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January 2007

## Chemistry Division

A. Ben Wagner

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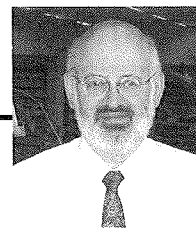
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## Chemistry Division

## A. Ben Wagner, Chair



The Chemistry Division is concerned with chemistry and chemical technology, and the economics, educational advances, and information handling of developments in the field of chemistry and related subjects.

It is an honor to now be serving as the Chair of the Chemistry Division. For those of us doing planning for the Denver 2007 Annual Meeting, it feels rather like we are in the home stretch as the final program deadline is just weeks away. I am thankful for having a most capable co-planner, Marie Fraties-Block of BASF Corp, to share the load. More on Denver in a moment, but I wanted to say how much I am looking forward to meeting leaders and potential leaders at SLA Leadership Summit in Reno, NV on January 24-27, 2007.

Although you no doubt will be reading this after the Summit, I did want to note for next year that the Leadership Summit is open to all SLA members and would be especially helpful to anyone in any leadership capacity or simply considering future leadership roles. SLA staff have put much renewed effort in the Summit, providing top notch speakers and trainers, terrific professional development, position-specific sessions, and many opportunities to network with the SLA Board, staff, and other divisional/chapter leaders.

Since this is the first year our officer positions run from January-December, I will be holding a board meeting on Saturday morning in Reno and hope to establish this as an annual event. I hope other Divisions will increase their level of participation in the Leadership Summit.

In terms of Denver 2007, the preliminary program will be appearing in print shortly. Our Division has posted DCHE events on our web site at <http://units.sla.org/division/dche/2007/index.htm>. If you are a member of our Chemistry Division, be certain you are a subscriber to our Divisional list or you will miss many announcements. See <http://units.sla.org/division/dche/listserv.htm> for details.

Note also that the 2007 Annual Meeting is unusually early, Sunday, June 3 through Wednesday, June 7. With only twelve program slots, including the three 7:00 a.m. breakfast slots (calling all morning people!), we all need to realize that, of necessity, Wednesday will be a full day of programming right up to 4:30 p.m. As an academic librarian that does not necessarily get full travel funding, I realize how tempting it is to use Wednesday as a travel day and save a night of lodgings. But why not take full advantage of the conference and all the effort it takes to get there? Why not fly out as late as possible on Wednesday, or even better, fly out early Thursday when you are rested and can enjoy the beautiful city of Denver for one more night without having 5 different vendor parties or committee meetings to attend?

We have a new Chair-Elect, Sue Cardinal of the University of Rochester, a new Secretary, Margarete Bower from University of Pittsburgh, and a new Treasurer, Bob Buchanan of Auburn University

Ted Baldwin and the previous Chairs, with the assistance of our entire board, have built and maintained a strong Division. By working together, we can continue the tradition. Please contact me at any time with questions or comments. ❖

A. Ben Wagner,  
Chair, SLA Chemistry Division  
[abwagner@buffalo.edu](mailto:abwagner@buffalo.edu)

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Artist's conception of a quantum interference effect: transistor (QutET) based on sulfonated vinylbenzene. *Nano Letters*, Vol. 6, No. 1, 2006.

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## Message from the Chemistry Division Chair Elect

Hope everyone had a wonderful holiday. A frequent comment in my family was "I ate too much." The food was so good!

Speaking of food, do you know of any good restaurants in Seattle? Send me your favorites.

In late January at the Leadership Summit (<http://www.sla.org/content/resources/leadcenter/LeadershipSummit/07leadsummit/index.cfm>) Rachel Ellison and I, working with Nora Stoecker from the Materials Research and Manufacturing (MRM) Section, will officially start planning for the 2008 Seattle conference with the theme "Breaking Rules, Building Bridges."

What does this theme bring to mind for you? Here are some ideas that came to me.

- Meeting patrons where they are, not just at the reference desk
- Cafes in the library
- Noise in the library/ Fostering collaborative spaces
- When it's online, it doesn't have to be returned
- Defining our patrons more broadly
- Librarians outside traditional roles
- Status of the ejournal archive
- New ways of publishing, new ways of budgeting

While these might be interesting in general, help us figure out what the chemistry library or MRM angle might be. Nora had already polled MRM Section members for their suggestions before the conference theme was published. Feel free to submit more ideas as soon as possible so we can incorporate them into the 2008 conference.



When you attend SLA national conferences, do you break rules by over-indulging on networking and learning activities until you are overwhelmed and worn out? Fortunately over-indulgence at a conference has a nice side effect of handouts, business cards, and web postings that we can review and act on at a later time. Maybe now is that "later time."

If you haven't attended Chemistry Division events before, why not take 15 minutes to look at our website and see what is posted? <http://units.sla.org/division/dche/index.htm>

Your 2008 Conference Program Planning Team.  
Sue Cardinal, [SCardinal@library.rochester.edu](mailto:SCardinal@library.rochester.edu)  
Rachel Ellison, [Rachel.Ellison@ecolab.com](mailto:Rachel.Ellison@ecolab.com)  
Nora Stoecker, [nstoecker@nksinfo.com](mailto:nstoecker@nksinfo.com)



Sue Cardinal  
Chair Elect, Chemistry Division

### Call for Nominations

The Chemistry Division Nominating Committee is requesting nominations for the following offices:

Chair-Elect (January–December 2008, term as Chair starts January 2009)  
Secretary (January 2008–December 2008)

The Committee would like to hear your suggestions for names of people to consider for these offices. Self-nominations are certainly welcome.

The Committee will prepare the slate of candidates, (one candidate for each position,) and present the entire slate for a vote at the Annual Business Meeting in Denver in June 2007.

Nominations should be received by February 1, 2007.

Please submit nominations to:  
Ted Baldwin  
College of Applied Science Library  
2220 Victory Parkway  
Cincinnati, OH 45206-2389  
513-556-4211  
[Ted.Baldwin@uc.edu](mailto:Ted.Baldwin@uc.edu)

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### **2007 Marion E. Sparks Award for Professional Development**

The Chemistry Division of the Special Libraries Association is sponsoring a student/new member scholarship essay competition in 2007. The award is named to honor Marion E. Sparks, a chemistry librarian at the University of Illinois from 1913 until her death in 1929. Ms. Sparks contributed a great deal to the field of chemical information. Her achievements include teaching courses on chemical information, and authoring and publishing what is argued to be the first book to formally address chemical literature and library instruction.

This competition is intended to encourage student members or new members of the Chemistry Division to attend the Annual Conference and participate in the activities of the Chemistry Division of the Special Libraries Association.

**AWARD:** The winner will receive \$1,500 to attend the 2007 SLA Annual Conference June 3-6 in Denver, CO. The winner will also receive a certificate of achievement and will be introduced at the Chemistry Division Business Meeting & Breakfast. This award is intended to reimburse the winner's expenses for attending the convention, including: registration, airfare, lodging, food and/or the continuing education course (registration in one of the Chemistry division CE courses - "Chemistry for the non-chemist librarian" or "Chemical Information Sources, Requests, and Reference", or any other continuing education course is recommended but not required).

**ELIGIBILITY:** All student members of the Chemistry Division and all individuals who became members of the Chemistry Division since January of 2006 are eligible to enter the contest. Preference will be given to library school students and recent MLIS graduates.

**TO ENTER:** Compose an essay to address the candidate's objectives for professional development and the outcomes if a person is granted the award. Essay should not exceed 400 words or two typed doubled-spaced pages. Please include a resume and the names of two references.

Entries may be submitted by email or regular mail to:  
Cory Craig  
University of California, Davis  
Physical Sciences & Engineering Library  
One Shields Avenue  
Davis, California 95616-8676  
cjcraig@ucdavis.edu

**Deadline for submission: March 15, 2007**

Essays will be judged by a panel of SLA Chemistry Division members. The winner will be notified by April 10, 2007 <http://www.sla.org/division/dche/sparks.htm>