

# Chemical Bond

Volume 56 Number 8 November 2005

St. Louis Section, American Chemical Society



**Congress Supports** 

The Joy of Toys

**National Chemistry Week** 

# St. Louis Chemical Science and Technology Award 2005 Call For Nominations

The St. Louis Science and Technology Award will be presented to a chemist in the St. Louis area who has demonstrated a high degree of professionalism and scientific contribution. Criteria used to judge the award include technical proficiency, presentations, coaching/teamwork and additional professional activities. The award will consist of a plaque, a check for \$500.00 and dinner for the awardee and a guest at the annual Chemical Progress Week Awards Night. The award will be presented to the winner at the Awards Night event, which will be held in April of 2006.

The Chemical Science and Technology Award will be presented to a person whose training includes successful completion of an Associate, Bachelor or Masters degree in chemistry or a chemistry-related curriculum.

Letters of nomination must be received by Joel Krauser, Pfizer Corp., mail code T2A, 700 Chesterfield Parkway West, Chesterfield, MO 63017 by December 20, 2005. Nominations, including seconding letters, must not exceed six pages. The nominating letters should address the criteria above. A current work address, phone number and fax number must be provided for each nominee. Please include an e-mail address. Nominees need not be a St. Louis Section member to be eligible for this award. This award is administered by the St. Louis Section of the American Chemical Society (ACS).

For more information contact: Joel Krauser at 314-274-8430, FAX 314-274-4426, joel.a.krauser@pfizer.com

#### Legislators Recognize National Chemistry Week

Representatives Rush Holt (D-NJ) and Vernon Ehlers (R-MI) introduced a Congressional resolution on September 21 that recognizes the importance and positive contributions of chemistry to our everyday lives. The resolution also supports the goals of ACS' National Chemistry Week program and encourages the people of the United States to observe the week with appropriate recognition, ceremonies, activities, and programs. National Chemistry Week begins on October 17 and is focused on, "The Joy of Toys." To date, 16 members of Congress, including Science Committee Chairman Sherwood Boehlert (R-NY), have cosponsored the resolution.

According to Congressman Holt, a former ACS Public Service Award recipient, "Toys spark imagination; imagination fuels innovation. The celebration of chemistry, a science which is the backbone to the health of many industries including pharmaceuticals, electronics, automotive, and aerospace, through the chemistry of toys is worthy of Congressional support."

To be adopted, the resolution must now go before the House of Representatives for a vote. To check out the resolution visit: <a href="http://www.chemistry.org/portal/resources/ACS/ACSContent/government/capitolconnection/images/ccOct05">http://www.chemistry.org/portal/resources/ACS/ACSContent/government/capitolconnection/images/ccOct05</a> NCWResolution.pdf

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# Meeting Seminars

#### **Board of Directors**

St. Louis Section-ACS Board of Directors meets on the second Thursday of each month, at the Glen Echo Country Club (map available on website). 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 Ted Gast (ted@cfgastco.com) at least one week prior to the meeting date. The cost of dinner is \$18. Members wishing to become active in section activities are welcomed to their first dinner for free. compliments of the section.

Date: Note change: Dec. 1\*
Continuity Dinner
Social hour: 5:30 pm
Dinner: 6:30 pm
Business Meeting will start

during dinner.

#### NMR Discussion Group

The NMR group also has an email listsery. To join, send email to sarahj@wustl.edu with "subscribe NMR Discussion Group" in the subject line. The schedule is also posted on-line at: http://www.chemistry.wustl.edu/seminars.stlnmr.html.
For more information contact:

Mark Conradi (Physics) at 935-6418 or msc@wuphys.wustl.edu Joel Garbow (Radiology & Chem) 362-9949 or garbow@wustl.edu

Sophia Hayes (Chemistry) at 935-4624 or hayes@wustl.edu

November 10, 4:00 pm

Heiko Niessen

University of Magdeburg,
Center for Advanced Imaging
& Dept. of Neurology
Magnetic Resonance
Progression Markers in the
Transgenic SOD1 Mouse Model

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#### University of Missouri-St. Louis

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

November 14
Honggao Yan
Michigan State University
Role of Conformational
Dynamics in Enzymatic
Catalysis - A Tale of 6Hydroxymethyl-7,8dihydropterin

# November 21 **Fall Break**

November 28 **David Mootoo**City University of New York
Carbohydrates: Templates for
the Discovery of New Synthetic
Methodologies

December 5
Shelley Minteer
St. Louis University
Designing Enzyme
Immobilization Architectures
for Electrodes Using Micellar
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#### **4D Molecular Orbitals**

by Jack Bornmann

Last month I wrote about my experiences looking (or trying to look) into multiple dimensions. Thus, I felt prepared to consider the shape of the Periodic Chart of the Elements in a 5-dimentional space-time world, i.e. 4-dimensional space.

## Letters More Words More

When I was teaching, I taught the students about molecular orbitals. I told them about the shapes, the relative energies, and the directions of the orbitals. Then, I used their knowledge of the character of the orbitals to explain the shape of the Periodic Chart of the Elements. I had to be careful when writing the exam. I wanted to test their understanding of the orbitals and the Periodic Chart, but I did not want to give them an essay question. Instead, I gave them a question in the following manner: Use your understanding of orbitals in 3dimensional space and the resultant shape of the Periodic Chart to predict what the Periodic Chart would look like if there were only two dimensions.

So, here is the answer I was looking for: (instead of using subscripts and especially superscripts on subscripts I will use parentheses): In 3-dimensional space we have the following orbitals:

 $egin{aligned} s & p(x) \, p(y) \, p(z) \\ d(xy) \, d(xz) \, d(yz) \, d(x^2 - y^2) \, d(z^2) \end{aligned}$ 

The s orbital is spherical and has no dominant direction. The p orbital is dumbbell shaped with its axis in the x, y or z direction. The d orbital is a double dumbbell that fits in a plane; the d(xy), d(xz), and d(yz) lie in the

indicated plane with its lobes at a 45 degree angle with the axes. The  $d(x^2-y^2)$  and  $d(z^2)$  have their lobes pointed in the axes indicated inside the parenthesis.

In two dimensions, we have only x and y. Thus the 2-dimensional orbitals are:  $s p(x) p(y) d(xy) d(x^2-y^2)$ 

Each orbital can hold two electrons and each orbital is represented by two elements on the Periodic Chart. Therefore, the 2-dimensional periodic chart would have the usual two families on the left, four families on the right, and four elements in the transition elements.

OK, that was the question for chemistry students. Here is the question for those who have graduated as chemistry majors and had several years of experience working as a chemist: "What will the Periodic Chart of the Elements look like in 4-dimenstional space (or in the 5-dimension space-time realm)?" Answer: Let us label the four space dimensions as w, x, y, and z. It is my hypothesis that the orbitals in 4-dimensional space would be the following. sp(w) p(x) p(y) p(z) d(wx) d(wy) d(wz) d(xy) d(xz) d(yz) d(w²-x²) d(y²-z²)

Two electrons go into each orbital and, therefore, two elements go into each orbital's position on the Periodic Chart. The s orbital gives the alkali metals and the alkaline earth metal families. The four p orbitals permit eight columns of elements instead of our six families of elements in our 3-dimensional Periodic Chart. There are eight d orbitals in 4-dimensional space and therefore there will be 16 transition elements in the hypothetical Four Dimensional Periodic Chart.

It would be nice if someone would solve the Schroedinger Equation in four dimensions and check my hypothesis. Any takers? I am using my blindness as an excuse for not doing it myself. Pick up

rotating

Mass-Vac ad

from p. 9 of June 2005

#### Congressional Leaders Praise ACS Fellowship Program

In a recent video, congressional leaders praised the importance of the ACS fellowship program. Fellows provide science expertise to Washington, D.C. policymakers on issues such as homeland security, water resources and containment, climate change, science education, and much more.

To view the video, please visit www.chemistry.org/government.

Fellowship applications are due by December 31, and thel fellowships run for one year, beginning in September. Here is a wonderful opportunity for anyone who has an interest in public policy. To learn more about these fellowship opportunities, please visit chemistry.org/policyfellowships.

#### POLYMER STANDARDS FOR GCP/SEC MOLECULAR WEIGHT ANALYSIS

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### **Higher Education Act Update**

In September, legislation to extend the Higher Education Act (HEA) through 2005 became law. The Act technically expired in 2004.

HEA is the education law governing federal programs involving student financial assistance, aid to strengthen institutions, aid to improve K-12 teacher training at postsecondary institutions, and support services to help students complete high school and succeed in college. Both the House and Senate education committees have been working diligently to suggest changes to the act, however, efforts have been stalled due to the busy congressional schedule.



## National Academies Call for \$10-Billion Increase in Science Funding

Responding to a congressional request to identify the top 10 actions that "federal policy makers could take to enhance the science and technology enterprise so that the U.S. can successfully compete, prosper, and be secure in the global community," the National Academies issued a report on how the federal government could improve U.S. innovation and competitiveness. Recommendations were made in four areas (K-12 science education, research, university education, and investment incentives) and were designed to strengthen the availability of high-tech workers, the generation of new ideas, and the incentives for investment. These programs would require a \$10 billion federal-funding increase for science and technology.

The National Academies committee comprised extraordinary leaders of the S&T community: university presidents, CEOs, Nobel laureates, and former high-ranking government officials. Chair Norman Augustine, retired chairman of the Board and CEO of Lockheed Martin, released the report in a one-hour press event on October 12 with members Craig Barrett, chairman of Board, Intel; P. Roy Vagelos, retired chairman of the Board and CEO of Merck; and other science and technology leaders, including Madeleine Jacobs, executive director and CEO of the American Chemical Society, in attendance.

The report, *Rising Above the Gathering Storm: Energizing and Employing America for a Brighter Economic Future*, outlines specific recommendations to meet threats to our national competitiveness and address American job security. Some key points it addresses are the following:

- · K-12 science education is central to all other solutions.
- · A rapid increase in investment for physical science and engineering research is needed and should not be made at the expense of the recently expanded biological and health sciences.
- · U.S. undergraduate and graduate programs must attract the best and the brightest students from the U.S. and abroad.

Chair Augustine highlighted the investment nature of the recommendations and indicated the necessity of finding money to fund the combined annual price tag of \$10 billion. In response to a question about whether the recommendations would ensure future American jobs, Barrett replied, "I can guarantee that there won't be jobs, if you don't do the things listed in this report."

The Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources will formally receive the report by October 18. ACS is working with the Senate Science & Technology Caucus on further highlighting it at an end-of-October Capitol Hill briefing. The report can be viewed online at <a href="http://www.nationalacademies.org/morenews/20051012.html">http://www.nationalacademies.org/morenews/20051012.html</a>.

# Don't be left out!

# Subscribe Now!

If you would like to receive e-mail reminders of upcoming ACS events and activities, subscibe to the Reminders Listserve. You will be informed of ACS activities including meetings, lectures, banquets, etc. Send your e-mail address to Alexa Serfis, Chair Elect, at BARNOSKI@SLU.EDU.



# 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 demonstated 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 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, 2005. Please send nominations and inquires to:

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#### **Continuity Dinner 2005**

Thursday, December 1, 2005 Glen Echo Country Club 3401 Lucas and Hunt Road St. Louis, MO 63121 (314) 383-1500

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 the 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 during dinner. Cost is \$20.00 per person. Please send in payment and the reservation form below by November 28.

## **Continuity Dinner Reservation Form**

Member name	
Number attending	X \$20 = Amount remitted

Reservations must be received by November 28, 2005.

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