

The
North American Catalysis Society



NEWSLETTER

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<http://www.nacatsoc.org>

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Summary of the NACS Board Meeting

The Board of Directors of the NACS met at the start of the 18th NAM meeting and discussed many topics. The Southeast Catalysis Club was unanimously accepted as the 14th club in the NACS. The President announced procedural changes to the use of funds of the Society: both the Treasurer and the President are required to sign all checks and to authorize all fund transfers out of the Keith Hall Educational Fund. A part time accountant has been contracted to review the financial transactions of the NACS on a quarterly basis, to issue an independent yearly financial report to the Board and a quarterly report to the President. Agreement was reached on a permanent rotation order for future NAM meetings. The definition of associate members of the NACS was approved by the Board (see web site). Pat Doolin was appointed the new trustee of the Keith Hall Educational Fund. She replaces Bob Garten who previously held that position for 6 years. We all thank Bob for his efforts in behalf of the Society. The President also reported that the NACS web site continues to grow in popularity averaging more than 1,000 hits/month and now has 25,000 hits since its opening. The Treasurer, John Byrne, reported on the financial status of our accounts and the Keith Hall Educational Fund and provided a projection of the expenses of the Society over the next 6 years. His efforts in concert with the lawyers are nearly completed for formulating a generic document that can be used by the local clubs to establish their own bylaws and gain not-for-profit tax status. The Vice-President, Gary McVicker, summarized the operations of the Awards Nominations Committee, which tries to assure a strong slate of candidates for each of the Society's awards. The Secretary, Umit Ozkan, presented the minutes of the last Board meeting, which were accepted by the Board. She also presented a sub-committee report on storing the records of the NACS, and a recommendation that the Society continue as a member of the Chemical Heritage Foundation. Our Newsletter Editor, Mike D'Amore, provided an update on Newsletters and our mailing lists as well as a proposed process for using electronic voting in future elections. Gustavo Fuentes presented a brief report on the status of the Cancun meeting. Anne Gaffney and her team are actively organizing the 19th NAM meeting in center Philadelphia for May of 2005 (www.19NAM.org). Brendan Murray is leading a team to organize the 20th NAM meeting which will be operated by the Southwest Catalysis Club in 2007. The Board approved a \$5,000 award to fund some student travel to the Organic Reactions Society meeting March of next year.

Information on the Cancun NAM Meeting

For those not able to attend the wonderfully successful Cancun meeting, here is some information. Registered technical attendees (approximate) 770 (full, students, retirees, & exhibitors): USA, 399; Mexico, 104; Canada, 21; Korea, 28; Japan, 20; Italy, 17; Netherlands, 14; Spain, 10; France, 28; Germany, 23; Sweden, 9; Brazil, 11. Technical Program: 5 parallel oral sessions, including 2 plenary lectures, 265 oral presentations, 435 posters. Highlights of a few of these presentations are presented on the NACS website under the Cancun meeting summary. Kokes Travel Awards for Students 92; awards were provided for ~\$575 each to cover travel and deeply discounted hotel rooms for students

Voting on the Changes to the Bylaws

The members in attendance on Monday morning prior to the beginning of the first plenary lecture were asked to vote on the minor changes proposed to the existing bylaws of the NACS. A summary of these changes and the new bylaws have been posted on the web site (www.nacatsoc.org) since last April. The President summarized the changes, which were mostly procedural and reflected minor changes in the way the Society has been

operating since the last revisions in 1995. The members overwhelmingly approved the changes by both a voice vote and a printed ballot. The accepted bylaws are now posted on the Website under the folder "Who we are" and summarized in a News item.

Club/Society News

Organic Reactions Catalysis Society. The 20th Conference on Catalysis of Organic Reactions will be held on March 21 - 25, 2004 in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. www.orcs.org.

The Catalysis Club of Philadelphia announces officers for 2003-2004: Chair: Hasan Dindi, DuPont; Chair-elect: Jingguang Chen, Univ. of Delaware; Past Chair: Todd Ballinger, Johnson Matthey; Treasurer: Roger Grey, Lyondell; Program Chair: Alan Allgeier, DuPont Textiles & Interiors; Arrangements Chair: Steve Harris, Lyondell; Secretary: Netha Khan, Univ. of Delaware; National Rep: Anne Gaffney, Rhom & Haas. Directors are Hai Ying Chen, Istvan Halasz, and Mark Kaminsky.

Frank Herkes from DuPont Textiles & Interiors received the **2003 Catalysis Club of Philadelphia Award** at the annual Spring Symposium for his work and contributions in the field of catalysis. Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at the Holiday Inn Select in Claymont, DE

The Catalysis Society of Metropolitan New York is pleased to announce that **Dr. Stuart L. Soled** of ExxonMobil Research and Engineering Company is the recipient of its **2003 Excellence in Catalysis Award**. This award

recognizes Dr. Soled's contributions in the areas of materials synthesis and catalysis research culminating in the development of the now commercial Nebula family of catalysts for the environmentally important production of ultralow sulfur diesel fuel. In addition, Dr. Soled has made significant contributions to Exxon's AGC-21 process for the synthesis of liquid fuels from natural gas.

The **Pittsburgh-Cleveland Catalysis Society** held its annual spring symposium on June 24. The featured speaker was Chao-Jun Li of Tulane University who spoke about developing new catalysts for green, multi-step synthesis of fine chemicals. The award for best student paper was presented to Li Hou of the University of Pittsburgh, a graduate student of Irving Wender. New officers for 2003-04 are: Gregory Lowry (Carnegie Mellon University), president; Faiz Pourarian (Carnegie Mellon University), president-elect; Edwin Kugler (West Virginia University), secretary; Margaret Nasta (Carnegie Mellon University), treasurer; and Dady Dadyburjor (West Virginia University), Director.

The 2003 Fall Symposium of the **Southeastern Catalysis Society** (SECS) will be held on September 28-29 at the Holiday Inn SunSpree

Resort in Asheville, NC. A "Call for Papers" will be transmitted via e-mail to all SECS members in late July. Anyone interested in joining the SECS should contact one of the following officers: Jim Goodwin (james.goodwin@ces.clemson.edu), Bob Davis (rjd4f@virginia.edu), or Henry Lamb (lamb@ncsu.edu).

The Catalysis Club of Chicago held its 2003 Spring Symposium on May 20th at Northwestern University, during which 90 participants saw 11 oral presentations and 30 posters. Winner of the **2003 Herman Pines Award** was **James A. Dumesic** of the University of Wisconsin. Winners of the Student Poster Competition are: Christopher Nicholas, Northwestern University and Debarshi Majumder, Northwestern University. Officers for the 2003/2004 Academic Year: Ken Poeppelmeier (Northwestern University), President (automatic move from Program Chair); Adriaan Sachtler (UOP), Vice President and Program Chair; Larry Satek (Retired BP), Director (automatic move from President); Bryce Williams (BP), Director; Mario Castagnola (Argonne National Laboratory), Director; Wolfgang Spieker (UOP), Treasurer; Jifei Jia (Northwestern University), Secretary.

This Newsletter is a publication of The North American Catalysis Society, President: Dr. John N. Armor, Air Products & Chemicals; V. President: Dr. Gary McVicker, ExxonMobil; Secretary: Dr. Umit S. Ozkan, Chemical Engineering Dept, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio 43210, ozkan.1@osu.edu; Treasurer: Dr. John W. Byrne, Engelhard; Foreign Secretary: Dr. Curt Conner, University of Massachusetts; Past President: Dr. M. Albert Vannice, Penn State Univ.; Directors-at-Large: Dr. Bruce Gates, UC, Davis, Dr. John Armor, Air Products & Chemicals, Dr. Gary McVicker, Exxon, Dr. Kathleen Taylor. Club Representatives: California-Dr. E. Iglesia; Canada-Dr. J. Monnier; Chicago-Dr. G. Antos; Mexico-Dr. M. Viniestra; Michigan-Dr. G. Fisher; New England-Dr. W.C. Conner; New York-Dr. J. Byrne; Philadelphia-Dr. A. Gaffney; Pittsburgh/Cleveland-Dr. D. Dadyburjor; Organic Reactions-Dr. S. E. Jacobson; Southwest-Dr. B. D. Murray; Tri-State-Dr. P. Doolin; Western States-Dr. A. Datye. Contributions for the Newsletter should be directed to the Editor, Dr. Michael B. D'Amore, DuPont Company, P.O. Box 80262, Wilmington DE 19880-0262, Ph: (302) 695-2488, Fax: (302) 695-8347, E-mail: michael.b.damore@usa.dupont.com. Society Web address www.nacatsoc.org.