



Alberta Chemist

The Newsletter of the ACPA

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Over 60 ACPA members and guests--the largest crowd ever--attended the ACPA Annual General Meeting in Nisku on May 8, 2010. This issue of *Alberta Chemist* presents some of the highlights of the meeting, including the election of new Board members and the presentations of awards. This AGM was also the last to be presided over by Roger Cowles, who had served as ACPA President for the last three years. Details of the business portion of the meeting will be presented in the [draft minutes of the 2010 AGM](#), which will soon be posted on the ACPA website.

ACPA AGM a Success!



AGM luncheon

Over 60 members and guests attended the 2010 ACPA Annual General Meeting in Nisku.



Dr. Randy Whittal

A feature of the AGM was a talk by Randy Whittal (U of A) on FT-ICR mass spectrometry.

ACPA Board of Directors for 2010-2011

The ACPA is pleased to present the elected and appointed members of its Board of Directors for 2010-2011. The elected members' term expiry dates as well as all members' work affiliations and work locations are also presented here.

President: Kathy Janzen (2013), JAJB Innovations Inc., St. Albert

Vice President: Tim Blackmore (2012), Omnicon Consultants Inc., Edmonton

Registrar: Trent Parks (ex officio Board member), City of Calgary

Secretary: Eugene Dakin (2012), M-I SWACO, Calgary

Treasurer: Darren Crichton (2012), Exova, Edmonton

Public Member: Edith Cook (ex officio Board member), Syncrude Canada Ltd., Calgary

Directors (in reverse alphabetical order for a change):

- Frances Sutherland (2013), NAIT (Chemical Technology), Edmonton
- Maurice Shevalier (2012), University of Calgary, Calgary
- Julius Pretorius (2013), Saskatchewan Research Council, Saskatoon
- Atosa Kavousian (2011), Fekete Associates Inc., Calgary
- Patrick Kalita (2011), Pembina Area Landfill Ltd., Drayton Valley
- Shane Harnish (2011), EPCOR Water Services Inc., Edmonton
- Sally Hanearin (2013), WorleyParsons Canada, Calgary
- John Banks (2011), Matrix Solutions, Calgary

Four members of the Board are elected every year, each for a three-year term. This ongoing rotation of Board membership ensures that relevant expertise in ACPA Board affairs is always available, and that useful knowledge of ACPA history and past practices can be readily passed on to new Board members. After each Board election, the

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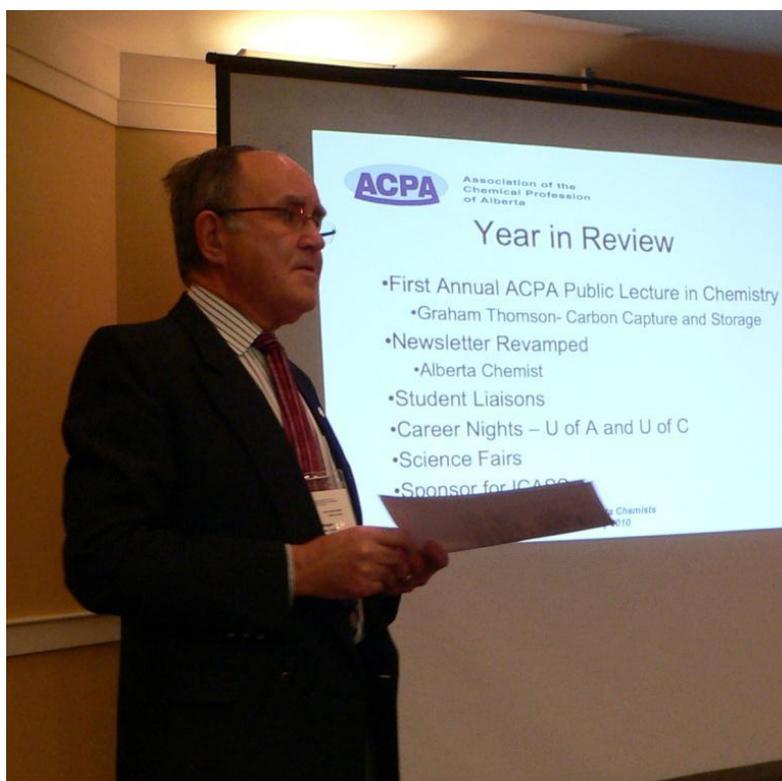
twelve elected Board members vote to choose the ACPA President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer from among their number.

The elected Board members also vote to appoint the ACPA Registrar from the general membership of the ACPA. The Registrar may be an elected Director but is not necessarily so.

The Public Member(s) of the Board are appointed for two-year terms from the general public of Alberta by the Alberta Minister of Employment and Immigration (currently the Honourable Thomas Lukaszuk, MLA) after consultation with the Board.

Most Board members will be taking on additional responsibilities as ACPA Board representatives on various ACPA and external committees. This information will be announced in the next issue of *Alberta Chemist*.

Roger Cowles Retires as ACPA President



Roger Cowles at the 2010 AGM

The ACPA owes a huge "Thank You" to Dr. Roger Cowles. Roger has worked tirelessly for the ACPA, first as a founding member of the Association in the early years and then as a member of the Board of Directors since 2003. He initially kept track of the books as ACPA

Treasurer, but for the last four years he has been ACPA President, shepherding the Board and our Association through a period of significant change and strong growth.

After Roger received his PhD in Organometallic Chemistry from the University College London in 1970, he spent 11 years in the Research Department of Imperial Chemical Industries. In 1981, he emigrated to Canada to join Syncrude Research, where he was involved in oil sands research until he retired in 2006. He was a long-time member of the executive for the Edmonton Section of the Chemical Institute of Canada (CIC), serving as its Chair in 1991-92. He was also on the organizing committee for the 75th Chemical Society of Canada (CSC) Conference (Edmonton 1992) and is a ongoing member of the 75th CSC Conference Lecture committee. The CIC has since honoured Roger by appointing him as a Fellow.

Roger has agreed to continue (for now) as the Chair of the ACPA Discipline Committee, a post he has held since its inception.

However, we will all miss Roger on the Board: he will be a hard act to follow.

Trent Parks Wins the 2010 Frank Bachelor Award



Frank Bachelor and Trent Parks

The 2010 Frank Bachelor Award for Service to the Chemical Profession was presented to Dr. Trent Parks, a long-time volunteer

for the ACPA. As the official Registrar of the ACPA for the past decade, Trent has presided over the greatest period of growth in our association's history. Under the Government of Alberta's Professional Chemist Regulation, the Registrar is responsible for maintaining a current register of all Professional Chemists and Chemists-in-Training in Alberta. The Registrar is also the Chair of the Registration Committee, which is arguably the busiest group of volunteers in the ACPA organization: it has to review, authenticate and pass judgement upon every new and renewed application for membership into the ACPA. Trent also served for many years on the ACPA Board, several of those as Treasurer as well as Registrar (simultaneously!). In his spare time, Trent works for the City of Calgary.

ACPA Scholarships Awarded at the 2010 AGM

The \$1000 ACPA Undergraduate Scholarship in Chemistry is awarded annually to a deserving student who is registered in a full-time undergraduate chemistry program at a university in the province of Alberta. The criteria for the award are equally balanced between academic excellence and service to the chemical profession. The winner of this new ACPA scholarship was Alex Bian, who this spring received his BSc in Chemistry from the U of C. Alex intends to pursue graduate studies in Germany this fall.



Kathy Janzen and Alex Bian

The \$1000 Arthur Bollo-Kamara Graduate Scholarship is an ongoing tribute to Arthur Bollo-Kamara, Ph.D., P.Chem., and the work he conducted on behalf of chemists in this province. This scholarship is now awarded annually to a deserving student who is registered in a graduate program at a university in the province of Alberta. Arthur Bollo-Kamara was a professional chemist who not only served the chemical profession but also served the community and actively participated in arts and culture. Thus, the criteria for this award are academic excellence, service to the chemical profession, service to the community, and participation in arts and culture. This year's worthy recipient was Matt Zamora, a PhD candidate in inorganic chemistry at the U of A.



Kathy Janzen and Matt Zamora

Science Fair Winners in Edmonton and Calgary

The 2010 Calgary Youth Science Fair (CYSF) awards ceremony was held on March 20 in the Big Four Building on the Calgary Stampede Grounds. The presenter of the ACPA awards was former ACPA Board member Dr. Chris Swyngedouw.

- ACPA Alberta Chemist Award at the CYSF:
Alexandra Seidman (Calgary Jewish Academy).



Alexandra Seidman and Chris Swyngedouw

- ACPA Rick Dillen Memorial Award at the CYSF:

Matthew Raber (Calgary Jewish Academy).

This award was sponsored by the Canadian Crude Quality Technical Association (CCQTA).



Matthew Raber and Chris Swyngedouw

The awards ceremony for the 2010 Edmonton Regional Science Fair (ERSF) was held on April 11 on the main campus of NAIT. The presenter of the ACPA awards was former ACPA Board member Stan Backs.

- ACPA Alberta Chemist Award at the ERSF:

Kendall Leighton (Sir George Simpson Junior High, St. Albert).



Kendall Leighton

Honourable Mention: Mitch Prior (New Horizons School, Ardrossan).



Mitch Prior

- ACPA Rick Dillen Memorial Award at the ERSF:

Brennon Grohn and Michael Gras (Aurora Charter School, Edmonton).

This award was sponsored by the CCQTA.



Brennon Grohn and Michael Gras

Honourable Mention: Ruby Bhutani and Niranjanaa Shenoy (Aurora Charter School, Edmonton).

This award was sponsored by the CCQTA.



Ruby Bhutani and Niranjanaa Shenoy

Congratulations to all the participants of both science fairs for the excellence of their work, and many thanks to all the volunteers that make these events possible.

Many thanks as well to the Canadian Crude Quality Technical Association (CCQTA) for sponsoring the new ACPA Rick Dillen Memorial Award, which was created in memory of a long-serving member of their Board.

Alberta Environment Reclamation Certificates Now Require Sign Off by Certified Professionals

As a result of years of effort that included many long hours of work by ACPA Board members and other ACPA volunteers, the Government of Alberta now recognizes six professional regulatory organizations (PROs) as having scopes of practice that include land reclamation and remediation:

- Alberta Institute of Agrologists (AIA)
- Alberta Society of Professional Biologists (ASPB)
- Association of the Chemical Profession of Alberta (ACPA)
- Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists of Alberta (APEGGA)
- College of Alberta Professional Foresters (CAPF)
- College of Alberta Professional Forest Technologists (CAPFT)

As of August 1, 2010, Alberta Environment's Regulatory Approvals Centre will refuse any reclamation certificate applications that do not strictly adhere to the professional declaration requirements posted at

<http://environment.alberta.ca/documents/Reclamation-Certificates-Professional-Declaration-Requirements.pdf>.

Sign-off eligibility requires the signatory professional to be a member in good standing of one of the PROs; to have a minimum of five years of relevant experience in remediation or reclamation; and to carry professional liability insurance (errors and omissions), unless they are undertaking work on behalf of their employer. Sign-off documentation must include not only the professional's signature but also the professional's registration/membership number or stamp/seal.

The latest version of the official form for *Professional Declaration for Reclamation Certificate Applications* is available at <http://environment.alberta.ca/01973.html>.

New Chemistry Add-in Software for MS Word

At the ACS meeting in San Francisco this spring, Microsoft Research demonstrated a beta version of the new Chemistry Add-In for Microsoft Word. This potentially powerful authoring and publishing tool uses the chemistry-specific XML computer language known as CML (Chemical Markup Language) to create "chemistry zones" within the text, similar to the "math zones" that are used to create equations in Word. Within these chemistry zones, molecules can be represented easily and *interchangeably* by their common names, systematic names, concise formulas, or print-ready two-dimensional structure diagrams. A built-in editor allows you to modify the structure diagrams if necessary, and diagrams can be imported from other sources and saved in a gallery.

Because each molecule in a chemistry zone comes with a file of data that identifies it in a variety of electronically searchable ways, this software promises to enable the seamless exchange of chemical knowledge at any stage from authoring through to publication and long-term archiving.

However, the Chemistry Add-In for Word has some limitations (for example, it only works with Word 2007 and Word 2010) and it is still under development. Later this year, it will be released as an open-source project. If you would like to try out the latest iteration, you can visit <http://research.microsoft.com/en-us/projects/chem4word/> for more detailed information and downloading instructions.

Upcoming Events

CSUG-SPE Conference. The Canadian Society for Unconventional Gas (CSUG) and the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) will hold their first-ever joint international conference in Calgary on October 19-21, 2010. They have solicited papers in several areas that may be of interest to Alberta chemists, including environmental, stakeholder and regulatory issues; gas hydrates; and carbon capture and storage.

International Year of Chemistry in 2011. Canada Post will be issuing a stamp to commemorate the International Year of Chemistry. More information on the stamp is posted on the web in this [news release](#). Further details on the International Year of Chemistry are available at <http://www.chemistry2011.org>.

Job Postings

- (1) Matrix Solutions Inc.: [Intermediate Environmental Scientist \(Grande Prairie\)](#)
- (2) Matrix Solutions Inc.: [Environmental Data Services Technician \(Calgary\)](#)
- (3) University of Northern British Columbia: [Analytical Chemistry Services Manager \(Prince George, BC\)](#)
- (4) Matrix Solutions Inc.: [Junior Water Quality Specialist \(Calgary\)](#)

Job advertisements are posted on the ACPA website for a three-month period and are e-mailed to the membership. There is a \$100 fee for this service, but this fee will be waived for job advertisements submitted by ACPA members in good standing (Professional Chemists or Chemists-in-Training) on behalf of their organizations. Ads may be e-mailed directly to the [ACPA office](#). Current job postings are listed in the [Careers page](#) on the [ACPA website](#).

This issue of the Alberta Chemist was edited by Stan J. Backs, P.Chem. (www.synchrocomm.ca). The content of this newsletter is provided only as an information service to members. Inclusion of any information does not represent official positions, opinions or support of the editor, the Association of the Chemical Profession of Alberta (ACPA), the members of the executive, the Board of Directors or staff members. The information is collected from a variety of sources (including members) and is circulated to the membership as information only. The editor and the ACPA do not guarantee that all submissions will be circulated and are not responsible for the accuracy of any information provided.

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