March 2011 Newsletter

I. New Mexico Science & Engineering Fairs

With spring comes a series of Science & Engineering Fairs at which our Local Section sponsors Special Awards to recognize the efforts of the participants making initial explorations into science and engineering. If you would like to be involved in judging our Local Section Special Awards at any of these Fairs please contact Donivan Porterfield or another Local Section Executive Committee member.

Northeast New Mexico Science & Engineering Fair
Saturday, March 6 on the New Mexico Highlands University campus
http://www.nmhu.edu/communityeducators/educators/sciencefair/index.aspx

Central New Mexico Science & Engineering Fair
Friday, March 18 on the University of New Mexico campus
http://stemed.unm.edu/RegSciFair.aspx

New Mexico Science & Engineering Fair
Saturday, April 1 on the New Mexico Tech University campus
http://infohost.nmt.edu/~science/fair/

American Indian Science & Engineering Society – Science & Engineering Fair
Friday, March 25 at the Albuquerque Convention Center
http://www.aises.org/Events/NAISEF
Our Local Section is also working with the New Mexico Science Teacher Association and New Mexico Bureau of Geology to support activities at the State Science & Engineering Fair for attending parents and teachers. The Chemistry Club at New Mexico Tech is also planning to do chemical demonstrations during for those same attendees.

II. 2011 Fall National ACS Meeting in Denver

The 2011 Fall National American Chemical Society meeting will be in Denver, Colorado from August 28 to September 1, 2011. This is the first national ACS meeting in Denver since spring of 1993. The program at the Denver national ACS meeting has the theme “Chemistry of Air, Space, and Water”.

Our Local Section has some funds available to support the attendance of organized groups of undergraduate and graduate students from colleges and universities in our Local Section if there is sufficient interest. Please contact Donivan Porterfield or another member of our Local Section Executive Committee if there is interest at your campus in organizing such a group of attendees.

Abstract deadlines for the ACS Fall 2011 national meeting vary depending on the technical division but generally fall between March 21, 2011 and April 11, 2011. Please see the following web page for more information: www.acs.org/meetings.

III. Chemists Celebrating Earth Day – Los Alamos

Our Local Section is planning to participate in Earth Day activities in Los Alamos on Saturday, April 30 organized by the Pajarito Environmental Education Center. Those interested in participating in this event may contact Donivan Porterfield or another member of the Local Section Executive Committee for further information.

IV. Explora Adult Night to Feature Local Women Chemists – Friday, March 18

The Explora Museum in Albuquerque will feature two local women chemists as part of its Friday, March 18 Adult Night. Bernadette Hernandez-Sanchez (Sandia National Labs), “Delve into nanometer-scale chemistry,” and Kristin Wilde (UNM), “Discover how polymers change their behaviors based on their environments,” will be featured as part of the evening’s program.

That Adult Night program will also include a live band, “The Squash Blossoms” (bluegrass), and two performances of the play “Elizabeth Blackwell-Courage to be First” (one-actor play about the first woman doctor in the U.S.). More information on the upcoming Explora Adult Night and its many other programs can be found at: www.explora.us

A regular feature of the Explora’s weekend events is the “Working Chemist” demos by Len Duda (Sandia National Labs). Currently planned demos include: Saturday, March 12 (Chemical Reactions); Sunday, March 20 (Polymers); and Sunday, April 17 (Air Pressure).
V. ACS National Award in Analytical Chemistry

We are pleased to note the recognition of Chris Enke as the recipient of the 2011 national ACS Award in Analytical Chemistry which is sponsored by the Battelle Memorial Institute. Chris is Professor Emeritus at the University of New Mexico. The presentation of that award will occur during the 2011 spring national meeting in Anaheim, CA.

The ACS has a very active national awards program and nominations can be made by any individual. Nominations are currently being accepted (through November 1) for a variety of awards that cover many different chemistry specialties and are not limited only to recognizing research accomplishments. A complete list of ACS national awards can be reviewed at www.acs.org/awards and additional information obtained by e-mail to awards@acs.org. An award nomination is a great way to recognize the accomplishments of a colleague – even one early in their career.

VI. Global Water Experiment

As part of International Year of Chemistry 2011 activities school students around the world will be invited to explore one of Earth's most critical resources, water. The results of their investigations will contribute to a Global Experiment, which will possibly become the biggest chemistry experiment ever.

From March 22, teachers and students will be invited to Join, Participate and Contribute. The Global Water Experiment will engage teachers and students across the world through practical activities around the theme of 'Water: A chemical Solution'.

Information about the Global Water Experiment is available at the following web site: http://water.chemistry2011.org/

VII. 2011 International Year of Chemistry and Marie Curie Anniversary

To celebrate the 2011 International Year of Chemistry and the associated 100th anniversary of Marie Curie’s Nobel Prize in Chemistry the Explora Museum has developed a one woman play titled “Marie Sklodowska-Curie—In a Different Light”. An initial performance occurred in February. We will work to publicize any future planned performances of that play at Explora.

VIII. ACS Fellows Nominations

Nominations for 2011 ACS Fellows are now being accepted through May 2, 2011. The purpose of the ACS Fellows Program is “to recognize members of ACS for outstanding achievements in and contributions to Science, the Profession, and the Society.” Nominees must be current members in good standing with ACS and is based on demonstrated contributions in both of two defined areas: (1) Excellence in Science/Profession and (2) Outstanding Service to the American Chemical Society.

A list of current ACS Fellows and information about the nominating process can be found at the following web site: www.acs.org/fellows.
IX. National Museum of Nuclear Science & History – Einstein Society Gala

The National Museum of Nuclear Science & History in Albuquerque will host its annual fundraising ball, the Einstein Society Gala, on Saturday, March 19, 2011, at the Hotel Albuquerque. Dr. Helmut Engelbrecht, Chief Executive Officer of URENCO Ltd., a world leader in uranium enrichment technology and in the supply of uranium enrichment services, will receive the National Award of Nuclear Science & History.

URENCO Ltd., through its US subsidiaries, has recently invested $3 billion dollars in a plant for the enrichment of uranium, providing the fuel that drives nuclear power plants. The plant, located in Eunice in southeast New Mexico, began operating last year. A similar further investment is planned; it will expand the plant’s capacity to match about 25% of total US enriched uranium requirements.

Tickets ($125) are available at the Museum Store or through the Museum web site: www.nuclearmuseum.org. The deadline to RSVP is March 14, 2011. The Museum will also have an associated “Sunday Morning at the Museum” tour for the registered Gala attendees.

X. Local Section Officers

The following are our 2011 Local Section Officers. Please feel free to contact them about any of the opportunities mentioned in this newsletter or other ways you would like to become involved in the Local Section or ACS in general.

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<th>Position</th>
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We are also in the process of revising our Local Section bylaws to bring them up to date with ACS policies. We hope to have approval of revised Local Section bylaws on this upcoming officer election ballot. Anyone interested in participating in the revision process can contact <dporterfield@lanl.gov> for more information.
XI. **Online access to ACS national meeting content**

At the three recent ACS national meetings (Boston, San Francisco and Washington DC), the audio content for a wide selection of talks (about 350 oral presentations in Boston) was recorded and is available online with presenter audio synchronized to the presented Power Point content. This content is available without cost via the following web site: http://www.softconference.com/ACSCchem/am.asp.

XII. **ACS Network Group**

Our Local Section has created its own group on the ACS Network. The ACS Network is a benefit of membership and allows you to connect to other ACS members with similar interests.

www.acs.org/network

Our group name is “Central New Mexico Local Section” and all our members are welcome to join. You can also see what other of the many ACS Network groups may be of interest to you. And if you don’t find one already in existence you can go ahead and create it yourself. If you create a new ACS Network group let us know and we can mention in forthcoming Local Section newsletter.

XIII. **Changes of Address**

The distribution of our Local Section newsletter is dependent on accurate e-mail and US mail addresses being supplied to the ACS. Address changes can be submitted to ACS through the following means: service@acs.org, (800) 227-5558, or logging in to www.acs.org.

IX. **Division of Nuclear Chemistry & Technology – Denver national meeting program**

The following are Nuclear Chemistry and Technology Division symposia scheduled for the ACS national meeting in Denver. The associated abstract submission deadline for these symposia is March 21, 2011. Contact information for the organizers can be found in the Denver national meeting call for papers.

- Celebration of the 100th Anniversary of Madame Curie’s Nobel Prize in Chemistry. Co-sponsored with Women Chemists Committee
- Graduate Student Research in Nuclear and Radiochemistry Highlights of the 21st Century Nuclear Science Workforce
- Analytical Chemistry in Nuclear Technology
- Nuclear Chemistry in Space
- Medical/Radiopharm
- Nuclear Reactions
International Year of CHEMISTRY 2011