

# Chesapeake Chemist

*Maryland Section  
American Chemical  
Society*

**2005 George L. Braude Award**

**Robert L. Caret  
President of Towson University**

**October 19  
Towson University**



# Report of the Council Meeting Washington, DC

by Don Jones

The Council meeting started at 8:02 with the reading of several resolutions to honor deceased councilors. A resolution was also read in honor of those suffering from Katrina.

We then heard the line of reports starting with the president through the chair of the Board of Directors and the executive director. The most impressive thing was the travels and schedule of Bill Carroll. It is a wonder that he gets any sleep since he has made as many as 11 talks and visited 5 sections in five days!

The report from the Committee on Nominations and Elections was particularly important. Val Kuck, the chair, told us that the coming election for president will take place both electronically and by paper ballot. There was a reasonable amount of discussion about the integrity of the voting, as some members wanted to be sure that they could not vote more than once. We were assured that this was not the case. Each ballot will come with a PIN that will be recorded whether voting by mail or electronically. The PINs are cross checked at the time of receipt to make sure that they have not already been used either via mail or electronically. If a PIN has been used previously, the later ballot will be thrown out and only the first recorded. A contractor that handles electronic elections for other societies is also working for ACS. We also have the election of our district director this year. The two candidates are the incumbent, Dr. Madeleine Joulie of the University of Pennsylvania, and Dr. Catherine Fenselau of the University of Maryland.

The Membership Affairs Committee (MAC) reported that membership at this time is 155,567, which is 282 above the same time last year. A member satisfaction survey was also discussed. The results of the survey showed that 85% of members are 'quite' or 'very satisfied' with ACS, although members under 40 are less so. The survey was carried out via direct questioning and focus groups with about 1000 persons representing all of the Society. The survey results can be found on the ACS website.

The Budget and Finance Committee reported that the budget looks as if the Society in all of its programs will finish the year 3 million favorable to budget.

A change in the local section territory of the Central New Mexico Section was approved, as were minor revisions to the Charter Bylaws for Local Sections and the Charter Bylaws of the International Chemical Sciences Chapters.

The Committee on Professional Training indicated that it will be holding open meeting roundtables at both the spring national meeting in Atlanta and at the Biennial Conference on Chemical Education at Purdue University next summer. The purpose of these roundtables is to discuss possible changes in the approval guidelines as the committee undertakes a major revision of them.

Finally several resolutions were read to thank the various groups for their help. The resolution thanking Bill Carroll for his leadership was unusual in that it concluded with the phrase, "Mr. President, you rock!!!" The meeting was adjourned at 12:06.

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## Upcoming meetings and events:

October 26 - Bowling Challenge, Towson AMF, 701 Southwick Drive

Wednesday, November 9, Villa Julie College, Igor Nazarov, "Science of Wine Making"

Wednesday, December 7, Berkshire Marriott Conference Hotel, Towson

# ACS Maryland Section - Officers and Committee Chairs

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## Section Officers

Chair: Alan C. Samuels, 410-436-5874  
alan.samuels@sbccom.apgea.army.mil

Vice-chair: Sandra K. Young  
410-306-0679  
skyoung@arl.army.mil

Chair-elect: Stephanie J. Watson  
301-975-6448  
stephanie.watson@nist.gov

Secretary: Lev Ryzhkov, 410-704-3831  
lryzhkov@towson.edu

Treasurer: Angela Sherman, 410-532-5713  
CND of MD  
4701 North Charles Street  
Baltimore, MD 21210  
asherman@ndm.edu

## Councilors

Merle I. Eiss 410-484-0521 meiss32@aol.com	Donald Jones 202-364-2740 djones@erols.com
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David Roswell 410-617-2458 droswell@loyola.edu	Charles Rowell 410-647-9452 rowell@toad.net
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## Alternate Councilors

Shekar Munavalli, Shirish Shah, Joseph Topping

## Members at Large

Maurice Iwunze, Jan Kolakowski, Liina Ladon  
Demetrium Michos, Sara Narayan, James Nwaba

## Committee Chairs

Student Awards (March):  
George Farrant, 410-455-4120  
gfarrant@ccbcmd.edu

Remsen Award (May/June): Lev Ryzhkov

Braude Award (October): Charles Rowell

Maryland Chemist Award (December):  
Shekhar Munavalli, 410-436-2819  
Shekar.munavalli@sbccom.apgea.army.mil

Maryland Service Award:  
Shree Iyengar, 410-541-2266

**Maryland Section on the Web:** <http://mdchem.org>

Webmaster: Sandy Young  
(chemists4fun@yahoo.com)  
Paul Smith, pjsmith@umbc.edu

## Programs

Archives: Ernie Silversmith, 443-885-3214

Career Planning: Linh Cheong, 410-762-1159

Earth Day: Paul Smith & Sandy Young

Environmental Issues:  
Shirish Shah, 410-704-2720  
sshah@towson.edu  
Sandy Young

Finance Committee:  
Jan Kolakowski,  
410-436-2755, jan.kolakowski@us.army.mil

Government Relations:  
Shirish Shah & Robert von Tersch

Long Range Planning: Shekar Munavalli

MARM: Shirish Shah & Alan Samuels

Membership: Merle Eiss

Minority Affairs:  
Alfred Amah, 410-602-7164,  
f-amah@mail.vjc.edu

Public Relations:  
Shirish Shah & Walter Roy,  
Walter\_Roy@mccormick.com

Retired Chemists: Alvin Bober, 410-581-5321

Women Chemists/Younger Chemists:  
Sara Narayan, 410-602-7326  
Amanda Miller

## Educational Programs:

Chemistry Olympiad/Chem-a-Thon:  
Shirish Shah & Mike Zapf,  
Mike\_Zapf@mccormick.com

Continuing Education/High School Education:  
Shirish Shah  
Ellen Pisciotta

Kids & Chemistry/Chemistry-in-the-Library:  
Sue Procell, 410-436-4604,  
suzanne.procell@us.army.mil  
Sandy Young

National Chemistry Week (NCW):  
Shirish Shah & Sandy Young

**Chesapeake Chemist Editor:** cakvt@hotmail.com

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# October Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, October 19, 2005, Towson University  
Johnny Unitas Stadium, Minnegan Room

6:00-6:45 pm	Cocktail Hour
7:00-8:00 pm	Dinner and Award Presentation
8:00-8:50 pm	Robert L. Caret President of Towson University "The Role of Towson University in Workforce Development - <i>Need a Chemist, call TU</i> " Question and Answer (10 minutes)

Cost for the dinner is \$25.00 for members; \$20.00 for spouses, retired chemists and guests, and \$10.00 for students. For reservations please contact Shirish Shah at 410-323-0803(H) or by email at dr.shah@juno.com.

## **The Role of Towson University in Workforce Development - *Need a Chemist, Call TU***

Towson University (TU) has served as one of the primary workforce engines for the state of Maryland for 140 years. From the science teachers that graduated from the Maryland State Normal School to the forensic chemists and nanotechnologists graduating from Maryland's Metropolitan University, the names change, the workforce has different titles and expertise, but the role remains constant.

This talk will discuss the workforce needs of Maryland, with a focus on science and technology and a particular focus on chemistry. The opportunities before us as well as the challenges we will encounter will be summarized and strategies for success will be suggested.

**About Robert L. Caret:** Returning to his Towson roots, Robert L. Caret became the 12th president of Towson University on July 1, 2003. As a former faculty member, dean, executive vice president and provost of Towson University, Caret served at Towson for 21 years before assuming the presidency of San José State University of the California State University System in 1995. Named as one of Silicon Valley's 100 power brokers by San Jose Magazine in its May 2003 issue, Caret has been credited with raising the profile of one of the largest universities in California and developing strong community partnerships.

Upon returning to Maryland, President Caret has become a founding member of the Maryland Business Council (2004) and serves as a member of the board of directors of the CollegeBound Foundation (2004). He has been appointed to serve on the Maryland Governor's Workforce Investment Board. He was elected for a three-year term to the Board of Directors of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) and will also serve as the AASCU representative to the American Council on Education (ACE) Board during the same time period. He has recently been appointed to the NCAA Presidential Task Force on the Future of Intercollegiate Athletics.

Caret received his Ph.D. in organic chemistry from the University of New Hampshire in 1974 and his bachelor's degree in chemistry and mathematics from Suffolk University in 1969. He received an honorary doctor of humane letters degree from San Jose University in

Continued on page 6

## A Braude grant update

*The first recipient of the George L. Braude award, in 2003, was Dr Elsa Reichmanis. Reichmanis designated that her Braude award grant of \$3000 be given to the Department of Chemistry of Syracuse University. Reichmanis is a Syracuse alumna. The grant went to fund a scholarship for a promising student in the department. Dr. John E. Baldwin, distinguished professor, provided the Maryland Section with the following update on how the grant was used.*

All members of our faculty were invited to nominate students for consideration for this scholarship; Ms. Laura Furst was finally selected. She completed her first year at Syracuse University in the spring of 2004. Few first-year students take organic chemistry; she did, and she did extremely well. Her professor that spring, Nancy Totah, provided the key letter of recommendation.

During the summer of 2004 Laura worked in my laboratory. Her fellowship as the George L. Braude Scholar of the Maryland Section of the American Chemical Society was augmented slightly, after consultation with Monique Braude and officers of the Maryland Section, through our NSF REU grant. She participated throughout the summer in the full range of opportunities and programs offered to all of our REU students.

In the summer of 2004 she took on a multi-step synthetic organic chemistry project with both diastereoisomers of 3-methyl-4-( $\frac{3}{4}$ -naphthyl)pentene as her target compounds. She successfully completed three reactions and secured samples of both isomers of 2-methyl-3-( $\frac{3}{4}$ -naphthyl)butanal. Thus, when time ran out she was only one reaction, a Wittig condensation to convert aldehyde functions to the corresponding methylene derivatives, away from her objective. She worked with intelligence and perseverance, and her skills in the laboratory, engaging the literature, and preparing written accounts of her experiments and the purposes the work might serve improved substantially.

During the 2004–2005 academic year, as a sophomore, she continued to gain additional strengths as a young chemist through course work in physical chemistry and further research experiences working in Dr. Christopher Boddy's laboratory. His background as a synthetic organic chemist and biotechnologist provided her with a broader range of chemical horizons than she encountered in my laboratory.

I believe that she will continue to grow and mature; she is off to a strong start, and we're proud of what she's doing and confident of her future. I look forward to being able to include acknowledgment of the Braude Scholarship Award when her undergraduate research accomplishments are published.

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## Directions to Towson University

From the Beltway: I695, take Exit 25 (Charles Street) and proceed south approximately 1.7 miles. Turn left on Towsontown Boulevard. Turn right on Osler Drive (the first stoplight) and follow Osler to the entrance to the Towson Center.

From Baltimore: Proceed north on Charles Street from downtown Baltimore. Turn right on Towsontown Boulevard and proceed to the first stoplight. Turn right on Osler Drive and follow Osler to the entrance to the Towson Center.

Once you register, a parking permit for the event and campus mail will be provided for your convenience.

## MARM 2006 to meet at Hershey, Pa.

The 2006 Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting of the ACS will be held in the spacious conference center of Hershey Lodge, Hershey, Penn., on June 4 to 7, 2006. Check the meeting website at <http://www.marm2006.org> for regular updates of the meeting plans. Of special note are the following:



- A technical chemical program emphasizing Analytical, Food (especially chocolate), Organic, Medical/Pharmacology, Exemplary Plenary Sessions, Burger Symposium, and Copes Scholars Symposium.
- Additional program areas planned are 100 years of FDA Regulation, Mass Spectrometry, Forensics, Education, Law, Computers, History (esp. Joseph Priestly), Inorganic, Polymers, Bench to Pilot Plant, and Physical.
- Awards will be given for the best undergraduate and graduate research.
- Notable entertainment for accompanying persons, such as Hershey Amusement Park, Chocolate World, and nearby Harrisburg and Lancaster County.

MARM 2006 is co-hosted by the Southeast Pennsylvania and Susquehanna Valley Sections of the ACS.

### Maryland Section Executive Committee Ballot for 2006

Officers: Chair: Sandra K. Young

Vice-Chair: Stephanie Watson

Chair-Elect: Lev Ryzhkov

Secretary: Sara Narayan

Treasurer: Angela Sherman

Alternate Councilors: Shekar Munavalli

Shirish Shah

Joe Topping

Paul Smith

Members-At-Large: Liina Ladon

Jan Kolakowsk

Karen Hatwell

Maurice Iwunze

James Nwaba

Councilors: Donald Jones David Roswell

### Caret continued

2004 and the National Hispanic University in 1997. He also received an honorary doctor of science degree from Suffolk University in 1996.

Caret has made numerous presentations and published professionally in the fields of chemistry, chemical education and higher education. He has authored chapters in two monographs on the mission and role of institutions, and has co-authored and published four textbooks in the fields of organic chemistry and allied health chemistry. His awards and recognitions include the State of Maryland Governor's Employee Incentive Award, the San José Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce Leadership in Excellence Award (1999), the Italian American Heritage Foundation Achievement Award (2001) and the Outstanding College President Award from the All-American Football Foundation ((2001). He is listed in several editions of Who's Who in America.

# October Historical Events in Chemistry

by Leopold May, The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

- October 2, 1791 Birthdate of William Ramsay, who discovered argon with J. W. Strutt (Lord Rayleigh) 1894. In 1895 he isolated helium with N. Langset and P. T. Cleve, and neon, xenon and krypton with M. W. Travers in 1898. He received the Nobel Prize in 1904 in recognition of his services in the discovery of the inert gaseous elements in air, and his determination of their place in the periodic system.
- October 5, 1872 Birthdate of Emil Votocek, a researcher in sugars. He introduced the concept of epimerism and was a chemist-composer.
- October 7, 1885 Niels Bohr, born on this date, proposed the “solar system” model of the atom in 1913, based upon Planck’s quantum law. He received the Nobel Prize in physics in 1922 for his services in the investigation of the structure of atoms and of the radiation emanating from them.
- October 10, 1930 Ernest O. Lawrence invented the cyclotron on this date.
- October 12, 1827 J. P. Cooke, first to use laboratory instruction in an undergraduate course at Harvard University, was born on this date.
- October 14, 1886 Jacobus H. Van’t Hoff presented the law showing that osmotic pressure of a dilute solution obeys Boyle’s, Charles’s, and Avogadro’s Laws and that  $pV = RT$  before Swedish Academy of Sciences.
- October 16, 1875 Birthdate of Henry C. Sherman, who was a researcher on vitamins.
- October 18, 1955 Emilio Segrè and Owen Chamberlain discovered a new sub-atomic sub particle, negative proton or antiproton on this date.
- October 21, 1833 This is the birthday of Alfred Nobel, who invented dynamite in 1866. He later constructed companies and laboratories in more than 20 countries all over the world. On November 27, 1895, Nobel signed his last will providing for the establishment of the Nobel Prize.
- October 23, 2004 **Mole Day:** 6.02 a.m. through 6.02 p.m. (Mole time);  
**Mole Moment:** 50.453 s after 6.42 p.m.
- October 25, 1891 Edgar C. Britton, who was born on this date, contributed to industrial organic developments.
- October 28, 1845 Zygmunt F. von Wróblewski was the first to liquefy air on large scale and liquefied nitrogen, oxygen, and carbon monoxide with K. S. Olszewski. He was born on this date.
- October 31, 1835 In 1905, Adolf von Baeyer (Johann Friedrich Wilhelm Adolf Von Baeyer) received the Nobel Prize in recognition of his services in the advancement of organic chemistry and the chemical industry, through his work on organic dyes and hydroaromatic compounds. He was born on this date and was a researcher on indigo, evolved the strain theory of carbon rings, prepared acetylene, and discovered barbituric acid.



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## Maryland Local Section of the ACS Bowling Challenge

Please join us for fun and games to cap off National Chemistry Week! Let's see who can throw the most strikes: student affiliates, academic faculty or industrial chemists!

When: Wednesday, October 26, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Where: Towson AMF, 701 Southwick Drive

Cost: \$14 for non-students and \$10 for students. Cost includes free shoe rental.

RSVP to Liina Ladon: lladon@towson.edu , 410-704-3054.

Directions to Towson AMF: Beltway to Exit 28, Providence Rd., south. Take the first right turn onto Southwick Dr. Towson AMF is on the right next to the Royal Farm Store. Please note that AMF does not allow outside food or beverages. There is a snack bar on site. Phone is 410-825-4100.



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