



Baton Rouge Section – ACS



February 2008 Newsletter

Vol. XXIII

Update your email address

We plan to go to an all email newsletter in 2007. Each month we get many emails back because the address is wrong. Please update your email address when you renew your membership or send it to Cindy.gagnon@eatel.net. If you don't have email and wish to receive this newsletter then send us a letter at our return address.

Message from the Chair

Our February meeting featured "Chemistry: Contributions to the Quality of Life," by Helen Free. The talk at LSU's Choppin Hall was attended by about 12 of our members. Our March meeting will be held at Southern University. This will be our first meeting at Southern a quite some time. I invite everyone to come out and see what's happening at Southern University. Our speaker will be Dr. Mark White, the Chair of the Swalm School of Chemical Engineering at Mississippi State University. His research in alternative fuel sources should be of interest to many of our members.

In addition to our regular meetings, our section is active in many ways. We will be hosting the first portion of the Chemistry Olympiad for aspiring high school science students on March 8th. Our section in conjunction with the ACS Student Affiliates group at LSU will participate in Louisiana Earth Day Activities on April 20th and I invite you to participate with them. In both the previous and current newsletter, you will find calls for nominations for the Coates Award, High School Teacher of the Year, and Technician of the year. If you know a great high school teacher, let us know by nominating them for the award. If you have contacts at local schools, let them know about our organization and about the call for nominations. For our industrial members, if you have a colleague that goes above and beyond the call, let them know their efforts have been noticed by nominating them for technician of the year. Without your nominations, these long-standing awards programs cannot be successful.

Mark your calendars for future ACS-Baton Rouge events. On April 4th and 5th, Baton Rouge Community College will be hosting the Two Year College Chemistry Consortium Meeting and our section will be sponsoring a continental breakfast during the meeting. On April 17th, anyone interested in Louisiana's wetlands and the problems faced by our coasts is invited to a talk by Carleton Dufrechou. Dufrechou is Director of the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation and a member of the Governors Coastal Restoration and Hurricane Protection Advisory Board. Finally, remember that the Coates Award Banquet will be held in May to honor an outstanding engineer, our technician and high school teacher of the year, and outstanding students at the high school and undergraduate level in our section.

Phillip Voegel

Call for Nominations –

Coates Award

The Charles E. Coates Memorial Award is given annually to a member of the ACS or AIChE who has made outstanding contributions to:

- The professions of chemistry or chemical engineering
- The American Chemical Society or American Institute of Chemical Engineers
- The Baton Rouge community

Dr. Coates was one of Louisiana's most prominent figures in Chemistry and Chemical Engineering. He was the head of the Chemistry Department at LSU from 1893 to 1937 and Dean of the Audubon Sugar School from 1908 to 1931. Dr. Coates was also a charter member of both the ACS and AIChE chapters in Louisiana that are the precursors of the present Baton Rouge sections of both organizations.

Persons desiring to nominate a candidate for the Coates Award should contact Phillip Voegel by March 31, 2008 at phillip.voegel@selu.edu to submit a

nomination. This year the award will be granted to an engineer.

The Charles E. Coates Memorial award is granted for outstanding contributions to the professions of chemistry or chemical engineering, the corresponding professional society, and the community. The award was established in 1957 by the Baton Rouge Sections of the American Chemical Society and the American Institute of Chemical Engineers to honor the memory of Charles E. Coates.

Dr. Coates was one of Louisiana's most prominent figures in Chemistry and Chemical Engineering. He was the head of the Chemistry Department at LSU from 1893 to 1937 and Dean of the Audubon Sugar School from 1908 to 1931. When the Audubon Sugar School was made part of the College of Pure and Applied Science in 1931, Dr. Coates was made Dean of the school and continued as head of the Sugar School. Dr. Coates was named chairman of graduate study when a separate graduate school was established in 1921.

Dr. Coates was a charter member of the Louisiana-Mississippi chapter of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, which was precursor of both the Baton Rouge and New Orleans Sections of AIChE. He helped to organize the Louisiana Section of the American Chemical Society and served as councilor for a number of years. This section was the precursor of the Baton Rouge Section and the other Louisiana Sections of the ACS.

It is fitting that we should honor Dr. Coates with this annual award, sponsored by two local professional organizations he helped to create.

High School Teacher of the Year - Due March 31, 2008

The Baton Rouge Section of the American Chemical Society annually honors the most outstanding high school chemistry teacher in the local area. The awardees will receive a certificate and a \$100 cash award. The Science Department of the awardees' high school will also receive a \$200 grant from the Baton Rouge Section to be used exclusively for the advancement of science education. The successful nominee will be honored at an awards banquet sponsored jointly by the American Chemical Society and the American

Institute of Chemical Engineers; the awardees, his or her spouse, and a representative of the school will be our guests at the banquet.

We are now in the process of selecting the awardees, and we invite nominations. Please note that recipients of the award during the last ten years are not eligible for this year's award. A nomination should include at least the following:

- Name and address of the nominee
 - Name and size of the high school
 - Number of years and the grade levels the nominee has taught high school chemistry
 - Educational background of the nominee
 - A short narrative statement outlining your reasons for the nomination, including any particularly significant achievements
- Supporting letters from friends and colleagues may also be included.

We believe the Outstanding Chemistry Teacher Award program is a significant one for the promotion of education in our area and for the advancement of the chemical profession. The award recognizes the excellence not only of the teacher, but also of his/her school.

Chemistry teachers need not be ACS members to be eligible for this award. For more information, contact George Stanley at (225) 758-3471 or by e-mail at gstanley@lsu.edu or Ed Green at (225) 769-0776 or by email at edgree3@yahoo.com

Technician of the Year - Due March 31, 2008

The Baton Rouge Technician of the Year Award will be presented to a chemical technician who has demonstrated an extremely high degree of professionalism as a chemical technician. Criteria used to judge the award include job skills, safety and housekeeping, relationships with co-workers, publications and presentations, reliability, communications skills, and additional professional and community activities. Nominees must have worked for a minimum of five years as a chemical technician. The award will consist of a cash award of \$100.00 and a certificate to be presented at the annual Coates Award Dinner.

The ACS defines a chemical technician as a person whose training includes successful completion of a two-year post-high school level chemistry curriculum leading to an Associate Degree, or the equivalent course work in a Baccalaureate program or the equivalent



Baton Rouge Section – ACS



knowledge gained by experience. The primary work of a chemical technician is conducting experimentation and/or correlating information to help solve chemical problems and/or discover new chemical knowledge.

Nominations, including seconding letters, must not exceed six pages. The nominating letters should address each of the criteria above. A current work address and phone number must be provided for each nominee and nominator.

Chemical technicians need not be a Technician Affiliate or an ACS member to be eligible for this award. For more information, contact George Stanley at (225) 758-3471 or by e-mail at gstanley@lsu.edu or Ed Green at (225) 769-0776 or by email at edgree3@yahoo.com

Earth Day

ACS Baton Rouge will participate in the national program along with the LSU Student Affiliates.

National Chemistry Week

We will start planning for National Chemistry Week (Oct. 19-25) in August. Please contact Anne Taylor (akt1208@bellsouth.net) if you would like to volunteer. Remember Super Science Saturday is a big event in our section and will be held on October 18 at the LSU Field House (LSU plays in South Carolina). The theme of this NCW this year is "Having a ball".

Dreaming of your own Business?

Is entrepreneurship right for you? Already have a business? Is your strategy in place to grow a business? Attend the "**Tools for Entrepreneurs from the Kauffman Foundation**" session with the Division of Small Chemical Businesses (SCHB) Tuesday morning, April 8, 2008, at the 235th National American Chemical Society Meeting in New Orleans. Representatives of the Kauffman Foundation, the largest foundation dedicated to advancing entrepreneurship in America, will facilitate a variety of exercises that are relevant, practical "just-in-time" information, tools, and resources—all designed specifically to assist aspiring and existing entrepreneurs who are building companies that innovate and create jobs and wealth. This session will include interactive exercises and facilitated discussions around starting and running high-impact

companies. If you have a business idea or already lead a business, bring your thirty-second elevator pitch to share.

"Best Practices for Chemical Entrepreneurs"

is back by popular demand on Tuesday afternoon by SCHB! Join our wide spectrum of expert panelists for a facilitated discussion as to best steps for the chemical entrepreneur. Topics will include creating an organizational structure; various forms of intellectual property and their use as strategic business assets; alternative forms of funding/financing; and factors relating to enterprise success such as technology, customer base, marketing, management. This is your opportunity to ensure the success of your new or planned business entity.

The Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation of Kansas City is a private, nonpartisan foundation that works with partners to advance entrepreneurship in America and improve the education of children and youth. The Kauffman Foundation was established in the mid-1960s by the late entrepreneur and philanthropist Ewing Marion Kauffman. Information about the Kauffman Foundation is available at www.kauffman.org

For further information please contact Sharon V. Vercellotti - Councilor
Division of Small Chemical Businesses
American Chemical Society
President
V-LABS, INC.
423 N. Theard St
COVINGTON, LA 70433-2837 USA
985-893-0533 telephone
985-893-0517 fax
<http://www.v-labs.com>
v-labs@v-labs.com

Check out our website at:

<http://chemistry.lsu.edu/graduate/acs/>

**The BATON ROUGE SECTION of the
AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY**

presents

**Biomass to Fuels - Sustainable Energy Research Center at Mississippi
State University**

by

Dr. Mark White

Traditional fuel sources such as petroleum are non-renewable resources and will eventually run out. Before that time arrives, researchers must provide economical alternative sources of fuels to maintain and grow the world economy. Check out the leading edge research in sustainable alternative fuels going on at Mississippi State University with Dr. Mark White, chair of the Swalm School of Chemical Engineering

Monday, March 10, 2008

At

Pinchback Hall Room 123
Robert E Smith Drive
Southern University

Dinner at 6:00 p.m.
Red Beans, Rice, and Sausage, Bread Pudding
Dr. White's presentation will follow the meal

\$6 for Members and Guests, \$4 for Students
Please RSVP to Phillip Voegel at phillip.voegel@selu.edu by Thursday, March 6th.

**All Are Welcome
Invite your students and co-workers!**



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Abstract:

The need to find economical and sustainable replacements for petroleum drives the research to find appropriate indigenous feedstocks and the corresponding technologies to convert these sources of carbon into liquid fuels and chemicals. Researchers in the Sustainable Energy Research Center at Mississippi State University are examining lignocellulose feedstocks as the sources of carbon to be processed by three pathways: 1) microbial-induced conversion technologies; 2) fast pyrolysis to liquid products; and 3) gasification to synthesis gas followed by catalytic conversion to fuels by a non-FT process. A brief overview of the first two technologies will be followed by a more detailed discussion of the third technology.

Speaker's bio:

Mark White is a professor of chemical engineering and director of the David C. Swalm School of Chemical Engineering at Mississippi State University. His tenure at MSU began in 2006 following a 28 year career in teaching and research at the Georgia Institute of Technology. His academic career began with a B.S.Ch.E. from the University of Texas at Austin in 1971. He completed his M.S.Ch.E at Purdue University in 1973. His Ph.D. work was completed in 1978 at Rice University where his doctoral dissertation was selected for the Sigma Xi Excellence Award. During the summers of 1970 and 1971 Dr. White served as a summer engineer for Amaco Oil and returned to Amaco for two years following completion of his masters degree. After completing his Ph.D. Dr. White joined the faculty at Georgia Tech as an assistant professor and received Sigma Xi awards as an undergraduate thesis advisor in 1991 and 2002 and as a doctoral thesis advisor in 1988 and 1998. From 1991 – 2005 he served as Director of the Focused Research Program in Surface Science and Catalysis at Georgia Tech. He has more than 75 peer-reviewed publications, authored a textbook on heterogeneous catalysis, and supervised more than 30 post-doctoral, doctoral, and masters students. He currently serves on the editorial board of the *Journal of Molecular Catalysis A: Chemical*.

Driving Directions:

Exit I-110 at Harding Blvd/Metro Airport

Go West Bound on Harding Blvd

Cross Scenic Highway and go onto the Overpass Towards Southern

As soon as you come down the overpass, make a right

Enter the road at the perimeter of the Felton C. Clark Activity Center and turn left on this road

Travel to the opposite side of the Activity center along the perimeter road to Swan Ave (at a traffic Light)

Make a Left onto Swan Ave

At Stop Sign, make a right onto Robert E Smith Drive.

Pinchback Hall is on the Right Side just past the Financial Aid Building

There is parking at the corner of Swan and Robert E Smith and a smaller lot in front of Pinchback hall

Elected Officers

Position	Officer	Email	Phone (AC 225)
Chair	Phillip Voegel	Phillip.Voegel@selu.edu	
Chair-Elect	George Stanley	gstanley@lsu.edu	W: 578-3471
Past Chair	Ed Green	edgree3@yahoo.com	H: 769-0776 C: 907-4826
Secretary	Barbara Decuir	bdecur@lsu.edu	W: 578-3286 H: 769-1085
Treasurer	Bryan Franklin	bryan.franklin@chemtura.com	W: 673-0515 H: 769-8538
Councilor	Anne Taylor	Akt1208@bellsouth.net	H/W: 767-3565 F: 767-3565
Alternate Councilor			
Member-at-Large	Bryan Franklin	bryan.franklin@chemtura.com	W: 673-0515 H: 769-8538
Member-at-Large	Mario Lozanov	mario_lozanov@albemarle.com	W:
Member-at-Large	Calvin Esneault	cjesne@bellsouth.net	H: 752-0126

Appointed members

Duties	Member	Email	Phone
Public Relations	Kevin Coppola	kevin_coppola@albemarle.com	W: 359-2887
Elections	George Stanley	gstanley@lsu.edu	W: 578-3471
Newsletter	Steve Gagnon	gagnons@basf.com	W: 339-2171
	Cindy Gagnon	Cindy.gagnon@eatel.net	W/H: 673-4809
Natl. Chem Week	Anne Taylor	Akt1208@bellsouth.net	H: 767-3565
	George Stanley	gstanley@lsu.edu	W: 578-3471
Teacher Representative	Barbara Decuir	bdecur@lsu.edu	W: 578-3286 H: 769-1085
Natl. Chem. Olympiad	Larry Wilkinson	larry.e.wilkinson@exxonmobil.com	W: 977-1354 H: 272-6108
	Jean Prejean		
	Barbara Decuir	bdecur@lsu.edu	W: 578-3286 H: 769-1085
Younger Chemists			
Webmaster	Steve Watkins	swatkins@lsu.edu	W: 578-3467 H: 272-6034 C: 802-8846



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Cindy Gagnon, Newsletter
15324 Randi Ct.
Prairieville, LA 70769