

The Fibril Angle



2004 Newsletter

**Cellulose and Renewable Materials Division,
American Chemical Society**

<http://membership.acs.org/C/CELL/>

CELL Division News

CELL Recognized as Innovative and Outstanding Division!

At the ChemLuminary awards in Philadelphia, the Cellulose and Renewable Materials division was honored to receive an award from the ACS Committee on Divisional Activities (DAC). The award was in the category of "Innovation and Outstanding Service to Members of a Division". Here is what DAC had to say: "Cellulose and Renewable Materials - CELL created and sponsored a unique "Chemistry of Polysaccharides" Gordon Conference with international officers and rotated locations between North America, Europe, and Japan. It was a truly international chemical interaction."

The officers they refer to are none other than CELL past chair Charles Buchanan (Gordon Chair 2001, Mount Holyoke, Mass.), incoming Chair Paul Gatenholm (Gordon Chair 2003, Il Ciaco, Italy), and Professor Shigenori Kuga of the University of Tokyo (Gordon Chair 2005, Hong Kong). Note that this is the only one of all of the Gordon Conferences with such a global site rotation (or, for that matter, with ANY site rotation!). We have had successful conferences in Massachusetts and Italy, and look forward to another success next year in Hong Kong.

We were represented by Alternate Councilor and past Chair Bill Marmer, and Treasurer Jan Cardamone who accepted the award for CELL at the ceremony in Philadelphia, 8/24/04.

Tannin Conference

Tannin conference was very well attended and had outstanding papers (could not see many but sampling a few). Dick Hemingway's address and related talks from his collaborators show a career that influenced significantly the field and is helping move technical and increasingly medical applications.

Bill Marmer will report on the progress of the negotiations on the creation of a possible CELL Subdivision (Tannin Conference) on pros and cons. The meeting was extremely well attended and will produce papers for a special edition of Phytochemistry Journal Norm Lewis edits.

Carbohydrate portion – I can see CELL grown examples of "Heroes in Chemistry". Delivery of ibuprofen (or other water insoluble drugs) in higher concentration with hydroxybutenyl cyclodextrins is a great example of multidisciplinary work that could mean pain relief to millions (perhaps billions) of ordinary people (Buchanan and the big group at Eastman and coworkers). It would be fun to have an example with chemists who work with our Division in those Awards.

Cellulose and Renewable Materials

Program Chair: Paul Gatenholm pg@pol.chalmers.se

Program for 229th ACS National Meeting San Diego, March 13-17, 2005

Cell Wall Components and their Assembly - Tutorials, Organizer:

Tetsuo Kondo, Biomacromolecular Materials Lab, Graduate School of Bioresources and Bioenvironmental Sciences, Kyushu University, 6-10-1 Hakozaki, 812-8581 Fukuoka Japan, tekondo@agr.kyushu-u.ac.jp, Phone: +819-26422997 (Fax +819-2643078)

Anselme Payen Award Honoring Professor Dieter Klemm, Frontiers in Cellulose Chemistry, Organizers: Hans-Peter Fink, Natural Polymers Division, Fraunhofer-Institute for Applied Polymer Research, Geiselbergstr. 69, Golm D-14476 Germany, fink@iap.fhg.de, Phone: ++49(0)3315681815; Thomas J. Heinze, Center of Excellence for Polysaccharide Research Jena-Rudolstadt, Friedrich Schiller University of Jena, Lessingstrasse 8, D-07743 Jena Germany, Thomas.Heinze@uni-jena.de, Phone: +49-3641-644004 (Fax +49-3641-644020); Wolfgang G. Glasser, Department of Wood Science and Forest Products, Virginia Tech, Cheatham Hall, Blacksburg, VA 24061, wglasser@vt.edu, Phone: 540-231-4403

Cellulose Acetates – Properties and Applications, Special session for the 100th anniversary of the discovery of Cellulose Acetates, Organizer: Paul Rustemeyer, Rhodia, Postfach 10044, D-79123 Freiburg Germany, paul.rustemeyer@eu.rhodia.com, Phone: 497615113233 (Fax 497615113891)

II International Symposium on Xylans, Mannans and Other Hemicelluloses, Organizers: Maija Tenkanen, maija.tenkanen@helsinki.fi University of Helsinki, Tel: +358-9-191 58410, Fax: +358-9-191 58475, Paul Gatenholm paul.gatenholm@chem.chalmers.se, Chalmers University, Sweden, phone: +46317723407, fax: +46317723418, Kevin B. Hicks, Crop Conversion Science & Engineering, Eastern Regional Research Center, ARS, USDA, 600 E. Mermaid Lane Wyndmoor, PA 19038 phone 215-233-6579 fax 215-233-6406, khicks@arserrc.gov

Pectins: Health and Agrichemical Applications, Organizers: D. Mohnen, dmohnen@ccrc.uga.edu Complex Carbohydrate Research Center, University of Georgia, 315 Riverbend Rd., Athens, GA 30602, Tel: 706-542-4458, Fax: 706-542-4412; A. Hotchkiss, ahotchkiss@arserrc.gov USDA-ARS, ERRC Crop Conversion Sci & Engineering, 600 E. Mermaid Lane, Wyndmoor, PA 19038, Tel: 215-233-6448, Fax: 215-233-6559 (co-sponsored with the Division of Carbohydrate Chemistry and with Division of Medicinal Chemistry)

Nanocomposites, Organizers: Kristiina Oksman, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim NO7491 Norway, kristiina.oksman@immtek.ntnu.no, Phone: 4773593826 (Fax 4773594129); Mohini Sain, Earth Science Centre-Forestry and Dept. of Chemical Engineering & Applied Chemistry, University of Toronto, 33 Willcocks Street, Toronto, ON, M5S 3B3 Canada, m.sain@utoronto.ca, Phone: 416-946-3191 (Fax 416-978-3834)

Cellulose and Renewable Materials

Program Chair: Paul Gatenholm pg@pol.chalmers.se

**Program for 229th ACS National Meeting
San Diego, March 13-17, 2005**

Renewable Materials: Driving into New Markets, Organizers: Gordon W. Selling, Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Plant Polymer Research, NCAUR, 1815 N. University St., Peoria, IL 61604, sellingg@ncaur.usda.gov, Phone: 309-681-6338; Daniel K. Y. Solaiman, USDA, ARS, Eastern Regional Research Center, 600 E. Mermaid Ln, Wyndmoor, PA 19038, dsolaiman@arserrc.gov, Phone: 215-233-6476 (Fax 215-233-6795); William N. Marmer, Fats, Oils and Animal Coproducts Research Unit, ERRC, ARS, USDA, 600 East Mermaid Lane, Wyndmoor, PA 19038, wmarmer@arserrc.gov, Phone: 215-233-6585 (Fax 215-233-6795); Jeanette M. Cardamone, USDA, ARS, Eastern Regional Research Center, 600 East Mermaid Lane, Wyndmoor, PA 19038, jcardamone@arserrc.gov, Phone: 215-233-6680 (Fax 215-233-6795)

Development of Wood Preservatives and Molds in Homes, Organizers: Darrel Nicholas, Forest Products Laboratory, Department of Forest Products, Mississippi State University, Box 9820, Mississippi State, MS 39762-9820, dnicholas@cfr.msstate.edu, Phone: 662-325-8838 (Fax 662-325-8126); Holger Militz, Institute of Wood Biology and Wood Technology, University of Gottingen, Postfach 800209, Gottingen D-37077 Germany, hmilitz@gwdg.de, Phone: 0551-39-3541 (Fax 0551-39-9648); Mike Freeman, Consultant, 7421 Hunters Tree Cove, Memphis, TN, wooddoc@aol.com, Phone: 901-754-2116 (Fax 901-753-1006); Barry Goodell, Wood Science and Technology, University of Maine, 5755 Nutting Hall, Orono, ME 04469-5755, Goodell@UMIT.Maine.edu, Phone: 207 581 2887 (Fax N/A); Tor P. Schultz, Forest Products Laboratory, Department of Forest Products, Mississippi State University, Box 9820, Mississippi State, MS 39762, tschultz@cfr.msstate.edu, Phone: 662-325-3136 (Fax 662-325-8126)

Poster Session, Organizer: Paul Gatenholm, paul.gatenholm@chem.chalmers.se

Executive Committee Report

Your executive committee met in a combined conference/teleconference on Saturday afternoon, August 21, at the fall ACS national meeting in Philadelphia. Our programming is on an excellent trajectory thanks to the hard work of Program Chair and incoming (2005/6) Chair Paul Gatenholm, as well as that of our tireless symposium organizers. We had many quality, well-attended symposia in Philadelphia, and we have a remarkable program laid out for San Diego in 2005 (see Program Report for details). We were very happy with the strong turnout at the CELL poster session in Anaheim this spring, especially the strong student response, and will plan to have posters with refreshments in San Diego as well.

As we broaden our tent through our name and scope changes, we create opportunities to partner with other organizations. This was demonstrated in Philadelphia as the Tannin society programmed under the CELL banner, with nine well-attended half-day sessions. Both parties were pleased with the quality of the interactions and the smoothness of the operation; many thanks to the ACS national staff for helping make it seamless. With this success, your Executive Committee is pursuing an even stronger future relationship with the Tannin Society, with their interest and involvement. Furthermore, we foresee and are actively working on additional relationships of this type that will broaden and deepen the base of our Division while enriching our science.

You may recall that our Division not only proposed the Gordon Conference on the Chemistry of Polysaccharides, that was accepted and first held in 2001, but has now supplied the chairs for the first two meetings of this conference and will be supplying the chair for the third, in 2005. In Philadelphia we voted financial support for that third conference, in Hong Kong and chaired by Professor Shigenori Kuga of the University of Tokyo. This is still the only Gordon Conference that is truly global in location as well as scope, reflecting the global nature of our Division as it rotates every two years between North America (Mt. Holyoke, Mass.), Europe (Il Ciaco, Italy) and Asia (Hong Kong). We received recognition as a Division for this Conference at the Philadelphia awards ceremony, as a Chemluminary Award!

We also discussed as an Executive Committee how to increase our membership. In spite of the recent changes we have made, the continuing employment erosion and demographics of our heritage industries are continuing to erode our membership, which is now in the 700 range. We believe as a committee that the broader scope we are creating is the right way to address the membership situation, but realize that vigorous action will be needed to attract new members from the newly included disciplines. We created a task force at Philadelphia to develop strategies to do just that; their report should be ready for consideration and action in San Diego. At the same time, we had developed a proposal at Anaheim for some ACS funding for travel fellowships for student papers within our Division oral symposia. We heard recently that this proposal was accepted and funded, and we are now working to implement the fellowships, hopefully in time for use in San Diego.

It should also be noted that through all of this increased program activity and membership loss, we have kept quite healthy financially. Treasurer Jan Cardamone reported at Philadelphia that our accounts are stable to growing, and that we are financially sound as a Division and well-positioned to do the things we have planned. She has looked after our finances capably and responsibly, and she has our thanks.

Tannin Conference

Tannin Conference Programs Under CELL at Philadelphia ACS Meeting; Considering Sub-Division Status

Bill Marmer, Kevin Edgar

At the ACS meeting in Philadelphia, CELL hosted the Tannin Conference in a unique event. The Tannin Conference is an independent scientific organization, and programmed within the CELL Division's programming at Philadelphia, effectively as a CELL symposium. This was a change from their normal practice of organizing and holding independent meetings, entirely separate from ACS.

Tannin found the association with Cellulose and Renewable Materials Division to be scientifically sensible, and they found the logistical assistance provided by ACS to be invaluable. They were very strongly represented at the CELL dinner in Philadelphia, as you will see from the accompanying photos. For our part, CELL members who were present were impressed by the quality of the science in the Tannin Symposium and by the Tannin members. By all accounts the event was a complete success.

At Philadelphia, we had our first follow-up meeting with the leaders of the Tannin Conference, including Chair, Professor Daneel Ferreira of the Department of Pharmacognosy at the University of Mississippi. (Attendees: CELL: Bill Marmer (Alternate Councilor), Helena Chum (Councilor), Jan Cardamone (Treasurer). Tannin Conference: Daneel Ferreira, Georg Gross, Herbert Kolodziej, Takashi Yoshida). We agreed that it would be desirable for both sides if the Tannin Conference could become a subdivision of CELL. This is an important event for CELL, and one that we are very happy about. At the same time, as you can imagine, it involves working through many details.

Bill Marmer, Kevin Edgar, and Paul Gatenholm are the task group that will create a proposed structure for the subdivision and the necessary accompanying by-law changes. What we can say now is that the Tannin members will become full members of CELL, paying CELL dues in addition to any further dues they might wish to charge to be members of their subdivision. The creation of the subdivision will require by-law revision, and of course that will require your vote. The creation of the sub-division will be facilitated by the DAC but, unlike our name change, will not require the approval of other divisions. We will need to decide on whether we would propose representation of Tannin as such on our Executive Committee. The Tannin Conference would anticipate meeting, again essentially as a CELL symposium, at several fall ACS meetings, roughly every other year, beginning in San Francisco in 2006. Michael Shea and Peter Kelly of ACS will work closely with CELL as we go through the process of proposing and hopefully creating the Tannin Conference sub-division.

All CELL members will be concerned about the financial impact of the proposed sub-division. It will of course depend on the number of Tannin Conference members who join CELL, but our initial analysis of the financial impact is that it will be between neutral and mildly positive. We look forward to being able to welcome Tannin Conference members into CELL, and we see the opportunity to make several similar alliances that will continue to broaden and strengthen our Division. Stay tuned!

From the Desk of the Chair

CELL is on the move, and if you had any doubt about that, you should have been there at Anaheim this spring. There was a great deal going on, from an absolutely outstanding technical program organized by Paul Gatenholm (see his comments elsewhere in the newsletter), to initiatives to further increase member benefits (CELL members now get discounts on both Holzforschung and Cellulose; and more initiatives are under way), to a wonderful division Payen dinner. Here are a few things we should highlight.



Paul also did an excellent job (with Shawn Mansfield and others) of getting recognition and benefit for the division from our programming. We had a separate division poster session on Sunday evening for the first time in several years, which attracted scores of posters and hundreds of prospective young members to a fun and stimulating event. Our symposia connected to the Presidential Initiative were prominently featured in stories in C&EN ("Bacterial Cellulose" on April 26 and "Inspired by Nature: From Biosynthesis to Advanced Materials", May 3), along with discussions about our new division focus on renewable materials. We had a good product in Anaheim and it has been showcased well.

Along those lines, Membership Chair Tim Rials put together a traveling display for CELL, which was showcased at our table outside our rooms (and there was even a new banner with our new name, thanks to the Chair finally remembering to bring it...). This was a big step forward in communication with our members and prospective members during the meeting.

It is important for our division as we redefine and broaden our scope, to reach out and build relationships with scientific organizations in related areas. These relationships can deepen and broaden the scientific product that we have to offer our members. One example of this is the Tannin Society; they will be programming an entire week-long symposium under the CELL banner in Philadelphia. We will talk there with the Tannin Society about future ways to work together. Members of our Executive Committee have discussions under way with other scientific organizations to establish similar relationships; you may be seeing substantial results from these discussions as soon as next year. ACS has been highly supportive of the Tannin Society relationship and of our ongoing discussions.

Your Executive Committee believes strongly that it is critical to increase the participation by young scientists in our programming, if we are to grow to have the impact we'd like to have on the Society. Some promising ideas were floated on this topic in Anaheim, and we currently have an active application for funds to pursue one of those ideas. Stay tuned.

You will see pictures and read descriptions of the Payen Dinner in this issue. Without recapping that story, allow me to crow a bit on behalf of the organizers of the Payen program and dinner. It's clear to me that you should throw me out and put Larry Blanton and Candace Haigler in as co-chairs of the Division! They did a wonderful job of organizing the symposium, raising money for travel reimbursement and refreshments, and putting together a spectacular dinner program. In addition, it is clear that Larry was born to be an emcee. They were a pleasure to work with and the Division owes them a hearty thank you for a job extremely well done.

From the Desk of the Chair

We approach what promises to be an excellent meeting in Philadelphia, it's hard to believe that Division elections will follow soon thereafter. Awards Chair Steve Kelley and Vice-Chair Bill Winter will welcome your ideas for nominees for the open seats: Chair-Elect, Member-at-Large, Councilor, and Alternate Councilor. In addition, the increasing pace of activity in the Division means that more than ever, we need your help in appointive offices as well. Please get in touch with me if you have interest in working on a CELL committee or task force.

Kevin Edgar

Eastman Chemical Company

Councilor Report

AIChE – Negotiations continue to advance the alliance arrangements between AIChE and ACS. Common interest area, the Chemical Heritage Foundation, was created by both organizations. They have joint interest in its future. Joint programming at National Meetings likely to start with the spring meeting in New Orleans in 2008. Both organizations have plans to be at this location so meetings will be colocated (extent of collaboration unknown yet). Joint programming at Regional meetings will start (was already ongoing) with the Southeast/Southwest Joint Regional meeting in Memphis (TN) in November 1-4, 2005.

ACS has capabilities to provide services at low added costs (meetings, publications, expos) to a much broader attendance. AIChE with its smaller size meetings (1,500 versus 15,000) cannot offer as good a set of services for as low a cost (economies of scale of meetings management and services). Programs coordinated with relevant Divisions. Areas of joint interest are: Biochemical technologies, Catalysis, Environmental and Sustainable Chemistry, Computers in Chemistry, Nanotechnologies, Counterfeit drugs, and Product development.

The form of the collaboration is not clear yet - ACS is exploring other possible alliance organizations. Some view it as creating a "big tent" that is inclusive and provides services and capabilities to enable the overall multidisciplinary enterprise to move forward. I see it as a hub and spokes relationship where the hub provides essential services to all spokes but the spokes do not lose their individual identities but benefit from synergies. They are all more competitive in the process in providing better services to their members than individually.

Multidisciplinary opportunities – please check multidiscipline@acs.org. Multidisciplinarity is growing in importance in the following areas: Nano-science, Chemical biology, BioPharma, Computational Chemistry, Materials Chemistry, and Engineering

A task force on multidisciplinarity has been formed. It is viewed as a DISPERSION of chemistry as a discipline. Background: unemployment of chemists is 3.6% down for the 3rd year in a row. Many "jobs" are being reclassified away from chemistry and employment in those reclassified areas is growing. ACS needs to reconnect with these members by defining better services to be provided to multidisciplinary members who do not self identify with chemistry.

Councilor Report

ACS' strong suit – nimble in journals area – new Nano Letters, Molecular Pharmaceuticals, Journal of Chemistry Theory and Computation, and Chemical Biology. This cannot leave the chemical professionals base less well served.

International scene – formation of the European Federation of Chemical Societies. It will include a “reaching out to governments” portion similar to ACS's Government Relations activities to advocate the need for basic and applied R&D in the chemical and related areas. Possibility of cooperation?

Increasing the image of chemistry is being promoted through Green Chemistry and Green Engineering. The Green Chemistry Institute (GCI) is an arm of the ACS, which the Council on Environmental Improvement (I am part of this committee) oversees. Key activities are the Presidential Green Chemistry Awards (EPA/ACS collaboration). Many of us in CELL have been doing green chemistry for decades. I believe we need to stress this. Sustainability is one of the key topics of the committee and of the GCI. National Research Council has been contracted to provide a study on Sustainability for ACS/GCI/DOE/EPA.

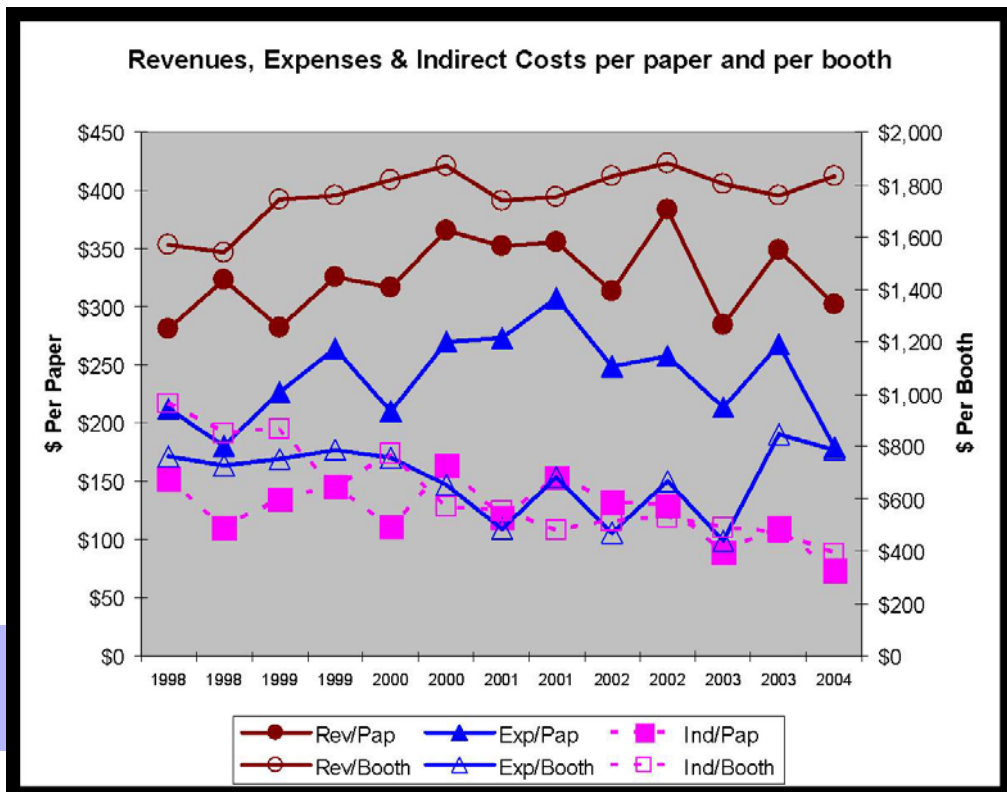
Finances of the Society – Greatly improved. Chemical Abstracts is turning out another year of profit. Meetings and Expositions is turning out a banner profit year. The rolling average of five years is coming out at 5% positive (after many periods of negative results or slightly positive results). Sale of an asset (Beaumont conference center – not a core business) will be invested in the core business.

Leadership changes. Nina McClelland completed her term as Chair of the Board of Directors. Chris Pruitt is retiring this year. A new ACS leadership era starts. Energetic professionals. Finances will continue to be better controlled by the Board of Directors and the Council.

I served on a National task force on meetings finance for the past two years and the Meetings and Expositions Committee (4 years). This task force along with other Council committees accomplished our job of pointing the society in the direction of accountability and decreasing costs of operations. For your amusement, one of my plots showing progress (first meeting is Spring and second Fall for each year): You will see the indirect costs of ACS (people working at meetings and expo have to have their portions of the ACS facility, computer services, HRO, etc. covered).

I have not completed my task which is to try to predict financial success with a multivariate model (good start) or to address what makes a good technical meeting and a good expo (other than in financial terms). Common issues pointed by Committee on Science, Committee on Environmental Improvement, and several “think” groups throughout the society: Energy, Security, Workplace Issues, Globalization, and US impact on the chemical profession and industry of these key issues.

Councilor Report



Final Council comments: The Society is trying to reach out to the chemical professional inside the Pharmaceuticals industry. We saw a movie where they highlight the Heroes in Chemistry at three pharmaceutical companies (video can be requested). I did not write the companies' names but here is the gist of what these new products (not yet available in the US but outside) can do: Visudyne – for classic macular degeneration (very specific; it is a first), Zelia (or Zetia) a protein that blocks intestinal absorption of cholesterol and together with the currently used Statins complement and increase protection against cholesterol-related plaque buildup in arteries. Mylotarg – first antibody targeting adult leukemia blast cells! It works. Impressive stuff.

Helena Chum

Councilor, CELL Division

Treasurer's Report

Financial Health of the CELL Division of the ACS

The Division has thrived on cooperation from corporate, academic, and research institutional sponsors who typically contribute \$15,000 to \$8,000 annually to support the Anselme Payen Award Symposium. Other symposia have received high levels of funding, for example, \$12,000 in 2001 for the Symposium on Wood Degradation & Preservation and \$7,500 to date for the future Wood Preservation symposium in San Diego, 2005. The incoming support covers guest registrations and travel as designated by symposia organizers. The Division receives incoming funds from ACS-sponsored non-meeting grants, ACS dues and allotments, book royalties, and invested income. The Division holds three operational funds as well as two investment portfolio accounts restricted to provide investment income to cover the \$3,000 Anselme Payen and \$2,000 Graduate Student Awards. Overall the Division's accounts are diversified into 65% stock and 35% bond holdings. In 2001 the Division accounts showed an overall decrease of only one third of a percentage when other divisions showed decreases of 18% or more. Since the 2001 decline, the Division has formed task forces to advise the Treasurer of investment opportunities and changes to increase capital growth and/or income to grow the funds that would generate higher incomes for increased Division support of symposia and perhaps for creating future award opportunities. In 2002 the Division's restricted investment portfolio gained \$321 and total investments increased by \$7,461. In 2003 the Division transferred \$20,000 from the operational account to a currently held fund that provides long-term capital appreciation and income. The fund allocates 60% to 70% of its assets to stocks, 20% to 30% to bonds, and 10% to 20% to short-term investments. In 2003 the Division's restricted investment portfolio increased by \$3,683 and total investments increased by \$19,858.

Jan Cardamone
Treasurer

Message from Immediate Past-Chair

About four years ago, then-Chair Bill Marmer asked me to lead a group that would look at revising the CELL by-laws. We looked at where we were heading and how we might facilitate movement in that direction by revising a few by-law items. The result was a new name, a new scope, and incidentally the revision of a few terms of office for our officers so that Program Chair might become a slightly less burdensome job (moved from 3 to 2 year term), and Chair might become a job where the incumbent actually was in office long enough to gain some experience and use it to the Division's benefit. The upshot was that I ended up being the last "3-year" Program Chair, and the first "2-year" Chair of CELL. In a term of office that started out with such sterling judgment, you just knew that good things were bound to ensue!

The last two years have gone by quickly, and now I've turned over the reins of CELL to our new Chair, Paul Gatenholm. You will certainly enjoy Paul's enthusiasm, energy, and determination to get things done over the next two years. Paul is going to be a terrific Chair for CELL. Operating from Sweden, he will of course need, and no doubt will get, your strong support in order to get things done on the North American side of the pond. It will be an excellent couple of years for the Division.

Thanks to the hard work of the Executive Committee, symposium chairs, speakers, members, colleagues at ACS, and many others, the Division is now on a course to become much stronger. We have a new name and purpose, greatly strengthened programs, a new Strategic Plan, new Awards, programs directed at recruiting new members, and developing alliances with related scientific organizations. We need to stay on this path and keep working hard at turning our plans into reality. The result will be a Division that is a strong and growing community of scientific leaders in an area of science that is critical to the health and prosperity of our world.

Finally, my personal thanks to all those in and out of CELL who have made these last two years a joy. Your hard work, dedication, and friendship have made it easy for me. It will be a pleasure to see what you and Paul do together to lead CELL into a prosperous future.

Kevin Edgar

Eastman Chemical Company

News and Highlights from the 228th ACS Meeting Anaheim, CA

2003 Anselme Payen Awardee

This year's Anselme Payen Award Symposium was organized in honor of the 2003 Anselme Payen Awardee, Deborah Pierson Delmer. The theme of the symposium was "The Biosynthesis of Cellulose and Other Cell Wall Polymers." The twenty-two speakers from four countries included students, postdocs, research colleagues, and friends of Debby, all of whom are leaders in their research fields. The first session, chaired by Tony Bacic (University of Melbourne) dealt with cellulose and callose biosynthesis in model organisms.



Mary Tierney (University of Vermont) chaired the next session concerning cellulose synthase (*CesA*) and cellulose-synthase-like (*Csl*) genes and aspects of cellulose synthesis in general plant metabolism. The third session, chaired by Kanwarpal Dhugga (Dupont/Pioneer Hi-Bred), dealt with biosynthesis of pectins, xyloglucans, and mixed-link glucans, cell wall proteins, and aspects of cellulose structure. The final session, chaired by Candace Haigler (North Carolina State University) was concerned with cellular and genetic approaches to cellulose biosynthesis. The symposium closed with Debby's award lecture: "Past, present, and future for research in cellulose biosynthesis." As was characteristic of her whole career, this lecture was both a lucid account of the current state of knowledge of cellulose biosynthesis and an exposition of exciting questions that remain to be answered. She also provided an inspiring glimpse of her current work with the Rockefeller Foundation to bring the benefits of plant biotechnology to the developing world.

The symposium concluded with a celebratory dinner during which Larry Blanton, Anita Klein, Nick Carpita, Steven Theg, and Bruce Stone shared memories of Debby's multi-faceted career. An unexpected capstone of the event was the announcement a few days afterwards that Dr. Delmer had been elected as a member of the National Academy of Sciences.

News and Highlights from the 228th ACS Meeting in Anaheim, CA



News and Highlights from the 228th ACS Meeting in Anaheim, CA

Congratulations Debbie! From all of us at the CELL Division



News and Highlights from the 229th ACS National Meeting in Philadelphia, PA

The CELL dinner at the ACS meeting in Philadelphia was held on Sunday evening, August 22, 2004, at the Doubletree Hotel. There were 39 attendees at the dinner, including many attendees of the Tannin Conference. The Tannin group presented nine oral sessions and one poster session at the meeting, all under the CELL "umbrella." They drew approximately 70 attendees from their informal membership. Discussions during the meeting made progress in bringing the group into the CELL Division under subdivision status. They want to convene under CELL every two years at the ACS fall meetings.



Nominations for CELL Division Awards

ANSELME PAYEN AWARD

Cash Award: \$3,000

Application Deadline: December 1

Award Announcement: Following Spring National ACS Meeting

Award Presentation: Next Spring National ACS Meeting

This award is named for the distinguished French scientist who discovered cellulose, and pioneered in the chemistry of both cellulose and lignin. The Anselme Payen Award, which includes a bronze medal and an honorarium of \$3,000, is given by the Cellulose and Renewable Materials, ACS, to honor and encourage outstanding professional contributions to the science and chemical technology of cellulose and its allied products.

The Anselme Payen Award is international and all scientists conducting research in the field of cellulose are eligible for nomination. Selection of the awardee is based on the application package. These are individually ranked by a panel of nine judges who are appointed by the current Chair-Elect and are unknown to each other. Three judges rotate off the panel each year. The identity of all members is known only to the Chair of the awards committee who compiles the results. After the awardee accepts, the Chair of the Awards Committee announces the winner at the next Spring ACS meeting. The awardee for that year is honored at the following Spring ACS meeting at a Symposium and Banquet. The award bears the year the winner was announced. It is presented the following year to allow time for organization of the Symposium and Banquet.

DIVISION FELLOW AWARD

In 1983 the Division established the Division Fellow Award to recognize its members whose dedication, leadership and enthusiastic service has kept the Cellulose and Renewable Materials Division moving forward.

Selection of Awardees

In October following the fall ACS meeting, the Awards Chair solicits nominations for the Division Fellow Award from current members of the Executive Committee and from any past officers. Nominations are sent to the Awards Chair by December 1. The Awards Chair selects 3 to 5 judges who make up the Division Fellow Award Committee. The judges rank the nominees. The judges will also indicate the number of awards that should be given with a maximum of three awards being possible in a single year. The Program Chair announces the name(s) of Division Fellows at the Spring ACS meeting with the Award(s) to be given at the following Fall ACS meeting. The Fellows are presented with plaques.

Nominations for CELL Division Awards

GRADUATE STUDENT AWARD

An annual award cosponsored by the Cellulose and Renewable Materials Division of the American Chemical Society and Eastman Chemical Company.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Any graduate student studying the chemical nature of cellulose, paper, textiles and other renewable materials. This includes, but is not limited to, study of the biosynthesis of biomass components and natural fibers, novel chemical routes for separating biomass into its constituent components, innovative processes for converting biomass, its individual components, or natural fibers into value-added products, and the development of new analytical techniques for characterizing the chemical properties of these materials. The competition is open to any graduate students currently enrolled or have graduated with the past year.

HOW DO I APPLY?

The Application package consists of the following: A cover letter stating the applicant's personal information i.e. full name, address, daytime telephone number, fax number, e-mail address and social security number. As well as, the title of research activity, graduate school attended, research supervisor's name and research committee members' names. A paper suitable for publication that represents the applicant's most significant graduate research accomplishment. The applicant must be the principal author of this paper. A summary document describing the applicant's research contributions and defining how that work fits into the current state-of-the-art (3-5 pages). A letter signed by the applicant's research supervisor and verifying that the student meets the requirements of the Graduate Student Award.

THE SELECTION PROCESS

All applications must be complete by October 1 and the Recipient will be notified by December 1. Selection of an awardee will be based upon the information included in the application package.

THE AWARD

The Graduate Student Award for Excellence in Cellulose or Renewable Materials Research consists of a check for \$2,000 and an individual plaque honoring their accomplishment. The recipient will be invited to attend the following Spring ACS meeting and deliver an oral presentation describing their work.

Submit the completed application package to:

Dr. Stephen S. Kelley
National Bioenergy Center
National Renewable Energy Laboratory
1617 Cole Boulevard
Golden, CO 80401
Phone: (303) 384-6123
FAX: (303) 384-6363
E-mail: steve_kelley@nrel.gov

Membership Special Offers

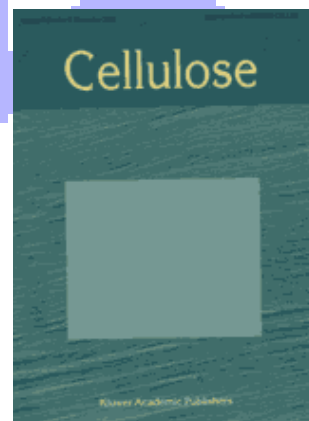
The **Cellulose and Renewable Materials Division of the American Chemical Association** and the scientific journal *Holzforschung* are pleased to announce a new cooperation. Beginning in 2004, members of ACS-Cell will receive deeply discounted membership prices on the print and on-line versions of *Holzforschung*.

Holzforschung is an international scholarly journal, led by the editors Horst Nimz and Oskar Faix, that publishes cutting-edge research on the biology, chemistry, physics and technology of wood and wood components, Rated year after year as the number one scientific journal in the category of Pulp and Paper (ISI Journal Citation Index), *Holzforschung* represents innovative, high quality basic and applied research. The German title reflects the journal's origins in a long scientific tradition, but all articles are published in English to stimulate and promote understanding between experts all over the world.

For more information on the journal and a free electronic issue, visit our website at: <http://www.degruyter.de/journals/holz>. ACS-Cell will keep you updated on how to order your membership subscription. Should you have any further questions, please contact the *Holzforschung* Editorial Office at Editorial.Office@degruyter.de. We look forward to a productive cooperation between our two organizations!



The **Cellulose and Renewable Materials Division of the American Chemical Association** has an arrangement with the scientific journal *Cellulose* (Kluwer Academic Press, www.wkap.com) which allows members of the Cell Division to enter personal (*i.e.* non-institutional) subscriptions to the journal at the much-discounted rate of \$65 per year (2004-rate). By subscribing to *Cellulose* in 2004, Cellulose Division members will have an opportunity to gain first-hand information about the most recent advances in cellulose and polymer chemistry and ultrastructure.





American Chemical Society Application for Membership

Name: _____
Professional Affiliation: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____
Country: _____ Zip: _____
Phone (including area code): _____
Fax (including area code): _____
E-mail Address: _____

- _____ I am a member of the American Chemical Society.
_____ My ACS membership number is:
_____ I want to join the American Chemical Society.
_____ Full Division Membership (Requires ACS membership): \$10.00/year.
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_____ Student Membership (Requires student membership in ACS): free
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Please return this application along with a check for membership dues to:

Dr. Timothy G. Rials
University of Tennessee
Department of Forestry, Wildlife, & Fisheries
2506 Jacob Dr.
Knoxville, TN 37996-4570

Please make checks payable to: Cellulose, Paper and Textile Division, ACS.