National Chemistry Week 2005
“The Joy of Toys!”

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
National Chemistry Week (NCW) 2005 is scheduled for October 16-22, 2005. The 2005 NCW theme is “The Joy of Toys!” Each year NCW reaches over 30 million people with positive messages about the contributions of chemistry.

The Pittsburgh Section will be holding a two-day event at the Carnegie Science Center on Friday and Saturday, October 21 and 22, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day. There will be over 25 tables throughout the Carnegie Science Center, staffed with volunteers from area businesses, professional societies, high schools, colleges and universities, performing hands-on activities, demonstrations, and special theater-style shows.

The Pittsburgh Section is looking for individuals and groups to assist in coordinating these events and activities. If you have not volunteered or attended a Local Section activity in the recent past, here is a great opportunity to get involved. This could be your opportunity to help educate the public of the importance that chemistry plays in the quality of our daily lives. Your participation will ensure that the Pittsburgh Section brings about a positive change in the public’s impression of science and will help to promote a positive message about chemistry, particularly to elementary and secondary school children.

For more information about the NCW celebration in Pittsburgh, visit the Pittsburgh Section’s website at http://membership.acs.org/P/Pitt

You can also find additional information on the ACS’s NCW website at http://www.chemistry.org/ncw

To volunteer yourself or your organization to participate in this year’s NCW celebration, contact the Pittsburgh Section’s NCW Coordinator:

V. Michael Mautino
Bayer Material Science LLC
100 Bayer Rd. Bldg. 2
Pittsburgh, PA 15205
Phone: 412-777-4792
Fax: 412-777-7864
E-mail: michael.mautino@bayermaterialscience.com

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The 5th annual 50 Year Member’s Award Dinner, hosted by the Pittsburgh Chemist Club (formerly the Seniors Group of the Pittsburgh Section ACS), was held on May 24, 2005 at Duranti’s restaurant in Oakland. The group was honored to have Dr. James Burke, Chairman of the ACS Board of Directors, as the speaker.

The award certificates were presented individually to the 50 year members present by Dr. James Manner, Chair-Elect of the Pittsburgh Section. The certificates, along with a lapel pin with a ruby stud and a permanent gold membership card entitling the members to free registration at national and regional ACS meetings, are given to those who have been ACS members continuously for 50 years.

Dr. Walter Sumansky, Chair of SACP and himself a 50 year ACS member, was our guest. Lewis Morse, Chair of the Pittsburgh Chemists Club conducted the meeting.

The 50 year members for 2005 are as follows: Stanley M. Barkin, Albert William Baumgartner, George Henry Bowser, Mrs. Lydia G. Daugherty, Dr. Adolph Vincent DiGiulio, Joseph H. Field, Chester A. Giza, Dr. Mildred May Maguire, Dr. Monty Jack Montjar, Dr. Armand J. Panson, Dr. John A. Sanguigni, Grover Jacob Schrayer Jr., Dr. George Cunningham Smith, Dr. Mordecai D. Treblow, John J. Tress, George Leo Vassilaros, William Eugene Wagner.

Submitted by Mordecai Treblow

Pitt Chemical and Petroleum Engineering Professor Anna C. Balazs Appointed to Distinguished Professorship

PITTSBURGH—The University of Pittsburgh has named Anna C. Balazs a Distinguished Professor of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering in the University’s School of Engineering.

Balazs received the title of distinguished professor for her “extraordinary levels of achievement” within her field. Balazs’ research focuses on theoretical and computer modeling of the thermodynamic and kinetic behavior of polymer blends and composites. She also investigates the properties of polymers at surfaces and interfaces. Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg made the appointment on the recommendations of Gerald D. Holder, dean of the School of Engineering, and Pitt Provost James V. Maher.

“The School of Engineering has a long and proud history of high achievement,” said Nordenberg. “Professor Balazs and her colleagues have added to that legacy and to the University’s reputation for research excellence by synthetically engineering a process that is enormously difficult. Her pioneering work builds upon and advances previous research in the field and is the basis for important and widespread application.”

**Society for Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh**

**September Meeting**
Monday, September 12, 2005  
Duquesne University, Maurice Falk Hall

**“Synthesis, Characterization, and Electrocatalysis Using Dendrimer-Encapsulated Catalysts”**

**Richard M. Crooks, PhD**  
Professor of Chemistry  
University of Texas (Austin)

Social Hour 5:30 P.M.  
Student Affiliates Meeting, Duquesne Room (Student Union) 5:45 P.M.  
Dinner - Student Union, City View Café (6th Floor) 6:30 P.M.  
Business Meeting - 7:40 P.M.  
Technical Presentation 8:00 P.M. Maurice Falk Hall

In this talk we show that dendrimers can be used as both templates and stabilizers for preparing nearly monodisperse transition-metal nanoclusters suitable for fundamental studies and for use in catalysis. These interesting new materials are prepared by sorbing metal ions (Cu, Pt, Pd, Au, Ru, etc.) into poly(amideamine) (PAMAM) dendrimers where they complex with interior tertiary amine groups. Subsequent chemical reduction of the metal ions yields dendrimer-encapsulated metal nanoparticles, ranging in size from 1 - 3 nm, that contain the same number of atoms as were initially preloaded into the dendrimer. By preloading the dendrimer templates with two different types of metal ions it is possible to prepare nanoparticle alloys. Likewise, core/shell nanoparticles can be synthesized by loading the dendrimer with metal ions, reducing them to yield a metal nanoparticle seed, reloading the dendrimer with a different type of metal ion, and reducing a second time. Using these approaches, we have prepared PdPt, PdAu, and AuAg alloys, as well as Au/Ag and Pd/Au core/shell nanoparticles. UV-vis spectroscopy, TEM, EDS, SAXS, and selective extraction experiments confirm the properties of these materials. The electrocatalytic properties of these materials depend on their size, composition, and structure.

**Bio:** Richard M. Crooks received a B.S. degree in chemistry from the University of Illinois and a Ph. D. in electrochemistry from the University of Texas (Austin) in 1987. Following a two-year postdoctoral appointment at MIT, he moved to the University of New Mexico in 1989 and then to Texas A&M University in 1993. In 2005 he returned to the University of Texas (Austin), where he is presently professor of chemistry. His interests include bioanalytical chemistry, nanomaterials, catalysis, and electrochemistry. He is presently a senior editor for the journal Langmuir. He has published more than 200 research papers.

**Dinner Reservations:** Please call William Straub at 412-372-8312 or e-mail straub@pittcon.org, by September 8, 2005 to make dinner reservations. If you want to be placed on the permanent dinner list, let William know when you RSVP. Dinner will cost $8 ($4 for students) and checks can be made out to the SACP. If you have any dietary restrictions, let William know when you leave message.

**Pitt Chemical and Petroleum Engineering Professor, Continued from page 2**

respectively. After holding postdoctoral positions at M.I.T. and the University of Massachusetts, she joined Pitt’s Department of Materials Science and Engineering in 1987 as an assistant professor. In 1997, Balazs moved to the University’s Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering.

In addition to distinguished professor, Balazs is also a Robert Von der Luft Professor and a researcher in the University’s McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine and Institute of NanoScience and Engineering.

Balazs is also a Senior Visiting Fellow at the Oxford Center for Advanced Materials and Composites and the Materials Science Department of Oxford University in England. Among her many awards are the Chancellor’s Distinguished Research Award from Pitt and the National Science Foundation’s Special Creativity Award. A fellow of the American Physical Society, Balazs has served in a number of leadership positions, been actively involved in international conference organizations, and served on many advisory and editorial boards. She also consults for such firms as Dow Corning and Dow Chemical Company.

**Submitted by:**  
Karen Hoffman  
University of Pittsburgh


2005 Tripartite Symposium Overview

The 2005 Tripartite Symposium was presented to approximately 50 attendees at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh on Tuesday, May 24th 2005. The program, “Beyond $2 Gallon: Satisfying Our Future Energy Needs,” featured five expert speakers spread over four presentations on the topic of the current and future technology options for transportation fuels.

Dr. Roger Bezdek and Mr. Robert Wendling, both economists from Management Information Services, Inc. in Virginia, spoke on the economic consequences of the peaking of oil production. They pointed out that severe price spikes will occur when oil production (i.e., supply) peaks during a period where demand would ordinarily dictate continued growth. The economic repercussions are potentially severe, according to both Bezdek and Wendling, and will be costly unless mitigation options are begun before the crisis hits.

Dr. Michelle V. Buchanan, Associate Laboratory Director at Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee, spoke about the future of hydrogen as an energy carrier. She stressed that hydrogen energy is a long term option and believes that the current administration may be doing more harm than good by declaring that “a child born today will be driving a hydrogen vehicle as his or her first car.” However, with continued research on generating it from renewable sources and overcoming storage and infrastructure issues, she believes that it definitely has a promising future.

Dr. John L. Sullivan of Ford Motor Company in Michigan looked at energy usage from the perspective of the automobile. Incorporating “life cycle” analysis techniques, he described how much energy goes into an automobile from manufacture, through usage, to disposition. He also described new developments in hybrid and advanced diesel vehicles which are currently coming on the market or are expected to be introduced within a few years.

Finally, Professor Henry R. Bungay of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY, gave a spirited presentation on biomass energy. Much of his talk was spent on debunking common myths and outdated fallacies about biomass energy, both pro and con. However, he did believe that modern methods of converting appropriate types of biomass into fuels would be effective, and concluded with the assertion that “there is a lot of money to be made” in biomass fuel generation.

After the formal presentation, there was a panel discussion with questions from the audience, and an open reception where attendees had the opportunity to mingle with the speakers one-on-one.

The Tripartite Symposium is an annual event jointly sponsored by the Pittsburgh section of the American Chemical Society, the Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh and the Society of Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh. The purpose of the Tripartite is to promote cooperation between the three societies and the greater Pittsburgh technical community by offering a symposium broader in scope than would be expected from any one society. The symposium format is intended to be collegial and to promote interaction among the speakers, between the speakers and the audience, and among the members of the audience.

Submitted by:
Kurt Rothenberger,
2005 Tripartite Committee Chairman
Day phone: 412-386-6082
Contact e-mail: kurt.rothenberger@netl.doe.gov

Laura L. Kiessling To Lead Major Initiative In Chemical Biology

The American Chemical Society (ACS) has announced the appointment of Dr. Laura L. Kiessling as editor-in-chief of ACS Chemical Biology, a new publication scheduled to launch in 2006.

ACS Chemical Biology will provide a new central forum for the interface of chemistry and biology, emphasizing the use of rigorous chemical and biological approaches to solve problems in living systems. This monthly publication will offer rapid communication of peer-reviewed, primary research, supplemented by mini-reviews, concept articles, perspectives, news features and highlights from other ACS journals.

ACS Chemical Biology will seek to support the chemical biology community by providing venues for the exchange of ideas and approaches and by creating a dynamic Web gateway that allows users access to high quality information. The new publication aims to assume a leadership role in delivering and highlighting significant research in this innovative field.

Kiessling is recognized as a leading voice and pioneer in the field of chemical biology. From her laboratory at the University of Wisconsin, Kiessling said, “The synergistic progress in these disciplines renders chemical biology a vibrant and vital field. I want to use this initiative to help foster communication between chemists and biologists while at the same time conveying the significance of their research to a broad readership. ACS Chemical Biology represents an important advance for this field. This new publication is something I am proud and excited to be a part of.”

More details are soon to follow on this innovative new title from ACS Publications! You can stay up to date on the latest information on ACS Chemical Biology at www.acschemicalbiology.org.

ACS Cut and Paste May/June 2005
Acclaimed Scholarship Program Celebrates Anniversary

The ACS Scholars Program, which has awarded more than $8 million in scholarships to almost 1,500 underrepresented minority students, is celebrating its tenth anniversary at the ACS Fall National Meeting.

A Presidential Symposium entitled, “The Future Face of Chemistry,” will present the program’s history and successful outcomes, as well as honor its partners. Scheduled for Sunday afternoon, August 28, from 2:30 until 5:00 p.m., the event will open with remarks by ACS President William F. Carroll and feature many of the 600 ACS Scholars who have earned degrees in the chemical sciences.

Several alumni who have now earned PhD degrees will speak as will graduates with interesting professional involvement. Corporate contributors that hired ACS Scholars will also participate in a panel discussion.

ACS Executive Director and CEO, Madeleine Jacobs, will conclude the event by looking toward the program’s future. A reception and Scholars poster session, sponsored by the Committee on Minority Affairs, will follow.

ACS Pittsburgh Chemists Club
Pittsburgh Section, American Chemical Society

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

“Forensic Science“
by
Dr. Charles L. Winek
Director of Pittsburgh Criminalistics Laboratory

Duranti’s Restaurant
128 N. Craig St., Pittsburgh PA
6:00 PM Cocktail Time - Cash Bar
6:30 PM Dinner, 7:45 PM Program

For reservations, please call Ed Martin by noon, Friday, September 23, 2005 at (724) 335-0904 or e-mail at esm@icubed.com.

Abstract

Dr. Winek will deliver a slide presentation of case histories involving various aspects of forensic science. Each case will be discussed in detail and the results of analyses will be given as they relate to the cause

Biography

Dr. Winek is a professor of toxicology emeritus at Duquesne University School of Pharmacy and has taught for the University’s School of Education, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, and the Law School. He is a diplomat of both the American Board of Forensic Toxicology and the Academy of Toxicological Sciences.

Dr. Winek is currently the director of Pittsburgh Criminalistics Laboratory and is the former director of the Allegheny County Department of Laboratories and former chief toxicologist for the Allegheny County Coroner’s Office, positions he held for thirty-two years. He continues to testify frequently as an expert witness in both criminal and civil cases in Allegheny County and throughout the United States.

Dr. Winek has published 119 articles in scientific journals and authored, co-authored or contributed to 29 books. He is toxicology editor the journal Forensic Science International and a member of the editorial board of The Journal of Applied Toxicology and The Journal of Analytical Toxicology.

ACS Cut and Paste May/June 2005

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Pittsburgh Section, American Chemical Society
2005 Secondary School Chemistry Contest Winners

Each year since 1945, the Pittsburgh Section of the American Chemical Society has sponsored a contest for secondary schools to recognize outstanding achievement by the students and their teachers as well as encouraging interest in chemistry among school students. The contest recognizes three categories: first-year students in large schools, first-year students in small schools, and second-year students. The contest is also used to qualify students interested in participating in the International Chemistry Olympics and to identify students for scholarships. This year 244 students from 41 schools competed for prizes and scholarships. First place in each category is awarded $200, second place $100, third place $75, and fourth place, $50.

Category S-First Year Chemistry, Large Schools

<table>
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<th>Prize</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>Joey Kuhn</td>
<td>Mount Lebanon</td>
<td>Mark Kemion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>Matthew Olson</td>
<td>Ambridge</td>
<td>Terri Moon-Kutzavitch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Third</td>
<td>Chris DeFrancesco</td>
<td>Keystone Oaks</td>
<td>Tricia Kreitzer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Third</td>
<td>Jennifer Li</td>
<td>Gateway</td>
<td>Timothy Lattanzio</td>
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<tr>
<td>Third</td>
<td>Amanda Hayes</td>
<td>Mount Lebanon</td>
<td>Matthew Roddy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fourth</td>
<td>Lou Argentieri</td>
<td>Mount Lebanon</td>
<td>Matthew Roddy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fourth</td>
<td>Scott Baxter</td>
<td>Mount Lebanon</td>
<td>Matthew Roddy</td>
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Category S-First Year Chemistry, Small Schools

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>Ben Greenberger</td>
<td>Sewickley Academy</td>
<td>Susan Zawacky</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>Yue Zhang</td>
<td>Sewickley Academy</td>
<td>Susan Zawacky</td>
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<tr>
<td>Third</td>
<td>Teresa Bohner</td>
<td>Greensburg Central Catholic</td>
<td>Sister Mary Helen</td>
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<td>Fourth</td>
<td>Neha Ahmad</td>
<td>Sewickley Academy</td>
<td>Susan Zawacky</td>
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Category D-Second Year Chemistry

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<td>First</td>
<td>Bud Coulson</td>
<td>Taylor Allderice</td>
<td>Sally Martin</td>
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<td>Second</td>
<td>Peter Cai</td>
<td>North Allegheny</td>
<td>Matthew Davis</td>
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<td>Third</td>
<td>Boris Petkov</td>
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<td>Fourth</td>
<td>Fuzhou Hu</td>
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Diversity In The Chemical Enterprise Presidential Symposium

In conjunction with the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the ACS Scholars Program, the ACS Division of Business Development and Management (BMGT) is sponsoring a Presidential Symposium entitled, “The Business Case for Diversity in the Chemical Enterprise,” at the ACS Fall National Meeting. Co-sponsored by the Division of Professional Relations (PROF) and the Committee on Minority Affairs (CMA), the symposium will be held on Monday morning, August 29, from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson, President, Renssalaer Polytechnic Institute, will address issues raised in her pivotal report, “The Quiet Crisis.” Lynne Schmidt from PPG Industries, Kathy McDonald from Dow Chemical, and William Gipson from Procter & Gamble will present their perspectives on the following questions:

• What has been the business value of diversity to your organization?

• What arguments have you made to build a consensus and to persuade people to support diversity efforts?

• How should people wanting to encourage their organizations to support diversity approach decision makers and what kinds of support is it appropriate to request?

• How can one gracefully respond to the first “No” such that the door is still open for continued dialogue?

ACS Cut and Paste May/June 2005
Dr. René Schwarzenbach To Speak As A 2005 Association Of Environmental Engineering And Science Professors Distinguished Lecturers

Dr. René Schwarzenbach, Professor of Environmental Chemistry at the Federal Institute of Technology (ETHZ) in Zurich, Switzerland, will be visiting Pittsburgh as a 2005 Association of Environmental Engineering and Science Professors (AEESP) Distinguished Lecturer.

His lecture will be held on September 16, 2005 at 3:00 p.m. in Kresge Auditorium (1175 Benedum Hall) at the Oakland campus of the University of Pittsburgh. Lecture title and brief description are as follows:

Quantification of Sorption Equilibria of Organic Pollutants – Tackling Sorbate and Sorbent Variability by a Unifying Approach

Dr. René Schwarzenbach
Professor of Environmental Chemistry at the Federal Institute of Technology (ETHZ) in Zurich, Switzerland

Partitioning processes between air or water and condensed phases (surfaces, bulk phases such as natural organic matter) play a key role in determining the behavior and the effects of organic pollutants in natural and engineered systems. To date, equilibrium adsorption or absorption coefficients of a given compound are commonly estimated by using simple one-parameter linear free energy relationships (LFERs) using compound properties such as vapor pressure, aqueous solubility, or octanol-air and octanol-water partition constants. However, the predictive power of such one-parameter LFERs is very limited because no single descriptor is able to describe appropriately all the molecular interactions that determine the partitioning of a given compound between two phases. As a consequence, different compound classes usually require different one-parameter LFERs. In contrast, as will be demonstrated in the lecture, poly-parameter LFERs that quantify the pertinent molecular interactions relevant for a given partitioning process are able to describe the sorption coefficients of a large set of structurally very diverse compounds with one single equation. Furthermore, using such an approach, it is possible to characterize the sorption properties of environmentally relevant sorbents. The sorbents discussed in the lecture include the water and ice surface, various mineral and salt surfaces, urban aerosols, and soil organic matter.

For more information, please contact Radisav D. Vidic, Ph.D., Professor of Environmental Engineering, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Pittsburgh, 412-624-1307.
Pitt Celebrates Professor Irving Wender’s Distinguished Career

The Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, N. John Cooper and the Dean of the School Engineering at the University of Pittsburgh, Gerald D. Holder, recently hosted a Career Recognition Symposium and 90th Birthday Celebration in honor of Irving Wender, Distinguished University Research Professor of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering.

The symposium, sponsored by Strem Chemicals, Inc., was held on June 15 at Pitt’s Frick Fine Arts Building where over 150 scientists, alumni and friends gathered to listen to four intellectually stimulating science lectures and to attend the reception and poster session that followed. When he was a graduate student in chemistry at Pitt, Strem Chemicals founder and president Michael Strem had worked with Professor Wender.

Keynote lectures were presented by distinguished chemists and chemical engineers whose work symbolizes the two major themes of Irving’s scientific achievements, the use of metals to incorporate CO into molecules and the catalytic conversion of synthesis gas to fuels and chemicals, and also served to illustrate the bridges between chemistry and chemical engineering.


After much celebration, Professor Wender is now back to work devoting his time to developing new ways of producing and storing hydrogen for the “hydrogen economy.”

The event was sponsored by Strem Chemicals Inc.

Submitted by Robert F. Toplak, Assistant Chair, Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, University of Pittsburgh

Grow Grants: Funding For Professional Training

The ACS PROGRESS (Partnerships, Reflection, Openness, Grants, Resources, Education, Site Visits, Successes) is excepting applications for the 2005 GROW: Grants for Renewal Opportunities for Women program.

If you are an ACS female member, and are interested in taking a professional training course this year, you may be eligible to receive up to $2,000 to cover the training course and your travel. Please visit www.acs.org/progress/, or e-mail f_dixon@acs.org.

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Former Presidents of the Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh at the Society’s Awards Dinner on May 16, 2005. Dr. Kurt S. Rothenberger, Dr. Thomas J. Conti, Mr. Herbert L. Retcofsky, Dr. Gerald L. Carlson, Mr. Allen J. Sharkins, Dr. Richard Obrycki, Dr. Fu-Tyan Lin, Mr. Ronald G. Gargiel, Dr. Homer J. Birch, Dr. Joanne H. Smith, Dr. Daniel A. Wilson, Mr. Charles J. McCafferty Jr., Dr. Robert E. Witkowski, Dr. John F. Jackovitz, Dr. Foil A. Miller, Dr. Mildred B. Perry, Mr. Edward P. Ladner Jr. Photo submitted by Roy Backer
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September

Mon. 12  **Society for Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh (SACP)**  
Duquesne University, Maurice Falk Hall  
*“Synthesis, Characterization, and Electrocatalysis Using Dendrimer-Encapsulated Catalysts”*  
Richard M. Crooks, PhD, Professor of Chemistry, University of Texas (Austin)

Tues. 27  **ACS Pittsburgh Chemists Club**  
Duranti’s Restaurant  
*“Forensic Science”*  
Dr. Charles L. Winek, Director of Pittsburgh Criminalistics Laboratory