Message from the Chair Ben Liu

I am immensely honored by the opportunity to serve as the Chair of the Division of Biological Chemistry of the American Chemical Society for the next two years (2013-2014). I am grateful for your confidence in me, and your continuous support of our Division. It is the contributions from many of you that have made our Division vibrant over the years. As I start my term, I am also mindful of the legacy left by my predecessor, Professor JoAnne Stubbe, and the many others who served before her. All have distinguished records, both in their scientific careers and their service to the Division. I will try hard to follow their examples and continue their good work for you and the Division.

My task will be made easy by a team of highly capable colleagues: Dewey McCafferty (Chair-elect), Nigel Richards (Secretary), Chris Whitman (Treasurer), Tom Wandless, Sheila David, Virginia Cornish, and Craig Crews (Program Chairs). I would like to congratulate Dewey, Nigel and Craig for being elected to their new posts. A special acknowledgement is due to Nigel for running such a smooth election. His excellent service as the Division Secretary during 2009-2012 has earned him re-election to a second term. We are delighted to have Scott Silverman join Alice Ting and Anne-Frances Miller on the Nominating Committee. We also welcome Anna Mapp and Eugene Mueller, new members of the Advisory Committee, who will serve alongside the veterans, Frank Raushel and James Stivers. Our current councilors are Michael Burkart, Stewart Fisher, Michael Chang, and Nicole Simpson. The alternate councilors are Kate Carroll, Giovanni Gadda, Stefan Lutz, and Jin Zhang. Squire Booker is our MPPG representative and Neil Kelleher and Paul Thomas are our Webmasters. To each of them, we owe our deep appreciation and gratitude.

Our hats are off to the 2012 Program Chairs (Dewey McCafferty and Tom Wandless) who organized excellent programs last year. Our spring and fall symposia continued to see increased attendance attracting an audience with broad interdisciplinary interests. The 2013 Program Chairs (Tom Wandless and Sheila David) are working hard to put together this year’s symposia, many of which will highlight junior as well as established investigators and cover a wide range of topics. We will maintain the single-session format in the National Meetings, and we will continue our efforts to include more young scientists as speakers. We will also support joint symposia with other divisions when the opportunity arises. For example, at the 2012 Fall meeting, our Division co-hosted a special symposium "50 Years of NIGMS-Supported Chemistry Enabling Biomedical Research." A significant number of the speakers were Division members. We were delighted and honored to host this landmark event since many of us have benefited from the generous support of NIGMS for our research over the years. As expected, the symposium was a real success. We hope that NIGMS will grow stronger and continue to support basic research.

As the Chair of the Division of Biological Chemistry, I would like to congratulate the 2013 Award winners: Matt Disney from Scripps Florida for the Eli Lilly Award in Biological Chemistry; Kate Carroll from Scripps Florida for the Pfizer Award in Enzyme Chemistry; Laura Kiessling from the University of Wisconsin Madison for the Goodman Award; David Christiansen from the University of Pennsylvania for the Repligen Award in Chemistry of Biological Processes; Chris Walsh from Harvard University for the Gordon Hammes Biochemistry Lectureship; Wilfred van der Donk from the University of
Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for the ACS Chemical Biology Lectureship. The latter lectureship symposium honoring Wilfred's accomplishments will be held at the ACS Spring meeting in New Orleans (April 7-11). All other award symposia will be held at the Fall meeting in Indianapolis (September 8-12). We look forward to all of these exciting award symposia. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend these meetings, AND encourage all of your colleagues, especially graduate students and postdocs, to attend these meetings.

Meetings of the Division of Biological Chemistry at the 2013 National Meetings of the American Chemical Society

245th ACS National Meeting, April 7-11, 2013, New Orleans, LA. Tom Wandless, Department of Chemical & Systems Biology, Stanford University will serve as the Chair of the Program Committee for this meeting (wandless@stanford.edu).

Angela Gronenborn (Pittsburgh) will deliver her Biochemistry Gordon Hammes award lecture at the Spring ACS meeting in New Orleans.

246th ACS National Meeting, September 8-12, 2013, Indianapolis, IN. Sheila David, Department of Chemistry, UC Davis will serve as the Chair of the Program Committee for this meeting (ssdavid@ucdavis.edu).

In keeping with our programming at recent national meetings, the division will be offering opportunities for graduate student and postdoctoral researchers to deliver short-format invited talks, which will be selected from submitted abstracts. If a student or postdoc wishes to be considered for an oral presentation, please select this option during the time of submission of the abstract.

Poster Presentations. Posters will be presented at several sessions during the week of the ACS meeting. The division encourages submission of abstracts for posters. Contributions on topics related to the themes of the organized symposia are particularly encouraged.

Submission of Abstracts. The instructions for submissions of abstracts for poster and oral presentations are given towards the end of this Newsletter.

Travel Awards. The division offers travel awards for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows to attend the 246th ACS National Meeting in Indianapolis, IN from September 8-12, 2012 and the 247th ACS National Meeting in Dallas, TX from March 16-20, 2014. The level of support is $500, which can be used to offset travel costs and registration fees. Detailed information about these awards is provided later in this Newsletter and on the updated division web site.

2013 Award Symposia

Christopher Walsh (Harvard) was selected as the winner of Biochemistry's Gordon Hammes award and lectureship, and he will deliver his lecture at the Fall ACS meeting in Indianapolis in September 2013. Wilfred van der Donk (Illinois) was chosen to be the 2013 winner of ACS Chemical Biology's lectureship, and he will present his talk at the Spring ACS meeting in New Orleans in April 2013. Matt Disney (Scripps Florida) was named the winner of the Eli Lilly Award in Biological Chemistry, Kate Carroll (Scripps Florida) received the Pfizer Award in Enzyme Chemistry, and David Christianson (UPenn) was announced as the winner of the Repligen Award in the Chemistry of Biological Processes. The Lilly, Pfizer and Repligen award lectures and symposia will all take place at the Fall ACS meeting that will be held in Indianapolis later this year. Details for nominating individuals
for the 2014 Lilly, Pfizer and Repligen awards are outlined later in this newsletter. More information about the work of these award winners can be found at the following web site:

http://www.divbiolchem.org/awards/recipients

We would also like to congratulate and recognize Laura Kiessling (Wisconsin) who has received the 2013 Goodman Award, sponsored by Biopolymers. The symposium for this award will be held at the Fall ACS meeting in Indianapolis in September 2013.

Future National Meetings

247th ACS National Meeting, March 16-20, 2014, Dallas, TX. Sheila David, Department of Chemistry, UC Davis will serve as the Chair of the Program Committee for this meeting (Sheila David (ssdavid@ucdavis.edu)).

248th ACS National Meeting, August 10-14, 2013, San Francisco, CA. Virginia Cornish, Department of Chemistry, Columbia University will serve as the Chair of the Program Committee for this meeting (vc114@columbia.edu).

Regional ACS Meetings

Regional meetings of the American Chemical Society provide young chemists, particularly graduate students and postdoctoral fellows, the opportunity to make professional contacts and hone their presentation skills. The Division of Biological Chemistry encourages its members to participate in the following regional meetings.

44th Central Regional Meeting (CERM) http://2013cerm.sites.acs.org/ May 15-17, 2013, Mt. Pleasant, MI

40th Great Lakes Regional Meeting (GLRM) http://glrm-lax.sites.acs.org/ June 5–8, 2013, LaCrosse, WI


39th Northeast Regional Meeting (NERM) http://nerm2013.sites.acs.org/ October 23-26, 2013, New Haven, CT

64th Southeast Regional Meeting (SERMACS) http://www.sermacs2013.org/ November 12-17, 2013, Atlanta, GA

69th Southwestern Regional Meeting (SWRM) http://www.swrm.org/ November 17-20, 2013, Waco, TX

46th Western Regional Meeting (WRM) http://www.wrm2013.org/ October 3-6, 2013, Santa Clara, CA

Other Meetings of Interest

4th Southeastern Enzyme Conference, April 20, 2013, Atlanta, GA. Holly Ellis, Department of Chemistry, Auburn University will serve as the Chair of this meeting.
http://chemistry.gsu.edu/sec/

Bioorganic Chemistry GRC, June 9-14, 2013, Andover, NH. Jumi Shin, Department of Chemistry, University of Toronto and Grant Walkup, AstraZeneca will serve as Co-Chairs of this meeting.
http://www.grc.org

Enzymes, Co-Enzymes and Metabolic Pathways GRC, July 14-19, 2013, Waterville Valley, NH. Vahe Bandarian, Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry, University of Arizona, and Catherine Drennan, Department of Chemistry, MIT, will serve as Co-Chairs of this meeting.
http://www.grc.org

Support for Meetings

The Division of Biological Chemistry provides grants to support symposia at ACS Regional meetings and for conferences in research areas of interest to the division membership. Members interested in applying for support from the division for a symposium or conference during 2013-2014 should submit an outline for the event as an e-mail attachment to Sheila David (ssdavid@ucdavis.edu).
These proposals will be reviewed twice a year at the division’s business meetings, which are held during the spring and fall ACS national meetings. The deadlines for receipt of applications are March 1 and August 1 for review at the spring and fall meetings, respectively. Unfortunately, due to increased numbers of funding requests, proposals received after a given deadline will only be considered at the business meeting held after the next deadline. These awards are intended to provide division members with new forums in which to present their work as well as to support focused conferences in biochemistry and chemical biology. Proposals that are judged not to meet these objectives, such as requests for blanket support of regional ACS meetings, are unlikely to be funded.

The division provided support for the following symposia and meetings held in 2012.

**3rd Southeast Enzymes Conference.** April 14, 2012, Atlanta, GA

**2012 Trends in Enzymology.** June 3-6, 2012, Göttingen, Germany

**FASEB Conference on Nucleic Acid Enzymes.** June 10-15, 2012, Telluride, CO


**67th Northwest Regional Meeting of the ACS (NORM), Progress in Disease Therapeutics Symposium.** June 24-27, 2011, Boise, ID

**2012 Enzymes, Coenzymes and Metabolic Pathways GRC.** July 15-20, 2012, Waterville Valley Resort, NH

**2012 Thiol-Based Redox Regulation and Signaling GRC.** July 28-August 3, 2012, Lewiston, ME

**2012 Workshop on Nucleic Acid Chemistry.** July 30-August 3, Telluride, CO

**244th ACS National Meeting, Graduate Student & Postdoc Reception.** August 19-23, 2012, Philadelphia, PA

**244th ACS National Meeting, GSSPC Symposium.** August 19-23, 2012, Philadelphia, PA

---

**32nd Midwest Enzyme Chemistry Conference.** October 14, 2012, Chicago, IL

**2012 Southeast Regional Meeting (SERMACS), Chemical Biology Symposium.** November 14-17, 2012, Raleigh, NC

---

**Travel Awards for 2012**

The Division of Biological Chemistry promotes the work of our young talent (students and postdocs) through the award of Travel Grants. The following list contains the names of recipients for travel to the spring ACS meeting in San Diego, CA in March 2012, together with their affiliations and advisors.

- **Jung-un Baek**, Department of Chemistry, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (Anne Baranger)

- **Stephanie Bilinovich**, Department of Chemistry, University of Akron (Thomas Leeper)

- **Megan Brinkmeyer**, Department of Chemistry, UC Davis (Sheila David)

- **Catherine Clancy**, Department of Chemistry, Duke University (Dewey McCafferty)

- **Sumit Handa**, Department of Chemistry, University of South Florida (David Merkler)

- **Dustin Hawker**, Department of Chemistry, Northwestern University (Richard Silverman)

- **Manindar Kaur**, Department of Chemistry, Georgia State University (Zhen Huang)

- **Kristin Labby**, Department of Chemistry, Northwestern University (Richard Silverman)

- **Rena Mizrahi**, Department of Chemistry, UC Davis (Peter Beal)

- **Victoria Nguyen**, Department of Chemistry, Illinois State University (Margaret Jones)

- **Eturah Odoi**, Department of Chemistry, Texas A&M (Wenshe Liu)
Susmita Roy, Solid State and Structural Chemistry Unit, Indian Institute of Science (Biman Bagchi)

Suraj Saraswat, Department of Chemistry, University of Toledo (Dragan Isaiolovic)

Caitlin Scott, Department of Chemistry, Caltech (William Goddard III)

Jamie Stull, Department of Chemistry, UC Davis (David Britt)

Chiao-Yung Su, Department of Chemistry, Stony Brook (Nicole Sampson)

Su Zhang, Biodesign Institute, Arizona State University (John Chaput)

Wenyu Zhang, Department of Chemistry & Chemical Biology, Virginia Tech (Webster Santos)

Ying Zhang, Department of Chemistry, Georgia State University (Irene Weber)

The following list contains the names of recipients for travel to the fall ACS meeting in Philadelphia, PA in August 2012, together with their affiliations and advisors.

Kostyantyn Bobyk, Department of Chemistry, University of Maryland (Steve Rokita)

Andrew Chang, Department of Bioengineering, Stanford University (Christina Smolke)

Victor Dokukin, Department of Chemistry, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (Scott Silverman)

Ismaila Emahi, Department of Chemistry, Saint Louis University (Dana Baum)

Daniel Hitchcock, Department of Chemistry, Texas A&M (Frank Raushel)

Merlin Hobbs, Department of Chemistry, Texas A&M (Frank Raushel)

Sameer Kulkarni, Department of Chemistry, University of South Florida (Roman Manetsch)

Siyeon Lee, Department of Chemistry, Stony Brook (Nicole Sampson)

Yan-Jiun Lee, Department of Chemistry, Texas A&M (Wenshe Liu)

Boyangzi Li, Department of Biochemistry, Albert Einstein College of Medicine (Peng Wu)

Alexi Morris, Department of Chemistry, UC Davis (Peter Beal)

Philip Nevin, Department of Chemistry & Chemical Biology, Northeastern (Penny Beuning)

Charlie Olea, Department of Chemistry, Scripps (Gerald Joyce)

Kelsey Schlund, Department of Chemistry, Saint Louis University (Dana Baum)

Hannah Shafaat, Department of Chemistry, UC Davis (Judy Kim)

Triet Truong, Department of Chemistry, Wright State University (Audrey McGowin)

Ying Xiao, Department of Chemistry, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (Scott Silverman)

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Division of Biological Chemistry Awards for 2014

Nominations are requested for the Eli Lilly Award in Biological Chemistry, the Pfizer Award in Enzyme Chemistry, and the Repligen Award in Chemistry of Biological Processes.

Eli Lilly Award in Biological Chemistry: Nominees shall have accomplished outstanding research in biological chemistry of unusual merit and independence of thought and originality. The nominee shall not have passed the 38th birthday by April 30, 2014, and shall be actively engaged in the line of research for which the award is made. This prize cannot be made to a person who received another award sponsored by Eli Lilly and Company for the same technical accomplishment.


**Pfizer Award in Enzyme Chemistry:** Nominees shall have accomplished outstanding work in enzyme chemistry where the presence of enzyme action is unequivocally demonstrated. The nominee shall be engaged in noncommercial work and shall not have passed the 40th birthday by April 30, 2014. This prize cannot be made to a person who received another award sponsored by Pfizer, Inc. for the same technical accomplishment.


**Repligen Award in Chemistry of Biological Processes:** Nominees shall have made outstanding contributions to the understanding of the chemistry of biological processes with particular emphasis on structure, function and mechanism. There are no restrictions on age or membership affiliation for the Repligen Award.


**The Gordon Hammes Biochemistry Lectureship:** This lectureship is administered jointly by the Editor-in-Chief of *Biochemistry*, Richard Armstrong (Vanderbilt) and the ACS Division of Biological Chemistry. The objective of the lectureship is to honor, at an annual ACS meeting, the contributions of an individual who has had a major impact on scientific research at the interface of chemistry and biology particularly in the realm of biochemistry, biological chemistry and molecular biology. There are no restrictions on age or membership affiliation for the Hammes lectureship, but candidates must have published at least one paper in *Biochemistry*. Prior recipients: William Eaton (2009), Perry Frey (2010), Douglas Turner (2011), Angela Gronenborn (2012) and Christopher Walsh (2013).

**ACS Chemical Biology Lectureship:** This annual lectureship will honor the contributions of an individual who has had a major impact on scientific research in the area of chemical biology. The lectureship will be administered jointly by the Editor-in-Chief of *ACS Chemical Biology*, Laura Kiessling (University of Wisconsin, Madison) and the ACS Division of Biological Chemistry. There are no restrictions on age or membership affiliation for the lectureship. Prior recipients: Alanna Schepartz (2010), Stuart Schreiber (2011), Carolyn Bertozzi (2012) and Wilfred van der Donk (2013).

For all of these awards, a nominator should send the curriculum vitae of the candidate with a list of publications and a letter explaining the special achievements of the candidate. Additional letters of support for the specific candidate are desirable. Information about the nominating process is also posted at:

http://www.divbiolchem.org/awards/nominations/
The Deadline for Receipt of Nomination Materials is June 15, 2012 - All materials should be sent, preferably by e-mail, to:

Nigel G. J. Richards  
Department of Chemistry & Chemical Biology  
402 N. Blackford St., LD 326L  
Indianapolis, IN 46202  
ngrichar@iupui.edu

Nominations of Officers

The Nominating Committee:

Anne-Frances Miller (afm@uky.edu)  
Scott Silverman (sks@illinois.edu)  
Alice Ting (ating@mit.edu)

encourages nominations of candidates for the following offices in 2013. Please send your suggestions to any committee member by August 1, 2013.

- Program Committee Member (4 year term)  
- Nominating Committee Member (3 year term)  
- Division Councillors (Two for 3 year terms)  
- Alternate Councillors (Two for 3 year terms)  
- Advisory Committee (Two for 3 year terms)

Program Committee. The 2013-2014 Program Committee Chair, Sheila David, in consultation with the Program Committee (below), prepares the divisional program for ACS National meetings. The committee requests suggestions for symposia for national and regional ACS meetings.

Virginia Cornish (vc114@columbia.edu)  
Craig Crews (Craiq.Crews@yale.edu)  
Sheila David (ssdavid@ucdavis.edu)  
Tom Wandless (wandless@stanford.edu)

Founders Travel Award

Tom Bruice, Bill Jencks, and Myron Bender, as a mechanism to foster collegial interactions within the community of chemists and biochemists interested in understanding the chemical basis for enzymatic catalysis and the regulation of enzyme action, founded the Winter Enzyme Mechanisms Conference in 1969. The passing of William P. Jencks coincided with the 20th meeting of the Winter Enzyme Mechanisms Conference, and this loss was felt keenly by many senior participants at that conference. The interest in recognizing Bill’s many contributions to mechanistic enzymology, in a manner that would help to ensure the vibrancy of the community that he helped to create, resulted in the creation of the “Founders Travel Award”, which supports the participation of students and/or postdocs at the Winter Enzyme Mechanisms Conference. The ACS Division of Biological Chemistry manages the investment of funds contributed for this award.

Abstracts for invited talks and poster presentations should be submitted online (http://oasys.acs.org/). This records the abstract in the automated OASYS system that is used to organize this meeting. Abstracts for the Indianapolis meeting can be submitted until March 18, 2013, at which time the website will be closed to further submissions. Instructions for authors, including procedures for incorporating graphics or equations in the abstract, can be accessed at this website.

Attention students and postdocs! At the Fall 2013 Indianapolis ACS meeting, the division will again be offering a special scientific session for graduate student and postdoctoral researcher short format invited talks, which will be selected from submitted abstracts. If a student or postdoc wishes to be considered for an oral presentation, please select this option during the time of submission of the abstract. As always, students are also welcome and strongly encouraged to contribute research posters for the division poster sessions.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF YOUR ABSTRACT TO THE ACS WEBSITE IS March 18, 2013!

246th ACS National Meeting, September 8-12, 2012 - Indianapolis, IN

Sheila David (ssdavid@ucdavis.edu) is the division Program Chair. The call for papers has been posted at (http://www.acs.org/meetings/).
and has established the process for the competitive selection of the awardees.

**Travel Awards to Attend the ACS 246th and 247th National Meetings**

The division will offer travel awards on a competitive basis for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows to attend the meeting and present a poster on their research. The selected awardees will be reimbursed up to $500 for travel and registration expenses. Receipts must be submitted along with a request for reimbursement after the meeting. No more than two awards will be made to one laboratory for any single ACS meeting. In addition, please note that no individual can win more than one division travel award in their lifetime, and that preference will be given to presenters within the division. A list of travel awardees for 2012 is given elsewhere in this newsletter.

**How to apply for a Travel Award**

1. Fill in the Travel Award Application on the next page.
2. Attach a printed copy of your abstract.
3. Attach a one page CV.
4. Attach a signed letter of recommendation from your faculty advisor.
5. Send ONE COMPLETE PDF FILE of this material as single EMAIL attachment to the Program Chair Sheila David at Sheila David ssdavid@ucdavis.edu.

Be sure to use a subject line of "ACS Travel Awards" in your electronic application.

The deadline for submission of an application for a travel award to the 246th ACS National Meeting (Indianapolis) is **June 15, 2013**.

The deadline for submission of an application for a travel award to the 247th ACS National Meeting (Dallas) is **January 15, 2014**.
Application for a Travel Award for Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Fellows

Deadline June 15, 2013 (Indianapolis) or January 15, 2014 (Dallas)

Name: ____________________________  Advisor: ____________________________

Department ____________________________  Graduate Student: _____  Postdoctoral Fellow: _____

Institution: ____________________________  Street: ____________________________

City, State, Zip: ____________________________

Tel: __________  E-mail: __________

Is an Abstract attached? _____  Is a CV attached? _____

Is a recommendation letter attached? _____