

EDITOR'S NOTES

Summer is here and (at least in Northern Ontario) so are the black flies. However, the potential for exsanguination seems unimportant when in pursuit of environmental samples for spectroscopic analysis.

Assuming I am not still receiving blood transfusions, I hope to see many of you in Kingston for ICASS 2009.



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OTHER MEETINGS

FACSS 2009 October 18-22, 2009
Louisville, Kentucky, www.facss.org
Abstract Submissions Closed.

2010 Winter Conference on Plasma Spectrochemistry January 4-9, 2010
Fort Meyers, Florida, icpinformation.org
Abstracts Due: July 10, 2009

**Looking for an Analytical Chemist or Spectroscopist? Need a Graduate Student?
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LOCAL SECTION NEWS

BC Interior

The BC Interior section of CSASS supported the Western Canadian Undergraduate Chemistry Conference (WCUCC) which was held at Thompson Rivers University (TRU), Kamloops, BC on May 7-10, 2009. The section was one of the sponsors of the conference by donating \$1000. Part of this amount was used for an award for the Best Poster in Analytical Chemistry. For more information on the conference please go to the conference website: www.wcucc.com.



Dr. Sharon Brewer (left), a TRU professor, presenting the Best Poster in Analytical Chemistry Award to the winner, Teague McGinitie of the University of Alberta at WCUCC 2009.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Congratulations to Teresa Switzer and her partner Emill on the arrival of their baby boy Nicholas Hiram Emill on July 7th, 2009. Both Mom and Nicholas are doing well.

Notice of AGM

The Annual General Meeting will be held on the final day of ICASS.

When:

12pm, Wednesday, August 12, 2009

Where:

**George Teves Dining Hall (University Club)
Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario**

A complimentary lunch will be served.

All members in good standing are invited to attend.

WHAT ARE CSASS MEMBERS DOING ACROSS CANADA?

Explore the research and careers of fellow CSASS members.

Alberta



Mr. Tim Freeman is currently the Technical Sales Representative for PerkinElmer Canada, based in Edmonton. He is responsible for the Prairie Provinces for both PerkinElmer and as a director for CSASS.

Tim has been involved in spectroscopy for over 25 years, first as a technologist with the Alberta Research Council in Edmonton then in technical sales across Canada.

Tim first got involved with CSASS in the early nineties and was an active member with the Southern Ontario chapter. He enjoyed helping to organize and participate with the very active group with Roy Smith, Otto Herrmann, Richard Denis to name a few.

The best part of Tim's job is the interaction with chemist, scientists, and engineers in a variety of fields using spectroscopy in multiple applications. Every day he sees something different from traditional environmental and geochemistry laboratories, to emerging fields of Nanotechnology.

Tim looks forward to planning some events in the near future with local members.



As a picture of spectroscopic interest, Tim presents the Haleakala High Altitude Observatory in Maui, Hawaii: one of the best ground-based sites for astronomical research observations.

Ottawa Valley



Mr. Joachim (Joe) Wittwer, is currently the Head of the Regulatory Operations Section of the Waste Reduction and Management Division at Environment Canada. Mr. Wittwer received his B.Sc. (Honours) degree in Chemistry from Carleton University in 1976 and is presently a Chartered Chemist in Ontario. Mr. Wittwer joined the former Spectroscopy Society of Canada (SSC) in 1981 was elected as the National Treasure of the SSC from 1992 to 1996 as well as assuming the position of the Business Manager for the Canadian Journal of Applied Spectroscopy.

Mr. Wittwer has been with Environment Canada for the past seventeen years, and his duties have been split between both domestic and international activities. For several years, he was the federal representative on the Hazardous Waste Task Group under the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME). Over a five year period, he chaired and co-chaired committees responsible for overseeing the review and development of domestic Canadian hazardous waste definitions, tests and criteria. This process was necessary for the drafting of regulations to control interprovincial and international movements of hazardous waste and hazardous recyclable material under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999.

As part of the international activities in which he was involved, Mr. Wittwer was the Head of the Canadian Delegation to a number of the United Nations, Basel Convention, Technical Working Group meetings held in Geneva, Switzerland. Canada is a party to the Basel Convention which sets out the controls for the international transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and their disposal.

Currently, as Head of the Regulatory Operations Section, his unit is responsible for assisting in the development of national waste policies and the implementation of the Export and Import of Hazardous Waste and Hazardous Recyclable Material Regulations. The activities under these Regulations include the processing of notices for proposed international movements of hazardous wastes and hazardous recyclable material into, out of and through Canada, as well as, the tracking of these movements and preparing various reports on the shipments that take place annually.

Northern Ontario



Dr. Nelson Belzile is a Professor in the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry at Laurentian University in Sudbury, Ontario. Dr. Belzile is also affiliated with the Cooperative Freshwater Ecology Unit and the PhD program in the Department of

Biology.

After an undergraduate degree in chemistry, Nelson became quickly interested in environmental studies and started his graduate work in oceanography. Nelson had the chance to travel and collect water and sediment samples in several exceptional locations like the Saguenay Fjord, the Red Sea, the Indian and the Antarctic Ocean, among others. During Nelson's post-doctoral studies, his interest was transferred to freshwater environments first at the INRS-Eau in Quebec City and at the University of Geneva in Switzerland. During his studies Nelson had the great opportunity to work with two famous aquatic chemists: Drs André Tessier and Jacques Buffle.

A CSASS member for 15 years, Dr. Belzile specializes in Environmental Analytical Chemistry, which he teaches at the undergraduate and graduate level. His research team works on the biogeochemistry of trace elements, most particularly those can be methylated in natural systems such as Hg, Se, Sb and As. These elements exist in aquatic systems under different oxidation states and can be assimilated by organisms. They can also be determined at very low levels with sensitive techniques such as hydride generation and cold vapor coupled to atomic fluorescence. In the recent years, Dr. Belzile's team have been working more specifically on the antagonistic effect of Se against Hg assimilation and the Sudbury area is an ideal location to study this phenomenon.

"I keep telling my students that one the most interesting parts of my work is to be paid to learn new things almost every day. I like being challenged with new research projects and enthusiastic students who are eager to learn. This is why I enjoy environmental studies because they require a multidisciplinary and holistic approach to understand complex systems."
- Dr. Belzile

Quebec Province



As of July 2009 Dr. Gregor Kos is the Manager for Analytical Chemistry at Sixtron Advanced Materials in Dorval Quebec (<http://www.sixtron.com>), a company that provides antireflective coatings for solar cells. His tasks will involve the management of the analytical lab and gas analyses using GC-MS and other techniques.

GC-MS was also the core instrument in Dr. Kos' previous appointment as Research Associate at McGill University in the Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences with Dr. Parisa Ariya. However, the analytes and matrix were completely different, as he was researching organic compounds in snow and air.

Gregor's fascination with his research came from the substantial time spent in the High Arctic doing field work. Pursuing research at Alert, Nunavut or in Barrow, Alaska (the latter in March 2009) is a special challenge with lots of opportunities to succeed and fail. For example, there are no readily set up labs for analyses in the Arctic: everything needs to be shipped in with lots of improvisation.



The same excitement applies to Dr. Kos' current position at Sixtron, although his research will be occurring in more southerly latitudes. Developing new technologies and getting them ready for the market means working in a challenging, fast-paced environment that requires discussions with a lot of people, which will certainly keep Gregor's interest engaged.

2009 ICASS

55th International Conference on
Analytical Sciences and Spectroscopy

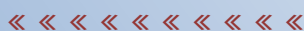
Kingston, Ontario
August 9-12th



Queen's
UNIVERSITY

Scientific Program

- Atomic Spectroscopy
- Nuclear Magnetic Resonance
- Electroanalytical Techniques
- Mass Spectrometry
- Ion mobility spectrometry and high-field asymmetric waveform ion mobility spectrometry (IMS & FAIMS)
- Microfluidic techniques
- New spectroscopic techniques in isotope tracing
- Analytical chemistry and Spectroscopy



www.icass.ca/2009



REGISTRATION		After June 1
http://www.icass.ca/2009/Registration.html		
Full Registration	CSASS Member	\$300.00
	Non-Member	\$360.00
Student Registration	CSASS Member	\$120.00
	Non-Member	\$145.00

REGISTRATION includes opening reception admission and breakfast and lunch for three days



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Conference Banquet

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Accommodations:

- Queen's Residence Rooms from \$55/night (<https://housing.queensu.ca/reservations/>)
- B&Bs, hotels, and more (<http://www.icass.ca/2009/accommodations.html>)

Conference

Venue:

Chernoff Hall

Queen's University



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