

**St. Louis Section
of the
American Chemical
Society**

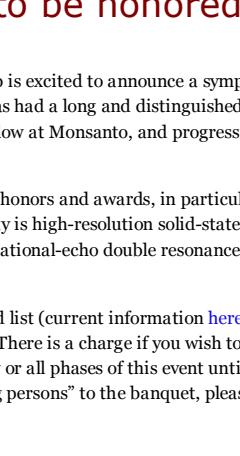
Stay in touch with us:



[Home](#) [Member Services](#) » [Outreach](#) » [News](#) » [Special Events](#) » [Resources](#) » [About](#) »



Chemical Bond, January 2017



Chemical Bond

Vol. 68, No. 1, January, 2017

Jacob Schaefer to be honored at symposium/banquet

first published 12 December 2016

The St Louis NMR Discussion Group is excited to announce a symposium and banquet, January 6, 2017, in honor of Dr Jacob ("Jake") Schaefer. Schaefer has had a long and distinguished career at Washington University, beginning as an adjunct professor in 1978 while a fellow at Monsanto, and progressing directly to the Charles Allen Thomas Professorship in 1986, a post he still holds.

Jake has been the recipient of many honors and awards, in particular for us here, the Saint Louis Award in 1977 and the Midwest Award in 1987. His specialty is high-resolution solid-state NMR. He is the co-inventor of cross-polarization magic-angle spinning (1976) and rotational-echo double resonance (1989). Both techniques have become standard methods and are currently in use world-wide.

The symposium features a confirmed list (current information [here](#)) of at least 33 international speakers. Attendance at the symposium is free, including lunch. There is a charge if you wish to attend the banquet immediately following the symposium. You can register for any or all phases of this event until December 22. Registrants will be sent banquet details. If you are bringing any "accompanying persons" to the banquet, please have them register separately.



Jacob Schaefer
Washington University

Confirmed Speakers (as of post date)

- **Mohae Afeworki**, ExxonMobil
DNP in Jake's NMR lab and research in an industrial basic-research setting
- **Alexander Barnes**, Washington University
Technology for Electron Decoupling and Pulsed DNP in Rotating Solids
- **Lynette Cegelski**, Stanford University
CPMAS and REDOR: Bugs, Flims, and Leaves
- **Hermann Eckerl**, Universität Münster, Germany
Inspired by Rochester 1988: Using REDOR for Structural Studies of Inorganic Glasses
- **Joel Garbow**, Washington University School of Medicine
Monsanto to Washington University: Tales of a Schaefer Post-doc
- **Terry Gullion**, West Virginia University
Some Recollections of REDOR and Some Observations of Peptides on Gold Nanoparticles
- **Joon Kim**, Baylor University
How mosquitoes and algae get fat: carbon metabolic fluxes by solid-state NMR
- **Chris Klug**, Naval Research Lab
Taking Advantage of Low Field NMR
- **Matt Merritt**, University of Florida, Gainesville
Paths Less Traveled: Using NMR to Understand Metabolism
- **Gary Patti**, Washington University
Metabolic Anachronisms from Jake Schaefer's 1985 Lab Notebook
- **Ayyalusamy Ramamoorthy**, University of Michigan
Dynamic Structural Interactions between Membrane-Bound Cytochrome P450 and Redox Partners by NMR
- **Asher Schmidt**, Technion University, Israel
Biomaterials interfaces and mesoporous materials surfaces: the molecular REDOR eyes expose mechanistic pathways in functional materials
- **David Welty**, Michigan State University
Solid-State NMR of Viral Fusion Proteins

Checking in from the Continuity Dinner

first published 13 December 2016

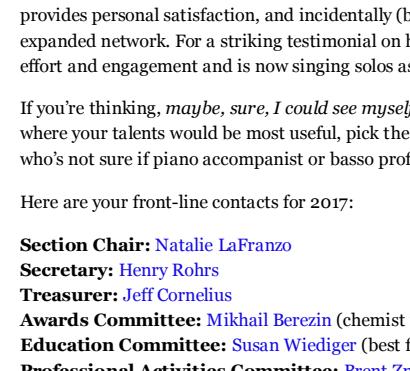
A new venue for the Continuity Dinner, but one we've used before for other special events, Bristol Seafood Grill in Creve Coeur provided the room, the virtuosity, and the ambience for the closing General/Board meeting of the year.

After about a half hour of free-form socializing, outgoing Chair Joe Ackerman got down to business. First was the General Meeting of the Section, with a vote on the Bylaw revisions: passed unanimously (heww!). Then the Board of Directors meeting: this had the feel of a black-diamond downhill run, as Joe was determined to get 'er done before dinner was served. And get 'er done he did.

The food was excellent. Salmon here; tablemates' orders included filet of beef (nice) or scallops (which looked beautiful if you weren't too hungry).

All that was left for the after-dinner wrap-up was the special Continuity agenda:

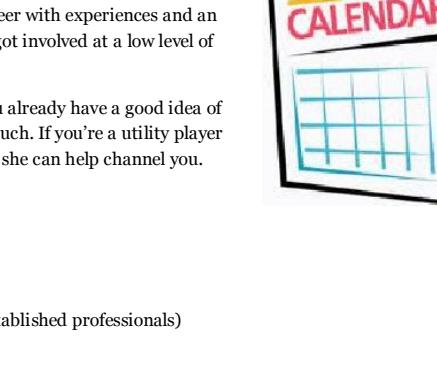
- Two Salutes to Excellence were awarded: (1) to Keith Stine and Jim O'Brien for their 15 years of Career Day programs, outreach to area high school chemistry students; and (2) to Henry Rohrs for his wildly successful Mass Spec Discussion Group leadership for lo! these many years.
- Vic Lewchenko was cited (in preview) for the Distinguished Service Award. Vic has been efficiently and honorably serving as Treasurer for six years. In addition, he and his camera are a talented, reliable presence at most events: the unofficial Section photo-documentarian. He'll actually receive the award at Recognition Night, but you heard it here first.
- The Henry Godt Memorial Lecture was given by traditionally secret speaker (unknown but to Joe). Joe did the usual looking-around misdirection (with smirk) before landing on ... no... yes... Vic Lewchenko to deliver the 2016 HGML (highlights below, but the executive summary is "we do a lot of stuff").
- Finally, Joe Ackerman released his grip on the Gavel and Book of office, ceding custody to the 2017 Chair, Natalie LaFranzo.



Jim O'Brien and Keith Stine receiving Salute to Excellence
from Joe Ackerman



Outgoing (Joe) and incoming (Natalie) both seem very happy; someone must be deluded!



Henry Rohrs with his Salute to Excellence (and Joe)

Henry Godt Memorial Lecture

There is no verbatim transcript of Vic's oration. He worked from notes on 3x5, day-glo yellow index cards. But we have those cards and will attempt to reconstruct Vic's gist. The cards are not numbered, so hmm, this could be interesting.

Vic recalled past HGMLs structured as • Twitter hash tags (Tet Gasti) • haikus (Sean Dingman) or • rah-rah cheers complete with pom-poms (Natalie LaFranzo). None of that stuff for Vic, so "no gimmick" was Vic's gimmick for 2017.

Vic organized his oratory around three goals of the Section: recognition, outreach, and fellowship; and had much to recall in each category.

Recognition: 50- and 60-year members, Outstanding junior chemistry students, the Sci/Tech Award (to Rhonda Woernle), Natalie LaFranzo appointed national Chair of the Younger Chemists Committee, Lisa Balbes receiving the Howard & Sally Peters Award for work in alternative careers for chemists. There was Rob Lamb (High School Chemistry Teacher-of-the-Year), the Saint Louis Award to Liviu Mirica, the Midwest Award to Jacob Petrich, and the Distinguished Service Award to Bill Doub.

Our efforts at **Outreach** were exemplified by special judging at three regional science fairs (Sheryl Loux and Will Ridley), Battle of the Burets with 24 teams from 10 high schools organized by Leah O'Brien, the High School Chem Contest (Myron Reese), the amazing first annual Washington University Chemistry Tournament (WU undergrads Harshith Gupta and Abhishek Sethi) with 174 participants, Career Day at UMSL, Earth Day at the Science Center (Reni Joseph), the Spooktacular (Sheryl Loux) in conjunction with National Chemistry Week, and the umpteenth Boy Scout Merit Badge Clinic (Lisa Balbes).

Finally, pardon us for having a little fun along the way with opportunities for **Fellowship:** the 12th Annual Section Picnic hosted by Joe and Brenda at their home, and of course this Continuity Dinner. Raise a toast to whatever's left.

Vic's Flickr photostream of the event has more pictures. Enjoy!

Ackerman's Swan Song

first published 21 December 2016

Joe Ackerman is officially still Chair for another week or so. But as there is no business pending, it's probably safe to reveal his outgoing message: thoughts on the year past and ruminations on the future:

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as Chair of the Saint Louis Section of the American Chemical Society for 2016, and I am delighted that Natalie LaFranzo will be taking over the reins for 2017. The Saint Louis Section remains engaged and vital for 2017 as evidenced by, among other things, the new slate of officers representing the progression of "younger" chemists into positions of administrative responsibility: Ben Barth – Chair Elect, Jeff Cornelius – Treasurer, Henry Rohrs – Secretary, and Natalie LaFranzo – Chair.

Our special programs remain strong and I make special note of the new/revitalized Chromatography Discussion Group that has become very active under the enthusiastic guidance of Dr. Malkin. Donna Friedman led the Board of Directors through an exacting review and revision of the Saint Louis Section's Bylaws, which were approved at the open meeting held in concert with the Continuity Dinner on December 8, 2016.

A special note and thanks must be extended to Vic Lewchenko, the Saint Louis Section's long-serving outgoing Treasurer. Vic has done an exceptional job over many years and the Section owes him a deep debt of gratitude. Jeff Cornelius will, indeed, have big shoes to fill.

My wife Brenda and I have greatly enjoyed hosting the monthly Steering Committee meetings at our home in Webster Groves. The 2016 Steering Committee (Lisa Balbes, Ben Barth, Pegah Jalili, Natalie LaFranzo, and Leah O'Brien) have served ably, offering wise and experienced counsel regarding issues facing the Section and its many programs. For this I offer them my hearty thanks.

Finally, I remind the reader that those active in the Saint Louis Section are all volunteers. If the Section is to remain one of the most active of all the Local Sections encompassed by the National ACS, it must recruit new "younger" members from the Saint Louis region to add to the long-productive efforts of the "old guard". Those of us with gray hair (or no hair) need younger members to keep us on our toes and, ultimately, to take over leadership roles in the Section. Recruitment of young, eager, motivated chemists into membership in the Saint Louis Section must remain a high priority and major focus of all of us.

Natalie LaFranzo on 2017

first published 30 December 2016

The ceremonial transition got most of the media attention (you remember the Continuity Dinner, right?), but the official transition is calendrical. And the calendar is about to give us all a swift kick. So, hereeeeeeee're Natalie LaFranzo, incoming Section Chair, with words for the upcoming year.

Dear Colleagues,

As we wind down from the excitement of the holiday season, I am beginning to feel anticipation about what's to come in 2017. We have such a strong tradition of volunteerism in the St. Louis Section, with many productive years of service to the chemistry community, and beyond. I look forward to continuing this tradition, and hope to see more local chemists join in the fun!

I became active in the Section as a graduate student, eager to meet mentors and learn more about chemistry in St. Louis. From growing my network, to organizing fun events, and eventually taking on a leadership position, the time and energy I've invested has been returned to me many times over.

If you've been considering becoming more active and investing in your career, this is the year! There are both big and small roles available that you can contribute in. Whether you're a student, academic, industrial or government scientist, non-traditional, retired, or just love chemistry, we'd be thrilled to have you on our team of diverse, passionate professionals. It's never too early (or late!) to get involved.

Please consider visiting our monthly Board Meetings – the food is good (your first dinner is free, after which students and unemployed members pay half price!), the company is great, and you'll learn what we're about. Meetings not your thing? No problem – send me an email at chair@stlacs.org and we'll take it from there.

Thank you to everyone who has come before me and paved the path to success for our Section. I look forward to serving alongside both our seasoned and newest members in 2017!

Cheers,
Natalie

Joe doesn't make many appearances without his right-hand spouse, Brenda



Natalie LaFranzo holding a microphone

Who Ya Gonna Call (2017 edition)?

first published 31 December 2016

So, if you're reading this, you already have some sense of what the St Louis Section-ACS offers to its members and the community at large. That makes you a member of the choir.

But, do you sing? or just lip-sync? With all we have going on all the time – educational outreach, member services, and the nitty-gritty of section governance – surely there is some aspect of all this that matches your vocal range? Volunteering is good for the soul, provides personal satisfaction, and incidentally (big payoff coming) can boost your own professional career with experiences and an expanded network. For a striking testimonial on how this works, read Natalie LaFranzo's message. She got involved at a low level and effort and engagement and is now singing solos as Chair of the Section for 2017.

If you're thinking, *maybe, sure, I could see myself getting into this*, you'll want someone to talk to. If you already have a good idea where your talents would be most useful, pick the committee or officer that sounds like you and get in touch. If you're a utility player who's not sure if piano accompanist or basso profundo is the right way to go, call the Section Chair, and she can help channel you.

Here are your front-line contacts for 2017:

Section Chair: Natalie LaFranzo

Secretary: Henry Rohrs

Treasurer: Jeff Cornelius

Awards Committee: Mikhail Bereznik (chemist recognition programs from primary school through established professionals)

Education Committee: Susan Wiedergut (best for community outreach events)

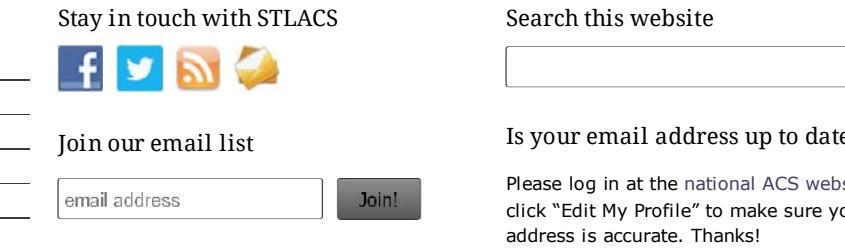
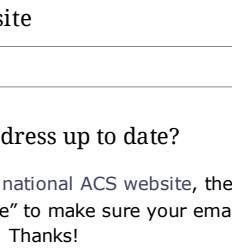
Professional Activities Committee: Brent Znosko (with Program, best for member services)

Younger Chemists Committee: Mathew Koehl or Dong Malin

Program Committee: Dana Baum (with Professional Activities, best for member services)

Publicity & Public Relations Committee: Eric Ressner

Chemical Bond newsletter: editor position open (opportunity knocks)



MATERIALS CHARACTERIZATION
MORPHOLOGY CHEMISTRY STRUCTURE

OM / SEM / EDXA / EPA / WDXA,

XRF / ESCA / AUGER / XRD

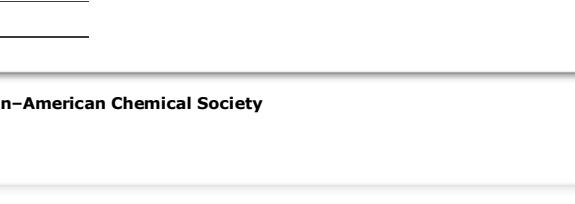
DSC / TGA / MFTIR

3815 LANCASTER PIKE WILMINGTON DE 19805

Voice 302-998-1184, Fax 302-998-1836

E-Mail micronanalytical@compuserve.com

WEB PAGE : www.micronanalytical.com



Board of Directors

St Louis Section-ACS Board of Directors meets the second Thursday of each month, usually at the Glen Echo Country Club ([map and driving directions](#)). Meetings are open to all members, and all are encouraged to attend. Elected officers and chairs of major committees vote on questions put to the Board; others in attendance have voice but no vote.

If you want to attend for dinner, please contact the section Chair at least a week in advance. Usual cost of the dinner is \$21 (\$12 for post-docs and unemployed members). Bar service and dessert are optional extras. Members wishing to become active in section activities are welcomed for their first dinner as guests of the section.

Date: Jan 12

Social hour, cash bar: 6:00 pm

Call to order: 6:30 pm (Board Meeting suspended during dinner service)

Future meetings: Feb 9, Mar 9

Saint Louis University

Seminars are generally on Fridays at 12 noon in Carlo Auditorium, Teiger Hall, unless noted otherwise. Refreshments follow. For the most up-to-date information, refer to the department's [seminar page](#) or contact Brent Znosko, znosko@slu.edu.

University of Missouri-St Louis

Mondays at 4 pm in Benton Hall, unless otherwise specified. Refreshments 15 minutes prior to seminar time. For timely information on visiting seminar speakers, contact the Chemistry Department, 314.516.5311, or visit the [seminar schedule](#). The department has additional seminar series which are also accessible from this page.

Washington University

Seminars are in McMillen 311 at 4 pm unless otherwise noted. For information, consult the departmental [events page](#). Related seminars, including endowed seminar series and the WU med school biochemistry series, are linked here as well.

Main Menu