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Click here for Geochemistry Division Symposia at the Orlando, FL Meeting

Click here for Geochemistry Division Abstracts for the Orlando, FL National ACS Meeting
Greetings from the Division Executive Committee! We are excited to alert you to recent activities and upcoming events in the Geochemistry Division. We welcome our new officers for 2002, Susan Carroll (Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory) as Program Chair-elect and Jay Brandes (University of Texas, Austin) as Treasurer. In addition, we’ve made two new additions to our slate of officers. Two of our past officers have not been allowed to escape: Andy Bishop (former Chair) is now serving as Membership Chair, and John Schaumloffel (former Treasurer) is remaining as our Newsletter Editor. We hope that these additions will allow us to better serve you and keep you up to date on ACS and Division activities. To find the full slate of current officers, go to the Division web page at http://membership.acs.org/G/GEOC/. Feel free to contact any of us for assistance with any ACS matters.

Our 2-for-1 Membership Drive is on for 2002! It’s a great way to save money and get more folks involved in the Geochemistry Division. Details can be found in the newsletter.

The ACS Spring National Meeting takes place in Orlando, April 7-11. The Geochemistry Division has a large and varied program covering a range of current topics, with a healthy dose of interdisciplinary symposia. We are sponsoring five symposia and the abstracts are available to you if you would like to print them as a *.pdf file. We are also co-sponsoring two other symposia with other divisions. In addition, the Division will have a poster session and social hour on Wednesday, April 10, after the oral sessions from 5:30-7:30 pm. The Division business meeting will be held on Monday, April 8, at 5:30 pm and will include a brief tutorial on electronic publishing (it’s easier than you think). This will surely be a very exciting meeting and we hope to see you there!

The Fall National Meeting will be held in Boston, August 18-22, 2002. Division symposia will focus on biogeochemistry, metal complexation, and equilibrium modeling. OASys, the electronic abstract submittal system, is already open for Abstract submission with a closing date of April 15. If you have any questions or need more information, contact Bill Landing (landing@ocean.fsu.edu). Be sure to get your abstract (and your taxes) in on time.

Peggy O’Day

As outgoing Treasurer, I would like to thank all the members who have made my job easier the past three years. We have been fortunate to be able to take advantage of so many ACS-PRF, Corporation Associates and other sources of support for our symposia, largely based on the effort of our members!

The Division has made a number of changes in how we handle our finances during the past few years. One change has been transferring our accounts to an on-line, Internet only, bank. This arrangement will make the transitions for Treasurers much easier and allows us to effectively manage our funds by getting increased interest yields and easier access to funds we hold in reserve (in FDIC insured certificates of deposit). In addition, the Division now accepts MasterCard and Visa for selected transactions. Many members took advantage of this service when they attended the dinner at Scripps during the San Diego National Meeting.

These changes, combined with the electronic distribution of the newsletter, has allowed us to put a greater financial emphasis on member service. Examples of this can be seen in the Member-Get-A-Member Campaign, the Geochemistry Medal and our ongoing financial support of symposia at both national and regional ACS Meetings. As a small division, our focus is primarily on supporting the needs (and requests of our members).

John C. Schaumloffel
The Geochemistry Division general business meeting will be held at 5:30 pm on Monday, April 8th. The room assignment should be available in the final program for the National Meeting. All Division members are encouraged to attend and offer their input on the directions, obligations and issues affecting the Division. Refreshments will be served.

Also, just after the business meeting, there will be a mini-workshop on electronic publishing in Royal Society of Chemistry journals. Sarah Day of the Royal Society of Chemistry (publishers of Geochemical Transactions, The Analyst, JAAS and other chemical science journals) and Ken Anderson (Geochemistry Division Councilor and Editorial Board Member for Geochemical Transactions) will discuss tips and hints for preparing manuscripts for electronic publishing. This short workshop is open to all interested attendees and will display the latest computer innovations in e-publishing.

Don’t forget, *Geochemical Transactions* is YOUR JOURNAL! Take advantage of this opportunity to find out how to help get the most out of your manuscripts submitted to GT or other electronic journals.

**Member-Get-A-Member Campaign and Dues for 2002**

This year the Division is sponsoring a 2 for 1 membership drive called our Member-Get-A-Member Campaign. Simply put, any existing member can sponsor a new member and the Division will honor both memberships for the price of one. You can split the dues any way you want. If you have already renewed your membership, there is nothing more to pay. Simply fill out the form available on the Division’s web site [http://membership.acs.org/g/geoc/](http://membership.acs.org/g/geoc/) under Member-get-a-Member Campaign, and mail or fax it to the address on the form. It’s that simple. A copy of the form also appears at the end of this newsletter.

If you have not already renewed your Division membership, we would like encourage you to do so soon. You can renew by phone by calling 800-333-9511 (International members and Ohio residents 614-447-3776), or on line at [http://store.acs.org/cgi-bin/technical_divisions_application.pl](http://store.acs.org/cgi-bin/technical_divisions_application.pl). The cost of membership is very nominal: $10 for ACS members, $12 for Non ACS members. Discounts are available for students and emeritus members. By default, membership also includes a subscription to *Geochemical Transactions* (+$40), but members who do not wish to receive the journal can “opt-out” and continue their membership at the $10/$12 rate.

**Newsletter Contributions**

Don’t forget that this is your newsletter! With the switch to electronic distribution, the newsletter is now prepared about one-month before each National ACS meeting. As a result, we can readily incorporate information or advertisements for our members. An example would be recruitment listings (e.g. ads for postdocs), which we can include for no charge. Our only requirement is that items be directly for the benefit of Division members and that they be transmitted electronically to the editor. Commercial advertising can be included at very nominal cost. Please contact the editor, John Schaumloffel (schaumjc@oneonta.edu, 607-436-3432), if you have announcements or information that you would like to have included.

**ACS Legislative Action Center**

Interested in how what is going on in Washington will affect the chemical sciences, ACS, funding from various agencies, etc.? Check out the ACS Legislative Action Center by clicking here!
Geochemistry Division Elections for 2003

This year we have the following positions open for election with terms starting on Jan. 1 2003:

- Program Chair Elect – election to this leads to Division Chair in the third year
- Secretary (3 year term)
- Division Councilor (3 year term)

Anyone interested in running for election or in nominating a member should contact George Luther, chair of the nominating committee, at the address below. If you nominate someone, provide their e-mail or phone number so that the committee can contact the nominee!

George W. Luther, III
302-645-4208
FAX: 302-645-4007
luther@udel.edu

Call for Volunteers

The Geochemistry Division Needs Your Help! There are many ways in which members can contribute further to the Geochemistry Division and thereby help the geochemistry community develop and grow. The following are a few suggestions for volunteer activities within the Division. If you are interested in any of these, or if you have an idea for something which is not listed, please contact Andy Bishop (Membership Chair) at anbishop@shell.com.

- Contribute an Idea for Programming
  Is there a topic you would like to see covered by the geochemistry division at a National Meeting? If so, let us know. You do not have to commit yourself to actually organizing the symposium. We can always find someone to do that. But if you have a great symposium topic, pass it on!

- Organize a Symposium
  You’ve got the idea, and you want to run the meeting. No problem. As soon as you think of something, drop us a line, and we can get the ball rolling. Organizing a symposium is a lot easier now with all of the Internet programming tools at your disposal. We can help you find speakers, attract additional funding for overseas speakers’ travel costs and tips for scheduling the program.

- Run a Short Course at a National Meeting
  This is not something we have traditionally done, but many other divisions do run short courses on relevant topics at National Meetings. If there is a topic you would like to teach, and you think some of your fellow colleagues would be interested, let us know.

- Help Man the Division Table at a National Meeting
  If you are going to a National Meeting, and you have a little time to spare, you can really help the Exec out by volunteering to sit at the Division Table for a couple of hours. It’s a great way to meet more of your colleagues, and participate directly in the division.

Geochemistry Division Trivia

Who said “Geochemists do it – on the land, in the sea, in the air, or anywhere!”?

(Answer on the division web site in the “Division History” section)
Job Listing(s)

Post Doctoral Investigator in Soil Biogeochemistry/Purdue University

The Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, Purdue University seeks a postdoctoral investigator/research scientist to be part of a research team working to understand how plant-derived carbon is sequestered in agricultural soils. Our approach centers on the use of compound-specific stable carbon-isotope techniques, linked with soil aggregation studies, plant biopolymer chemistry, and microbial community diversity and activity methods to study the turnover and sequestration of organic matter in agricultural soils. The successful candidate will be working within a multi-institutional research initiative, the Consortium for Agricultural Soils Mitigation of Greenhouse Gases (CASMGS). The position is for an initial period of 1 year, starting in July 2002 with a renewal option for a second year. Candidates must have a PhD in biogeochemistry, soil sciences or a related field. Experience using gas chromatography-mass spectrometry and a familiarity with compound-specific stable carbon-isotope techniques is highly desirable. Applicants should send curriculum vita, a brief description of research interests, copies of two of their latest publications, and contact information for three references to:

Dr. Timothy Filley
Purdue University
Dept. of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences
1397 Civil Engineering Bldg.
West Lafayette, IN 47907
Phone: 765-494-6581
Fax: 765-496-1210
E-mail: filley@purdue.edu
Purdue University in an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer

Geochemistry Medal Nominations

To be awarded for outstanding contributions in any area of the field of Geochemistry.

The Division of Geochemistry of the American Chemical Society is currently soliciting nominations for the second awarding of the Geochemistry Division Medal. The GEOC medal is awarded biennially to an individual for outstanding accomplishment in any area of Geochemistry. The award consists of a bronze medallion plus $2000. The awardee will receive an allowance for travel to the award ceremony, as well as registration costs for the ACS meeting at which the award will be conferred. The second Geochemistry Division Medal will be presented at the 225th ACS National meeting to be held in New Orleans, LA March 23-28, 2003. Letters of Nomination and supporting materials should be sent to the Chair of the GEOC Medal Committee, Dr Robert H. Byrne, by June 1, 2002. Nominations should include a detailed description of the nominee's outstanding accomplishments, relevant citations and, at the discretion of the nominator, any other supporting information. Two letters from individuals other than the primary nominator are requested, but not required, by the committee. Nominators should confirm, prior to submission of the nomination, that the nominee is willing to be considered for the award. Nominees will be considered for two years. Additional details are available at http://membership.acs.org/g/geoc/

Dr. Robert H. Byrne
Chair, GEOC Medal Committee
College of Marine Science
University of South Florida
140 Seventh Ave South
St Petersburg, FL, 33701-5016.
(727) 553-1508
byrne@marine.usf.edu
What’s HOT?

Geochemistry Division programming stems primarily from the members of the Division. Tell us what subjects/areas you feel deserve to be considered for future symposia. **We welcome all suggestions.**

Suggested Symposia Topic:

_______________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________

Are you willing to consider helping to organize such a symposia? Organizing Geochemistry Division symposia is not onerous. The Division’s Program Chair takes care of most of the work, including all of the logistics. The primary roles of symposia organizers are:

- To define the scope of the symposia and invite key speakers to participate
- To promote the symposia and to help serve as a focal point for information relating to the symposia
- To assist the program chair to organize submitted abstracts into sessions for the presentations.

The Division contributes up to $600 per symposium to support the organization of the symposium and we also support organizers who apply for external support, such as PRF funds, by undertaking much of the effort involved.

Most organizers find the effort involved both easily manageable and satisfying.

Name  _____________________________________________________________

Address _____________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________

Phone No. _____________________  (Number at which you can be reach during business hours)

EMAIL ADDRESS  _________________________________________________

(Please attach your business card if available)

Mail or Fax to:  William M. Landing
Department of Oceanography
Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL 32306-4320
Fax  (850) 644-2581
Symposium Announcements

SES II

The organizing committee of the second Synchrotron Environmental Science conference (SES-II) is pleased to announce that SES-II will be held at the Advanced Photon Source at Argonne National Laboratory on May 6-8, 2002. The purpose of the conference is to (1) highlight the value of synchrotron radiation to environmental science problems, (2) increase the number of environmental scientists using synchrotron radiation, and (3) facilitate further organization of the national synchrotron environmental science community.

SES-II will feature a series of keynote addresses by experts in specific fields of environmental science (astrobiology, atmospheric chemistry, biogeochemistry, environmental engineering, geochemistry, microbiology, soil science, etc.) with additional presentations highlighting current synchrotron-based environmental science projects from the different U.S. synchrotron facilities. We will offer introductory tutorials covering the most widely used synchrotron-based techniques (x-ray absorption fine structure or XAFS, x-ray reflectivity, x-ray imaging), and are soliciting abstracts for poster presentations in all areas of environmental science research related to current synchrotron techniques.

To register or obtain further information about the conference, refer to the SES-II web site http://www.aps.anl.gov/conferences/ses-ii/
Metal complexation in natural waters

American Chemical Society 224th National Meeting Boston, Massachusetts, August 18-22, 2002

A symposium cosponsored by the Divisions of Geochemistry (GEOC) and Environmental Chemistry (ENVR)

The purpose of this symposium is to discuss the possible sources, sinks, and identities of metal-binding compounds in fresh, coastal, and marine waters. The key to understanding a metal's reactivity and uptake by biota is understanding the factors controlling its speciation. It is now clear that most bioactive metals in these waters, including Cu, Zn, and Fe, are often bound by compounds that remain unidentified instead of by well-understood inorganic ligands. For this symposium, we are specifically looking for contributions of papers performing chemical characterization of bound metal species prevalent at ambient metal concentrations and of studies examining the behavior of metal-binding compounds in natural environments. Extended discussion periods are planned to facilitate exchange of ideas.

The lead division for this symposium is the Division of Geochemistry.

Abstracts should be submitted online at: http://oasys.acs.org
Abstract Submission Deadline is April 15th, 2002
(extended abstracts will not be published for this symposium).

For more information, contact the symposium organizer:

Bettina M. Voelker, Assistant Professor
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
Massachusetts of Technology, Room 48-419
Cambridge, MA 02139
Phone: (617) 253-3726
Fax: (617) 258-8850
E-mail: voelker@mit.edu
While it is now well-established that most classes of biogenic molecules are preserved under appropriate burial conditions, there is an emerging hierarchy of preservation that places inevitable constraints on the utility of different biomolecules across the range of geological time periods. A major goal of this field is the recovery of reliable molecular and isotopic signals that can be used in reconstructing the past. This symposium will highlight current trends and progress in the rapidly evolving field of ancient biomolecules. We are seeking contributions which integrate analytical (bio)chemistry, archaeology, and palaeontology. The major themes of the symposium will include:

- New analytical chemical and stable isotope techniques for the study of preserved biomolecules.
- Experimental and/or field investigations aimed at enhancing our understanding of factors controlling the preservation of ancient biomolecules.
- Laboratory experiments aimed at improving our understanding of the way in which molecular and stable isotopic signatures observed in fossil and sub-fossil materials are expressed in growing organisms.
- New applications of ancient biomolecules to archaeology and palaeobiology.

Extended discussion periods are planned to facilitate the exchange of ideas.

Abstracts should be submitted online at [http://oasys.acs.org/](http://oasys.acs.org/)
Deadline for online abstract submission: November 22, 2002.
Deadline for hardcopy abstract deadline: November 8, 2002.

Check the Geochemistry Division web site for updates: [http://membership.acs.org/g/geoc/](http://membership.acs.org/g/geoc/)

For more information, contact the symposium organizers:

Professor Richard P. Evershed
Organic Geochemistry Unit
Biogeochemistry Research Centre
School of Chemistry
University of Bristol
Cantock’s Close
Bristol BS8 1TS UK
Tel. 44 117 9287671
Fax. 44 117 9251295
r.p.evershed@bristol.ac.uk

Dr Matthew Collins
Fossil Fuels and Environmental Geochemistry
University of Newcastle upon Tyne
Newcastle NE3 1UH
Tel. 44 191 222 6855
Fax. 44 191 222 5431
m.collins@ncl.ac.uk
This symposium will focus on the progress that has been made in our understanding of the role of naturally occurring organic matter in marine ecosystems, in recent sediments and ancient sediments. This symposium will honor a “lipid biochemist” who had the foresight to focus his research and academic efforts on studies of the biogeochemistry of natural organic matter and contaminants in the aquatic environments starting in 1968. The efforts over the last 30 plus years by Professor Quinn, his former students, students of former students, and colleagues in academe, government and business have provided a better understanding the biogeochemistry of organic matter in marine environments and has been part of the significant expansion of knowledge in this area of research. Interesting research challenges remain. Former students, students of former students and colleagues of Professor Quinn are invited to submit technical papers on their current research efforts as platform or poster presentations for this symposium.

Abstracts should be submitted online at: http://oasys.acs.org/
Abstract Submission Deadline is April 15th, 2002

For additional information, please contact the organizers

Dr. John W. Farrington  
Email: jfarrington@whoi.edu

Dr. Terry L. Wade  
Email: terry@gerg.tamu.edu

Dr. Christopher Reddy  
Email: creddy@whoi.edu
Chemical Equilibrium Measurement and Modeling

American Chemical Society 224th National Meeting
Boston, Massachusetts, August 18-22, 2002

Cosponsored by the Divisions of Geochemistry (GEOC) and Environmental Chemistry (ENVR)

Papers are welcome on all aspects of the determination and understanding of equilibrium constants, the elucidation of complex equilibria, and the modeling of equilibrium systems. Papers that fit into the following categories fall under the scope of this symposium. Papers may be reports of original research (experimental or theoretical) or reviews of the literature. Papers focusing on related topics may be acceptable, and prospective authors should seek guidance from the organizer prior to submission.

1. Methods of data analysis for resolving equilibrium constants for complex systems, such as heteroleptic metal-ligand coordination complexes or polymeric species
2. Relationships between concentration-based and activity-based equilibrium constants
3. Accounting for influences of ionic strength, ionic medium, solvent composition, temperature, and other environmental factor, including approaches for correcting for the influences of ionic strength and other properties of solutions
4. Measurement of activity coefficients and factors effecting activity coefficient variation
5. Interpretation of data in terms of resolving independent contributions from solvent interaction, ion-pairing, ionic strength, ionic medium, complexation, and other types of interactions
6. Multiphasic equilibria, especially among minerals of complex composition in contact with an aqueous phase or with more than one accessible solid phase
7. Reaction capacities (i.e., buffer capacity, redox capacity) involving uniphase or multiphasic systems, especially effects of sparingly soluble minerals on aqueous systems with which they are in contact
8. Analytical/experimental techniques suitable for the determination of equilibrium constants and their applicability relative to rates of reaction or tendency to perturb the system
9. Investigations of specific chemical systems that engage in equilibria, e.g., metal-ligand, Bronsted-Lowry acid-base, other types of dissociations or hydrolyses, concentration-dependent phenomena (e.g., critical micelle concentrations and micellar partitioning)
10. Combination of multiple analytical techniques to obtain complementary data to resolve complex chemical systems into individual chemical reactions
11. Comparisons of data analysis software or algorithms for resolving equilibrium constants from experimental data.
12. Software for modeling equilibria and predicting concentrations of species at equilibria

Applications of equilibrium modeling (via software) and its utility in real-world situations

For logistical and organizational purposes, the ACS Division of Geochemistry shall be the lead division for this symposium. All presenters are encouraged to submit a proceedings paper to be published in Geochemical Transactions. More information on the proceedings shall be provided at a later date.

Abstracts should be submitted online at: http://oasys.acs.org/
Abstract Submission Deadline is April 15th, 2002

Direct inquiries to the organizer:
Edward T. Urbansky
(preferably by email)
United States Environmental Protection Agency
National Risk Management Research Laboratory
26 West Martin Luther King Drive, MS-681
Cincinnati, Ohio 45268
Phone: 513-569-7655
Fax: 513-569-7658
Email: urbansky.edward@epa.gov
This symposium is designed to honor Professor Earl Wayne Baker for his role in several geochemical venues. These include but are not limited to; the geochemistry of porphyrins, spearheading the advance of a journal devoted solely to organic geochemistry and his role in the genesis and nurture of the Division of Geochemistry. Professor Baker’s benchmark papers on the mass spectrometry of “petroporphyrins” (JACS 1966-7, vols. 88-89) opened the door for the study of geothermal history and its effects upon individual classes of biological molecules. Debate in this area still occurs today, namely DPEP to ETIO ratios and their total underlying effects.

Papers are solicited from colleagues, former students, and other interested parties in all areas of geochemistry and especially the chemistry and geochemistry of tetrapyrrole pigments.

Abstracts should be submitted online at http://oasys.acs.org
Deadline for online abstract submission is November 8th, 2002 (Tentative)
Deadline for hardcopy abstract submission is October 25th, 2002 (Tentative)

Check the Geochemistry Division web site for updates: http://membership.acs.org/g/geoc/

For additional information, please contact the following:

Organizer: Dr. J. William Louda
Organic Geochemistry Group
Florida Atlantic University
777 Glades Road
Boca Raton, FL 33431
561-297-3309
561-297-2759 FAX
blouda@fau.edu

Co-Organizer: Dr. J. Martin E. Quirke
Department of Chemistry
Florida International University
Tamiami Campus
Miami, FL
305-348-3093
James.Quirke@fiu.edu
As part of our ongoing effort to expand the range of services we offer, the Division is sponsoring a Graduate Student symposium at the ACS Central Regional meeting, June 26-29, 2002 at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, Michigan. The symposium is intended to provide graduate students and post docs an opportunity to present the results of their investigations in a venue that is less costly to attend than ACS National meetings. This is an excellent opportunity for early career researchers to highlight their accomplishments to date, hone presentation skills and interact with their peers from various institutions. Invitations and announcements have been sent to more than 200 regional schools and we are expecting excellent participation. Although the meeting is aimed primarily at the mid west, graduate students from anywhere are welcome to participate.

This symposium is also an excellent opportunity for other professional geochemists to meet the up-and-coming future stars of the profession. Practicing geochemists who may have an interest in finding potential future post docs and or employees are strongly encouraged to attend. If there is sufficient demand, a poster session for recruitment will be arranged. Opportunities for sponsorship of various symposia related activities are also available.

A Call for Papers is available on the Division’s web site http://membership.acs.org/G/GEOC under Upcoming Symposia. Additional information is also available at the web site for the meeting, http://cerm.emich.edu/
ACS Division of Geochemistry
2002 Member-get-a-Member
New member application form

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Section 1: Sponsoring Member

Name ________________________________________________

Membership No ________________ (If known)

Phone No. ________________ (Number at which you can be reach during business hours)

e-mail address __________________________________

Do you have an Individual Subscription to *Geochemical Transactions*?

Yes ☐

No ☐

Signature ____________________________________________

(Must be Signed)

Section 2: New Member

Name ________________________________________________

Are you an ACS Member? Yes ☐ If Yes, Membership No ________________

No ☐

If known

Home Address: _______________________________________

____________________________________________________

Home Phone: ________________

Business Address: _____________________________________

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

Business Phone: ________________ (Number at which you can be reach during business hours)

Preferred Address Home ☐ (Address to which you would prefer hard copy mailings to be sent)

Business ☐ Select One

e-mail address _______________________________________

(Optional Information - Demographic purposes only)

Gender Male ☐

Female ☐

Year of Birth ________________

Signature ____________________________________________

(Must be Signed)