



# Chemical Bond

Volume 54  
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December 2003

**St. Louis Section, American Chemical Society**



**BOND - Voyage!**

# *A Very Fond Farewell to Long Time Editor Eric Ressner...*

## *Editor's Swansong*

If you have a very sharp eye, you will see a significant change in the masthead of this esteemed periodical next month. I will no longer be listed as the editor.

Almost nine years ago, I noticed the name of the previous editor, Jack Bornmann, on that same masthead. It sounded familiar. Yes, this was the guy I sat beside and shared a coffee break with during a local workshop on SGML the previous year. He's the same Jack Bornmann who contributes a "Letters, Words and More" column every issue, missing only one in the past eight years.

What prompted me to look at that masthead was the number of errors I noticed a couple of issues in a row. I emailed Jack and asked if I could help. If you don't know Jack, you need to understand that he was losing his sight. The errors simply meant that he couldn't see as well as he needed to. Somehow, my offer of help became me volunteering to be the editor. I never knew what hit me.

It's been a stimulating, challenging, rewarding eight years. At first, I struggled to retype all the stories I received on paper. I wrestled with a very complicated desktop publishing program. I labored to lay out advertisers' artwork and the occasional photo essay, taping them into the holes I meticulously left in the text. There were a lot of late nights. Once, it even started getting light out. Today, nearly everything—text, photos, and even advertisers' artwork—is electronic. It all comes out of the printer in position. I save a bundle on Scotch tape.

The other end of the process has changed, too. ACS national used to send us preprinted sheets of mailing labels. Each set cost the section \$25, and they weren't compatible with any labeling machines. We were tied to the one bulk mail handler who was willing to hand-label 2,000 copies of the *Bond* each month. Finally, national offered the choice of an electronic mailing list, and we were able to move into the 20th century.

I've been happy to work with a long line of fine people, all trying hard to make the section better, to provide better services to section members and the public. They've been vocal in their appreciation for what I've tried to do with the *Bond*, and generously forgiving when I dropped the ball.

Last year, I started thinking it was time for a new editor, someone with fresh ideas and perspectives, and I placed a small notice in the *Bond*. Amazingly, I received responses (plural). But there was clearly one person with all the necessary skills. After a few conversations, it was also obvious she had the requisite enthusiasm and understood what she was getting into. Andrea Reaka has been the *de facto* editor since February, and next month she will get the title, too.

Please give her the support she needs. Meet her deadlines. Submit interesting material for publication, with graphics whenever possible. Provide feedback; even angry letters to the editor are welcome. And when she asks for volunteers, for her own staff or for other section activities, volunteer. You'll enjoy it ... really!

Thank you all for reading.

—Eric

# Chemical Bond

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# Meeting & Seminars

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## *Board of Directors*

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St. Louis Section–ACS Board of Directors meets on a Thursday of each month, at the Alumni Center, University of Missouri–St. Louis. The usual meeting day is the second Thursday of each month, but meetings and other events have caused a change in the October meeting to the third Thursday of the month. Meetings are open to all members, and all are encouraged to attend. Elected officers and chairs of major committees have the right to vote; others in attendance have voice but no vote. If you want to attend the dinner, please contact Leah O’Brien (lobrien@siue.edu or 618-650-3562) at least one week prior to the meeting date. The usual cost of dinner is \$15. Members wishing to become active in section activities are welcomed for their first dinner compliments of the section.

**Date:** *Dec. 11*  
**Continuity Dinner** (pg 11)  
**Social hour:** 5:30 pm  
**Dinner:** 6:30 pm  
**Business meeting:** 7:15 pm  
**Future meeting:** Jan. 6, Feb. 12

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## *Synthetic Organic Chemistry (SOC) Discussion Group*

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The newly created Synthetic Organic Chemistry (SOC) discussion group will hold its third meeting on:

**Wednesday, December 17**

St. Louis University  
Lee Lecture Hall 1 (LH1)  
(lower level lecture halls,  
just next to Chem. Dept.)

and will feature another one of its distinguished organizers:

**Prof. Christopher Spilling**

Univ. of MO, St. Louis  
*“Allylic Hydroxy Phosphonates:  
Versatile Chiral Building Blocks”*

Please convene for refreshments at 5:30 pm, general remarks and comments/suggestions from the participants will start at 6 pm, and the presentation will follow.

Parking will be available at the Olive Parking Garage, corner of Olive Blvd. and N. Compton Ave. The lower level lecture halls and Chem. Dept. are located just behind the soccer stadium. If you need directions, contact Olivier Nicaise at 977-2853 or nicaiseo@slu.edu.

If you are interested in participating, and would like to make suggestions regarding the organization and some additional activities of the SOC discussion group, or at best would like to make a presentation at a future meeting, then please contact one of the organizers listed below:

Prof. Olivier Nicaise  
St. Louis University  
(314) 977-2853  
nicaiseo@slu.edu

Prof. Kevin Moeller  
Washington University  
(314) 935-4270  
moeller@wuchem.wustl.edu

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## **University of Missouri- St. Louis**

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Seminars are held on Mondays at 4:00 pm in Room 451 Benton Hall unless otherwise specified. Refreshments 15 minutes prior to seminar time. ([www.umsl.edu/chemistry](http://www.umsl.edu/chemistry))

December 1

**Dr. Ernest Maynard**

Johns Hopkins University  
*The Role of Pex5 Structure  
and PTS1 Affinity in the  
Peroxisomal Protein Import  
Pathway.*

December 8

**Dr. Sarah Michel**

Johns Hopkins University  
TBA

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## **Washington University**

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Seminars are in McMillen 311 at 4 pm unless otherwise noted. Coffee is available 20 minutes prior to the talk, and refreshments follow. For information, contact:

Amy Walker

[walker@wuchem.wustl.edu](mailto:walker@wuchem.wustl.edu)

An up-to-date list of seminars is available at:

[www.chemistry.wustl.edu/  
~seminars/seminars.html](http://www.chemistry.wustl.edu/~seminars/seminars.html)

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## **St. Louis University**

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Seminars start at 3:30 pm in Room 204 Macelwane Hall, unless noted otherwise. Refreshments follow. For more information, contact Paul Jelliss, [jellissp@slu.edu](mailto:jellissp@slu.edu).



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# Outgoing Chair's Message

## December 2003

As my year as Chair of the St. Louis Local Section comes to an end, I must admit I have gained a deeper pride in and respect for this Section. Not for my meager accomplishment of surviving the year, but for the leadership of the past who have shown much vision for the Section. For example, I have just returned from the Midwest Regional Meeting where I presented the 2003 Midwest Award to Professor Kristin Bowman-James. In her remarks accepting the award, she pointed out how impressed she was that this section had the vision to establish and endow this award in 1944, before many of us were even born! This vision and leadership remain strong in this Section today – in Tom Layloff, Sadiq Shah, Bijan Khazai, and Ted Gast who are working hard to boost the Section's endowments so the fine traditions of the St. Louis Award and Midwest Award can be continued for many years to come, in Lisa Balbes who continues her series of career workshops to support the needs of current members, and in Rose McBryan Davidson, Mike Grayson, Marc Conradi, Joel Garbow, Olivier J.-C. Nicaise and Kevin Moeller for the leadership in the ongoing activities of the Education, Mass Spectrometry, NMR, and new Organic Synthesis Discussion Groups, just to name a few. Most importantly, this vision continues in the often-thankless efforts of our area high school teachers whose instruction and imagination draws students into this profession, and in all of you who share your enthusiasm and excitement of chemistry with colleagues, students, family and friends.

Leah O'Brien

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### *The election results are in!*

The following members will serve in their newly elected positions for 2004.

- Chair-Elect: Ted Gast
- Secretary: Keith Stine
- Treasurer: Bruce Ritts
- Directors:
  - Greg Wall
  - Samir El-Antably
  - Bob Devine
- Councilor:
  - Sadiq Shah
- Alternate Councilors:
  - Lisa Balbes
  - Mike Shaw

## Letters & More

Don't worry, fans! Jack is taking a short, well-deserved break. Letters, Words, & More will return next month.

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*Pick up*

*rotating*

*Mass-Vac ad*

*from p. 11 of March 2003*

# Nominate a Colleague for the St. Louis Award

The St. Louis Award, sponsored by the Monsanto Company, is presented to an individual who had made outstanding contributions to the profession of chemistry and demonstrated potential to further the advancement of the chemical profession. The award, consisting of a \$1,500 honorarium and a plaque, is presented at the St. Louis Award Banquet, the final event of Chemical Progress Week in April.

Please help the Awards Committee identify outstanding chemists in the St. Louis Section by submitting your nominations to the St. Louis Award Chair. The nominations should include a nominating letter, two or more seconding letters from individuals who have had a close professional affiliation with the nominee, a brief biography, a description of the nominee's accomplishments, and a list of publication and patents.

At the time of the nomination, the nominee must not have previously received the Midwest Award or any national ACS-sponsored award. The nominee must be a member or affiliate of the St. Louis Section of the ACS. The deadline for nomination packets to be received is December 10, 2003. Please send nominations and inquire to:

Dr. Joseph Ackerman  
St. Louis Award Chairman  
Department of Chemistry  
Campus Box 1134  
Washington University  
1 Brookings Drive  
St. Louis, MO 63130-4899  
Phone: 1-314-935-6593  
FAX: 1-314-935-4481  
ackerman@wustl.edu

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## **Co-Inventors: Who they are and who they are not**

**Sadiq Shah**

Office of Technology Transfer  
Western Illinois University

It may be easy to generate a list of authors for a manuscript that is being submitted for publication. The general protocol is that anyone with any reasonable connection with the manuscript will be listed as a co-author. However, identifying co-inventors is not a matter of generally accepted protocol, it is a matter of law. The law says that if the names of the co-inventors do not fulfill the requirements of the patent law, the patent is invalidated with devastating consequence for organizations and the inventors. So who are inventors? Those who contribute ideas even if it is done accidentally and it results in the development of the invention. Regardless of how small the contribution may be, they are the legal co-inventors. Then, who is not a co-inventor? Those who contribute labor, supervision, or routine techniques and other non-mental contributions, and those who contribute ideas towards the development. The ideas which do not contribute towards the development of the claimed invention are not legal co-inventors.

*Stay tuned for more on these topics and associated ownership rights in future Chemical Bond issues.*

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### **How to Start a Chemical Consulting Business**

Want to make some extra money on the side - or maybe full-time? Looking for ways to remain professionally active after retirement? The St Louis Section of the American Chemical Society is pleased to announce the latest in its series of career development workshops. These sessions are aimed at helping chemists develop their careers, not just find another job.

**“How to Start a Chemical Consulting Business”**

**Tuesday, December 16**

6:00 pm Networking, 6:30 pm Presentation Begins

Sigma Aldrich Research and Development Building, Room 1615

*All talks are free and open to the public.*

Directions:

Sigma Aldrich R&D Building, 2909 Laclede Street, St Louis MO 63103-2167.  
Take I-40 to Market, and turn left on Garrison (first stop light past Compton).  
Garrison turns into Laclede and turn right into the complex.

For more information, contact Lisa at 314-966-5298 or [lisa@balbes.com](mailto:lisa@balbes.com).

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# Battle of the Burets 2003

An extended National Chemistry Week came to a close Wednesday October 29<sup>th</sup> as Clayton High School's Mike Goldsticker and Pat Cohn took top honors in the "Battle of the Burets" competition. This titration contest is sponsored each year by the St. Louis Section of the American Chemical Society and the Chemistry Department of the St. Louis Community College at Florissant Valley. Twenty-Seven teams from fifteen schools participated in this test of speed and accuracy. Four teams emerged from the preliminary rounds to compete for championship honors. The four teams left standing were:

Mike Goldsticker and Patrick Cohn  
Jared Bouquet and Mike Towers  
Suman Vaddi and Rachel Zigler  
Browyn Ritchie and Anne Schumer

Clayton High School  
Francis Howell North High School  
Parkway West High School  
Lindbergh High School

The sponsors would like to thank our friends at Solutions Plus - Ricca Midwest for preparing the titrants used in this contest.



**Battle Champions Mike Goldsticker and Pat Cohn demonstrate their winning form!**

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# Continuity Dinner 2003

Thursday, December 11, 2003

at Chris' Dining

5980 Southwest Blvd.

(314) 645-2088

Every December the St. Louis Section of the ACS holds a fancier than average board meeting celebrating the year's achievements, recognizing certain members, and passing of the gavel to the new slate of section officers. There is also the Henry Godt Memorial Lecture, recapping the past year, which is always a surprise.

Please join us to celebrate. The evening will begin with a social hour and open bar (beer, wine, and soft drinks) at 5:30 pm. Dinner will be served at 6:30, and the business meeting will begin at 7:15. Cost is \$20.00 per person. A map is available on the web site.

\*Please note-the November issue said the dinner fee was payable at the meeting. This was a mistake made by me the Assistant Editor. Please send in the reservation form with the \$20 dinner fee to reserve your seat. Thank you.

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## Continuity Dinner Reservation Form

Member name \_\_\_\_\_

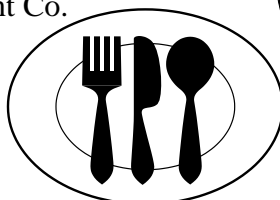
Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ X \$20 = Amount remitted \_\_\_\_\_

Your preference for entree: Steak (#) \_\_\_\_\_ Salmon (#) \_\_\_\_\_

Reservation must be received by December 8, 2003.

Please make check payable to the St. Louis Section-ACS  
and mail to:

Dr. Samir El-Altably  
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