

NACS Newsletter

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John Armor is the recipient of the 2012 NACS Award for Distinguished Service in the Advancement of Catalysis

Dr. John N. Armor has been selected as the recipient of the 2012 NACS Award for Distinguished Service in the Advancement of Catalysis. The Award is presented every two years to recognize an individual who has advanced catalytic chemistry or engineering through both significant service to the catalysis community and outstanding technical accomplishments. This award includes an honorarium (\$5,000) and a plaque. It is awarded by the North American Catalysis Society and sponsored by ExxonMobil and SudChemie and will be presented during the 2013 NAM in Louisville.

This award recognizes Dr. Armor's dedication to the catalysis community through his leadership in the North American Catalysis Society, the New York Academy of Sciences, and the American Chemical Society and in the organization of international

symposia and conferences. He has served the North America Catalysis Society as President and Treasurer for more than two decades and during his tenure strengthened the financial and technical underpinnings of the Society, the quality and rigor of its meetings, and the scope and reach of its educational activities. He has brought enhanced recognition to members of the Society and a brighter future to the discipline through his articulate advocacy of catalysis and his leadership in strengthening the involvement of students and young practitioners in the activities of the Society.

Dr. Armor has served the community well as a teacher and as a visionary leader, while contributing as an independent scientist and a successful mentor and research manager in industrial settings. His technical contributions have been recognized with the Eugene J. Houdry Award of the North American Catalysis Society and with the E. V. Murphree Award of the American Chemical Society. He has served as Editor of Applied Catalysis and CatTech and has served on the editorial board of the leading journal in catalysis. He has authored many comprehensive reviews of catalytic technologies, often with insightful historical perspectives and always with a clear strategic vision.

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ExxonMobil and Süd-Chemie sponsor the NACS Award for Distinguished Service in the Advancement of Catalysis

The North American Catalysis Society is pleased to announce that ExxonMobil Research and Engineering and Süd-Chemie AG have agreed to jointly sponsor the NACS Award for Distinguished Service in the Advancement of Catalysis. The award seeks to recognize contributions and service that have benefited the North American and international catalysis communities. It will be awarded every two years to an individual without regard of national origin. The award consists of a \$5,000 prize and travel costs to the meeting where the award is presented.

The North American Catalysis Society wishes to thank both ExxonMobil Research and Engineering and Süd-Chemie AG for their generous support of the catalysis community.

Bruce Cook
Vice President, NACS

Local Club Student Awards

A reminder that each local club can apply for annual student awards totaling a maximum of \$1,000 per calendar year. The amount can only be used for students and is intended to support their involvement in catalysis. To receive an award, the club must be current with respect to dues paid to the Treasurer, Cong-Yan Chen (cychen@chevron.com), and most recent members mailing list submitted to the Secretary, Hong-Xin Li (Hong.Li@pqcorp.com), with a copy to the Communications Director, Edrick Morales (edrickmorales@live.com). Both dues and lists are due May of each year. A proposal must be submitted to the President, Enrique Iglesia (Eiglesia@aol.com), which outlines the projected use of the money. Full accounting of the funds has to be provided by the local club to the Treasurer within three months of the awards given. This award is to be distinct from the Kokes Awards for the NAM meetings. This award is to be used to support student participation at local club meetings and symposia within one Gregorian calendar year. This can include, but not limited to, meals, travel, living expenses, poster awards and registration fees. Local clubs need to allow one additional month for preparation of the check.

National Officers: **PRESIDENT** - Enrique Iglesia, University of California-Berkeley; **VICE-PRESIDENT** - Bruce R. Cook, BP Products NA, Inc.; **SECRETARY** - Hong-Xin Li, Zeolyst International; **TREASURER** - C. Y. Chen, Chevron Energy Technology Co.; **LEAD TRUSTEE** - John W. Byrne, BASF Catalysts LLC; **COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR** - Edrick Morales, LyondellBasell Industries.
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Directors-at-Large: Bruce Gates, University of California at Davis; Jingguang G. Chen, University of Delaware; Robert Davis, University of Virginia; Stuart Soled, Exxon Mobil Research and Engineering Co.

2012 Catalysis Gordon Conference

I am pleased to announce the 2012 Catalysis Gordon Conference to be held June 24-29, 2012 at Colby-Sawyer College in New London, New Hampshire. As in previous years the Catalysis GRC promises to be an exciting conference in the normal GRC format focusing on highlighting and discussing the latest often unpublished results in the hottest areas of catalysis. The 2012 GRC has a theme of “**Catalysis – From Fundamentals to Application**” and seeks to build bridges between theory and experiment as well as low pressure spectroscopy and high pressure application. This year the conference will be held in the beautiful New London, New Hampshire at Colby Sawyer College in newly upgraded conference facilities.

Applications are now being accepted at <http://www.grc.org/programs.aspx?year=2012&program=catalysis>. Graduate students and post-docs are highly encouraged to apply and present posters. Questions about the conference and financial support can be addressed to the conference chairman at bruce.cook2@bp.com.

Bruce Cook

Chairman, 2012 Catalysis GRC

Oral Presenters:

- Avelino Corma – UPV
- Bert Weckhuysen – Utrecht
- Beatriz Roldan – Central Florida
- Adriano Zecchina – Turin
- Jens Norskov – Stanford
- Karsten Reuter – TU Munich
- Christophe Coperet – ETH
- Justin Notestein – Northwestern
- Edmund Carnahan – Dow
- Fabio Ribeiro – Purdue
- Manos Mavrikakis – Wisconsin
- Jingguang Chen – Delaware
- Abhya Datye – New Mexico
- Stig Helveg – Haldor Topsoe
- Jae Sung-Lee – Pohang
- Kazunari Domen – Tokyo
- Yang Shao-Horn – MIT
- Daniel Resasco – Oklahoma
- Chris Marshall – Argonne
- Alexis Bell – Cal-Berkeley

Paul H. Emmett Award in Fundamental Catalysis

*Nominations are open,
deadline is 15 September 2012*

The Paul H. Emmett Award in Fundamental Catalysis is sponsored by the Grace Davison operating segment of W.R. Grace & Co. It is administered by The Catalysis Society and is awarded biennially in odd numbered years, generally at the North American meeting of The Catalysis Society, where the awardee will be asked to give a plenary lecture. The award consists of a plaque and a prize of \$5,000. An additional \$500 is available for otherwise unreimbursed travel expenses.

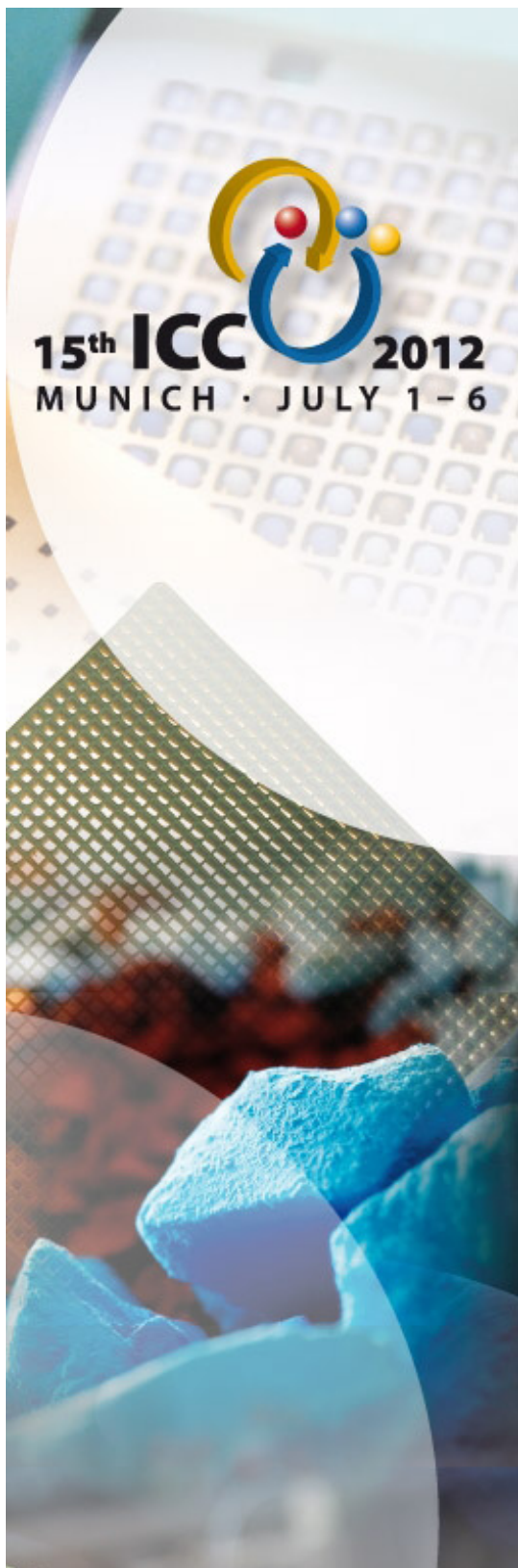
The purpose of the Award is to recognize and encourage individual contributions in the field of catalysis with emphasis on discovery and understanding of catalytic phenomena, proposal of catalytic reaction mechanisms and identification of and description of catalytic sites and species.

Selection of the Award winner will be made by a committee of renowned scientists and engineers appointed by the President of The North American Catalysis Society. Selection shall be made without regard for sex, nationality or affiliation. The award winner must not have turned 46 on April 1st of the award year, thus nomination documents should indicate the age and birthdate of the nominee. (The next award is the 2013 Award year for this Emmett Award (nominations due by September 15, 2012).

Thus, nominees should not yet be 46 on April 1, 2013.) Posthumous awards will be made only when knowledge of the awardee's death is received after announcement of the Award Committee's decision. Nominations for the Award should present the nominee's qualifications, accomplishments, birthdate, and biography. A critical evaluation of the significance of publications and patents should be made as well as a statement of the particular contribution(s) on which the nomination is based. Nomination documents should be submitted in one complete package to the President of the Society along with no more than two seconding letters.

Selection of the 2013 Emmett Award winner will be made by a committee of renowned scientists and engineers appointed by the President of The North American Catalysis Society. Nomination packages for the Award must be received by 15 September 2012.

All nomination packages (one ELECTRONIC COPY) for the Emmett Award should be sent to Enrique Iglesia, President, North American Catalysis Society; at iglesia@berkeley.edu. Receipt of any nomination, will be confirmed by an email message sent to any nominator.



15th International Congress on Catalysis Munich, Germany

The 15th ICC is the catalysis event in 2012! More than 2,000 participants from all over the world will exchange new ideas and discuss developments in all areas of catalysis. Plenary and keynote speakers will present overviews of recent developments. The congress will be held at the International Congress Centre in Munich, a world-class facility offering the flexible infrastructure required to accommodate audiences of any size.

In four parallel oral sessions and two general poster sessions all relevant areas from fundamental understanding to catalyst design and novel processes will be covered. The sessions are complemented by cross-disciplinary sessions, organized to share exciting new results at the boundaries between established fields within catalysis. Poster presenters will be able to organize up to four parallel half-day workshops to maximize direct participation by the conference attendees and to stimulate discussions in more specialized areas.

A social program rich in various aspects of the local culture will give you the opportunity to meet your colleagues and friends in a more relaxed atmosphere.

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, I invite you to attend the 15th ICC in Munich. For more information please visit the congress website www.icc2012.org.

I all look forward to your contribution to the exiting scientific program of the 15th ICC and to meet you in 2012 in Munich.

Johannes A. Lercher
Chairman, Organizing Committee
15th International Congress on Catalysis

Michel Boudart Award for the Advancement of Catalysis

An Award presented jointly by the North American Catalysis Society and the European Federation of Catalysis Societies.

Nominations are open, deadline is 1 November 2012

The Michel Boudart Award for the Advancement of Catalysis is sponsored by the Haldor Topsøe Company, and is administered jointly by the North American Catalysis Society and the European Federation of Catalysis Societies. The Award will be presented biennially in odd numbered years. The recipient will give plenary lectures at the biannual meetings of the North American Catalysis Society (NAM) and the European Federation of Catalysis Societies (EFCATS) (EuropaCat). The award consists of a plaque or object of art and a prize of \$6,000. Up to an additional \$2,000 will be made available for otherwise non-reimbursed travel expenses.

The Award recognizes and encourages individual contributions to the elucidation of the mechanism and active sites involved in catalytic phenomena and to the development of new methods or concepts that advance the understanding and/or practice of heterogeneous catalysis. The Award selection process will emphasize accomplishments and contributions published within the five preceding years. Candidates may be nominated without any restriction of national origin, thus reflecting the international scope of the career and contributions of Michel Boudart.

The recipient of the Michel Boudart Award will be selected by a committee of renowned researchers appointed jointly by the Presidents of the North American Catalysis Society and the European Federation of Catalysis Societies. The selection shall be made without regard for age, sex, affiliation, or national origin. Recipients of NACS Awards or Lectureships within the last

5 years are eligible for the Michel Boudart Award.

Nominations should clearly state the qualifications and accomplishments of the nominee and should also include a CV and no more than two supporting letters. A critical evaluation of the significance of publications and patents should be made, as well as a statement of the particular contribution(s) on which the nomination is based. Each nomination is to be submitted as one complete package (nomination letter, CV, 2 supporting letters, and justification).

After September 2012, one complete electronic copy of the nomination packages for the 2013 Boudart Award should be sent to the President of The North American Catalysis Society (Enrique Iglesia; iglesia@berkeley.edu) or the President of The European Federation of Catalysis Societies (Avelino Corma; acorma@itq.upv.es) by 1 November 2012. Nominators should expect to receive email confirmation of their submission.

Eugene J. Houdry Award in Applied Catalysis

*Nominations are open,
deadline is 1 August 2012*

The Eugene J. Houdry Award in Applied Catalysis is sponsored by Süd-Chemie, Inc.

It is administered by The Catalysis Society and is awarded biennially in odd numbered years, generally at the North American meeting of The Catalysis Society, where the awardee will be asked to give a plenary lecture. The award consists of a plaque and a prize of \$5,000. An additional \$1,000 is available for otherwise unreimbursed travel expenses.

The purpose of the Award is to recognize and encourage individual contributions in the field of catalysis with emphasis on the development of new and improved catalysts and processes representing outstanding advances in their useful application.

Selection of the Award winner will be made by a committee of renowned scientists and engineers appointed by the President of The North American Catalysis Society. Selection shall be made without regard for age, sex, nationality or affiliation. Posthumous awards will be made only when knowledge of

the awardee's death is received after announcement of the Award Committee's decision. Nominations for the Award should be made before 1 August, 2010 and should present the nominee's qualifications, accomplishments and biography. A critical evaluation of the significance of publications and patents should be made as well as a statement of the particular contribution(s) on which the nomination is based. Nomination documents should be submitted electronically to the President of the Society in one complete package along with no more than two seconding letters. Nomination packages for the Award must be received by 1 August 2012.

All nomination packages (one ELECTRONIC COPY) for the Houdry Award should be sent to Enrique Iglesia, President, North American Catalysis Society; at iglesia@berkeley.edu. Receipt of any nomination, will be confirmed by an email message sent to any nominator.

Clubs & Societies News

Catalysis Club of Chicago

Dr. Stuart Soled is the Winner of the 2012 Herman Pines Award in Catalysis

The Catalysis Club of Chicago is pleased to announce that Dr. Stuart L. Soled (ExxonMobil Research and Engineering Co.) is the recipient of the 2012 Herman Pines Award in Catalysis. This Award is given to recognize Dr. Soled's outstanding contributions to the synthesis, structural and functional characterization, and commercialization of novel catalytic materials. Stu's research has led to the discovery and successful development and commercialization of several catalyst technologies, including nanostructured metal oxide / metal sulfide bulk hydroprocessing catalysts for the production of ultralow sulfur diesel, dispersed metal oxides/sulfides for the production of clean and high octane gasoline, supported metals catalysts for potential applications in chemical intermediates synthesis and synfuels, and solid acids catalysts.

Stu has served on the editorial boards of leading catalysis journals and as chairs for catalysis conferences. He is an excellent teacher mentoring the next generation of distinguished scientists and technical staff. Stu has been invited to give lectures on national and international scientific meetings. He has

published 100 patents and over 70 publications.

The award includes an honorarium (\$1,000) and a plaque. Dr. Soled will receive this Award during the Catalysis Club of Chicago Spring Symposium on May 15, 2012 at BP Research Center (Naperville, IL). Dr. Soled will deliver the Award address at the Symposium.

List of past recipients of the Herman Pines Award:

- 1999 Harold Kung (Northwestern U.)
- 2000 John Monnier (Eastman Chemical)
- 2001 Lanny Schmidt (U. of Minnesota)
- 2002 James Brazdil (BP)
- 2003 James Dumesic (U. of Wisconsin)
- 2004 Alak Bhattacharyya (BP)
- 2005 Israel Wachs (Lehigh U.)
- 2006 Jeff Miller (BP)
- 2007 Chunshan Song (Pennsylvania State U)
- 2008 Aleksey Yezerets (Cummins)
- 2009 Tobin Marks (Northwestern U.)
- 2010 James Rekoske (UOP)
- 2011 Jingguang Chen (U. Delaware)

Michigan Catalysis Society

Dinner Meeting & Seminar Series

For 2011-2012 season, the Michigan Catalysis Society has arranged a strong series of invited lectures since the fall of 2011. The first dinner meeting of the series was held on September 27th with a presentation from Dr. Hai-Ying Chen of Johnson Matthey Inc., Wayne, Pennsylvania. Dr. Chen presented the development of molecular sieve supported transition metal catalysts for the selective catalytic reduction of NO_x in diesel exhaust. Professor Ken Balkus from the University of Texas at Dallas was invited for our second seminar of the series. Dr. Balkus gave an interesting talk on catalytic behavior and characterization of TiO₂ nanotubes for photocatalytic reactions. The series of talks for year 2011 was ended by Professor Chunshan Song from Penn State University in December, 2011. Professor Song discussed his recent findings on the oxygen-enhanced water gas shift reaction over bimetallic catalysts for more efficient hydrogen production, and his talk stimulated interesting discussions at the meeting. For the dinner meetings held in 2011, we offered the dinners free to students to encourage more student's participation from the University of Michigan, Michigan State University, Wayne State University, and the University

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of Ontario at Waterloo with the financial support from NACS. The outcome was quite successful, and we hosted an average of 8 students at each meeting.

The Michigan Catalysis Society continued its 2011-2012 season with three additional dinner meetings in 2012. The seminar series have resumed on February 23rd with a presentation from Professor Matt Neurock of the University of Virginia. Professor Neurock presented theoretical insights into catalytic conversion of methane and light alkanes over supported metals and oxides. On March 21st, Professor Abhaya Datye from the University of New Mexico visited the MCS and gave us an excellent talk on catalysis by isolated single atoms of palladium. The MCS is now waiting for a grand finale of the 2011-2012 season with Professor Bill Schneider at the University of Notre Dame. Dr. Schneider will present his recent understanding on the NO_x chemistry from first-principles to capture the essential features of the beguiling simple catalytic oxidation of NO to NO₂ as well as the selective catalytic reduction of NO_x over narrow-pore metal-exchanged zeolites, a new class of effective and stable catalysts.

The Pacific Coast Catalysis Society

The Pacific Coast Catalysis Society (PCCS) will hold its next annual meeting on Monday, September 24th, 2012. The meeting

will be held on the beautiful campus of the University of California at Santa Barbara. Invited speakers for the meeting will include the current NACS Boudart Lecturer, Johannes Lercher. In addition, the PCCS will present the first annual PCCS Award (information on this, including nominating procedures, will be announced soon). Abstracts are now being solicited for the meeting with a submission deadline of June 1, 2012. Students and post-docs are especially encouraged to submit abstracts, and there will be presentation awards given. In addition, registration costs are kept low for students and post-docs, and they may apply for travel support from the PCCS. Additional details will be sent to PCCS members as they become available. In the meantime, information about the meeting and the PCCS can be obtained from the current PCCS Chair, Chuck Peden (chuck.peden@pnnl.gov).

The Southeastern Catalysis Society

The Southeastern Catalysis Society (SECS) held its 10th Annual Symposium at the Crown Plaza Resort in Asheville, NC on September 11 and 12, 2011. The meeting began on Sunday afternoon with the SECS-Eastman poster session featuring 15 contributed posters followed by dinner and lecture. This year the after-dinner lecturer was Professor Jochen Lauterbach who is Smartstate Chair and Director of

the Center Strategic Approaches to the Generation of Electricity and Professor of Chemical Engineering at the University of South Carolina. The title of his lecture was "Spectral Imaging in Heterogeneous Catalysis – From Spatio-temporal Pattern Formation to High-throughput Screening". Cash awards, sponsored by Eastman Chemical Company, were presented at the dinner for the top three student poster presentations. The first place winner was Adam Van Pelt of the Georgia Institute of Technology for his poster on "Stability of Acid Functionalized Activated Carbon in Hot Liquid Water". Co-authors on the presentation were Matthew Cribb and advisor Professor Carsten Sievers. A second place award was given to Selasi Blavo of the University of South Florida for his presentation entitled "The Effect of Stabilizing Agent on Platinum Nanoparticles and Implications towards the Oxygen Reduction Reaction". Co-authors on the presentation were Lyndsey Baldyga, Maria Sanchez, and advisor Professor John Kuhn. A third place award was given to Sara Aranifard of the University of South Carolina for her presentation entitled "Theoretical Investigation of the Three-Phase Boundary of Ceria (111) Supported Platinum Clusters for the Water-Gas Shift Reaction". Co-authors on the presentation were Salai Cheettu Ammal and advisor Professor Andreas Heyden. On Monday, September 12, the Symposium continued with 15 oral presentations. This year there were nearly 50 attendees from

Clubs & Societies News

eight Universities, two national labs, and five commercial labs and suppliers. The SECS acknowledges generous support of the Symposium from Altamira Instruments, Micromeritics, SRNL, Quantachrome, and Cilas Particle Size. In addition, this year the NACS generously donated to the Symposium.

The Southwest Catalysis Society

The Southwest Catalysis Society held its Annual Spring Symposium at the Rice University McMurry Auditorium in Houston on April 20, 2012.

This annual, regional meeting provides a forum where catalysis in its various forms – heterogeneous to homogeneous, computational to experimental, surface science to materials synthesis, applied to fundamental, academic to industrial – can be discussed. The lineup of invited speakers included:

- 1) Carl Mesters (Shell Oil)
- 2) C. Buddie Mullins (UT, Austin)
- 3) David Artrip (Catalytic Consultants)- A Conversation about Entrepreneurship in Catalysis
- 4) Raghu Menon (Albemarle)
- 5) Mahdi Abu-Omar (Purdue)
- 6) Max Tirtowidjojo (Dow)- Efficient Production of High Purity Phenolic Glycol Ethers.

2012 SWCS Awards winners

The SWCS is pleased to announce Drs. Lynn H. Slaugh and Richard D. Mullineaux are the winners of the SCWS 2012 Catalysis Award. Formerly of Shell Chemical, the two are being recognized for their work in the development of the Shell phosphine-modified cobalt hydroformylation process. This process is still in use some 40 years after its initial development, and is one of the three major industrial hydroformylation technologies currently in use. The two will be recognized for this achievement at the Spring meeting.

Western States Catalysis Club

The Western States Catalysis Club 2012 annual meeting was held on March 9 at the University of Colorado in Boulder. Approximately 35 engineers and scientists were in attendance to hear the keynote speaker, Johannes Lercher, the 2011 Burwell Lecturer, make an excellent presentation on different dual-function catalysts for bio-diesel production from both lignocellulose and algae based feedstocks. Special recognition goes to Will Medlin for his work to organize the event.

Other speakers represented the University of Colorado, Colorado School of Mines, the University

of New Mexico, the University of Wyoming, Brigham Young University, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. Their topics ranged from isolated Pd atom catalysis to sulfur effects on nickel tar reforming catalysts.

Three graduate students were recognized for their presentations. Angelica Sanchez, from the University of New Mexico, received first prize for her work on “Support Effects in Palladium Catalyzed Selective Hydrogenation of Acetylene.” Simon Pang, from the University of Colorado at Boulder, received second prize for “Investigations of Synergistic Chemistry and Coverage Effects on the Reactions of Sugar- and Lignin-Derived Aromatic Compounds.” Finally, Michael Griffin, also from the University of Colorado at Boulder, received third prize for his presentation on “The Surface Chemistry of Polyols and Bifunctional Alcohols on Pd(111): How the Adsorption and Orientation of Multifunctional Oxygenates Controls Reactivity.”

During the business meeting, Morris Argyle was elected club president, replacing Ryan Richards. Joseph Holles became Secretary/Treasurer, replacing Morris. Many thanks go to Ryan for his years of faithful service.



NACS
North American Catalysis Society

Next National Meeting
Louisville, Kentucky
June 2-7, 2013



23rd NAM

Catalysis on the Fast Track

June 2-7, 2013 • Louisville, Kentucky • www.23NAM.org

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Organic Reactions Catalysis Society

Web site: orcs.org

Chair, 2012

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