



Musical Chemists Take Center Stage, *page 3*



Dr. Vernon Stenger sits on the porch at his home and plays his English horn in this Midland Daily News file photo. Photo courtesy Midland Daily News, Nov. 4, 2001

THE MIDLAND CHEMIST

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Chair Column

New Year—New Opportunities

The new year brings new leadership to the Midland Section. Let me be honest. I take over the position of chair of the Midland Section with a little trepidation due to the accomplishments of the last couple of years under the capable leadership of Mike Owen and Joe Ceraso and a truly outstanding Board of Directors. The year 2004 was especially good for our local section. We received four ChemLuminary awards for local section excellence, the Mid-Michigan Technician Group received the Best Local Section TAG award, and there were numerous other honors.



Pat Smith, Chair
ACS Midland Section

Let me introduce myself. I am a 30-year member of ACS and a 28-year employee of The Dow Chemical Company, having spent the majority of my career at Dow in various capacities within the Analytical Sciences Laboratory. Recently, I have taken assignments in new business development roles, on assignment to Cargill Dow, working on poly(lactic acid), and then as the Dow technical focal point for renewable raw materials. I have also served ACS in many capacities, primarily associated with the Fall Scientific Meeting. Excellence in the scientific program of the FSM is a passion of mine. The high quality exemplified by recent meetings will continue in 2005. This year's theme is shaping up around nanomaterials, and the meeting chairperson has already been named, Gregg Potter, as has the program chairperson, Greg Meyers. They welcome good ideas and help as they continue shaping this meeting.

I would also like to welcome several new board members. Buford Lemon is serving as chair-elect, Aneta Clark as secretary, Gary Spilman as treasurer, Anne Shim as chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee, and Tom Lane as a councilor. Gretchen Kohl, Wendell Dilling, Steve Keinath, and Mike Owen were elected to new roles on the board. A few key members are rotating off the board and committee assignments: Doug Beyer, Deb McNett, Ann Birch, Joan Sabourin, and Maneesh Bahadur. The section could not function without the tireless efforts of these people and we heartily thank them.

It is truly a remarkable section with many incredible volunteers whose creativity and hard work have made us so successful. As I have gotten more involved with other aspects of section activities, I have been amazed at the level of community outreach and the excellence of the programs. These include Sci-Fest, led by Dave Stickles and Joan Sabourin, and the

West Branch outreach led by John Blizzard. If you are not familiar with these programs, I would encourage you to see them first-hand. Their content is superb and the level of impact is impressive. We also have a nationally recognized Mid-Michigan Technician Group and Younger Chemists Committee.

Within the context of this excellence is the fact that we are forced into a mode of budget reductions due to income reductions resulting from the weak economy. Our December board meeting was particularly difficult because we attempted to reduce the funding for many of the programs we sponsor and, as you might expect, the members involved with each program were passionate about them. On the one hand, I am thrilled with this passion because it translates into program excellence, but on the other hand, there is a limit to what we can afford, so we are going through the process of prioritization and searching for alternate sources of funding. Hopefully, we can weather this storm without too much pain. Even so, I expect 2005 to be a very exciting year for our section. I have already mentioned the 2005 FSM. We continue to prepare for the 2006 Central Regional Meeting under the capable leadership of Kurt Brandstadt and his team. We are in the process of setting the agenda for a visit from the 2005 ACS president, Bill Carroll. A tentative date of March 3–4 has been set. We are also planning other presentations later in the year.

The year 2005 brings challenges from a budget viewpoint but it also brings considerable opportunity to serve, learn, and grow. We welcome new members and would be grateful for your participation in any of the programs.

Pat Smith

Publication Schedule for *The Midland Chemist* Changes in 2005

By Ann Birch

Due to budget constraints, the Midland Section Board of Directors decided to reduce the number of issues of *The Midland Chemist* in 2005 from eight issues to six. Months of publication will be February, April, June, August, October, and December. The editorial calendar and deadlines for article submission can be found on *The Midland Chemist* link at the Midland Section web site <http://membership.acs.org/m/midl>.

For updates on events and other information, please check the web site periodically. Even more than previously, the web site will serve as an up-to-date picture of Midland Section activities and opportunities.

Chemistry + Music → Compatible Mixture

By Peggy Hill

When Wendell Dilling suggested that I write an article for *The Midland Chemist* about the musical chemists in the region, I agreed, thinking that I would be writing about a couple of people. It's turned out to be more like a *couple of dozen!* Our call for musical chemists brought me in contact with more than twenty chemists and engineers with musical avocations, and I imagine that we've overlooked several others. (Our apologies to anyone we have missed.)

With so many musically inclined chemists/engineers in our own area, we couldn't help but ask the obvious questions—are science and musical aptitudes linked? Does practice in one discipline improve skill or aptitude in the other?

Our numbers of musical chemists might not convince anyone that there's a strong connection between science and music, but consider the following statistic. Nearly 100% of past winners in the prestigious Siemens Westinghouse Competition in Math, Science and Technology (for high school students) play one or more musical instruments. These students tend to be highly skilled in both music and science. This led the Siemens Foundation to host a recital at Carnegie Hall last year featuring some of these young people, after which a panel of experts debated the



The Dow Jam Band features numerous local technical professionals. Here the band performs at the September 17 kick-off for the 2004 United Way campaign.

Photo by Peggy Hill

nature of the apparent science/music link.

There is a tremendous amount of anecdotal evidence concerning music/science and music/mathematics connections, but any statistical correlations are weak and there's just not enough hard data to state that study in one field influences proficiency in another. Still, it's fascinating to consider that there may be deep-reaching connections between science and music, and the Midland Section area offers plenty of food for thought.

In Midland itself, **Vernon Stenger**'s name inevitably comes up. Vernon is an analytical chemist of international renown and a Dow retiree. He was also one of the founders of the Midland Symphony Orchestra and the Midland Community Orchestra. Talking to me about his musical history, Vernon mentioned starting with clarinet in high school. He found himself "coming along pretty well" when he saw a second-hand oboe in a store and bought it for \$40. It wasn't a very good instrument, but Vernon was able to learn to play it in parallel with his clarinet instruction. "I finally traded it in on a good oboe," he said, and went on to devote his musical interests to it.

At Dow, Vernon Stenger became a guiding force in both chemistry and music, using his talents to simultaneously improve Dow's analytical division and contribute to the development of area orchestras. He played with regional orchestras until Dow established its own music department and



Retired from Dow, Vernon Stenger plays oboe and English horn.

Midland Daily News photo

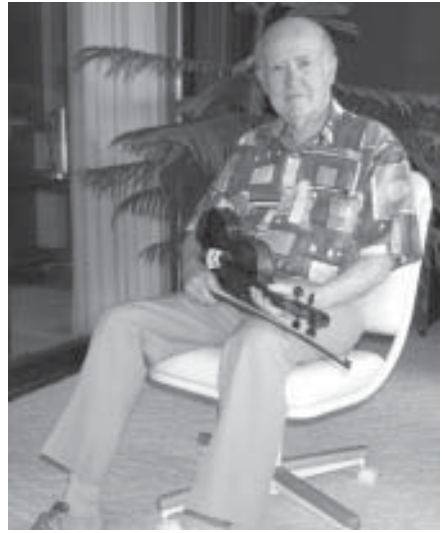
symphony orchestra. In 1958, when Dow ended the music program for economic reasons, Vernon and others formed a committee to carry on the orchestra as a community-based one, and so began the Midland Symphony Orchestra.

Vernon made substantial impacts on both music and chemistry. Among the many honors and awards he has received, the Midland Music Society and the Midland Symphony Orchestra named him the 1959 "Musician of the Year" and in 1970 the Association of Analytical Chemistry awarded him the Anachem Award, an honor reserved for chemists whose work significantly advances the field of analytical chemistry.

Etcyl Blair is a Ph.D. chemist, former Dow researcher (he headed

the Edgar C. Britton Research Lab and later the Agricultural Research Lab), and an accomplished violinist. Etcyl credits his father's passion for fiddling and the strong music programs in his hometown (Winfield, Kansas) for getting him started as "a music nut," as he calls himself. His love of music influenced his choice to come to Dow. Other companies that he considered, like DuPont and Exxon, didn't have their own orchestras. Dow did. This was an irresistible combination for Etcyl, chemistry and music in the same organization. "I really interviewed for the orchestral position and agreed to do some chemistry on the side," he said jokingly. So in 1951, this musician-chemist joined the organic group at Dow and the Dow Symphony Orchestra. Unfortunately, economic conditions forced the company to cut its music program in 1958. A group of musicians, including Etcyl, formed a board to start a community orchestra, which became the Midland Symphony Orchestra. Etcyl played with the MSO until 1966 when he was asked to head Dow's Agricultural Research Laboratory. He has since turned over his violin to his granddaughter to play in her school orchestra and now satisfies his thirst for music by listening to his sizeable LP and CD collection. He and his wife Ruth are strong supporters of area music and arts.

Roland Wallace is "a personification of diversity," as one newspa-



Etcyl Blair, chemist and violinist, was one of the founders of the orchestra that became Midland Symphony Orchestra.

Photo by Peggy Hill



Roland Wallace, shown here conducting middle school and high school students as part of the ACT-SO program, is an accomplished double bass player.

per editorial described him—a chemist, musician, consultant, youth advisor/coach, and family man. Roland began his professional life as a chemist at Dow in 1975 in the Central Research Physical Chemistry Laboratory. At the same time he joined the Midland Symphony Orchestra as a double bass player. In 1980 he moved from the bench into Dow’s Health and Environmental Sciences Group as a (certified) industrial hygienist and later moved into management to work on diversity and inclusion issues as manager of Michigan Operations Equal Employment Opportunity area. In 1993 he became Dow’s corporate diversity compliance implementation leader. He has since retired from Dow and continues full-time diversity consulting work for businesses and educational groups. While at Dow, Roland’s music and people skills led him to become active as Dow’s representative to National ACT-SO (Academic, Cultural, Technological, and Scientific Olympics) Industry Advisory Council, an annual year-long enrichment and coaching program for underrepresented students, and to organize an informal group of Dow musicians called the “Dow Jam Band” that plays at both company and community functions. Roland credits his capacity to develop multiple talents to his mother, a popular church gospel singer in his hometown of Portsmouth, Virginia, and an older sister, a Ph.D. mathematician and faculty member at the college he attended. He passes on this advice to the students he coaches in ACT-SO: “Never limit yourself in learning to use your God-given talents. You may have to use them all one day.”

John Anderson, Dow chemical engineer, woodwind performer (saxophone and clarinet), composer/songwriter, and sometimes pit orchestra conductor, was originally “a reluctant convert to music.” With his dad pushing him to join the high school band at about the same time that his athletic aspirations weren’t panning out the way he had hoped, John got into music as a second choice option. He began with clarinet and found that he liked it so much that when he heard that a neighbor was selling a tenor saxophone, John bought it. John’s self-described label of “convert”

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says a lot about how he feels about music now—he's hooked with a passion. He's played in numerous pick-up bands, club bands, the Midland Concert Band, and with Roland Wallace and other Dow folks in the Dow Jam Band. He plays regularly for contemporary services at his church. When his own kids were in high school and the school was short a pit orchestra director for their annual musical, John stepped in and did the job for a few years. One of his biggest musical commitments, though, has been to compile and record a CD of his own compositions. You can listen to some of his original pieces at <http://www.cdbaby.com/cd/janderson>. As an engineer, John sees an obvious connection between music, math, and physics. He notes that physical processes, including music, have an underlying mathematical basis. Music, he says, is based on sound frequencies, which establish pitch and occur in a definable mathematical progression, and counting frequencies, which establish rhythm and beat. That mathematics connection makes music all the more appealing to this composer/performer and all-around music enthusiast.

John Lorand, professor emeritus at CMU, says that he has always enjoyed music. John was strongly influenced by his mother, a Budapest native, who studied piano and made



Cover art from John Anderson's latest CD.



John Lorand, a professor at CMU, has been a vocalist for local choral groups for many years. John is shown here with his wife Cil.

sure that John learned to play. John later switched to choral singing as an avocational outlet in 1959, while he pursued a Fulbright scholarship in Germany that happened to provide an unexpected vocal music opportunity. Singing as part of a choral group that year was so pleasurable for John that when he got back to Boston and graduate school at Harvard University, he auditioned for and was accepted into the Chorus Promusica, a group that performed at Symphony Hall. Since then, John has continued singing in numerous groups, including church choirs, the Midland Music Society Chorale, and since 1971, the Festival Chorus, a group that puts on an annual fall performance at CMU. He finds that music complements his professional work in chemistry, bringing pleasure in completely different ways.

David Smith is a Dow chemist with a flair for keyboards, harmony, and music improvisation. Dave plays with the Dow Jam Band and with numerous other pick-up bands in the area, including community and church groups. In addition to enjoying the performance aspects of these activities, Dave finds a particular fascination with harmony and the work of negotiating through a tune by improvising with harmonies. From Dave's point of view, making modifications and analyzing outcomes can apply to both scientific and musical pursuits. He says that music improvisation is a creative way of changing what is already there to see where it takes you—not unlike the analytical problem-solving he does in the lab to discover new ways to interface ink onto paper. He credits his parents with encouraging him down both music and science paths. Dave can remember science being his favorite topic in school at about the same time that the Beatles came along, a factor that drew him into thinking about music and what it was that made some music work so well. Later, Dave came to recognize and appreciate the skill that professional pianists (both jazz and classical) put into improvisation work. These professionals continue to inspire him to keep thinking about music and tinkering with it.

Physical organic chemist **Tom Hofelich** likes contrast, which explains why he enjoys the dual nature of his



Tom Hofelich (l), John Anderson, and Tom Haynes jammin' together.

Photo by Peggy Hill

chosen field of chemistry, and why he comfortably handles multiple music genres (classic, blues, jazz, folk, and rock) as a guitarist. Tom is a native of New York state, where, as a kid in the 1960s, he taught himself to play Beatles tunes on a cheap folk guitar—a Montgomery Ward special belonging to his sister. In college Tom got himself a better instrument and took up classical guitar, only to put it on hold while he pursued graduate study at SUNY Buffalo and then postdoctoral research at Duke. He came to Dow in the early 1980s and found Delta College guitar instructor Brad DeRoche to be the catalyst for his musical comeback. Tom invested in eight to nine years of lessons, including master classes with Brad. Tom now plays guitar, bass guitar, and (beginning) double bass. He performs with Roland Wallace and the Dow Jam Band and also works with Roland in mentoring ACT-SO students in music. The earlier comment about contrast really fits Tom. Just as he likes the balance that his research strikes between mathematical discipline and creativity in experimentation, he also views music as a pastime of balanced contrast. He said, “If you think about it, a computer can play notes, but not music—you need both discipline *and* interpretive creativity to make music. I think that balance is very appealing.”

Bill Heeschen, Dow analytical chemist with research interests in real-time imaging and image analysis, did what a lot of chemist-musicians do—leave music behind during the pursuit of chemistry only to pick the music up again when the pressures of academic chemistry subside. As a kid, Bill studied piano and voice, enjoying both, but wandering away from music during his years at Alma College as a chemistry/physics double major. Graduate work at the University of Utah led him deeper into the chemistry of liquid crystalline systems, which he studied using NMR techniques, but kept him too busy to even think about music. In 1986, with Ph.D. in hand, Bill headed back to Michigan and Dow Chemical, where his musical past finally caught back up with him a few years later when he sat down at his family’s piano and rediscovered his love for music. Then, through musical activities at his church, Bill eventually hooked up with an informal church band that John Anderson played with, leading the way to other opportunities, including the Dow Jam Band. Bill hasn’t stopped at keyboards, either. Most recently he has taken up instruction in electric bass. When asked about his take on whether a science-music connection exists, Bill noted the creative similarity behind the motivation to do scientific research and musical performance: “It is the need to find new things, then express the discovery from your own perspective.”

Pat Dreyfuss also started music early and has stayed with it “for the wonderful relaxation it brings.” Pat is an accomplished flutist, beginning with formal instruction at age nine, and continuing through college and

into her adult years, including instruction at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York. But music later became an aside to Pat's family and her science interests. After giving her three children a good start, she earned a Ph.D. in chemistry and then pursued both industrial (B.F. Goodrich) and academic (University of Akron and Michigan Molecular Institute) professional experiences. She says, "As a musician, I couldn't have done science, but as a scientist, I've been able to keep active in music." She performed with the Midland Community Orchestra for about seven years and continues to perform with a music ensemble at Blessed Sacrament Church, as she has for the past fifteen years.



Pat Dreyfuss playing her flute with the music ensemble at Blessed Sacrament Church.

Photo by Peggy Hill

Editor's Note: This series will continue with a second article in the April issue of *The Midland Chemist*.

New Midland Section Members!

By Connie Murphy

Welcome! to the following people who have either joined the American Chemical Society or transferred into the Midland Section during the past several months.

Chung Keun Ahn

David H. Bank

Robert W. Belfit, Jr.

Leslie Earl Carpenter II

Khaekhai Chaiwong

Young J. Cho

Kevin Christensen

Daniel A. Clark

Christopher A. Crouse

Melvin F. W. Dunker

Susan Erhardt

Michael T. Garlick

Darren Hansen

Towhid Hasan

John Klier

Yu Liu

Leslie J. May

Mustafa Mohamed

Adeyinka Odelans

Didem Oner

Robert S. Opperman

Robert L. Paddock

Joseph Pelati

Veera Reddy Pulgam

Jeffery E. Raymond

Cheryl Roggenbuck

Jana M Simmons

Madan Somasi

Debra H. Stutts

Joel Uzibor

Mark P. Wagher

Michael Watson

Shihe Xu

Brett L Zimmerman

Alan Zombeck

Wanted: Good Program Ideas to Fund

From National ACS

Have you been itching to start up a new program within your section, but don't know how to get funding? Or perhaps you would like to expand or enhance a program that your section already sponsors? If the answer is "yes" to either of these questions, you should contact Section Chair Pat Smith (pbsmith@dow.com) to consider submitting a proposal for an "Innovative Projects Grant" sponsored by the Local Section Activities Committee (or LSAC for short).

These grants support local sections undertaking innovative programs or activities, particularly projects that promote local section and division interaction or interaction between multiple sections or that improve programming for a local section with special financial needs. Local sections may request funding up to \$3,000. The deadline is April 1, 2005, and approved projects will receive funding by July 15 in order for sections to initiate projects during the second half of 2005. Since this is an ongoing program, the 2006 grant application deadlines will be announced later this year.

To apply for an Innovative Projects Grant, visit the ACS OLSA website

<http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/>

[acdisplay.html?DOC=localsections\index.html](http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/acdisplay.html?DOC=localsections\index.html)

where complete instructions and a template for the brief proposal (limited to two pages) are available (just select "Innovative Grants Program" listed under "Improve Your Finances"). The website also includes a link to a list of some previously funded projects, which can help stimulate ideas. (Please note that imitation of another section's good idea is acceptable, provided it is "new" to the section which is applying!)

CHEMAGINATION Seeking Contestants

From National ACS

Chemagination is a creative innovation and writing contest for high school science students. In the contest, students are asked to imagine that they are living 25 years in the future and have been invited to write an article for ChemMatters, a magazine for high school students that focuses on the role of chemistry in everyday life. The subject of the article is: "Describe a recent breakthrough or innovation in chemistry (and/or its applications) and how it has improved the quality of people's lives today." In addition to the article, students are asked to design a cover for the magazine. Finalists are named at three levels—local, regional, and national. For more information visit chemistry.org/chemagination.

Call for Nominations

2005 Science Teaching and Education Volunteer Awards

By Minghui Chai

Each year the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society presents awards to recognize outstanding achievement in teaching of the chemical sciences. Nominations for the 2005 awards are invited. Awards are presented for outstanding achievement in the following areas:

- Elementary Level Science Education
- Middle Level Science Education
- High School Chemistry Teaching
- College Chemistry Teaching

Candidates for these awards must be educators at schools in the five-county geographical area of the Midland Section: Bay, Gratiot, Isabella, Midland, and Saginaw Counties.

The Science Education Volunteer of the Year award is presented to an individual who makes a substantial contribution to science learning in the Midland Section through voluntary efforts.

Recipients of all awards will be selected by the Awards Committee. Nominators should write a letter indicating the award and describing the attributes of the candidate. Supporting letters from students, colleagues, supervisors, and community leaders are strongly encouraged. The deadline for nominations is **March 18, 2005**. Electronic or fax submissions are acceptable. All submissions must be accompanied by the name, position, address, and phone number of the nominator. Award recipients as well as high school and college student award recipients and Chemistry Olympiad winners will be honored at the 2005 Science Education Recognition Dinner on April 6, 2005, at the Dow 47 Building Cafeteria in Midland.

The Awards Committee greatly appreciates the efforts involved in nominating someone and thanks you for helping to recognize deserving educators in our section. *Parents: Does your child have a great science teacher? If so, consider nominating him/her and pass this flier along to that teacher's principal or section head.* Please submit nominations to:

Minghui Chai

Chair, ACS Awards Committee

Department of Chemistry

Central Michigan University

Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859

Phone: 989-774-3955

Fax: 989-774-3883

E-mail: chai1m@cmich.edu

A list of previous recipients of the awards is provided on the next two pages.

Elementary Level Science Education

1992	Karen Ziemelis
1993	Lela Wade
1994	Constance A. Dullock
1995	Joan Klopccic
1996	Mark Hackbarth
1997	Denise Koppleberger, Cheryl Ruthig
1998	Barbara McGivern
1999	John Clark
2000	Sue Burtch, Robin Harshman-Rogers, Vicki Richard, Clare Jorgensen
2001	Cathy Egerer, Amy Hindbaugh-Marr
2002	Maureen Becker
2003	Leon Katzinger
2004	Joan Roels

Middle Level Science Education

1992	Derrell Steffen	1999	not awarded
1993	Laurie Hepinstall	2000	not awarded
1994	JoAnn Kraut	2001	not awarded
1995	not awarded	2002	Joel Mikusko
1996	Barbara J. Bibbee	2003	not awarded
1997	Gary J. Johnson	2004	Christine Brillhart
1998	not awarded		

High School Chemistry Teaching

1989	Robert Wallace	1997	Mary Fredell
1990	Gary Ronk	1998	Dale Ressler
1991	not awarded	1999	Robert Enszer
1992	John Clark, Edna Konwinski	2000	Steven Kelly
1993	Mary Irons	2001	William Stokes
1994	Jo Ann Pelkki	2002	Robert Hansen
1995	not awarded	2003	not awarded
1996	Sandra Schafer	2004	Doug Grezeszak

College Chemistry Teaching

1989	Joan Sabourin	1997	Philip Squattrito
1990	Bob Howell	1998	Thomas Delia
1991	Robert Kohrman	1999	Steven Keinath
1992	Scott Hill	2000	James Hutchison
1993	Ajit Sharma	2001	Sandra Smith
1994	Laura Vosejpk	2002	Margaret Hill
1995	George Eastland	2003	Dale Meier
1996	Martin Spartz	2004	Katharine Blystone

Science Education Volunteer

1992	Gregg Young	1999	William Albe
1993	Peter Bonk	2000	Karol Childs
1994	Peter Moehs	2001	Donald Petersen
1995	Gretchen Kohl	2002	Joan McMahan
1996	John Blizzard, Dick Van Effen	2003	John Blizzard
1997	Marvin Tegen	2004	Jan Zanyk
1998	Carlton Beyer		

Advertise in *The Midland Chemist!*

Do you or a family member or friend have a business or service that you would like to advertise? *The Midland Chemist* is distributed to over 900 recipients. Approximately 800 are chemical professionals in the five-county area of the Midland Section, including Midland, Isabella, Gratiot, Bay, and Saginaw. However, the advertisement does not need to be chemistry-related. Check the Midland Chemist web page at the Midland Section web site for information on advertising rates.

<http://membership.acs.org/m/midl>.

ACS Scholars Program Accepting Applications

From National ACS

The American Chemical Society Scholars Program is now accepting applications for the 2005–2006 academic year. Application forms and instructions can be downloaded from our web site—www.chemistry.org/scholars, by e-mail to scholars@acs.org, by calling 1-800-227-5558, ext. 6250, or by writing to American Chemical Society Scholars Program, 1155 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. Approximately 100 new scholarships valued at up to \$3000.00 per academic year will be awarded. The deadline is March 1, 2005.



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Stipend Increase Impacts Project SEED

From National ACS

High school students who participate in the Project SEED program (<http://chemistry.org/education/seed.html>) will now have a more financially rewarding summer in addition to their 8-week lab experience. The Committee on Project SEED approved a significant increase in the student stipends, after examining high school student summer employment wage options at fast food restaurants and retail stores. Starting in 2005, Summer I students will receive \$2,275 and Summer II students \$2,600, which represents a 30% increase over last year's stipend.

Project SEED is designed to ensure that students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds have opportunities to experience the challenges and rewards of the chemical sciences. The program now sponsors nearly 400 students annually in summer hands-on lab research guided by scientist-mentors all over the country, from labs at Memorial Sloan-Kettering in New York City to ChevronTexaco in Richmond, California.

Committee Chair, Mitchell Bruce, states "This outstanding program has impacted more than 7,000 students and their families over the past 36 years. The decision to raise SEED stipends has a significant effect on the program's ability to reach students with demanding financial imperatives. Our challenge in the years ahead is to continue to grow the program while remaining competitive with other options students may have for summer employment. I know we will be able to meet the challenge with the ongoing and increased support of our loyal ACS SEED Donors."

You can make a gift to Project SEED today. Visit ACS Giving <http://acs.org/gifts> or call Mary Bet Dobson at 1-800-227-5558, x4094 for more information on how to make a gift or pledge.



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Mrs. Elsa Overa, Director of Project S.O.A.R. (Student Outreach and Academic Reinforcement), Hispanic Education, Saginaw School District with some of her students attending the 17th Annual Sci-Fest on October 23, 2004. Thirty-four students from North, South, and Webber Middle Schools were able to engage in a hands-on science demonstration program focused on the interaction of chemistry and health. The trip was arranged by Lin Dorman, chair, Minority Affairs Committee.

Correction to Vol. 41, No. 8, December 2004

Terms shown for councilors and alternate councilors in the December 2004 issue of *The Midland Chemist* were incorrect. The correct information is:

- | | |
|----------------|----------------------------|
| Councilor | Thomas H. Lane (2005–2007) |
| | Bob Howell (2003–2005) |
| Alt. Councilor | Gretchen Kohl (2005–2007) |
| | Angelo Cassar (2003–2005) |

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In Past Issues of *The Midland Chemist*

By Wendell L. Dilling, Midland Section Historian

- **40 Years Ago This Month**—Dr. Keith W. Michael, Dow Corning Corporation, will present the March seminar on the topic “Evidence for Siliconium Ion-Pairs: Selected Reactions of Optically Active *o*-Naphthylphenyl-methylchlorosilane” at the Dow Corning Cafeteria Conference Room on Monday, March 1, 1965, at 7:30 p.m.
- **30 Years Ago This Month**—In an article on “Chemistry at Alma College,” Dr. Randolph Beaumont noted that the chemistry curriculum exceeds the standards set by the American Chemical Society for the B.S. degree in chemistry. In fact, in 1934 Alma College’s Chemistry Department was one of the first in the State of Michigan to receive ACS approval.
- **20 Years Ago This Month**—During the past summer the Midland Section sponsored four area high school students. As Project SEED recipients, the students were awarded opportunities to spend ten weeks working in research laboratories at Central Michigan University and Saginaw Valley State College. George Eastland and Kenneth Magnell were the preceptors.
- **10 Years Ago This Month**—Wanted: ACS members to volunteer for demonstrations at the Hall of Ideas of the Midland Center for the Arts during Celebrate Science and Technology, April 17–21, 1995.

Important Dates on the ACS Midland Section Calendar

- Jan. 31 Dr. Imad Mahawili, Grand Valley State University, “Alternative and Renewable Energy Resources,” CMU Lecture Series, Central Michigan University, Dow 175, 4:00 p.m., reception preceding in Dow 264 at 3:30 p.m. (Choon Y. Lee, lee1cy@cmich.edu, 989-774-3289; abstract available on Midland Section web site)
- Feb. 7 John SantaLucia, Wayne State University, “Deciphering the DNA Thermodynamic Code,” CMU Lecture Series, Central Michigan University, Dow 175, 4:00 p.m., reception preceding in Dow 264 at 3:30 p.m. (Choon Y. Lee, lee1cy@cmich.edu, 989-774-3289)
- Feb. 14 Midland Section board meeting, Delta College Midland Center, 7:00 p.m., Room 10
Mike Crowder, Miami University, “Probing the Structure and Function of Glyoxalase II in Hopes of Offering Novel Anti-tumor Agents,” CMU Lecture Series, Central Michigan University, Dow 175, 4:00 p.m., reception preceding in Dow 264 at 3:30 p.m. (Choon Y. Lee, lee1cy@cmich.edu, 989-774-3289)
- Feb. 21 Jeff Coffey, Texas Christian University, CMU Lecture Series, check Events page on Midland Section web site as more information becomes available.

Important Dates on the ACS Midland Section Calendar

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- Feb. 28 G.E. Zaikov, Russian Academy of Sciences, CMU Lecture Series, check Events page on Midland Section web site as more information becomes available.
- Mar. 3 Bill Carroll, president of the ACS. The Midland Section is in the process of arranging Bill's schedule so that he can visit as many members as possible. We plan to schedule a presentation for Thursday evening, March 3. Look for details to be posted on the web site as they become available. (Pat Smith, pbsmith@dow.com, 989-636-5080)
- Mar. 7 Midland Section board meeting, Delta College Midland Center, 7:00 p.m., Room 10
- Mar. 14 Deadline for April issue of *The Midland Chemist*
Robert McCarrick, University of Michigan, CMU Lecture Series, check Events page on Midland Section web site as more information becomes available.
- Mar. 18 Deadline for awards nominations (Minghui Chai, 989-774-3955, chai1m@cmich.edu)
- March 21 Brian P. Buffin, Western Michigan, "Environmentally-benign "Green" Catalysis with Water-soluble Organometallic Complexes," CMU Lecture Series, check Events page on Midland Section web site as more information becomes available.
- March 28 Dr. Blomster, ACS Tour Speaker, CMU Lecture Series, check Events page on Midland Section web site as more information becomes available.

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