



# American Chemical Society

## Nebraska Section Newsletter

<http://www.nebraska.sites.acs.org/> (site under construction)

MAY/JUNE 2012

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Special thanks to Abby Jackson and Desiree Wineland for their help preparing this Newsletter.

## ACS Nebraska Section News

Dear Local Section Members and Friends,

Summer is in full swing. We'll take the opportunity to relax, recap some of the events of the Fall, preview a few of the upcoming local section activities and drop in a few items of interest. Along the lines of the latter, two local section members, David Brooks and Rueben Rieke, were recently recognized by the ACS National Office as 50 year members of the ACS. Mr. Lingyun Yang, a Senior Chemistry major at the University of Nebraska-Kearney will receive a \$300 travel fellowship to attend the upcoming Regional ACS meeting in Omaha. Mr. Yang will present his research on the design and preparation of a new chemosensor with high affinity and sensitivity for fluoride detection. Congratulations, Lingyun. The local section officers also agreed to grant \$600 in support of the Cambridge Elementary School Science Fair. You'll learn more about the event in a subsequent Newsletter and read as well about an upcoming call for the support of similar projects.

Highlights from the first of our two local section Fall meetings have been assembled by Desiree Wineland, 2012 Alternate Councilor and ACS Chemistry Ambassador. (For those of you who might want to learn more about the ACS Chemistry Ambassadors, Desiree is happy to share her experiences!) UNL Prof. Mark Griep presented a very popular talk entitled, "*Everything I Know about Chemistry, I Learned at the Movies*" at Hastings College. A great turnout for a fun, informative evening. Desiree attended the San Diego ACS National meeting in her role as Alternate Councilor and her notes from the meeting follow below as well.

We expect to hold the next local section meeting in September—details to follow in the next Newsletter. Equally important, the Nebraska Section Bylaws, last amended in 1977, are in need of update and revision. Revising the Bylaws requires the participation of both the officers and the members. I ask that, when the time comes, you assist in this important process.

In the meantime, enjoy the summer and safe travels,

Jim

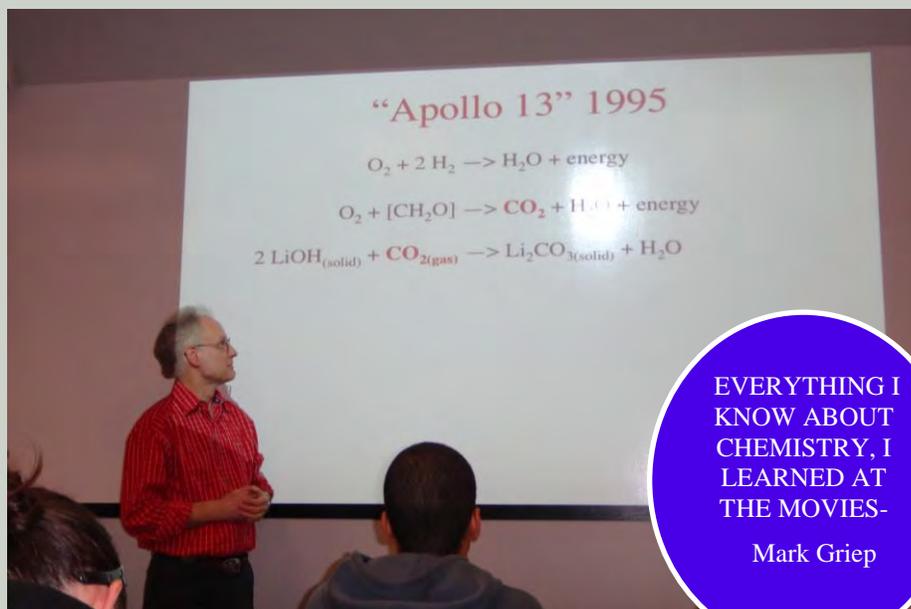
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# CHEMISTRY: IN THE MOVIES

## LIGHTS, CHEMISTRY, AND ACTION!

A modern day movie version of "A Yankee in King Arthurs Court" could be "An Art Major In Chemistry Class", but thats exactly where I found myself, surrounded by brilliant chemistry professors and inspiring students.

Was I lost, no I intentionally have submerged myself in the world of Chemistry and thankfully to Professor Mark Griep he took this slide and simplified Inorganic Chemistry so even I could understand how the Scientists at Houston Center were able to compute how much Co2 each of the Apollo 13 astronauts exhaults and how to convert a lithium hydroxide canister to make enough oxygen. It was fascinating and Mark made is easy to follow and understand. A true testament that Mark is extremely talented and effective educator.



Lead Actor:  
Professor Mark Griep  
Writer:  
Desiree Wineland  
Produced By:  
Moses Dogbevia

The photo to the left shows a "packed house" on the Hastings campus, the only thing missing was the fresh popcorn. This evening marked the first meeting of 2012 for the ACS Nebraska Section and Assistant Professor of Chemistry Moses Dogbevia graciously hosted the evening meeting with refreshments. Students laughed and really enjoyed Marks unique way of revealing the chemistry secrets behind the movies.



# the ACS <sup>2 0 1 2</sup> National Meeting

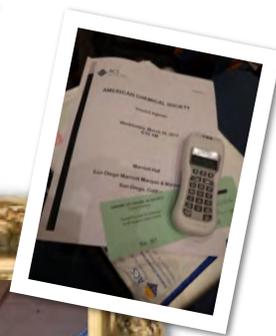
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

## 243rd ACS National Meeting

March 25 - 29, 2012



LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,  
PLEASE CAST  
YOUR  
BALLOTS



### *University Students:*

*Chemistry students from around the world came to learn about educational teaching techniques. This group of students from Puerto Rico University were excited to come to the convention and to San Diego in the USA!*



By Desiree Wineland  
ACS NE Section Alt Counselor

# ✧ Communicating Chemistry To The Public ✧



Communicating science is a major part of ACS President Bassam Z. Shkhashiri's theme for the year. "Communicating science and its values and role in society to the public is one of the American Chemical Society's core functions," Shkhashiri noted. "We must engage the general public and show that chemistry and related sciences are a major part of the engines that drive our economy and contribute to prosperity, fairness and justice. I am delighted that this panel of outstanding communicators can appear at the ACS National Meeting to share their experiences and insights." Speakers at today's event include:

Paul Raeburn, distinguished science writer, Knight Foundation media critic and winner of the ACS 2012 James T. Grady-James H. Stack Award for Interpreting Chemistry for the Public, will explain how the advent of science blogs has affected coverage of scientific research — including politically sensitive topics — and will try to predict where journalism is headed.

Sam Kean, author of the New York Times bestseller *The Disappearing Spoon*, will discuss true tales from the periodic table, like why Ghandi hated iodine and how tellurium led to the most bizarre gold rush in history, as he traces the roles of the elements in history, finance, mythology, alchemy, war, art and the lives of the scientists who discovered them.

K.C. Cole, long-time science writer for the Los Angeles Times, The New York Times, and other publications and professor at the University of Southern California's Annenberg School for Journalism will discuss "Lost in Translation: Why Lies, Metaphors and Mixed Messages are Essential to Communicating Science."

Carmen Drahl, Ph.D., associate editor for Science, Technology and Education at Chemical & Engineering News, will explain how ACS' weekly newsmagazine helps bring chemistry news to media outlets with a broader reach, and how it is leveraging new media in its role as middleman between chemistry research and the media.

Mariette DiChristina, editor in chief of Scientific American, will talk about the swiftly changing world of media in the digital age and how the longest continuously published magazine in the U.S. adapts and thrives in 2012. She will ask what these changes mean for scientists and the public and look at what's ahead for magazines.

Joann Rodgers, long-time executive director of media relations and public affairs at Johns Hopkins Medicine, and now senior communications adviser at the Johns Hopkins Berman Institute of Bioethics, will discuss what research scientists can do to get their research noticed in an era of fragmented media, distracted audiences with poor scientific literacy and heightened focus on accountability and conflicts of interest.

Pam Sturmer, executive director of the Leopold Leadership Program at the Woods Institute for the Environment at Stanford University, will describe a new type of scientific leader, defined by innovation, vision and the ability to bridge multiple audiences and stakeholder groups, who will utilize the skills of science communication to succeed.