphs below for the details of the division's activities.

BMD Vitality

Many of you may not be familiar with the Society's mechanism for accessing the "vitality" of its professional divisions. Every division is judged each year according to a series of standards as to its participation in Society activities, its service to its own members, the Society and to the population as a whole. The results of these evaluations are displayed on a matrix called the "Vitality Metrics" and reviewed by the Society's leadership. The metrics are color coded such that a division that exceeds the standard is green for that particular category; white is for meets the standard, yellow for below expectation and red indicates that the division is in danger of failing to accomplish its goals in that area.

BMD has historically suffered in several areas, a problem common to smaller divisions such as ours. I can report to you, however, that our most recent (2008) metrics are perhaps the most favorable in some time. You will note from the

Division Meetings	Division Governance	Division Contributions to Society	Division Services to Membership
National Meeting Participation	Succession Planning	ANS Position Statements	Professional Development
Class I, Class II Topicals	Membership Trends	Participation with Outside Professional Societies	Scholarships
Class III Topicals	Communications	Society Leadership	Peer Recognition/Awards
	Division Planning	Non-Meeting Publications	Student Support
		Divisions Commitment to YMG	

graphic attached that the division scored 11 of 16 categories green with only one yellow category. In fact the Division Planning topic has already been addressed and a strategic plan is being readied for submission. The entire column of "Division Services to Membership" averages out to be rated as exceptional. This excellent report is a result of increased activity of the division in meeting preparation, session organization, and all the activities considered important to a professional society. We have several goals yet for the CY2009 which will improve our vitality statistics even more. Thanks to everyone for the great effort. If you see an area in which you would like to make a contribution, be sure to let us know.

The New Executive Committee

We have new blood! The new executive board of the BMD includes newcomers, David Robertson, Wayne Newhauser and Bryan Tomlin. In addition, Steve Biegalski has assumed the role of Secretary/Treasurer and becomes a voting member as well. Past-secretary Sheldon Landsberger is the new Chair-elect and will assume the division chair post in June 2010. With the seating of this new committee the division has come into

compliance with requirements as specified by its bylaws and rules. We now have three voting members with expiration dates of 2010, 2011 and 2012 each, as well as three voting officers and a Past-chair voting ex-officio. This provides a compre-

hensive perspective on our activities from academia, the medical community and governmental agencies as well.

The full slate of officers and committee members is listed on the front of the newsletter and any of them will be glad to receive your input if you have suggestions for the direction of the division. Also, if you want to become involved, we are always looking for additional help and we would be happy to include you and your ideas in our strategic plan.

An Energetic Program Chair

One primary reason for the Division's increase in stature within the Society is the energy our new Program Chair Rolf Zeisler is expending on our behalf. In addition to developing special sessions for the Society's annual and winter meetings, we are undertaking a variety of new programmatic issues. The recent successful embedded topical meeting, "Isotope Production in Medicine and Industry" has prompted plans to make this a recurring biannual event. We are also participating in a topical with Radiation Protection and Safety Division (RPSD) in a joint topical scheduled for April, 2010 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Plans for this November's Winter Meeting (see photo on the front page), include a cluster of sessions exploring aspects of the future of activation analysis. I want to point out in particular the session we are organizing in honor of Rolf on the occasion of his approaching retirement this fall. I hope everyone recognizes his efforts, and will come by and congratulate him in Atlanta.

Dennis James, Division Chair

Clark wins Vogt Radiochemistry Scholarship for 2009

The recipient of the Vogt Radiochemistry Scholarship supported by the Biology and Medicine Division is Richard Aaron Clark from the University of Missouri. Richard will receive the \$3000 award and be invited to attend our executive committee meeting at the Winter Meeting in Washington in November (however from the information provided below, he might be too busy at that time). The following paragraphs serve to introduce you to Richard as well as remind you of the award's namesake, Jim Vogt. Those of us who knew and worked with Jim remember him well, but as time goes on, I expect many are less familiar with his contributions. Congratulations Richard!

Richard Clark is a graduate student pursuing a Ph.D. in Chemistry with an emphasis in Radiochemistry at the University of Missouri–Columbia in Dr. J. David Robertson's group. He received his B.S. in Chemistry from Brigham Young University–Idaho in 2008. Richard served as one of the teaching assistants for the National Nuclear Chemistry Summer School in San Jose, CA. He is currently working on a project with Dr. William Miller in Nuclear Engineering at the University of Missouri–Columbia to study radiolysis effects on the dissolution rates of spent fuel in geological storage. He will also be investigating intrinsic dosimetry from radiation defects in glass containers in collaboration with Dr. Jon Schwantes from Pacific Northwest National Laboratories. Richard is a Nuclear Forensics Graduate Fellow which is sponsored by the US Department of



Homeland Security and Department of Defense. He and his wife, Alisha, are also expecting their first child, a boy, in November 2009.

Dr. James R. Vogt spent most of his professional career at the University of Missouri. At the time of his death, he was Program Manager for Nuclear Analysis at the Research Reactor Facility and was Professor of Nuclear Engineering.

Dr. Vogt's contributions to the field of radioanalytical chemistry were many and they have been recognized internationally by his appointments to the Editorial Boards of the Journal of Radioanalytical and Nuclear Chemistry and of Radiochemical and Radioanalytical Letters and as a member of the International Program Committee on Modern Trends in Activation Analysis. The latter committee organizes the major international activation analysis conference held every four years. However, Dr. Vogt will be best remembered as the inspiration and organizer of the "Missouri" Conferences that, during the passing years, became the major forum for radioanalytical chemistry

and its applications in the United States. These conferences (Nuclear Methods in Environment and Energy Research) were held as ANS Topical Meetings in 1971, 1974, 1977, and 1980, at the University of Missouri. The popularity and the increasing international character of these conferences resulted in the last "Missouri" conference being held as an International ANS Topical Conference in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico in 1984. Dr. Vogt was also a member of the Program Committee for the 1978 and 1980 ANS Topical Meetings held in Mayaguez, PR. Thus, in a major sense, Jim Vogt was responsible for the growth in international stature of these ANS Topical Meetings in radioanalytical chemistry over the past decades.

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At the time of this death, he was a member of the Organizing Committee of the International Conference on Methods and Applications of Radioanalytical Chemistry (MARC) to be held in Kona, Hawaii, April 1987. This ANS Topical Meeting was a major conference involving the Pacific Rim countries and was co-sponsored by ten international societies, in addition to ANS. This conference was the direct successor to the "Missouri" conferences and the previous Mayaguez ANS Topicals with which Dr. Vogt was associated. The MARC conference still continues as an ANS topical meeting attended by a very large international community. The latest in the series, MARC VIII was held just this last spring.

BMD Program Committee Report

The following report was presented to the BMD Committee of the Whole at the ANS Annual Meeting in Atlanta on June 14, 2009 by our Program Chair, Rolf Zeisler. Note that the Division is extremely active with participation in many topical and national meetings. Our appreciation is due to Rolf for the great job.

Class I Meetings:

BMD cosponsored the eighth installment of the ANS topical meeting Methods and Applications of

Radiochemistry (MARC-VIII) held April 5 - 10, 2009, in Kona, HI. For information please refer to <http://altmine.mie.uc.edu/nuclear/marc/viii.shtml>. The meeting was attended by about 270 participants from more than 20 countries. Rolf Zeisler (BMD) and Kenan Ünlü (IRD) organized a panel discussion on "Current status, trends, and needs in radiochemical education: the US and abroad". The outcome of this panel was a call upon our professional societies to form a coalition that will approach the relevant government agencies with a single voice, a unified strategic plan to reestablish radiochemistry as a viable discipline in the US. The report on this discussion and the contributions will be published at the end of summer in the AIP Proceedings. The MARC-VIII proceedings will be published in JRNC.

BMD, IRD, RSPD and CMPWG are cosponsoring the 2010 Las Vegas topical meeting.

Class III Meetings:

BMD provided primary sponsorship for the embedded topical "Isotopes for Medicine and Industry" at the ANS 2008 Annual Meeting. General Chair Wynn A. Volkert, University of Missouri-Columbia, and Technical Program Chair Ralph A. Butler, University of Missouri-Columbia, had put together a 3-day program with one opening plenary session (Radioisotopes—The 21st Century) and 12 technical parallel sessions covering isotope production and distribution, industrial applications, applications in medical diagnostics and therapy, as well as manpower and education. This well attended topical meeting was a success covering core interests of BMD and IRD in today's aspects and future development of isotope technology.

BMD is preparing to sponsor an imbedded topical on medical isotopes for the 2010 ANS WM.

Class IV Meetings:

BMD is supporting the CMPWG workshops

BMD has obtained ANS approval for the 13th International Conference on Modern Trends in Activation Analysis to be held March 13–18, 2011 at Texas A&M University, College Station, TX.

Contributions to ANS Annual and Winter Meetings:

2008 ANS Winter Meeting Reno, Nevada November 9-13, 2008. For that meeting we had organized special sessions on Advances and Issues in Computational Phantom Modeling in collaboration

with the Computational Medical Physics Working Group with five papers, and (Anti)-Coincidence Instruments and Software for Activation Analysis and Other Applications I and II with ten papers presented.

2009 ANS Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, June 14 - 18, 2009. BMD and IRD have cooperated to sponsor sessions on nuclear imaging methods and technology and reactor utilization. The session Neutron Radiography and Neutron Computed Tomography organized by Jack Brenizer, Penn State University, featured 7 invited and contributed papers, the session Nuclear Research Reactors: Utilizations and Applications of Nuclear Methods organized by Kenan Ünlü, PSU, featured 5 papers.

BMD sponsored special sessions on Nuclear-Based Imaging for Medical Diagnosis and Therapy organized by Bruce Smith, University of Texas San Antonio, TX, and Nicholas Spyrou, University of Surrey, UK had 10 papers.

Program Committee Report (continued)

2009 ANS Winter Meeting Washington, DC November 15-19, 2009.

BMD and IRD are cosponsoring a special sessions series on Nuclear Analytical Methods for the 21st Century. The call for papers has been issued for the following topics

- a. Nuclear Analytical Methods for the 21st Century —Role of Neutron Sources from Nonreactor Facilities (I/C), organized by Sheldon Landsberger UTA
- b. Nuclear Analytical Methods for the 21st Century—Gamma Rays and Neutrons in Physics and Engineering (I/C), organized by Richard Lindstrom, NIST
- c. Nuclear Analytical Methods for the 21st Century—Upholding Quality Assurance and Metrology (I), organized by Robert R. Greenberg, NIST
- d. Nuclear Analytical Methods for the 21st Century—Innovations in Activation Analysis: A Session in Honor of Dr. Rolf Zeisler (I), organized by Dennis James
- e. Nuclear Analytical Methods for the 21st Century Panel, organized by Rolf Zeisler
- f. Nuclear Analytical Methods for the 21st Century—Solutions for Nuclear Forensics (I/C) organized by IRD's Jack Brenizer PSU

and Biology and Medicine: General (C)

There is a CFP from the Accelerator Applications Division for Medical Accelerator Research and Progress (I/C). BMD will be seeking cosponsorship.

Future meetings

2010 AM Food Irradiation: Panel and Invited/Contributed paper sessions

2010 WM Embedded Topical Medical Isotopes

2012 Methods and Applications of Radioanalytical Chemistry

Food Irradiation Position Statement is approved by ANS Board of Directors

Food Irradiation

American Nuclear Society Position Statement #28

June 2009

The American Nuclear Society endorses the expanded use of food irradiation technology as part of a comprehensive program to improve the safety of the food supply.

Based on continual irradiation safety evaluations for more than 40 years, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved irradiation of various foodstuffs including wheat, potatoes, processed pork, herbs and spices, poultry, and molluscan shellfish. In 1986 the list was expanded to include fruits and vegetables and in 1997, red meat. In 2008, FDA Final Rule 73 FR 49593 allowed for increased irradiation dosages in lettuce and spinach sufficient to destroy disease-causing bacteria.

Decades of study by the FDA as well as other international organizations such as the International Atomic Energy Agency and the World Health Organization have consistently concluded that:

- Food does not become radioactive as a result of irradiation.
- The irradiation process is effective in decreasing or eliminating disease-causing microorganisms such as *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*), *Campylobacter* and *Salmonella* from foods.
- Irradiation reduces spoilage caused by bacteria, insects and parasites.
- Irradiation inhibits sprouting and delays ripening in some fruits and vegetables.
- Irradiation does not alter in any significant manner the nutritional value of food.
- Alterations in food created by irradiation are like those created by cooking and other processing.
- The irradiation process as regulated by the FDA is safe.

In order to improve the safety of the food supply, the American Nuclear Society recommends that:

- The FDA continues to investigate and approve the irradiation of additional foods.
- The FDA and the Department of Agriculture continue and increase their efforts to inform the producers, the food-processing community and the consumers about the benefits of food irradiation

For more information:

- Irradiation of Food and Food Packaging, Food and Drug Administration, <http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/opairrad.html>
- Facts About Food Irradiation, International Atomic Energy Agency, <http://www.iaea.org/programmes/nafa/d5/public/foodirradiation.pdf>
- Irradiation: A Safe Measure for Safer Iceberg Lettuce and Spinach, FDA Consumer Health Information, <http://www.fda.gov/consumer/updates/irradiation082208.pdf>

Methods and Applications of Radioanalytical Chemistry (MARC VIII)

The Eighth International Conference on *Methods and Applications of Radioanalytical Chemistry (MARC VIII)* was held at the Sheraton Keauhou Bay Resort, Kona, Hawaii, April 5–10, 2009, and was attended by 240 scientists representing 26 countries. A strong technical program, excellent new venue, and numerous social events led to another success in the MARC series of conferences. Since MARC I in 1987, this series of conferences has become the major international forum for presenting advances in radioanalytical chemistry and its applications, despite the somewhat remote location for many participants. The keen foresight of the MARC founding organizers to create a topical meeting dedicated to all aspects of radioanalytical chemistry was highlighted in MARC VIII with sessions covering a broad range of both long-standing and emerging technical areas.

A wide variety of topics were covered in the scientific program of MARC VII including environmental radioactivity measurements, activation analysis, biology and medical applications, actinide analytical chemistry, radiation detectors and instrumentation, proliferation prevention and safeguards, treaty monitoring, and radionuclide measurements using mass spectrometry. A highlight of MARC VIII was the awarding of the Hevesy Medal to Dr. Richard Lindstrom of the National Institute for Standards and Technology for his lifetime achievements in applying neutron activation analysis to metrology.

Over 350 presentations were given in both oral and poster sessions at the conference with over 190 of these submitted as full papers for the proceedings. As for previous conferences, all papers were peer-reviewed by at least two reviewers, as is the policy of the *Journal of Radioanalytical and Nuclear Chemistry*. Although this was an arduous and time-consuming process, most of the papers were improved as a result of peer review. We cannot express enough appreciation to the many reviewers who helped in the editorial process, particularly those who willingly reviewed several papers.

We want to express our sincere appreciation to the many people who helped organize MARC VIII. Jim TANNER served as Finance Chairman and kept us solvent in spite of the late venue change and extensive social program. Ned WOGMAN and Jim ELLISTON assisted in developing an outstanding program as assistant technical program chairs. Publicity Chair Harry MILEY, assisted by co-Publicity Chair Robert Runkle assured MARC VIII was well advertised and had a diverse group of supporters. Richard RAGAINI provided the liaison between the MARC VIII and the Northern California Section of the American Nuclear Society. The successful coordination of administrative activities including pre- and on-site registration was performed brilliantly by Conference Secretary Patti WILSON. Sherry GLOVER, Proceedings Chair, did an outstanding job collecting papers and organizing the pro-

ceedings. The MARC VIII website was expertly designed and maintained by Daniel GLOVER. A special thank you is due to Stephen Carpenter, the previous General Chair of the MARC Conference who routinely provided advice and assistance critical to the success of MARC VIII. Finally, a special word of appreciation is due to the outstanding staff of the Sheraton Keauhou Bay Resort, in particular Mary Jane Stancil and Stephen Waldmann who were extremely helpful in coordinating the move to the new venue and very responsive to our extensive needs.

Many members of the Technical Program Committee, and others, made special efforts to develop the excellent scientific program for the conference and deserve appreciation. These include Rolf ZEISLER, Kenan ÜNLÜ, Mauro BONARDI, Steve MORRIS, Mike REIMER, Ken INN, Simon JEROME, Peter BODE, Birgit WIERCZINSKI, A. CHATT, Andre BERLIZOV, Lav Tandon, Fabien Pointurier, Robert Steiner, Jeff Giglio, Richard LINDSTROM, Craig Aalseth, Iisa Outola, Sue Clark, Paula Bachelor, Dennis JAMES, Steve BIEGALSKI, Sandy WAGNER, Gerard PAYNE, David VIEIRA, Evelyn BOND, Ralf Sudowe, Adam Hutter, Robert Greenberg, David DiPrete, F. Goutelard, Suresh Srivastava, Marty Johnson, Tim DEVOL, Matt Douglas, Judah Friese, Rosara Payne, and Pavel POVINEC.

The support of Canberra, ORTEC, Eichrom Technologies, GEL, Gammadata, XIA, University of Texas at Austin, NNSA/NA-241, Space and Missile Defense Command, NNSA/NA-22 and the University of Cincinnati were critical to the success of MARC VIII. Special thanks are due to Prof. Tibor BRAUN, Editor-In-Chief of the *Journal of Radioanalytical and Nuclear Chemistry*, for his assistance in publishing these Proceedings in a timely fashion. We would like to express the appreciation for the support of the Divisions of Isotopes & Radiation and Biology & Medicine of the American Nuclear Society, and the Northern California Section of the American Nuclear Society, sponsors of MARC VIII.

Lastly, we would like to encourage all readers to keep informed and plan to attend MARC IX to be held in Kona, HI, April, 2012. Information on the conference can be found at the conference website:

<http://altmine.mie.uc.edu/nuclear/marc/>

Stephen P. LaMont, MARC VIII General Chair

Samuel E. Glover, MARC VIII Technical Program

Members Nominated for the Board of Directors

Two members of the Biology and Medicine Division have been recommended to Dr. William Burchill, ANS Nominating Committee Chair, for 2010 positions on the ABS Board of Directors. With the exceptional growth in importance of nuclear technology, especially in the areas of isotope production and use for medical applications, we feel it is of paramount importance that the leadership of ANS reflect these traditional fields of science supported by the non-power divisions. Therefore, I as BMD Chair have cooperated with the chair of the Isotopes and Radiation Division, Dr. Lin-wen Hu in the nominations of Professor Amares Chatt from Dalhousie University and Professor Jack Brenizer from Penn State University for board positions (non-resident Americas/Canada and at-large positions, respectively). We encourage all of our division members to be sure to place your votes for these candidates. Historically it has been difficult to surmount block-voting from power-division members to place "one of our own" on this important board. I have attached portions of their nomination letters.

Professor Amares Chatt

Professor Chatt, a native of India, received his PhD in Nuclear Chemistry in the early 1970s from the University of Toronto under the tutelage of Professor Robert Jervis, a pioneer in the development of nuclear analytical methods. Although pausing for numerous stints of duty with the International Atomic Energy Agency to South America, Asia, Russia and Europe, he has spent almost his entire career at the University of Dalhousie in Halifax, Nova Scotia. He is a full professor in Chemistry, having held the prestigious Killam Professorship Chair for five years. He has focused his research efforts in the development and application of radioanalytical methodology. In recent years his primary emphases have concerned speciation of chemical toxins using neutron activation measurements following extensive elemental and oxidation state separations. Professor Chatt has supervised the studies of dozens of chemistry Masters and PhD students during his tenure at Dalhousie.

Dr Chatt has been a member of ANS since 1975 and was honored by election to the membership status of fellow in 1993. He was active in the early leadership of the Isotopes and Radiation professional division and instrumental in the organization of the Biology and Medicine Technical Group and its ascendance to professional division status. He has served

as division chair for both divisions several times as well as chaired the important BMD technical committee on nuclear method development. He is a successful session organizer, having a convincing personality and his sessions are routinely of great interest and well attended. His participation in ANS has been recognized via his selection for the Radiation Science and Technology award in 1996 and the William D. Ehmann award in 1999. Dr. Chatt was previously elected as Fellow of the Chemical Institute of Canada in 1985.

Professor Chatt directs the operation of the SLOWPOKE reactor facility at Dalhousie where he is also the primary user. As such, he has extensive experience dealing with both operational and regulatory issues of research reactors. Professor Chatt directs the operation of the SLOWPOKE reactor facility at Dalhousie where he is also the primary user. As such, he has extensive experience dealing with both operational and regulatory issues of research reactors. He is also the current chair of the International Committee on Activation Analysis, the body which administers the premier conference series, Modern Trends in Activation Analysis (ANS Class IV meeting), which has been held about every four years since 1961. In 2001 he was awarded the coveted George von Hevesy Medal for career accomplishments in the field of radiochemistry from the Journal of Radioanalytical and Nuclear Chemistry. He has also served on the editorial boards of numerous scientific journals. He is a true international ambassador for nuclear science, having presented hundreds of invited lectures all over the world and hosted dozens of visiting foreign scientists in his laboratory.

We feel strongly the need for the Society's renewed commitment to inclusion of non-power nuclear scientists in the determination of its future direction, especially in light of the recent exponential increases in nuclear technology such as medical applications. We believe Professor Chatt would represent our divisions and our Society well.

Members Nominated for the Board of Directors (continued)

Professor Jack Brenizer

Professor Brenizer is Professor and Chair of Nuclear Engineering at Penn State University. He received his Ph.D. in Nuclear Engineering from Penn State in 1981. From 1981 through 1998, he was on the Faculty of the School of Engineering and Applied Science at the University of Virginia. He has served as a Professor of Mechanical and Nuclear Engineering and Chair of Nuclear Engineering Program since joining Penn State in 1999. In 2007 he was named the J. "Lee" Everett Professor of Mechanical and Nuclear Engineering. Jack is actively involved in research in the areas of radiation detection, neutron radiography and imaging, and neutron activation analysis. Jack has published or presented numerous papers describing his research activities. He is a member of the ANS, the Health Physics Society (HPS), Sigma Xi, the American Society for Non-destructive Testing (ASNT), the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) International, and the American Society of Engineering Education (ASEE). He has been recognized with several honors and awards including the 1997 ASTM E7 Charles W. Briggs Award, the 2006 Penn State Engineering Society Distinguished Service Award, the 2008 ASEE Glenn Murphy Award and the 2009 ASTM Award of Merit. He is also a Fellow of ASTM.

Dr. Brenizer has been a member of the IRD Executive Committee since 2001 and has been very active in organizing technical sessions and leading division committees, such as the IRD's Honors and Awards committee. He is a strong advocate for DOE's support of university research reactors which have been utilized for many non-power applications of nuclear technology, and was instrumental in leading a multi-university consortium for nuclear research and education.

As we have learned recently in various reports, aging and safety-related problems at several non-power reactor facilities worldwide have forced hospitals to cancel or postpone diagnostic imaging procedures due to the shortage in Tc-99m isotope supply. Recent announcement in the discontinuation of AECL's MAPLE reactor projects further exacerbated the dire projection of future isotope supply. While isotope production is only one of many important applications of non-power reactors, this is a critical time for DOE to re-establish its research reactor programs in providing the needed support for radiochemistry, reactor instrumentation upgrade and reactor sharing etc, so the existing non-power reactors

can continue to contribute in education and training of next generation of nuclear engineers, provide facilities for neutron science and radiation research, and produce radioisotopes for industrial and medical applications.

In light of this urgency and in the midst of a nuclear power renaissance, we feel strongly that the Society should reinvigorate its support for the radiation, isotope and medical applications of nuclear energy. We recommend Professor Jack Brenizer's nomination as a candidate of Board of Directors without reservation. We believe that Jack's experience and leadership will prove to be invaluable asset to the Society.



Modern Trends in Activation Analysis MTAA-13!

It is not too early! Mark your calendars now to save time for the ANS Class IV Topical, the 13th Modern Trends in Activation Analysis to be held at Texas A&M University, March 13-18, 2011. The 13th conference in the series will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the series which began in 1961. The conference series will also be “going home” as the first two conferences (1961 and 1965) were held at Texas A&M as well. In view of the anniversary and the maturing of activation methodology, the focus of the conference in 2011 will be “Renewal”. We hope to blend a combination of remembering the past 50 years while looking to the future.

Travel Awards. One of the challenges we face in renewal of our science is to include young scientists and students in the planning process. We want to make sure we provide the opportunities for education for those with less experience while listening to the new ideas that come from this group with fresh perspectives. In order to do this, conference organizers will offer competitive travel awards to a number of individuals to participate in the conference. Details of this competition will be forthcoming in general emails conference mailing lists as well as through this newsletter.

Conference Link. <http://tti.tamu.edu/conferences/mtaa13/>



Freedom Sculpture at the George Bush Presidential Library on Texas A&M Campus. A group of horses jumping over ruins of the Berlin wall depict the Spirit of Human Freedom. The conference welcome reception will be held at the Library and will include a tour.