



## Midland Section and MMTG Name 2006 Award Recipients, pg. 5



Outstanding Service to  
the American Chemical  
Society  
**Philip Squattrito**

Outstanding Chemical  
Technician  
**Margo McIvor**



Outstanding Technol-  
ogy Student (MMTG)  
**Phillip Jerewski**

Not Pictured: **Dr. Robert E. Kohrman**, Outstanding Achievement and Pro-  
motion of the Chemical Sciences

# THE MIDLAND CHEMIST

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*Chair Column*

## It Was a Very Good Year

**A**mazingly enough, my time at the helm of the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society is coming to an end with the publication of this month's column. As you can imagine, the year has flown by, filled with all of the events and interactions the Midland Section provides. While it has been quite a task, it's also been an incredible time.



Buford Lemon, Chair  
ACS Midland Section

I'd like to thank the many, many members and volunteers of the Section for creating a brilliant organization aligned with the American Chemical Society that yields so many wonderful results.

Our Section's activities align perfectly with the ACS's mission statement, "To advance the broader chemistry enterprise and its practitioners for the benefit of Earth and its people." We here in Midland and the surrounding areas have developed an organization that:

- Provides both its members and the local public with a sense of community
- Broadly recognizes and awards its outstanding members
- Continuously produces programs that garner national recognition
- Provides volunteers to many ACS national committees
- Reaches out to teachers, industry members, students, administration, retirees, and the public
- Provides chemical education that benefits both Earth and its people.

Wow. And I can think of no better outcome for our organization and members' efforts. We've kept this secret of "chemistry" to ourselves for far too many decades—now's the time to share and prove what we have to offer the world, and helping guide this journey has been one of the most rewarding and enjoyable experiences of my short three-and-a-half decades on this planet! Thank you so much for the opportunity to lead such a fantastic organization.

At the beginning of the year, I asked the question "What's in it for me?" and promised to answer this question, especially in light of increasing demands for our attention and time. And over the course of the year, I had this question answered many, many times, and the answer is this: "*Everything's in it for you.*" If you don't know what I'm speaking of, then I personally invite you to attend one of our many events, roll up your sleeves and get involved, and then tell me if you still don't know what I'm

talking about. I doubt that will be the case.

On a more down-to-earth note, I'd like to call upon each of you for two specific requests of your time and energy. First, I'd like you to look around—at work, home, places of worship, in your neighborhood—and encourage fellow chemical practitioners to join ACS and the Midland Section. Our ranks are not representative of our local population of chemists and those involved with the chemical enterprise, and a lot of people are missing out on the fun. Second, I would like to encourage you (*yes, you*) to consider chairing one of our many committees (which can be found on our website, <http://membership.acs.org/M/Midl/>) or running for an elected position. While we maintain an incredible number of active programs here at the Midland ACS, we have a very small, very select group of people who do a lot of heavy lifting and would welcome your help and input.

Finally, I would like to thank a few people who have made my time as chair such a blast. Ann Birch, Kurt Brandstadt, Eldon Graham, Gretchen Kohl, Pat Smith, Dee Strand, and Joel Kern—"Thank you" for all of your support and inspiration over the last year. Thank you, thank you, and thank *you*. And extra-special thanks to my incredible wife and partner-in-crime, Dr. Melinda Keefe, for simultaneously tolerating and encouraging both this and all of my crazy shenanigans...you're the best!

Au revoir,



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## 2006 Fall Scientific Meeting Held at CMU

*By Robin J. Hood and Wendell L. Dilling*

The attendees at this year's Fall Scientific Meeting heard an outstanding keynote presentation by Dorothy Horan, coordinator of science for the Midland Public Schools, on the proposed new science education requirements for public schools in Michigan. If the proposed requirements for graduation are approved, every high school student in Michigan will be required to have one credit (the equivalent of one full year course) of biology, one credit of either chemistry or physics, and one additional credit of science, such as geology, physics, or chemistry.



*Keynote speaker Dorothy Horan*

The 62nd Midland Section ACS FSM was held on Saturday morning, October 21, at the Dow Science Building on the campus of Central Michigan University. After registration, enjoying some refreshments, mounting posters, etc., the attendees were welcomed to the FSM and the CMU Chemistry Department by Dr. David Ash, Chemistry Department chairperson. Dr. Buford Lemon, Dow Chemical and chair of the Midland Section, then presented several Section awards and recognized the 50-year members. (Note: The October issue of *The Midland Chemist* included an article on the 50-year members.)

The award presentations were followed by Horan's presentation and a panel discussion on the keynote topic, including its impact on the training of teachers of the sciences. Dr. Dee Strand, Dow Chemical and chair-elect of the Midland Section, chaired the panel, which consisted of Horan, Dr. Claudia Douglass, chairperson, Department of Biology at CMU, and Dr. Stanley Hirschi, past chairperson, Department of Physics at CMU. Douglass and Hirschi have been very active in science teacher education

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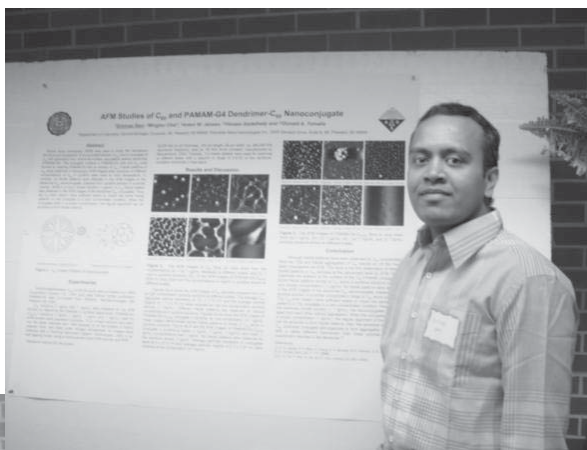
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at CMU.

The panel discussion was followed by the presentation of 34 posters on current chemistry activities and research, and more refreshments over a period of two hours.

Attendance at this year's meeting totaled 72 with the following breakdown of affiliations: CMU 41, Alma College 3, Ferris State University 3, Midland Public Schools 1, Dow Corning Corp. 6, Dow Corning Corp. retiree 1, Dow Chemical Co. 4, Dow Chemical Co. retiree 3, Michigan Molecular Institute 3, MMI retiree 1, Editech 1, Mid-Michigan Technician Group 3, not listed 2.

The assistance of Ann Birch for assembling and printing the program booklet as part of the October issue of *The Midland Chemist*, Angelo Cassar for photography at the meeting, and several CMU ACS student affiliate members for registration and facilities setup and takedown is gratefully acknowledged.



*Poster presentations introduced emerging technology at the Fall Scientific Meeting.*

## 2006 Midland Section Awards Presented

*By Minghui Chai*

### Outstanding Achievement and Promotion of the Chemical Sciences

#### **Dr. Robert E. Kohrman**

##### ***Central Michigan University***

- 38 years at Central Michigan University
- 1968 Joined Central Michigan University (CMU)
- 1972 Promoted to Associate Professor at CMU
- 1974-75 American Council on Education Fellow in Academic Administration at CMU
- 1977 Promoted to full professor at CMU
- 1987-92 Chair, Department of Chemistry at CMU
- 1993-97 Associate Dean, College of Arts and Science at CMU
- 2002-2003 Interim Provost of Central Michigan University
- 1997-present, Dean, College of Science and Technology at CMU
- 2005 Endowed Robert E. and Cordelia B. Kohrman Scholarship for College Junior Student Major in Chemistry with Outstanding Performance in Organic Chemistry

##### ***Education***

- 1963 BSc Chemistry, University of Michigan
- 1965 MS Chemistry, Miami University
- 1966-68 National Institutes of Health Predoctoral Fellow, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- 1968 PhD Organic Chemistry, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

##### ***Professional Activities***

- Successfully acquired funds from ACS Project SEED Program in 1980s and early 1990s
- Awarded instrument grant from National Science Foundation, 1983-84
- Awarded Petroleum Research Fund from ACS, 1983-86
- Awarded Research Excellence and Economic Development Fund, State of Michigan, 1988
- Awarded ILI grant from National Science Foundation, 1991-92
- Awarded grant from Hewlett Packard Corporation, 1992
- Member of the ACS and the Midland Section ACS:
- Reviewer for different funding agencies and journals
- Consultant for various companies



- Served as member and/or chair in variety of committees, advisory boards and programs in the Chemistry Department and Central Michigan University since 1969
- Attended numerous short courses sponsored and organized by ACS, CUR (Council for Undergraduate Research), NSF, etc.

### ***Publications***

- 22 Journal articles
- 32 Conference proceedings

### ***Honors and Awards***

- 1966–68 National Institutes of Health Fellow at MIT
- 1972 Teaching Excellence Award, CMU
- 1974 Faculty Achievement Award, CMU
- 1974–75 American Council on Education Fellow in Academic Administration
- 1978 Faculty Achievement Award, CMU
- 1980–81 Research Professor Award, CMU
- 1982 Danforth Associate Award, Danforth Foundation
- 1992 Outstanding Teaching in Chemistry at College level, ACS Midland Section
- 1991 Excellence in Teaching Award, CMU
- 1993 Excellence in Teaching Award, CMU
- 1993 Centennial Award, CMU

### ***Excerpts from nomination and support letters***

*“Dr. Kohrman is an intelligent and capable individual who can always be counted on to be direct and candid. He serves as a tremendous source of team support for CMU faculty and staff. His dedication to enhancing and promoting science education and involvement in mid-Michigan is truly inspiring.”*

*“Bob’s commitment to the education of young scientists has been steadfast through his career. He is one of the strongest voices in the Midwest in support of providing high quality undergraduate experiences, such as independent study and research projects, internships, and other capstone experiences. ...He has encouraged faculty involvement in CUR, the national Council for Undergraduate Research, by paying faculty and student memberships and supporting faculty and student attendance and presentations at CUR conferences. He started the college’s “Brown Bag” seminar series, which regularly includes speakers discussing approaches to improving science education.”*



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**Outstanding Service to the ACS**  
**Dr. Philip J. Squattrito**



*Philip Squattrito (r) receives his award from Section Chair Buford Lemon.*

***Education***

- Sc.B. in Chemistry, Brown University, 1982
- M.S. in Inorganic Chemistry, Northwestern University, 1983
- Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry, Northwestern University, 1987

***Direct ACS activities***

- Joined ACS, 1983
- Director, 1999–2001
- Executive Committee, 2000–2001
- Fall Scientific Meeting Committee
- Awards Committee
- Project SEED

***Excerpts from nomination and support letters***

*“His chairmanships of the Fall Scientific Meeting and Awards Committees were Phil’s most significant service to the Midland Section. He also served as the faculty advisor to the ACS Student Affiliates at CMU. The ACSSA group was recognized as a commendable chapter in 1996-97 by the National ACS and experienced much growth during Phil’s tenure as advisor. Phil is also an active researcher in structural inorganic chemistry and crystallography. He received the Provost’s Award for Outstanding Research from CMU and the Midland Section Award for Outstanding Achievement in College Chemistry Teaching in 1997.”*

## **Outstanding Chemical Technician**

### **Margo L. McIvor**



*Margo McIvor receives her award from Section Chair  
Buford Lemon.*

#### ***Work Experience and Technical Expertise***

- Technician for Dow Corning Personal Care TS&D, TAD Technical Services, 1995–96
- Technician, Personal Care TS&D, Technology Assessment, Dow Corning Corporation, 1996–2001
- Research Technician 7N, Bioscience Program, Advanced Ventures and Technologies Business, Dow Corning Corporation, 2001–present
- Member of ACS and the Society of Cosmetic Chemists
- Employee representative and auditor in the information asset management program in Dow Corning
- Member of the Dow Corning S&T (Safety & Environment) Committee
- Analytical methods development based on GC, GC/MS, FTIR, NMR, AA, EDXRF, HPLC, rheometers, particle-size analyzers, Instron, interfacial tension, color spectroscopy, and optical microscopy.
- Supporting technical service and technology assessment projects within Personal Care business function at Dow Corning
- Conducting reactions, managing equipment, and addressing ISO and GLP procedural requirements
- Team-worked in a research alliance between Dow Corning and Genencor International (Palo Alto, CA), and external research projects with several universities in Bioscience program of Dow Corning.

### ***Selected accomplishments***

- Co-authored one provisional patent
- Filed four legal invention disclosures
- Authored 20 Dow Corning technical reports
- Authored two external and ten internal paper and poster presentations

### ***Excerpts from nomination and support letters***

*"...Margo is highly reliable and responsive. Given her strong work ethic, sense-of-urgency, and time management skills, her ability to quickly deliver high-quality results is competitive advantage."*

*"[Margo] handles the pressure with grace and is effective at multitasking. You can count on Margo delivering what she promises ..."*

*"What sets her apart is her consistent drive for excellence and success, top quality work, and extreme professionalism."*

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## **Phillip Jerewski Receives MMTG Award**

*By Becky Swanson and Deb Mendrick*

**E**very year the MidMichigan Technician Group (MMTG) selects one Delta College student for the Outstanding Technology Student Award.

This award recognizes an outstanding student completing an associate degree in chemical, chemical process, or environmental technology. This year the award was presented to Phillip Jerewski at the Fall Scientific meeting. Phillip graduated from Delta College in April 2006 with associate degrees in applied science



*Phillip Jerewski with Deb Mendrick (l) and Buford Lemon (r).*

and environmental technology. He plans to graduate from CMU in spring 2007 with a dual major in environmental and earth science. Currently Phillip is employed as a laboratory technician at The Dow Chemical Company where he has demonstrated his dedication to safety and teamwork. Phillip plans to pursue a second bachelor's degree in environmental policy and then go on to graduate school.

## CMU Student Receives Scholarship from Midland Section

*By Eldon Graham*

**T**he Midland Section of ACS annually awards a scholarship to recognize outstanding students studying in the field of chemistry. The Section selected Katelyn Carter as its 2007 scholarship recipient. A sophomore chemistry major from Beverly Hills, Michigan, she will receive \$1000 towards her education at Central Michigan University.

Carter has studied improvements in flame-retardant materials and the stability of plastics. Most flame retardants are high in bromine, which can accumulate in animals such as fish and may cause health problems for those with diets high in fish. Many types of food packaging rely on polymers because they are good oxygen barriers.

Carter was nominated by CMU chemistry professors Bob Howell and Dale LeCaptain. She plans to go on to graduate school and complete a Ph.D. with the goal of becoming a chemistry professor herself.

Application forms for the award for next year can be obtained from Dr. Lin Dorman at [lcdorman@aol.com](mailto:lcdorman@aol.com). Committee members include Lin Dorman, Chair, Bob Howell, Wendell Dilling, Eldon Graham, and Joan Sabourin.



*Katelyn Carter, shown here at her poster with Bob Howell (l) and Buford Lemon (r), received the 2007 Midland Section scholarship.*

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## Midland Section Participates in Educator's Open House

*By Dee Strand*

**O**ur ACS Section participated in the Educator's Open House at the Midland Center for the Arts on September 28. The purpose of the event was to expose teachers and homeschoolers to all of the educational opportunities and resources available to them in the tri-county area. The event was sponsored by the Alden B. Dow Museum of Science & Art, and was free to the public. John Blizzard and Dee Strand presented a poster highlighting educational outreach activities available through our Section. They spoke with many area teachers and parents, emphasizing our Science Literacy program and other resources. In addition, Dow TV's "OnSite" program filmed an interview with Dee Strand, which should give our Section some great publicity regarding our educational outreach programs. This will be shown throughout Dow during National Chemistry Week.

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## 2007 Midland Section Board Meetings Scheduled

*By Dee Strand*

**A**ll meetings are Monday nights, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Any Midland Section members are welcome to attend.

- Jan. 8 MidMichigan Innovation Center, 4520 E Ashman Rd, Midland;  
directions available at the Section web site [http://  
membership.acs.org/m/midl/](http://membership.acs.org/m/midl/)
- Feb. 12 Delta College Midland Center, Room 106
- Mar. 12 Delta College Midland Center, Room 106
- Apr. 9 Delta College Midland Center, Room 106
- May 14 Delta College, University Center, Room TBD
- Jun. 11 Central Michigan University, Room TBD
- Aug. 13 Saginaw Valley State University, Room TBD
- Sept. 10 Delta College, Midland Center, Room TBD
- Oct. 8 Delta College, Midland Center, Room TBD
- Nov. 12 Delta College, Midland Center, Room TBD
- Dec. 10 Delta College, Midland Center, Room TBD

## 2007 Board Members Announced

*By Brett Zimmerman*

**O**n behalf of the Nominations and Elections Committee, I would like to thank all the candidates for agreeing to run this year for an elected position in the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society. To remain strong and vibrant, our society depends on volunteers. Your willingness to consider giving of your time and talent in the leadership of the Midland Section is a perfect example of this spirit. Board members for 2007 are shown below, with those elected this year in bold type. The director, councilor, and alternate councilor positions carry a term of three years (term ending indicated in parentheses); all others carry a one-year term.

Chair	Dee Strand
Chair-Elect	<b>Dorie Yontz</b>
Secretary	<b>Beth Nichols</b>
Treasurer	<b>Csilla Kollar</b>
Chair, NEC	<b>Brett Zimmerman</b>
Councilor	Bob Howell (08) Tom Lane (07)
Alt. Councilor	Dale LeCaptain (08) Gretchen Kohl (07)
Directors	<b>Jennifer Dingman</b> (09) <b>Dale Meier</b> (09) <b>Pat Smith</b> (09) Ann Birch (08) John Blizzard (08) Connie Murphy (08) Wendell Dilling (07) Steve Keinath (07) Mike Owen (07)

The 2007 term of office begins January 1, 2007. All elected officers can obtain additional information on the bylaws and on their role and responsibilities on the Midland Section web site at <http://membership.acs.org/m/midl/leaders.htm>. A list of 2006 officers and committee chairs can also be found on that page. For those who ran as candidates but were not elected (and for all members), please consider other volunteer opportunities within the Midland Section. Also, please consider running for elected office in the future!

## Flanagan Discusses Science Education in Michigan

*By Dee Strand*

**M**ike Flanagan, superintendent of public instruction for the State of Michigan, addressed a group of about 35 people on Monday, October 23, at the Midland Center for the Arts. The audience consisted of ACS members as well as local educators and administrators. Mike spoke about the changing high school graduation requirements and the challenges in implementation of these changes. The new high school graduation requirements require four credits of math including algebra I, geometry, and algebra II. Three credits of science are required including one credit of biology and one credit of either chemistry or physics. There are also requirements in areas beyond math and science, but they were not addressed in this talk.



Mike stressed the importance of raising the standards for high school graduates in the state. Historically, the economy and jobs in Michigan have depended on the automotive industry, and graduates (sometimes even high school dropouts) could get good-paying jobs in the automotive industry without a background in science and math. That is no longer the case. Not only are there a lot fewer jobs in the automotive manufacturing sector, but the remaining jobs require more extensive training in math and science.

Critics of the new standards claim that not all students will be able to complete courses such as algebra II and chemistry, and that we should be able to relax standards for those students. Mike gave examples where other states made it fairly easy for students to opt out of the “requirements” and explained that the requirements are meaningless if not enforced stringently. He feels that almost all students can complete these credits, but it may require different teaching methods to be effective for all students. Thus, we have a real challenge in recruiting high quality science and math teachers in all areas of the state. We also need to train new science and math teachers in many different methodologies to be successful with a diverse student base.

Michigan’s new high school graduation requirements in math and science are the most stringent in the nation, and Mike believes that the future of our state’s economy depends upon successful implementation. Professional organizations, such as ACS, can play a role in helping science



teachers with hands-on methods of teaching, in providing practical examples of the importance of math and science, and in mentoring/tutoring resources.

Mike was appointed state superintendent of public instruction by the State Board of Education on May 18, 2005. He directs the Michigan Department of Education, chairs the State Board of Education, and advises the State Board of Education, the governor, and the state legislature regarding public education in Michigan.

Prior to his appointment, Mike served as the executive director of MASA and MAISA, which serve Michigan public school superintendents and intermediate school districts in the state. These two statewide organizations develop leadership and unity within their memberships to achieve the continuous improvement of public education in Michigan. He has been honored as executive director emeritus by those organizations.

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## ACS Launches Social Networking Site

*From National ACS*

**I**n late 2006, the American Chemical Society launched a new social networking site targeted to professionals, students, and researchers interested in and working in biotechnology.

BiotechExchange.org provides individuals the opportunity to meet, dialogue, discuss, debate, and interact with other researchers and professionals involved in discovery and process development for the pharmaceutical and bio-based materials industries. BiotechExchange.org provides a forum to share information, identify opportunities, and seek collaborations with fellow scientists and industry professionals. Features on the site include:

- Pre-meeting information from event organizers
- On-site blogs from event attendees
- Virtual poster sessions (including peer-review)
- Audio casts, news feeds, and journal article summaries

In addition, the site will permit the creation of special interest groups. These enable smaller collections of individuals to gather and share specialized information of interest. More information regarding the creation of groups may be found at [www.biotechexchange.org](http://www.biotechexchange.org).

## Dr. Dale Meier Receives TPE Award

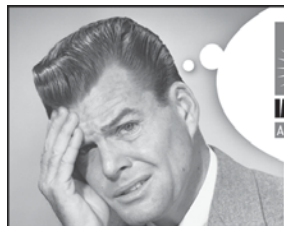
*Adapted from Rubber Division Web Site*

**D**r. Dale J. Meier, distinguished MMI fellow, professor, and program manager at Michigan Molecular Institute, has been chosen to receive the 2007 Chemistry of Thermoplastic Elastomers Award. This award honors significant contributions to the advancement of the chemistry of TPEs. It is sponsored by Advanced Elastomer Systems and includes a \$4000 honorarium.

Dale received his Ph.D. from the University of California at Los Angeles in 1951 after obtaining his M.S. and B.S. at the California Institute of Technology. He joined ACS in 1958.

He joined Shell Chemical in 1951 as a physical chemist. He was named supervisor of research in 1956 for Shell, a position he held until 1968. In 1968–69 he was a visiting scientist at Koninklijke/Shell in The Netherlands. He returned to Shell in California in 1969 and was a project leader and supervisor of research before joining Michigan Molecular Institute in 1972.

Along with his work at MMI, he currently is adjunct professor at Michigan Technological University, Case Western University and Central Michigan University. He has edited two books and authored over 90 papers and patents on polymer physics, block copolymers, silicone chemistry, polymer rheology, and inorganic and colloid chemistry. His paper "Theory of Block Copolymers," (*J. Polymer Sci. C* 26, 81, 1969) was selected as one of the 12 most significant papers published in the past 50 years by the journal in 1997. He won a Midland Section, ACS research award in 1993 and a teaching award in 2003.



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## What's Up with MMTG?

*By Becky Swanson*

MMTG sponsored a summertime outdoor lunch in August featuring the Midland R/C Modelers Club. Due to weather conflicts the event was rescheduled from July, but we still had good attendance (about 20 people of which seven were new members!). A few of the R/C Modelers Club members volunteered to present an overview of their radio-controlled model aircrafts and provided a great demonstration of their flying capabilities for the attendees.

If you didn't attend the National ACS meeting in San Francisco you should put it on your list of things to try! MMTG was well represented at the national meeting. TECH offered leadership training and hosted a presidential panel discussion. The leadership training allowed officers of several TAGs (technician affiliate groups) to exchange programming ideas. Also, TECH presented MMTG with an award for "Consistently Providing TECH Leadership and Representation." A poster was presented on behalf of MMTG titled "MMTG in 2005."

MMTG presented the 2006 Outstanding Technology Student Award to Phillip Jerewski at the Fall Scientific meeting. See page 9 for more details.



*Janet Smith, the chair of TECH, presents Becky Swanson of MMTG with the TECH award for consistently providing TECH leadership and representation.*



*Dave Stickles, Deb Mendrick, and Pam Slavings with the "MMTG in 2005" poster at the 2006 Fall Scientific Meeting.*

The 2007 MMTG officer elections have been held, and the new officers will be announced soon. We are taking suggestions for seminars and events for next year; please contact Deb Mendrick with your suggestions at [dmendrick@dow.com](mailto:dmendrick@dow.com). A year-end luncheon is being planned for member appreciation, volunteer appreciation, and for time to get to know the 2007 MMTG board. Hope to see you there!

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## CMU ACS Affiliate Receives “Outstanding” Award

*Adapted with permission from the Midland Daily News*

**C**entral Michigan University’s ACS Student Affiliate has been selected to receive an outstanding award for its chapter conduct during the 2005–2006 academic year. It is the third consecutive year the student affiliate has received the honor. The winning chapters will be honored March 25, 2007, at the ACS national meeting in Chicago.

The CMU chapter brings guest speakers to campus, organizes spring and fall picnics, and attends local, regional, and national meetings. The group participates in the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life and conducts educational programs for local students.

In addition to being recognized by their peers and ACS members, this award brings the student affiliate members a note of accomplishment in *C&EN* and *Chemistry* publications.



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Letter to the Editor

## ACS Election Procedures Need Revision

By Wendell Dilling

The results of the recent four-way election for ACS president-elect (1) show one of the reasons why ACS election procedures should be revised. The extra expense and work required for the run-off election could have been avoided if multiple-choice voting (instant run-off) had been used. ACS already uses multiple-choice (second-choice) voting when there are three candidates for president-elect or district director to avoid having a candidate elected by a minority of voters. All that would have been required in the most recent election was a second and third choice by each voter. The general procedure and rationale for instant run-off elections were outlined previously (2,3).

Another recent example of a separate run-off election that could have been avoided occurred in the 2004 District IV Director election (4).

A second problem with ACS elections involves directors-at-large. A majority vote is not required for their election. Two recent examples where candidates won election with less than a majority, 47% (3) and 44% (5), occurred in 2004.

A bylaw amendment has been proposed to correct the problem of director-at-large elections by less than majorities. However, this proposal still does not correct all possible situations. If two directors are being elected from four or more candidates, the proposal would allow a director to be elected by less than a majority. The proposal also requires a separate run-off election when there are four or more candidates for a single director-at-large position and no candidate receives a majority.

These problems could be solved with bylaw amendments that allow multiple-choice votes for *all elected offices* according to the following formula:  $C - E = N$ , where C is the number of candidates, E is the number of candidates to be elected, and N is the number of choices a voter can make. For example, the most recent election for director-at-large had seven candidates for three positions (1). If members could have voted for first, second, third, and fourth choices ( $7 - 3 = 4$ ) the three directors would have been elected without a separate run-off, and all three would have been elected by a majority of voters. This procedure turned out to be unnecessary in this most recent election, as all three directors elected received support from >50% of the voters (councilors). However if 12 or more councilors had switched one of their votes from the third-place finisher to other candidates, the third-place finisher would have been elected by <50% of the voters.

The procedure for counting votes in multiple-vote elections is the

same as that already used for three-way elections except the procedure is repeated more than once. The candidate with the fewest first- or highest-choice votes is eliminated in each step and the second- or second-highest-choice votes on those ballots, where the eliminated candidate was the first or highest choice, are added to the other first- or highest-choice votes for the remaining candidates. The procedure is continued until the required number of candidates to be elected have each received >50% of the vote.

In summary, the bylaws should be amended to take care of all election possibilities to ensure election by majority and avoid unnecessary separate run-off elections.

1. Raber, L. *C&EN*, Nov. 13, 2006, page 12.
2. Dilling, W.L. *Abstr. Pap.-Am. Chem. Soc.* 2001, 222nd, HIST 48.
3. Dilling, W.L. *C&EN*, Mar. 29, 2004, page 4.
4. Raber, L. *C&EN*, Jan. 10, 2005, page 11.
5. Raber, L. *C&EN*, Nov. 22, 2004, page 16.

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## Historical Articles Available

*By Wendell Dilling*

The presentations given by Etcyl Blair (History of Chemistry at Dow), Jim Falender (History of Chemistry at Dow Corning), and Bob Howell (Chemistry Programs at Section Academia) at the Central Regional ACS Meeting in Frankenmuth last May are available on the Section web site (<http://membership.acs.org/M/Midl/about.htm>).



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# Councilor's Report from the 232<sup>nd</sup> ACS National Meeting

*By Thomas Lane*

**San Francisco, California, September 10–14, 2006**

**T**he Midland Section won four ChemLuminary Awards including Best Medium Size Section, Disability Program, Younger Chemist Program, and High School Program. The Section was nominated for a total of seven awards. Well done Midland Section!!

## **Actions of the Council**

### ***Election Results***

- The Committee on Nominations and Elections presented the following slate of nominees for membership on the Committee on Committees for the 2007–2009 term: Theodore M. Brown, H. N. Cheng, Milagros Delgado, Alan M. Ehrlich, Roland F. Hirsch, Neil D. Jespersen, Melanie J. Lesko, Vincent M. Mautino, Les W. McQuire and Charles F. Rowell. By written ballot the Council elected H. N. Cheng, Milagros Delgado, Neil D. Jespersen, Les W. McQuire and Charles F. Rowell.
- The Committee on Nominations and Elections presented the following slate of nominees for membership on the Council Policy Committee for the 2007–2009 term: Martha L. Casey, Dwight W. Chasar, M. Elizabeth Derrick, Thomas R. Gilbert, Joe W. Hightower, Barbara J. Peterson, Robert A. Pribush, and H. David Wohlers. By written ballot the Council elected Martha L. Casey, M. Elizabeth Derrick, Thomas R. Gilbert and Joe W. Hightower.
- The Council Policy Committee presented the following slate of nominees for membership on the Committee on Nominations and Elections: V. Dean Adams, G. Bryan Balazs, Merle I. Eiss, Marie G. Hankins, Charles P. Rader, Barbara A. Sawrey, Sharon P. Shoemaker, Herbert B. Silber, Ellen B. Stechel and Don B. Weser. By written ballot the Council elected Merle I. Eiss, Barbara A. Sawrey, Sharon P. Shoemaker, Herbert B. Silber and Ellen B. Stechel.

### ***Candidates for President-Elect and Board of Directors***

The candidates for the fall 2007 ACS national election were announced as follows:

#### **• President-elect 2007**

Bruce E. Bursten, University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
Yorke E. Rhodes, Retired, New York University, New York  
Bassam Z. Shakhshiri, University of Wisconsin, Madison  
James A. Walsh, Retired, John Carroll University, Florida



- **Director-at-Large 2007–2009**

William H. (Jack) Breazeale, Jr. College of Charleston, South Carolina  
Dennis Chamot, National Research Council, Washington, D.C.  
Peter K. Dorhout, Colorado State University, Ft. Collins  
Paul R. Jones, University of North Texas, Denton  
Valerie J. Kuck, Retired, Bell Labs, New Jersey  
Dorothy J. Phillips, Waters Corporation, Massachusetts  
Marinda L. Wu, Science is Fun! Company, California

- **Director, District I 2007–2009**

Thomas R. Gilbert, Northeastern University, Boston  
Anne T. O'Brien, Consultant (Retired, Wyeth-Ayerst Research),  
Tarrytown

- **Director, District V 2007–2009**

John E. Adams, University of Missouri, Columbia  
Judith L. Benham, Retired, 3M Company, Minnesota

### ***Petitions for Consideration***

The Council received three petitions for consideration: Petition on Election Procedures 2006; Petition on Multi-Year Dues; and Petition on Rules for Nominating Members of Nominations and Elections for National Offices. A brief discussion ensued on the Petition on Rules for Nominating Members of Nominations and Elections for National Offices. Action is expected on these petitions at the 2007 spring national meeting in Chicago.

### ***Committee Review and Committee Change in Status***

As part of a regular review, the Council voted to continue the Committee on Public Relations and Communication, the Committee on Environmental Improvement, and the Committee on International Activities subject to concurrence by the Board of Directors. The Council also voted to support the request of the Committee on Community Activities that its status be changed from an “other committee” of the Board to a joint Board-Council Committee. The purpose of the Committee on Community Activities is to improve the public perception of chemistry by providing programs to connect chemists with their communities.

### ***Governance Review***

The Council received a report from the Council Policy Committee on activities related to Governance Review. The Board-CPC Governance Review Task Force generated 23 ideas following initial interaction with the Board, Council, committees and other interested members. A joint meeting of the Board of Directors and CPC was held at this meeting to prioritize the 23 ideas into three categories: to advance the idea as worthy of further con-

sideration by the cognizant committee and/or interested groups; to refine the idea which will be sent back to the Governance Review Task Force for further consideration; or to place the idea in a “stop” category as an idea that will receive no further consideration as part of the governance review. Councilors received a listing of the 23 ideas organized into the three categories as prioritized jointly by the Board and CPC.

### ***Registration Report and 2007 National Meeting Registration Fee***

As of September 12, 2006, the ACS fall national meeting had attracted 15,603 registrants. Totals in select categories are as follows: Regular attendees 9,373; Students 3,350; Guests 510; Exhibit Only 504; and Exhibitors 1,666. The Committee on Meetings and Expositions reported that national meeting financial targets continue to be met, and therefore recommended to the Board of Directors that there be no increase in national meeting registration fees for 2007.

### ***The Society's Membership***

The Committee on Membership Affairs reported that through August 2006, a record 12,137 new applicants have been added to the Society's membership, and that the Member-Get-A-Member campaign is well on its way to the goal of 1,000 new members in this year.

### ***Special Discussion Item***

A special discussion item was again put on the Council agenda. The discussion focused on ensuring the American Chemical Society's future by engaging younger members throughout the Society's volunteer leadership. ACS President E. Ann Nalley framed the discussion by presenting the results of a councilor survey on the topic and many councilors offered useful comments and suggestions.

### ***Review of the Chemical Professional's Code of Conduct***

The Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs submitted its latest version of the Chemical Professional's Code of Conduct for Council review. This document offers guidance for Society members in various professional dealings, especially those involving conflicts of interest.

## ***Actions of the Board of Directors***

### ***The Board's Committees and Task Forces***

The Board of Directors voted to recommend a nominee for both the 2007 Perkin Medal and the 2007 Othmer Gold Medal. The Perkin Medal, the highest award of the Society of Chemical Industry, is awarded for outstanding contributions to American industrial chemistry. The Othmer

Gold Medal recognizes a chemical scientist of multiple talents and achievements and is awarded by the Chemical Heritage Foundation. The Board also received a report from the ACS Petroleum Research Fund Steering Committee. The Steering Committee has been charged with developing a set of focusing proposals that will be important to the future success of the Fund.

On the recommendation of the Board Committee on Professional and Member Relations, the Board voted the following:

- To approve revisions to the Guidelines for Society Cosponsorships with other organizations.
- To proceed with “phase one” plans to arrange the 2008 ACS/AIChE joint meeting, which involves working within the framework of the cosponsorship guidelines, engaging the support of the relevant technical divisions, and developing a suitable budget.
- To approve the request for cooperative cosponsorship of Pacificchem 2010, to be held December 14–19, 2010, in Honolulu, Hawaii, contingent upon approval of an acceptable budget for the conference.

The Board received and expressed support for a report presented by its Contingency Planning Working Group. The Contingency Planning Working Group was charged with developing a set of actions that could be undertaken if risks became reality for the Society. The Board’s Task Force on the Timing of Committee Appointments also presented a report. This task force was asked to review the timing of committee appointments and seek opportunities to engage the Board Chair and President earlier in the appointment process. The Board also discussed plans for a third conference in Malta entitled, *Frontiers of Chemistry III: Research and Education in the Middle East* and agreed to recommend inclusion of \$50,000 for this meeting in the 2007 budget. The conference will take place in December 2007.

### ***The Society’s Mission***

On the recommendation of the Committee on Planning, the Board voted to adopt a revised ACS mission statement: *“To advance the broader chemistry enterprise and its practitioners for the benefit of Earth and its people.”*

### ***The Society’s Publications***

The Board voted to approve the reappointment of several of its journal editors.

### ***The Society’s Staff***

The Board received a report from the Executive Director/CEO and several of her senior staff members on the activities of the Publications Division, Chemical Abstracts Service, Human Resources, the Web Presence Project,

and the Society's General Counsel. On the recommendation of the Committee on Executive Compensation, the Board agreed to a proposed list of 2007 organizational objectives. The Board also received a status report from its consultants, who are helping to review the Society's executive compensation system. The compensation of the Society's executive staff receives regular review by the Board.

### ***The Society's Finances***

The Board, through the Committee on Budget and Finance, voted to approve funding requests for the Society's Green Chemistry Institute and for workshops with Hispanic and Native American-serving institutions and to include these funding amounts in the Society's 2007 proposed operating budget.

The Board also received a report from the Program Review Advisory Group (PRAG). PRAG is charged with reviewing programs of the Society (with some exceptions) on a periodic and regular basis.

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## **Midland Section ACS Open House**

*By Dee Strand*

About 40 people attended the ACS Open House at Plymouth Park in Midland on October 26. The open house was open to ACS members and nonmembers. The event was organized as a way to engage recipients of the 2005 survey that was conducted to determine what ACS activities people valued most, and what activities they wanted to become more involved in. An e-mail was sent to all survey recipients thanking them for their input, reminding them of what they wanted to get involved in, and inviting them to the ACS Open House. In addition, the event was publicized locally for all who wanted to attend.

Posters and 2005 Luminary Awards were shown at the Open House, so that attendees could get a better understanding of the types of events that our chapter organizes and participates in, and of the caliber of our section. Sign-up sheets were provided so that attendees could volunteer for several National Chemistry Week events.

This was a new event for our section, and will be repeated in 2007 with the addition of a "Meet the Candidates" opportunity, as we will hold the Open House earlier in the season and encourage all candidates running for a Section position to attend and meet people.

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## In Past Issues of *The Midland Chemist*

*By Wendell L. Dilling, Midland Section Historian*

- **40 Years Ago This Month**—In The Chairman's Column, by M. Chamberlain: "'Don't come to me once a year and tell me how much you want to attend a National ACS meeting, if you haven't shown interest in Local Section activities throughout the rest of the year.' This is about the way one of my supervisors phrased it, when I first started to work as a chemist."
- **30 Years Ago This Month**—In 1982 Central Regional Meeting in Midland, by Wendell L. Dilling: "The 14th Central Regional ACS Meeting will be held here in 1982. Although this meeting is over five years away, I believe that now is not too early to give some thought to its general planning. The Midland Section Board of Directors approved making the offer to host a Central Regional Meeting in October, 1973. Having a Regional ACS Meeting in Midland will provide an opportunity for a large number of our local section members to attend and participate at relatively little expense."
- **20 Years Ago This Month**—In 1990 Volunteers Requested, by Pat Dreyfuss, General Chairman: "In 1990, the Midland Section will host the 22nd Central Regional Meeting. Planning for this meeting in 1990 is underway. Anyone interested in serving on a committee is invited to contact the general chairman. The 1990 Regional Meeting will give the Midland Section an opportunity both to increase its own visibility and to highlight local chemical institutions and industries. We look forward to your participation."
- **10 Years Ago This Month**—In From the Chair, by Thomas Lane: "I have just received wonderful news from the Office of Public Outreach and the National Historic Chemical Landmarks Program. The Herbert H. Dow bromine process (Bromine by Electrolysis, 1891) has been designated a National Historic Chemical Landmark by the Advisory Committee of the ACS National Historic Landmarks Program. A celebration is being planned to commemorate this historic site and event."

## Important Dates on the ACS Midland Section Calendar

- Jan 8 Midland Section board meeting, MidMichigan Innovation Center, 4520 E Ashman Rd, Midland, 7:00 p.m.
- Jan 12 Deadline for February issue of *The Midland Chemist*.
- Feb 12 Midland Section board meeting, Delta College Midland Center, 7:00 p.m., Room 106
- Feb 13 2007 Engineer's Week Banquet, SVSU Curtis Hall, 6:00 p.m. (Angela Zsidi, 989-757-1808, [angela.m.zsidi@gm.com](mailto:angela.m.zsidi@gm.com))

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