

Chemistry and the Law

NEWSLETTER

CHAIR'S MESSAGE

RICHARD BONE

With this, my second chair's message of the year, I'll present things a little differently. As we have quite a full newsletter, in this message I'll cover a few of the expected topics but divert readers to the various other content along the way. A convenient starting point is to draw some strands from the Spring ACS Meeting in New Orleans, which is written up in more detail later in the newsletter.

First, while a significant fraction of our active members hail from IP law, we have been pleased to welcome practitioners in forensic chemistry to our sessions over the years. New Orleans was no different, and Sunday's presentation "A day in the life of a forensic drug chemist" was very popular. Later in this newsletter, Steven Hoenig writes an overview of more than a decade of efforts to establish and maintain nationwide standards in forensic science. Elsewhere, as we prepare our programming for 2025 (in San Diego and Washington, DC), we invite forensics practitioners across ACS to join our schedule.

Second, joint programming and cosponsoring of programming offered by other Divisions is a key part of CHAL's outreach generally. ACS has been

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CHAIR'S MESSAGE

strongly encouraging divisions to work together to develop joint programming content. While this is, on its face, challenging for the smaller divisions (such as CHAL), we in particular have a number of opportunities that we have both used and hope to use. In New Orleans, for example, we worked with ENVR to develop programming at the intersection of environmental chemistry and the law.

As we now pivot to the Fall 2024 national meeting in Denver (the complete schedule is presented at the end of this newsletter), we are pleased to say that we have been working with two other divisions: SCHB to jointly present a session entitled "The Business of Chemistry and the Law" on Sunday afternoon, and PROF (Division of Professional Affairs) to cosponsor a hybrid session entitled "Pitfalls for Lawyers", on Wednesday afternoon. I invited PROF's Chair elect, Susan Schelble, to share with us some of her experiences of joint programming at ACS over the years; her perspectives can be found later in this newsletter.

As I continue in this role, I inevitably learn more about ACS. The constant bustle and incredible vastness of a national meeting provide one immediate perspective on the scale of the Society. But, we don't have to wait till March and August of each year to appreciate all that the Society has to offer. On a daily basis, we should be aware of e-mail announcements of new content offerings, and new ways to engage. The ACS central website itself has many pages that help members understand how the Society is run, and what opportunities there are to volunteer, as well as resources for those who take on leadership roles in the various components of ACS, in particular, Divisions, Local Sections, and Governance Committees. (CHAL's contribution

to ACS Governance is described elsewhere in this newsletter). We know that, with so many places to devote one's time, CHAL is fortunate to have, and have had, a dedicated core of members who keep this division running, year on year. Any one of us, particularly those of us who are practicing lawyers, can say at any time that there is something more important on their desk than the next task that's asked for by ACS. Yet somehow, the job gets done because we have committed to it and have seen the positive results from following through with our commitments and plans.

Finally, at this time of year, we are already gearing up for the fall elections for division officers, and – for most members – renewing their annual dues. I describe the executive committee's activities and positions that will be on the ballot elsewhere in this newsletter. But I do want to say a few words about member dues. Currently CHAL division members pay \$18 a year for annual membership. It occurred to me to figure out how this value compared to that of other divisions. The answer is that we are right in the middle of the pack. The average of all of the division annual dues (excluding the Rubber division, which has a significantly different dues tariff), is \$17.80, and the median is \$18. We will continue to ensure that division membership is good value, of course, and thank you in advance for renewing when the time comes.

We look forward to seeing many of the division's members at the upcoming meeting in Denver and keeping in touch in other ways for the remainder of 2024, and into 2025.

Richard Bone

REFLECTIONS ON THE NEW ORLEANS MEETING CHAL WEBINARS

REFLECTIONS ON THE NEW ORLEANS MEETING

Thanks to some deft coordination by program chair, Gabriel Ferrante, we had a full suite of offerings, and some excellent attendance at our several technical sessions. We implemented an approach that we hope will be the model for our programming at future national meetings: half of our programming is related to intellectual property; the other half expands our programming into other areas at the intersection of chemistry and the law. To that end, we were able to present a hybrid session on patent law on Sunday (“Practice Tips to Strengthen Your Patents Based on Recent High Court Decisions”), and an in-person session on IP more broadly on Monday (“Artificial Intelligence and the Law”). Our expansion into fields outside IP was exemplified by two in-person sessions, Sunday’s “Hot topics in Chemistry and the Law” (encompassing aspects as diverse as litigation financing, forensics, and scientific testing in legal proceedings), and Monday’s “Environmental Law: Recent Progress, Challenges, and Solutions”. We especially thank our colleagues from Goodwin Proctor for making a strong showing in programming across the several sessions.

It's worth pointing out some recent innovations that ACS has introduced for presenters at national meetings: it is now possible to request a DOI for a scheduled ACS talk (which requires uploading a copy of the presentation after the meeting), and scheduled presenters now receive a link to download a “Certificate of Presentation”,

also after the meeting.

Outside of technical programming, CHAL entertained ACS members in other ways: we offered a Sunday breakfast (a departure from our traditional Monday evening reception), and two lunch events. On Sunday, a panel of private practice legal professionals shared perspectives on their career transition to a packed room. CHAL’s commitment to frequently providing opportunities for ACS members to learn about transitioning into law is detailed further in this newsletter. On Monday, I sat down with incoming ACS General Counsel, Tokë Vandervoort, for a lunchtime fireside chat to learn about her career and welcome her to ACS. Further details of this interview will be posted on our website in due course.

CHAL WEBINARS

CHAL has been able to work with ACS Webinars to secure slots for 2 webinars in 2024. As we go to press, we will have just offered, on July 31, 2024, “Avoiding IP Own Goals in Drug Discovery: Best Practices for Obtaining (and Keeping) Your IP”, by Eric Romeo and Olivia Uitto, of the firm Goodwin Proctor. Further details, including a recording will be available at the ACS Webinars page:

<https://www.acs.org/acs-webinars.html>

Content for our second webinar this year, on September 11, 2024, will be announced in due course.

CHAL MEMBERS IN THE NEWS CAREER CENTRAL

CHAL MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

It's always a pleasure to see ACS highlighting the illustrious careers of CHAL members. In the last several months, we have seen two of the division's members in the spotlight, both of whom are past ACS Presidents, and both of whom had long careers in industry while also being able to give much of their valuable time to service within ACS.

In April, Diane Schmidt and Bonnie Charpentier were both profiled in ACS's Industry Matters newsletter. Diane and Bonnie served terms as ACS President in 2015 and 2019 respectively; their reflections on how to continue to give back to ACS and the profession in general in their retirement years can be found here:

<https://www.acs.org/industry/industry-matters/5th-quarter/diane-schmidt-retirement.html>

and

<https://www.acs.org/industry/industry-matters/5th-quarter/smooth-transition-retirement.html>

CAREER CENTRAL

A well-established – and well-received – activity of CHAL is to offer anyone in the ACS community a chance to ask division members about their experiences in pursuing a legal career, whether it is from the initial idea of transitioning away from the lab, or to offer a perspective of how that member's career materialized in the years since. We have done that in many ways, such as via career panels at national meetings, presentations at ACS Webinars, and through individual outreach. We've found that young scientists are grateful to learn firsthand of how some real-life careers have worked out for ACS members who – like them – started out as undergraduates and graduate students of chemistry.

In New Orleans in March, CHAL hosted a career panel at its Sunday luncheon, co-hosted with MEDI (Division of Medicinal Chemistry). Jim Carver (CHAL Councilor), Yoko Bian, Christopher Haley, and Carlyn Burton (immediate past CPRM Chair), guided by moderator Gabriel Ferrante (CHAL program chair), provided more than an hour of insights into their careers in the private practice legal setting, to a packed room of attendees.

In March, ACS's Industry Matters newsletter quoted from CHAL member, Adam Myers, in an article on the pros and cons of using cover letters when submitting resumes.

https://www.acs.org/industry/industry-matters/career-corner/cover-letters.html?sc=240207_news_indnews_cc?sc=230101_indnews_IMPdirect



STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT IN 2025? 2023 MEMBER SURVEY

STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT IN 2025?

Chair has been looking into the possibility of the division holding a Strategic Planning Retreat (SPR) in 2025. Those who have attended the division's monthly telecons this year will already be familiar with this idea. ACS hosts SPR's for any division (or governance committee) that wishes to hold one: the format is a day-and-a-half offsite with the division's leaders and experienced hands to focus on the division's goals for the coming years and identify a plan for meeting them. It is more than 15 years since CHAL last held an SPR, and now that we are facing the dual challenge of attracting new membership, and involving a new generation of leadership, the time feels right to bring folk together again. Speaking personally, having attended an SPR for CPRM in 2023, I can speak to the value of spending that time, getting to know the other committee members, and agreeing on priorities for focusing the members' time and efforts. Tentatively, we are looking at options for holding a CHAL SPR around the time of the ACS National Meeting, in Washington, DC, in August 2025.

The catch? Such an event can only really work out if we have 10 – 15 committed attendees. Please reach out to myself or any other division officer if you would like to know more. Chair is working on further details in the coming months and will circulate them when known.

2023 MEMBER SURVEY

Last year, we sent out a survey with the Fall election ballots, to gauge members' interests and backgrounds. We had 78 respondents, but less than half of whom identified as lawyers, though 12 are patent agents. Lawyers practiced in a number of areas: while intellectual property is highly represented, we also have regulatory and civil litigation lawyers. Of the non-lawyers, those who self-identified include: those who work in regulatory affairs, library staff and information professionals, academics, experts, forensic chemists, and patent examiners. We also found that, of those who responded, approximately equal numbers were employed in industry and private practice settings. Most of those who responded had attended an ACS national meeting and the majority of those had attended CHAL programming, often also attending programming from other divisions. That response was also consistent with members' wish to see more programming from CHAL in conjunction with other divisions. I hope that members will see, on the whole, that we are working to address the diverse needs of the division.

DIVISION LEADERSHIP NEWS

DIVISION LEADERSHIP NEWS

The division's executive committee ('excomm') has been busy over the last several months, despite the division's overall declining membership. The membership numbers affect us in several ways, including at the division's excomm. For example, in response to a shortfall in volunteers for certain roles, the division moved from 1-year to 2-year terms for the chair's position. In 2023, ACS announced that, after a periodic evaluation and balancing of representation across the Society, CHAL would only be entitled to a single Councilor and Alternate, (both down from two). That means that our current Councilor, Brian Meadows, and Alternate Councilor, Xavier Pillai, will stay in their positions until their terms expire at the end of 2025. We will hold elections to fill new terms for both roles next year. Our other existing Councilor, Jim Carver, and Alternate, Justin Hasford, will remain in position until their current terms expire at the end of 2024. Jim Carver will be a Bylaw-councilor through the end of 2025 because he was elected to serve a 3-year term on the Council Policy Committee (CPC).

With the two positions expiring at the end of this year, the excomm will correspondingly shrink. We have been working towards adding an officer position, that of Program Chair, but this process takes some time. Earlier this year, the excomm voted to approve the necessary amendments to division bylaws to achieve this. However, ACS national, while largely approving those amendments has asked for additional amendments to be made (mostly in service of conforming our bylaws to some standards

that have been promulgated across all of the ACS's divisions). All of these amendments will have to be submitted to a vote of the division's membership before being ultimately ratified centrally by ACS.

Nevertheless, we have begun to build some core teams to address various of the division's core activities, and have established some informal subcommittees to address: membership, programming, and nominations and awards.

I want to thank Miho Kaneko and Steven Hoenig for volunteering for the membership subcommittee. Between us we have begun to work on creating flyers for the national meetings, brainstorming other forms of outreach and, at long last, taken a significant step to work with a commercial web-developer to update our website (www.chemistryandthelaw.org). This is thanks also to a distribution of funds we received from ACS Divisional Activities Committee. We expect the new site to go live, late in August.

I also want to thank Gabriel Ferrante, Andrew Berks, and Holger Tostmann, for volunteering to help plan programming. We are putting together some ideas to create a diverse body of programming for the two national meetings in 2025. One benefit of having a core team look at this is to begin to put in place some mechanisms to plan programming two meetings ahead of time.

Finally, I want to thank Howard Peters, Jim Carver, and Ram Sabnis, as well as Justin Hasford for coming together to review the division's awards and consider nominations for positions on the excomm. Further updates will be circulated by e-mail to the members.

ARE YOU THE NEXT CHAIR-ELECT? CHAL'S OUTREACH TO ACS GOVERNANCE

ARE YOU THE NEXT CHAIR-ELECT?

Although we have not yet circulated the ballots for 2024, it is not too early to appreciate that, less than a year from now, we will be looking for a volunteer to take on the role of CHAL's chair-elect for 2026-27 (and then become chair in 2028-29). I want to stress that, while the saying goes "it can be lonely at the top", it need not be. There are many decades of combined experience across the current executive committee; all of us are committed to support the next person to take on the position of chair and help them succeed in that role. I can attest to having had that support myself. In this regard, I am also reminded of an ACS leadership course: "leading without authority". I can say openly that I did not fully understand what that term meant until I took on this role. It points to a mindset that is key to making things work in a volunteer setting. The several of us who have held the position of chair over the last 10-20 years, and who are still involved with the division in other capacities, have made a lot happen in many different ways, but all of which involved bringing out a lot of good will and engagement from the rest of the membership. One key aspect of our current model is that a 2-year term as chair offers the ability to be *proactive*, rather than *reactive* as can so easily be the case when the term is only a year. One-year terms make it easier to just repeat or mimic what was done in the previous year; two years in-role offer the possibility to plan, explore new possibilities, as well as to grow into the position. If you are interested in taking on the position of Division Chair, please do not hesitate to reach out.

CHAL'S OUTREACH TO ACS GOVERNANCE

One other way in which we have been able to forge connections within ACS is to be involved in various of the ACS's *governance committees*. Over the years, a number of CHAL members have served on the ACS Committee on Patents and Related Matters (CPRM). Currently, they include Kazim Agha and myself, though my term will expire at the end of this year. CHAL Treasurer, Jonathan Kennedy, also serves on the Committee on Ethics (ETHX). Jim Carver serves on the Council Policy Committee (CPC), the body that runs the Council meeting and acts on behalf of ACS between national meetings. Jim is chair of the CPC's "Task Force on Future Representation of Council", which has been responsible for the recent Petition to add ACS members the international community to Council.

Each year, in the spring, ACS seeks volunteers to serve on the society's many governance committees: I am happy to report that there has been continued interest from CHAL members to serve on CPRM. The results of the committee selection process will be announced by the end of 2024. In our newsletter next year, I will describe more about CPRM and how CHAL can work effectively with the committee.

Additionally, the Committee on Science (ComSci) has asked CHAL to nominate a division representative to serve on the committee for its 2025-27 term. The committee has 20 members, 5 of whom are nominated by divisions. ComSci division representatives must be a present or past division officer or councilor. If you are interested in being nominated, please e-mail chemistryandthelaw@gmail.com

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS, SPRING AND FALL 2025

TRIVIUM

COUNCILORS' REPORT

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS, SPRING AND FALL 2025

As noted elsewhere, we hope to program further with other divisions such as SCHB, CHAS, ENVR, PROF, in 2025. For the Spring meeting in San Diego, we are currently looking for abstracts in the areas of: Regulatory law particularly after the end of *Chevron* deference; Environmental law; Forensics; Careers; and Intellectual Property.

TRIVIUM

Did you know: two chemical elements have been patented. Almost 60 years ago, in November 1964, *The New York Times* reported: "Element Patented For the First Time". And the element in question was Americium, and claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 3,156,523 read, simply, "Element 95". A month later, U.S. Patent No. 3,161,462 was granted on Curium, and claim 1 read "Element 96." Both patents listed Glenn Seaborg as inventor, and both were assigned to the USA "as represented by the US Atomic Energy Commission". They were filed in respectively 1946 and 1949, meaning that they had long pendencies (but both benefited from 17-year terms from their respective grant dates). It is likely that the long pendency was due to secrecy orders being applied. Of course, now, Glenn Seaborg is honored by having an element in his own name: Element 106, though this element does not seem to have been patented!

If you have another item of trivia at the intersection of chemistry and the law that you would like to include in the newsletter, please send it to chemistryandthelaw@gmail.com.

COUNCILORS' REPORT

DR. JAMES CARVER & DR. BRIAN MEADOWS

Fall 2024 ACS Meeting in Denver

The Fall ACS Meeting (2024) is scheduled for Denver, Colorado from August 18-22, 2024. This meeting again will be a hybrid meeting. Most of the governance function will be available on a hybrid basis.

For 2024, the President is Mary Carroll, the President-Elect is Dorothy Phillips, the Past-President is Judy Giordan.

Candidates for President-Elect for 2025 are Rigoberto Hernandez (Professor at Johns Hopkins University) and Laura Sremaniak (Professor at North Carolina State University) as selected by Council at the Council meeting in New Orleans from the nominees. In addition, Mukund Chorghade has been certified as a Petition Candidate for President-Elect. The deadline for petition candidates was July 15, 2024. All three names will be on this fall's ballot.

At the New Orleans meeting from the nominees, Council selected the following for candidates:

- **Candidates for District Director for District I** are Matthew Grandbois and Katherine L. Lee;
- **Candidates for District Director for District V** are Lisa M. Balbes, Mark C. Cesa and Silvia S. Jurisson
- **Candidates for International District Director** are Hooi-Ling Lee and David Wu;
- **Candidates for Directors-at-Large** are Christopher J. Bannochie, Natalie A. LaFranzo, and Sergio C. Nanita

COUNCILORS' REPORT

In addition, it was announced that Debbie C. Crans was elected to N&E for a partial term.

ACS Staff Changes

- Long-serving General Counsel and Secretary, Flint Lewis, retired at the end of March, 2024.
- The new ACS General Counsel is Tokë Vandervoort. Prior to her appointment at ACS, Ms. Vandervoort was Chief Legal Office and Corporate Secretary for the Environmental Defense Fund. Prior to that, Ms. Vandervoort was Senior Vice President and Deputy General Counsel at Under Armor.
- The new ACS Secretary is Kimberly Knight. Ms. Knight previously served as Vice President, Board of Governance, and Assistant Corporate Secretary for AARP. Prior to that, Ms. Knight work for the American Bar Association and the Women's Bar Association of D.C.

Divisional Activities Committee (DAC)

A number of matters are presented in the Division Officers newsletter (division@connect.discoveryacs.org). Highlighted in this newsletter are several possible grants may be applied for by Divisions, including the Innovative Project Grant, the Strategic Planning Grant, the Trust in Science Grant, and the Corporation Associates Grant. The deadline for the fall submissions was July 15, 2024, but future applications could be considered.

The DAC holds monthly meetings to support current program chairs as well as other committees to enhance innovating programming at National Meetings.

International Activities Committee (IAC)

Council voted to include a Director from the International Community to the Board of Directors. This new Director will be seated in 2025.

Petitions before Council

- The Petition for Global Representation on Council
 - Amend Bylaw II, Sec. 2. Authorizes the election of councilors by ACS members who live in areas where there are no Local Sections. Primarily these new councilors will come from the international community.
 - Amends Standing Rules II, Sec. 1-2; IV, Sec. 2, 9, 11, 14, and 17; VII, Sec. 3; and VIII, Sec. 1.
- A Petition to Amend the name of the Committee on Technician Affairs (Amendments to Bylaws and the Standing Rules).
- A Proposal to charter new International Chemical Sciences Chapters.
- Approval of "Academic Professional Guidelines".
- Approval of "The Chemical Professional's Code of Conduct".

GUEST POST

GUEST POST

SUSAN SCHELBLE, CHAIR-ELECT OF ACS
DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL RELATIONS

I am honored to provide a column from the Division of PROF to the Division of CHAL. PROF (Division of Professional Relations, aka DPR) has a long history of overlapping activities with CHAL. I first became aware of the connections between these two divisions when I was a newly appointed member of the ACS Committee on Ethics (ETHX). I was appointed to ETHX during its initial year (2005) by then ACS President-Elect E. Ann Nalley. Along with several other new members of ETHX, we initiated plans for programming on the topic while attending a CHAL reception in San Francisco. Leaders of CHAL and PROF were instrumental in helping our new committee initiate programming. Our first foray into this took place at the 58th South Eastern Regional Meeting (SERMACS) in Augusta, GA in November of 2006. During this event, members with legal expertise from CHAL, and members having career support expertise from PROF took the lead on developing interactive workshops for all ACS Members, for whom both legal and professional ethical concerns were an issue.

Ethics is a subject that provides a natural connection between the divisions, CHAL and PROF, as well as to ETHX. For the divisions, knowledge about legal aspects of the workplace versus moral/ethical were informative to the non-legal members of ACS. CHAL has also provided programming for the ETHX committee as well as the Committee on Patents and Related Matters (CPRM).

PROF has always been interested in all aspects of ACS member careers, and in the era from 2006-2010, the division increased engagement of membership

that spanned the entire working career including retirement. PROF also created seven subdivisions to support various challenges that under-represented groups encounter. Today, these sub-divisions include ACS Pride, Chemists with Disabilities, Ethics, International Chemists, Minority Chemists, Women Chemists and Younger Chemists.

PROF sub-divisions all have an interest in legal aspects of workplace situations, and thus there is a strong continuing connection with CHAL. Members of both of these divisions have worked together to produce symposia at three meetings of the International Chemical Congress of the Pacific Basin Societies, in 2010, 2015, and 2021. The last of these gave rise to an ACS Symposium book, *International Ethics in Chemistry: Developing Common Values across Cultures*, #1401, ACS Books, Washington, DC, November 29, 2021. ISBN: 9780841297982 (Hard Cover) 9780841297975 (ebook). This volume includes chapters by Patent Attorneys, ETHX committee members, International members of the Pacifichem Congress, and experts on publication and workplace standards. During the Fall 2024 National conference in Denver, PROF will sponsor a symposium entitled, *Pitfalls Lawyers Can Get Into*. This will include speakers who are members of PROF and CHAL, as well as committee members of ETHX and CPRM. In 2025, I will take on the Chair duties for PROF. This will be a perfect time to expand the interaction of CHAL and PROF, and the integration of programming for ACS Regional, National and hopefully International (Pacifichem 2025) programming and publications. It will be an honor to carry forward the work of Jarrod Cohen (Chair PROF 2024) and Richard Bone (Chair, CHAL 2024-25).

FOCUS ON FORENSICS

FOCUS ON FORENSICS

CHAL has welcomed forensics practitioners into its midst for many years. Most recently, at the ACS spring 2024 national meeting in New Orleans, we hosted a well-received presentation, entitled “A day in the life of a forensic drug chemist” by Katie Jones and Alia Harris of NMS Labs.

ACS has also recognized the importance of forensic science and the contribution of chemists to its daily practice. In particular, CHAL would like to acknowledge ACS’s recent policy position in regards to forensic science (<https://www.acs.org/policy/publicpolicies/science-policy/forensic-science.html>), and support its recommendations to strengthen scientific rigor within the forensics culture and expand and integrate forensic science research with the larger scientific community, including ACS.

ACS Member, Steven Hoenig, has provided the following write-up on 15 years of work at the national level to establish standards in Forensic science.

FORENSIC SCIENCE STANDARDS

In 2009, the National Research Council (NRC) released a report, *Strengthening Forensic Science in the United States: A Path Forward*, which highlighted areas where forensic science research was needed, and made recommendations for improvements.

Briefly those issues cited are:

- Disparities among existing forensic science operations in federal, state, and local law enforcement jurisdictions and agencies
- Lack of mandatory standardization, certification, and accreditation
- Wide variability across forensic science disciplines with regard to techniques, methodologies, reliability, types and numbers of potential errors, research, general acceptability, and published material
- Problems relating to the interpretation of forensic evidence
- Need for research to establish limits and measures of performance
- Admission of forensic science evidence in litigation (Daubert & Frye)

The report’s numerous recommendations included:

- To promote the development of forensic science into a mature field of multidisciplinary research and practice, founded on the systematic collection and analysis of relevant data
- Establish standard terminology to be used in reporting on and testifying about the results of forensic science investigations
- Research is needed to address issues of accuracy, reliability, and validity in the forensic science disciplines
- Improve the scientific bases of forensic science examinations and to maximize independence from or autonomy within the law enforcement community
- Encourage research programs on human observer bias and sources of human error in forensic examinations
- Develop tools for advancing measurement, validation, reliability, information sharing,

FOCUS ON FORENSICS

and proficiency testing in forensic science and to establish protocols for forensic examinations, methods, and practices

- Laboratory accreditation and individual certification of forensic science professionals should be mandatory
- Establish routine quality assurance and quality control procedures to ensure the accuracy of forensic analyses and the work of forensic practitioners
- Establish a national code of ethics for all forensic science disciplines and encourage individual societies to incorporate this national code as part of their professional code of ethics
- Improve medicolegal death investigation
- Launch a new broad-based effort to achieve nationwide fingerprint data interoperability

In September, 2009 the White House charged the interagency National Science & Technology Council with making reform recommendations. However, no recommendations were forthcoming.

In 2013, the Department of Justice (DoJ) established the National Commission on Forensic Science (NCFS), in partnership with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), to enhance the practice and improve the reliability of forensic science.

The Commission included federal, state and local forensic science service providers; research scientists and academics; law enforcement officials; prosecutors, defense attorneys and judges; and other stakeholders from across the country.

The Commission adopted 43 work products: 20 Recommendations documents, and 23 Views documents. Recommendations proposed specific

acts that the Attorney General could take to further the goals of the Commission. Views documents reflected the collective views of the Commissioners and did not request specific action by the Attorney General. (The Attorney General's National Commission on Forensic Science's (NCFS) charter expired on April 23, 2017.)

In 2014, in collaboration with NIST and the DoJ, the Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) was established to help the forensic science community address some of the issues identified in the NRC Report, specifically around the need to establish standards and best practices within and between disciplines related to terminology, methodologies, and training. The initial DoJ and NIST collaboration was formalized in a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in February 2013 and later updated in an MoU signed in April 2015. In February 2014, the concept of OSAC was announced to the National Commission on Forensic Science (NCFS). Then almost a year later, the first OSAC subcommittee meetings were held.

OSAC's mission is to strengthen the nation's use of forensic science by facilitating the development of technically sound standards, expanding the OSAC Registry with standards that have completed a technical assessment, and promoting the implementation of those standards by OSAC's stakeholders and the forensic science community.

Today, OSAC has over 800 combined members and affiliates representing forensic science practitioners, laboratory managers, academic researchers, measurement scientists, and experts in statistics, human factors, legal, and quality infrastructure. These experts have – and will –

FOCUS ON FORENSICS

continue to work together to develop and promote the standards needed to strengthen forensic science practice.

The OSAC Registry is a repository of selected published and proposed standards for forensic science. These documents contain minimum requirements, best practices, standard protocols, terminology, or other information to promote valid, reliable, and reproducible forensic results.

As of June 4, 2024, the OSAC Registry contains 190 forensic science standards (132 published and 58 OSAC Proposed Standards) representing the following disciplines:

Anthropology, Biology/DNA, Bloodstain Pattern Analysis, Crime Scene Investigation, Digital Evidence, Dogs and Sensors, Facial and Iris Identification, Fire & Explosion Investigation, Fire Debris & Explosives, Firearms & Toolmarks, Footwear & Tire, Forensic Document Examination, Friction Ridge, Gunshot Residue, Medicolegal Death Investigation, Odontology, Seized Drugs, Speaker Recognition, Toxicology, Trace Evidence, Video/Imaging Technology and Analysis, Wildlife Forensics, and a number of interdisciplinary practices.

Additional information about OSAC and its impact on forensic science can be found on its website:

<https://www.nist.gov/organization-scientific-area-committees-forensic-science>

Steven Hoenig

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Sunday
August 18

Colorado
Convention Center

Division/Committee: [CHAL] Division of
Chemistry & the Law

8:00am - 9:15am MDT

Hot Topics in Chemistry & Intellectual Property:

*Organizers, Presiders: Gabriel Ferrante &
Matthew Hlinka*

Location: Room 201

Session Type: Oral - Hybrid

8:25am - 8:50am MDT

**Strengthening your patents based on recent
patent decisions issued by high courts**

Presenter: Dr. Xavier Pillai

Location: Room 201

Session Type: Oral - Hybrid

8:50am - 9:15am MDT

**Chemistry graduate student and faculty
understanding of copyright**

*Presenters: Kayleigh O'Melia, Prof. Patricia
Ann Mabrouk, Ph.D., F.A.C.S.*

Location: Room 201

Session Type: Oral - Hybrid

Co-Sponsor: Division of Small Chemical
Businesses

2:00pm - 5:25pm MDT

The Business of Chemistry & the Law

**Co-sponsor - Division of Small
Chemical Businesses**

*Organizers, Presiders: Gabriel Ferrante &
Matthew Hlinka*

Location: Room 201

Session Type: Oral - Hybrid

Co-Sponsor/Theme: Co-Sponsor - Nominal

SCHB: Division of Small Chemical Businesses

2:00pm - 2:25pm MDT

**Recent updates on "march-in" rights under
the Bayh-Dole Act and potential impact on
pharmaceutical industry**

Presenter: Miho Kaneko

Location: Room 201

Session Type: Oral - Hybrid

2:25pm - 2:50pm MDT

**Federal budget process: how agencies get your
grant money in the first place**

Presenter: Alessandra Zimmermann

Location: Room 201

Session Type: Oral - Hybrid

2:50pm - 3:15pm MDT

**Regulation of unstable chemicals: what
happens when commercial chemicals are
generated on demand**

Presenter: Xu Simon, Ph.D., MBA

Location: Room 201

Session Type: Oral - Hybrid



PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Sunday
August 18

Colorado
Convention Center

3:15pm - 3:40pm MDT

Pharmaceutical patent prosecution prime

Presenter: Nicole Sassu, Ph.D.

Location: Room 201

Session Type: Oral - Hybrid

5:00pm - 5:25pm MDT

IP for startups: Considerations for prosecution, diligence, and litigation

Presenter: Caleb Bates

Location: Room 201

Session Type: Oral - Hybrid

3:40pm - 3:45pm MDT

Break

Location: Room 201

Session Type: Oral - Hybrid

3:45pm - 4:10pm MDT

Small molecule Federal Circuit case law

Presenter: Nicole Sassu, Ph.D.

Location: Room 201

Session Type: Oral - Hybrid

4:10pm - 4:35pm MDT

Small molecule Federal Circuit case law

Presenter: Vinay Trivedi-Parmar

Location: Room 201

Session Type: Oral - Hybrid

4:35pm - 5:00pm MDT

What constitutes an inventor? A review of Federal Circuit case law

Presenter: Vinay Trivedi-Parmar

Location: Room 201

Session Type: Oral - Hybrid



PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Wednesday
August 21

Colorado
Convention Center

Joint programming with Division of Professional Relations (PROF)

2:00pm - 4:55pm MDT

Pitfalls Lawyers Can Get Into:

Organizer, Presider: Prof. Kelly Elkins

Location: Room 405

Session Type: Oral - Hybrid

2:00pm - 2:05pm MDT

Introductory Remarks

Location: Room 405

Session Type: Oral - Hybrid

2:05pm - 2:25pm MDT

Risks of taking trademarks into your own hands

Presenter: Kirby Drake

Location: Room 405

Session Type: Oral - Hybrid

2:25pm - 2:45pm MDT

Conflicts of interest for practitioners in intellectual property law

Presenter: Dr. Richard G. A. Bone

Location: Room 405

Session Type: Oral - Hybrid

2:45pm - 3:05pm MDT

Staying within your lane: Avoiding the unauthorized practice of law

Presenter: Carlyn A Burton

Location: Room 405

Session Type: Oral - Hybrid

3:05pm - 3:20pm MDT

Intermission

Location: Room 405

Session Type: Oral - Hybrid

3:20pm - 3:40pm MDT

Scientifically sound testimony: Best practices for expert witnesses

Presenter: Justin Krieger

Location: Room 405

Session Type: Oral - Hybrid

3:40pm - 4:00pm MDT

It is legal, but is it ethical? (the ethical challenges that forensic scientists face in court)

Presenter: Theresa DeAngelo

Location: Room 405

Session Type: Oral - Hybrid

4:00pm - 4:20pm MDT

Makings of a high-profile case: How media bias influences forensic investigations in missing person cases

Presenters: Jennifer Fertel, Charlene Shunick,

Lyndsie Ferrara, Pamela Marshall

Location: Room 405

Session Type: Oral - Hybrid



PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Wednesday
August 21

Colorado
Convention Center

4:20pm - 4:50pm MDT

Panel Discussion: Speakers and Mitch Morrissey, Esq.

Location: Room 405

Session Type: Oral - Hybrid

4:50pm - 4:55pm MDT

Concluding Remarks

Location: Room 405

Session Type: Oral - Hybrid

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