

SLA Chemistry Division E-Newsletter

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

LURAY M. MINKIEWICZ

❖ Colleagues and Friends,

As the new year dawns, a common exercise is to review and reflect on the achievements and challenges of the past year and to look ahead to the coming year. Here is my snapshot of just a few DCHE 2008 highlights and 2009 directions.

Just a few 2008 Highlights:

- The Chemistry Division produced a fine program for the SLA Annual Conference in Seattle where several new formats for some "traditional" events were piloted.
- There are now some Division members helping with various committees for the first time thanks to great mentoring by "experienced" members.
- The Division had *several* award winning members in 2008 – from the Sparks Award winner (Margaret Smith) to a Diversity Award winner (Bing Wang) and even the second Hall of Fame winner in as many years (Dana Roth)! Congratulations to all!

What lays ahead for 2009?

- The Division planners: Susan Makar, Cathy DiPalma (MRM) and myself, are putting together another great set of sessions for the 2009 SLA Annual Conference, and there will be opportunities for Division members to participate in various ways, such as session moderators, session reporters, panelists, poster presenters, etc. I hope you avail yourselves of these great opportunities in planned sessions on:

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Send Newsletter items to:
KiemTa, Editor
SLA Chemistry Division E-Newsletter
Edmon Low Library
306 Reference Office
Oklahoma State University
Stillwater, OK 74078
Email: kiem.ta@okstate.edu
Phone: 405.744.9743
Fax: 405.744.7579

OR

Kevin Lindstrom, Assistant Editor
SLA Chemistry Division E-Newsletter
Science & Engineering, UBC Library
Irving K. Barber Learning Centre
1961 East Mall
University of British Columbia
Vancouver, B.C. Canada V6T 1Z1
Email: lindstro@interchange.ubc.ca
Phone: (604) 822-0695

The Editor welcomes readers' contributions. Items wanted include: Articles of interest to the community of chemistry information specialists, book reviews for new reference materials, citations for new journals, accomplishments & accolades for the Members' Corner and website recommendations for "Beyond the Chemistry Web..." If you have something you would like to contribute, please contact the Editor or send it via e-mail as a text file or Word document.

A Measures Toolkit for Librarians
Materials Research in Wind Energy - Present and Future
Interdisciplinary Science and Its Implications for Librarians and Information Professionals
The Business of Chemistry
Food Security (with FAN)
REACH & the Future of Toxics Legislation (with ERM)
Forensics (with Sci-Tech)
Poster Session during the All Sciences Reception (theme TBD)

- Our Division Professional development Chair, Ted Baldwin, also has a great lineup of CE Courses for the 2009 SLA Conference.
- The Division will review its Strategic Plan and update it to reflect the needs of the membership and to help set actionable goals for the Division. Please participate in any needs assessment/membership survey to help define the Division's new Strategic Plan and goals.

In what areas have *you* made a positive difference in your organization, in your work group, in your profession in the past year? What are you most proud of? Have you used skills or expertise derived from your membership in SLA and the Chemistry Division in any of these? What challenging goals have you set for yourself for 2009? How can your membership in the Chemistry Division help in these goals – by professional development courses, leadership development opportunities, networking to help keep up with the profession, etc? Maximize your usage of the Division discussion list and check out the Division's web site and blog (<http://units.sla.org/division/dche/index.htm>) to keep the communication channels open and learn about opportunities in any of these areas. Please do not hesitate to contact me or any of the other Division officers if you are interested in participating in the Chemistry Division in any way.

Have a great 2009 heralding in the 100th Anniversary of SLA!

Luray M. Minkiewicz
Chair, SLA Chemistry Division

From the Editor's Desktop

According to Far East Calendar, 2009 is the Chinese year of the Ox. If an excellent ox was standing next to a bad ox, how would you know? Hmmm.
Wish you all a very Happy **Lunar New Year 2009**.

❖ Kiem-Dung Ta and Kevin Lindstrom



A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR-ELECT TERI VOGEL

❖ Hi Everyone! Hope your 2009 is off to a great start.

Even though the new year is less than a week old, planning for 2010 starts now. Next week (Jan 14-17) we will meet in Savannah for the SLA Leadership Summit and start discussing programming ideas for next year's conference. Think about what topics you would like the Chemistry Division and MRM Section to cover at the New Orleans conference. What are the horizon issues and hot topics that you want to talk and hear about next year? Please send us your ideas.

Chemistry Division 2010 Conference Planning Team

Arda Argulian, 2010 Conference Planner (arda.agulian@basf.com)

Jack Bashian, MRM Section Program Planner for 2010 (JBashian@SmithersMail.com)

Teri Vogel, Chair-Elect (tmvogel@ucsd.edu)

2008 was my final year as the Division Webmaster, and that torch has been passed to Linda Maddux. (lbm@reed.edu). Along with any preliminary conference planning, I will also be working closely with Linda over the next few months during this transition.

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SU DOKU TIME

Based on the first nine elements of the periodic table:

H	He	Li	Be	B	C	N	O	F
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Puzzle no 3

								Be
	H							
He				C		B		Li
	F							C
	B				C			Be
Li		He			F			N
H				Li				
		Be	He			N		
			B	H				O

(solution on page 8)

NEWS FROM THE MRM SECTION CHAIR

CATHY DIPALMA

❖ Happy New Year and Welcome 2009

I am looking forward to a festive and activity-filled year as SLA celebrates its centennial. "Information to Inspiration: Knowledge & Vision Shaping the Future" the theme of the 2009 conference, not only beckons us to consider the direction of both our profession and our organization as we proceed into the next 100 years, but also resonates as a theme of our country as a whole as we hold this conference in Washington, D.C., site of an historic inauguration in January.

Materials science has always played an important role in innovation; within society as a whole as well as in industry. Materials R&D today and in the future is poised to make significant contributions to the global condition. Those of you working in this field and those supporting researchers in this field know that there are exciting developments taking place related to energy, health and environmental issues, transportation and housing, to name a few. I would like to see this space dedicated, in part, to some of these developments and I encourage you to share your ideas or work experiences in this publication.

I would like to add my own themes of participation and outreach for the MRM group this year. Please consider involvement in SLA and the Chemistry Division/MRM Section. We are always seeking volunteers and have a lot of fun in the process. Some of you might like to consider participating in a poster session or submitting a paper—there are many ways to make a contribution. In turn, I will do my best to inform you about news and issues for our section and SLA as well. I also hope to have a mid-year activity, time and resources permitting and will try to acquaint myself with as many of you as possible.

Thanks again to Nora Stoecker, Past Chair, who has been a very dedicated, active member and someone who has helped me a great deal as I prepared for this position.

Welcome to Jack Bashian, Chair-Elect for 2010. I look forward to working with him and sharing some of my experiences.

I hope to see many of you in Washington, D.C. in June. Check the SLA website for early bird registration and additional information concerning hotel reservations, flight information, etc.

Warm regards,

Cathy DiPalma



BEYOND THE CHEMISTRY WEB...

BOB BUCHANAN

❖ The periodic table of elements is arguably the most significant intellectual achievement in chemistry. It remains an outstanding way to organize chemical information and is invaluable for students and practitioners alike. While it is not difficult to find a periodic table on the Internet, it is nice to show patrons ones that are special.

Science writer Theodore Gray has created an outstanding collection of over 1,400 pictures of the elements in **The Periodic Table of Elements**. In addition to pictures for each element, this labor of love also offers stories and facts about the elements. The data is from Mathematica's Element Data function from Wolfram Research. Once you have clicked on an element, you get annotated pictures, a few basic properties, and a link to full technical data. Make sure to look at the full technical data link and take time to figure out all that it has to offer. Clicking on one of the eighty plus properties listed on the right hand column allows you to numerically (or visually) compare the elements. This is done with scatter plots, sorted scatter plots, 3-D periodic table, color-coded periodic table, balls, and crossed lines. This is my favorite periodic table.

<http://www.periodictable.com/>

The **Dynamic Periodic Table** also helps visualize the properties of the elements. As a former research chemist, I found this site delightful. Parts of this website can be thought of as a table of data for a given property, but presented within a periodic table. For some properties, the "slider" shows which elements have values above or below a given value. This site includes fourteen properties, orbitals, isotopes, and quick links to the corresponding Wikipedia entry. Check out the link at the bottom of the page labeled "show" which automatically demos the site.

<http://www.dayah.com/periodic/>

WebElements of the Periodic Table is an established site that has recently improved site navigation. Tabbed browsing helps zero in on twenty-one categories which range from broad subjects (i.e., history, biology, geology, etc.) to specific properties (i.e., bond energies, allotropes, etc.). This site includes compounds of the elements, unlike the two sites listed above. There are ads, but they are easy to ignore. Data has been pulled from standard reference sources.

<http://www.webelements.com/>

The ACS provides a basic and easy-to-use **Periodic Table** – only elements and a few properties. The RSC **Periodic Table** gives more property data, covers compounds, and is visually striking but it downloads more slowly. The major value of these sites is that they can serve as a conduit to other ACS and RSC resources.

<http://acswebcontent.acs.org/periodic/tools/PT.html>

<http://www.rsc.org/chemsoc/visualelements/PAGES/pertable fla.htm>

The Periodical Table of Videos has become a hit on YouTube. Filmed at the University of Nottingham and starring professor Martyn Poliakoff, each element has a three to five minute video that combines informal lecture and lab demonstrations. It is nice to see chemistry portrayed in such a lively format.

<http://www.periodicvideos.com/>

2009 MARION E. SPARKS AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT

2009 Marion E. Sparks Award for Professional Development

The Chemistry Division of the Special Libraries Association (SLA) is sponsoring a student/new member travel award to defray the costs of attending the 2009 SLA Annual Meeting June 14-17 in Washington, D.C. The award is intended to encourage the professional development of student members and new members of the Chemistry Division and encourage their participation in Chemistry Division activities.

TRAVEL AWARD:

\$1,500 stipend to attend the 2009 SLA Annual Conference. The winner will also receive a certificate of achievement and will be introduced at the Chemistry Division Business Meeting & Breakfast.

ELIGIBILITY:

All student members of the Chemistry Division and all new members of the Chemistry Division (individuals who have joined since January 2008) are eligible. All applicants must have joined the Chemistry Division by February 23, 2009. See below for how to join.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

Please submit the following:

- A brief essay that: a) clearly articulates your objectives for professional development; and b) indicates what you hope to gain from attending the SLA Annual Meeting. Maximum length: 2 pages.
- Resume
- Names of two references
- Brief budget (expected expenses for registration, airfare, lodging, food and/or continuing education course). Registration in a Chemistry Division or other Continuing Education (CE) course is recommended, but not required.

DEADLINE:

All applications must be received by March 9, 2009. The winner will be notified by March 27, 2009. Essays will be judged by the SLA Chemistry Division Awards Committee.

HISTORY:

The award is named to honor Marion E. Sparks, a chemistry librarian at the University of Illinois from 1913 until her death in 1929. Ms. Sparks contributed a great deal to the field of chemical information, her achievements include teaching courses on chemical information, and authoring and publishing what is argued to be the first book to formally address chemical literature and library instruction.

SUBMIT APPLICATION VIA EMAIL TO:

Cory Craig (cjcraig@ucdavis.edu)

University of California, Davis
Physical Sciences & Engineering Library
One Shields Avenue
Davis, California 95616-8676

SLA CHEMISTRY DIVISION SPARKS AWARD: <http://units.sla.org/division/dche/sparks.htm>

<p>CHAIR: Luray Minkiewicz E I DuPont De Nemours Co Experimental Station PO Box 80301 Wilmington, DE 19880-0301 Luray.m.minkiewicz@usa.dupont.com 302-695-1257 302-695-1350 (FAX)</p>	<p>CHAIR-ELECT: Teri Vogel University of California, San Diego UCSD Science & Engineering Library La Jolla, CA 92093 tmvogel@ucsd.edu 858-534-1216 858-534-5583 (FAX)</p>	<p>PAST-CHAIR/NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR: Sue Cardinal Carlson Library University of Rochester Rochester NY 14627 scardinal@library.rochester.edu 585-275-9007 585-273-4656 (FAX)</p>
<p>SECRETARY: Margarete Bower University of Pittsburgh Chem Comp Sci Library 200 Eberly Hall Pittsburgh PA 15260-3802 bower@pitt.edu 412-624-8294 412-624-8296 (FAX)</p>	<p>TREASURER: Bob Buchanan Auburn University Libraries 231 Mell St Auburn AL 36849-5606 buchara@auburn.edu 334-844-1292 334-844-4461 (FAX)</p>	<p>MRM SECTION CHAIR-ELECT Jack Bashian Smithers Rapra 425 West Market Street Akron, OH 44303 jbashian@smithersmail.com 330-221-2777</p>
<p>MRM SECTION CHAIR AND PROGRAM PLANNER – 2009: Cathy DiPalma Saint-Gobain NorPro Information Services 3840 Fishcreek Rd Stow OH 44224-5400 cathy.dipalma@saint-gobain.com 330-677-3566</p>	<p>MRM SECTION PAST-CHAIR: Nora Stoecker NKS Info Services 1601 Pennsylvania St NE Z19 Albuquerque NM 87110 nstoecker@nksinfo.com 505-299-0501</p>	<p>ACS LIAISON: Bing Wang Georgia Tech Library and Information Center 704 Cherry St Atlanta GA 30332 bing.wang@library.gatech.edu (404) 894-0816 (404) 894-3005 (FAX)</p>
<p>ARCHIVIST: Luray Minkiewicz E I DuPont De Nemours Co Experimental Station PO Box 80301 Wilmington DE 19880-0301 luray.m.minkiewicz@usa.dupont.com 302-695-1257 302-695-1350 (FAX)</p>	<p>ASIST LIAISON: Christina Pikas Johns Hopkins Univ., Appl. Phys. Lab RE Gibson Library & Information Center 11000 Johns Hopkins Rd Laurel MD 20723-6099 christina.pikas@jhuapl.edu 443-778-4812 443-778-5353 (FAX)</p>	<p>BULLETIN EDITOR: Kiem-Dung Ta Oklahoma State University Edmon Low Library Stillwater, OK 74078 kiem.ta@okstate.edu 405-744-9743 405-744-7579 (FAX)</p>
<p>ASSISTANT BULLETIN EDITOR: Kevin Lindstrom Sci & Eng Library Irving K. Barber Learning Centre 1961 Main Mall Vancouver BC Canada V6T 1Z1 kevin.lindstrom@ubc.ca 604-822-0695</p>	<p>MENTORING: Denise Callihan PPG Industries Inc Chem Tech Ctr Library 440 College Park Dr Monroeville PA 15146-1553 callihan@ppg.com 724-325-5221</p>	<p>MEMBERSHIP CHAIR: Judith Currano Chemistry Library University of Pennsylvania 3301 Spruce Street Philadelphia PA 19104-6323 currano@pobox.upenn.edu 215-898-2177 215-898-0471 (FAX)</p>
<p>MENTORING CHAIR: Denise Callihan PPG Industries Inc Chem Tech Ctr Library 440 College Park Dr Monroeville PA 15146-1553 callihan@ppg.com 724-325-5221</p>	<p>PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CHAIR: Ted Baldwin College of Applied Science Library University of Cincinnati 2220 Victory Parkway Cincinnati OH 45206-2822 ted.baldwin@uc.edu 513-556-4211 513-556-4217 (FAX)</p>	<p>PROGRAM PLANNER 2009 Susan Makar NIST 100 Bureau Dr Gaithersburg, MD 20899 susan.makar@nist.gov 301-975-3054</p>

PROGRAM PLANNER – 2010:

Arda Agulian
 BASF Catalysts LLC
 25 Middlesex/essex Turnpike
 Iselin, NJ 08830
arda.agulian@basf.com
 732-205-5271

SPARKS AWARD:

Cory Craig
 UC Davis Phys Sci & Eng Library
 One Shields Avenue
 Davis CA 95616-8676
cjcraig@ucdavis.edu
 530-752-0347

SPONSORSHIP:

Loren Mendelsohn
 City College of New York
 Science/Engineering Library
 New York NY 10031
LMEND@ccny.cuny.edu
 212-650-8244
 212-650-7626 (FAX)

STRATEGIC PLANNING:

Linda Shackle
 Arizona State Univ
 Noble Sci & Eng Library
 PO Box 871006
 Tempe AZ 85287-1006
linda.shackle@asu.edu
 480-965-7609 | 480-965-0883 (FAX)

WEBMASTER:

Linda Maddux
 Reed College Library
 3203 SE Woodstock Blvd
 Portland OR 97202-8199
lbm@reed.edu
 503-777-7272

**Solution to puzzle no 3**

C	N	Li	F	B	He	H	O	Be
F	H	B	Be	O	Li	C	N	He
He	Be	O	N	C	H	B	Li	F
Be	F	H	O	N	B	He	C	Li
O	B	N	Li	He	C	F	Be	H
Li	C	He	H	Be	F	O	B	N
H	O	F	C	Li	N	Be	He	B
B	Li	Be	He	F	O	N	H	C
N	He	C	B	H	Be	Li	F	O

THE END!