

# CINTACS



Newsletter of the Cincinnati Section of the American Chemical Society

Dec. 2005  
Vol. 43, No. 3

## Meeting Calendar

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| Dec. 7  | Elsa Reichmanis<br>at Xavier University<br>Joint with Iota Sigma Pi<br>and AIChE |
| Jan. 18 | Bill Dean<br>at Netherland Plaza Hotel   |
| Feb. 15 | Chemist of the Year<br>Procter and Gamble Co.                                    |
| Mar. 15 | Bill Jensen<br>at Golden Lamb Inn<br>Joint with Dayton Section                   |
| Apr. 19 | Howard and Sally Peters<br>Oesper H.S. Awards<br>at Northern Kentucky U.         |
| May     | Party Night<br>TBA   |

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## December Monthly Meeting

### Breakthroughs in Materials Chemistry for Advanced Tech- nologies: A Collaborative En- deavor

*Elsa Reichmanis*  
Director, Materials Research  
Bell Laboratories,  
Lucent Technologies



### Abstract

The microelectronics era began a little over 50 years ago with the invention of the point contact transistor at Bell Labs. Who would have thought that that small object, perhaps 4-6 cm in size would lead the way to the development of a huge, multi-billion dollar electronics industry that impacts every aspect of our lives today. This so-to-speak "second industrial revolution" has depended upon advances in almost every field of science and engineering. But it is materials chemistry that has provided the foundation for fabrication

*(Continued on page 6)*

### About the Speaker

**Elsa Reichmanis** is Bell Labs Fellow and Director of the Materials Research Department at Bell Laboratories, Lucent Technologies, Murray Hill, NJ. She received her Ph.D. (1975) and BS (1972) degrees in chemistry from Syracuse University, and joined Bell Labs in 1978 after completing a post-Doctoral Fellowship program. Her research interests include the chemistry, properties and application of materials technologies for photonics and electronics, with particular focus on polymeric and nanostructured materials for

*(Continued on page 6)*

**THE CINTACS NEWSLETTER****Vol. 43, No. 3 December, 2005**Editor.....Bruce S. Ault  
Advertising.....Ed Hunter

CINTACS is published eight times a year (September through May) by the Cincinnati Section of the American Chemical Society. The submission deadline will be approximately November 28 for the January, 2006 issue. Electronic submission is strongly preferred. All materials should be sent to:

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**From the Chair**

As the chair of the section and personally, I am excited that Elsa Reichmanis is the speaker for our December meeting. She is a prominent chemist who has been recognized and honored by professional societies both in chemistry and engineering for her research in widely varying areas. She has served as the 2003 President of the American Chemical Society. She has been honored by her alma mater, Syracuse University – I have known her since her undergraduate days there. Her presentation, too, is across disciplines, “Breakthroughs in Materials Chemistry for Advanced Technologies: A Collaborative Endeavor”. The December meeting has been traditionally held at Xavier University, with Xavier University also being a sponsor. This time, both Iota Sigma Pi (National Honor Society for Women Chemists, Radium Chapter) and AIChE (American Institute of Chemical Engineers, Ohio Valley Section) have joined as sponsors because Elsa Reichmanis is a great speaker for all our members. She deserves a big, warm welcome, let’s be there.

We already have had two very different and successful meetings, the all-family September Picnic, and the October Ralph and Helen Oesper Award Banquet and Poster Session, jointly with the University of Cincinnati Chemistry Department. My sincerest thanks go to all who have made them possible: Younger Chemists Committee Chair Joy Henderson and Retired Chemists Committee Chair Ralph Damico for the first one, and the Chemistry Department members, chair Pat Limbach, Oesper symposium organizer Tom Beck, Oesper administrative secretary Kim Carey, and Oesper poster session organizer Nebojsa Pantelic, Kim and Nebojsa doing double duty as section coordinators. I also thank the Chemistry Department for their sponsorship of the banquet.

Please remember successful meetings need membership support; **“do come to the meetings and every time ask a different person, colleague, co-worker, friend or student to come with you”**.

National Chemistry Week is October 16-22, 2005. Many activities are taking place as I write this article. Victor Arredondo, the National Chemistry Week/Earth Day Chair has an article in this CINTACS describing all that has happened and is happening. Victor and all the volunteers who have given their time and shared their enthusiasm with the community, thank you all. To the Cognis Foundation, Givaudan Flavors Corporation, Procter & Gamble Company, and P&G Pharmaceuticals, our gratitude for providing continuing financial support.

Emel Yakali

***December Monthly Meeting***  
***December 7, 2005***  
**Conaton Board Room, Room 201 Schmidt Hall**  
***Xavier University***

***Joint Meeting with Iota Sigma Pi (National Honor Society for Women Chemists, Radium Chapter), AIChE (American Institute of Chemical Engineers, Ohio Valley Section), and Xavier University***

***Featured Speaker***  
***Elsa Reichmanis, Ph.D.***

***Program***

- 5:30 – 6:30** Board Meeting – Hinkle Hall, Third Floor Conference Room, Hinkle Room 301
- 5:30 – 7:00** Registration, Conaton Board Room, 2nd Floor, Schmidt Hall
- 6:00 – 7:00** Social (Cash Bar), Conaton Board Room
- 7:00 – 8:00** Dinner, Conaton Board Room  
(\$25 or \$12 for students, emeritus, unemployed, and first-time new members)  
Pan Seared Chicken Breast with Hunter Sauce, Garden Greens Salad with Italian Vinaigrette, Wild Rice Pilaf, Fresh Seasonal Vegetable Medley, Fresh Baked Bread, Chocolate Mousse with Raspberry Sauce, Whipped Cream, and Chocolate Shavings, Coffee, Tea.  
Vegetarian Entrée available upon request when making reservations
- 8:00 – 9:00** Speaker, Elsa Reichmanis, Ph.D.  
*“Breakthroughs in Materials Chemistry for Advanced Technologies: A Collaborative Endeavor”*

***Reservations – Deadline Monday December 5, 2005 Noon***

The meeting reservation form is online at <http://www.che.uc.edu/acs/cinacs.html>. This is the best and easiest way to register. As a last resort, you may send your reservations by e-mail to kim.carey@uc.edu. If it is impossible to make your reservation via the internet, call 513-556-0293; leave name, affiliation, phone number, and price category, if half-price.

***Directions***

The Xavier University Conaton Presidential Board Room is located on the second floor of Schmidt Hall. Parking is provided free **with the enclosed Parking Pass (see page 4)** at the F&W Center on Dana Avenue across the street from Schmidt Hall.

**I-71:** Exit at Dana Avenue exit. Proceed west on Dana Avenue past Ledgewood Drive. As the road begins a slight turn, the F&W parking area will be on the left before you reach Victory Parkway.

**I-75:** Exit at Mitchell Avenue. Proceed east on Mitchell Avenue, crossing over Reading Road. Continue to Dana Avenue and turn left. Just after crossing Victory Parkway, the entrance to F&W parking area will be on the right.

**Rt. 562:** Exit the Norwood Lateral at Reading Road. Continue in the left lane of Reading Road to Victory Parkway. Merge left onto Victory Parkway at the light. Continue to Dana Avenue. Turn left onto Dana Avenue. The entrance to F&W parking area will be on the right in about half a block.



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December 7, 2005**

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## “The Joy of Toys”, NCW 2005 Snapshot!!

National Chemistry Week (NCW) just took place last week. I am frantically reading the summaries and stories I am receiving everyday of the multiple NCW demonstrations programs carried out all over the Tri-state area by our fantastic group of volunteers! There is a common theme to all of them so far: *a lot of JOY and KNOWLEDGE was spread this year*. Children and adults alike had fun learning what toys are made of and the various chemical principles that make them work. The stories of the events, are trickling in everyday, thus I will share with you today a snapshot of the highlights:

- *Polymers, polymers, polymers.....* were discussed, made, handled, shrunk and built with “kid-monomers” and crosslinked with adults in almost every event venue. Many children experience bulk properties such as hardness, flexibility, bounciness, etc. and had the opportunity to make their own slime or play-dough and take it home.
- What fun with gases! Alka seltzer rockets at North College Hill Library, Film Can Cannons at Living Waters and at Wilmington College, and Cartesian Divers at Pleasant Ridge and Mt Healthy, they all were big hits with children, students and adults alike.
- Drinking Birds were at hand at the Franklin Library. The audience, fascinated with this toy, learned how they work.
- The nature of light and Chemiluminescence were discussed and demonstrated at various venues. At Elmwood a prism was used to show how light is composed of red, yellow, green and blue light; meanwhile at Pleasant Ridge their relative energy was demonstrated by using light sticks, LED’s, phosphorescent vinyl and fluorescent markers. UV active bracelets and key chains were made at North College Hill.



The events were publicized through the Cincinnati ACS local section web site, the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County web site, the Cincinnati Museum Center web site and flyers. Also, National Chemistry Week awareness and hands on activities for children was achieved through the Newspaper In Education (NIE) program which distributed newspaper to schools and featured the “Joy of Toys” in their website ([http://www.cincinnati.com/nie/chemistry/index\\_05.html](http://www.cincinnati.com/nie/chemistry/index_05.html)) during the week. These are only a few examples of the kinds of things that took place in our communities during NCW held on October 16-22 2005. Stay tune for the next CINTACS issue for additional NCW details!!



I want to THANK ALL of our NCW volunteers for making NCW 2005 a very successful event!! I also want to thank Givaudan, Procter & Gamble, and Cognis for their financial contribution and Wright Brothers Inc. for in kind donations.

Victor M. Arredondo, NCW Chair

(Continued from page 1)

advanced communications technologies.

She has published in a variety of areas ranging from synthetic organic and heteroaromatic chemistry to radiation chemistry of polymeric systems. She is author of over 150 publications, the holder of several patents and editor of five books. Dr. Reichmanis was presented with the 1993 Society of Women Engineers Achievement Award; she was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 1995, and was awarded the ASM Engineering Materials Achievement Award in 1996. In 1997, she was elected Fellow of the AAAS. She is the recipient of a 1998 Photopolymer Science and Technology Award, is the 1999 ACS Applied Polymer Science Awardee, the Society of Chemical Industry's 2001 Perkin Medalist and a 2001 recipient of Syracuse University's Arents Medal. She is Past Chair of the Executive Committee of the American Chemical Society Division of Polymeric Materials: Science and Engineering, was a Member of the National Materials Advisory Board and the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board, and is currently a member of the NRC Board on Chemical Science and Technology. She served as the 2003 President of the American Chemical Society, and is an Associate Editor of the ACS Journal, *Chemistry of Materials*.

(Continued from page 1)

processes that allow for circuit elements that are 1000 times smaller than the diameter of a human hair. And perhaps somewhat parochially, materials chemistry provides the foundation for all advanced technologies that we come in contact with each day. The implementation of these concepts and inventions into innovative technologies can be facilitated, but requires an integrated, multidisciplinary team oriented research/development effort in order to rapidly capitalize on research insights, and an understanding of market needs coupled with knowledge of the latest research findings.

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## Over the River and Through the Woods: Teachers Meet in January

On Thursday, January 26, the Chemical Educators' Discussion Group will meet in the classroom of Ed Kentrup at Colerain High School. Our program will center on the use of probes and sensors in the high school laboratory. Ed's lab is equipped with Measure-Net; he will demonstrate some of the applications he makes in his own curriculum. We invite all teachers to share a favorite lab activity that uses a probe or sensor at either the first year or advanced level. We will talk about how often we use the technology and how we use it in inquiry based activities. Ed also can provide a laptop with Windows XP and an LCD projector for presentations. We begin with announcements and social time from 6:30 to 7 PM and the program follows at 7 PM. We try to conclude the evening by 8:30 PM. If you plan to share, bring about 20 copies of your activity. Consider inviting a colleague to join you.

Travel west on Cross County Highway to the Colerain Avenue exit. Travel north and take a left on Joseph Lane (You will see Joseph Chevrolet and Chuckie Cheese at this intersection.) Joseph Lane will take you directly west to Cheviot Road and the main entrance to the school. The school address is 8801 Cheviot Road. Drive up the entranceway and park near the very front of the building. Ed will place signs directing you to Room 323. If you are traveling west on I275, take the Colerain exit and travel south to Joseph Lane. Take a left to head toward the school.

The group is planning to have a Halloween Party in February. Several teachers have requested that we have a sharing night centered on Halloween demonstrations. What better way to plan ahead and get all the necessary props to begin or improve your own ghoulish extravaganza! Details will be coming in the next *CINTACS*.

**Visit the  
Section's Home Page**

**<http://www.che.uc.edu/>**

## Section Membership Vote on Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws

The Board of Directors is seeking approval from the membership for a number of changes to the Section's bylaws. A vote of the Section membership will take place at the January meeting.

There are a significant number of amendments. First, mention of the Technical and Scientific Societies Council of Cincinnati has been struck from Bylaws II and V since it no longer exists. Second, wording has been changed in Bylaws V and VI to eliminate the strict requirement for elections to be held using paper ballots so that electronic voting can be held in the future. This is consistent with changes recently made to the National Bylaws. Third, wording has been changed in Bylaw VI to allow single candidates to run for any particular office provided the voting process allows for write-in candidates. Further changes in this bylaw have been made to specify the method for resolving tie votes and for removing councilors/alternate councilors from office in the event the Section's allotment decreases. Third, changes to Bylaw VIII have been made to more accurately reflect current practices with respect to the responsibilities of the Trustees. Fourth, a change to Bylaw X has been made to permit any three members of the Executive Committee to call a meeting of the Section or the Executive Committee. Fifth, Bylaw XIII which governs procedures for making student loans has been eliminated since the Section discontinued making student loans several years ago. Sixth, Bylaw XIV has been renumbered as Bylaw XIII and rewritten to include procedures for nominating and selecting recipients of other awards that the Section bestows – chemist of the year, research assistant of the year, service award, teaching awards, the Oesper award, and the Oesper student awards.

In addition to the proposed changes above, a number of minor terminology changes have been made throughout the Bylaws at the request of the National Committee on Constitution and Bylaws such as replacing the term "National Affiliates" with "Society Affiliates", deleting the use of "he/she", using the term "Society" in place of "American

Chemical Society" where appropriate, and deleting internal bylaw references.

*The complete set of amended Bylaws are available for review by all members of the Section on the Section's website at <http://www.che.uc.edu/acs/cinacs.html>. All changes are in blue text; deletions are in blue text with strike-through while additions are in blue without strike-through. Questions concerning the proposed changes may be directed to Ray D'Alonzo, Chair of the Bylaws Committee at [dalonzo.rp@pg.com](mailto:dalonzo.rp@pg.com) or 513-622-1977.*

To change the Bylaws, a two-thirds vote of the membership at a regular monthly meeting is first required (25 members is considered a quorum for a regular monthly meeting). A vote on the proposed changes to the Bylaws is planned for the January regular monthly meeting of the Section. Approved changes by the membership do not go into effect until their approval by the National Committee on Constitution and Bylaws.

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## Section Meeting Sponsors, 2005-6 Program Year

Four local industries and two universities have generously agreed to sponsor one each of our Section meetings in the present program year. This leaves only one meeting (Party Night", May ) without a sponsor, but we expect a volunteer to come forward shortly.

Recall that Sponsorship entails a contribution of at least \$1000 cash or an "in kind "contribution of the same amount of goods and services required to deliver the many aspects of a monthly meeting. Meeting expenses include Social Hour, meeting room, audio/visual equipment, student and guest meals, and miscellaneous speaker expenses. The sponsors' contributions turns loose funds that we can use to provide better speakers, which leads to better attendance and more value to meeting attendees.

The Section and its members appreciate the generosity of these organizations and thank each one for their support.

*(Continued on page 11)*

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## Award Nominations Solicited

**Cincinnati Chemist of the Year:** The Section Awards Committee requests nominations for the 2005 Cincinnati Chemist of the Year. This award, given annually since 1950, recognizes professional accomplishments of a member. The 2005 Chemist of the Year will be the featured speaker at the February meeting. Deadline for nominations is December 7, 2005 (the date of the December meeting).

**Cincinnati Research Assistant of the Year:**

The Section Awards Committee requests nominations for the 2005 Cincinnati Research Assistant/Chemical Technician of the Year. This award, given annually, recognizes job skills, safety, teamwork, leadership, publications and presentations, reliability, communications skills, and additional professional and community activities. A Chemical Technician/Research Assistant is defined as a person whose training includes successful completion of a two year post-high school chemistry curriculum or equivalent work in a Baccalaureate program, or equivalent knowledge gained by experience. The 2005 award will be presented at the February meeting. The winner will be the section's candidate for the National award. Deadline for nominations is December 7, 2005 (the date of the December meeting).

**Outstanding Teaching Awards:** Do you know a teacher who inspires his/her students? Fills them with a curiosity about the world of science and chemistry? The Cincinnati Section of the American Chemical Society is looking for these people – and honors three each year.

- The *High School Chemistry Teacher of the Year* is awarded annually, to recognize accomplishments of those of us who teach chemistry at the secondary school level.
- The *Middle School/Junior High School Science Teacher of the Year* is awarded annually to honor science teaching at this level.
- The *Elementary School Science Teacher of the Year* is awarded for excellence in elementary teaching.

All three awards recognize teaching ability, enthusiasm, mentoring skills, and other leadership activities. Nominees need not be members of the

American Chemical Society. Generally speaking, anyone teaching in these capacities within 35 mile radius of downtown Cincinnati is eligible. These awards will be given at the April Meeting.

The deadline for teaching award nominations is January 18, 2006 (at the meeting).

**For a nomination form contact:**

Jim Hershberger Ph 513-529-2441  
Department of Chemistry Fax 513-529-1675  
Miami University Hershbjw@muohio.edu  
Oxford, OH 45056

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## Chemical Information Update - Wikipedia

Edlyn S. Simmons

When did Marie Curie win the Nobel Prize in chemistry? What is a carbonium ion? What is the heat of fusion of cadmium? What is the Perkin Medal? Who are the Wolof? How many people speak Esperanto? Answers to all those questions can be found in the Wikipedia, <http://wikipedia.org/>.

Wikipedia is a multilingual, Web-based, free-content encyclopedia written collaboratively by volunteers. It is not a chemical information website, but it includes chemistry along with everything else. It has many advantages over a print encyclopedia. It has very current information - I was able to find links to the 2005 Nobel Prize awardees on the day the award was announced. It covers an enormous breadth of topics, including topics that would be considered too trivial for coverage in a print encyclopedia. If a topic that interests you is missing, you can write one yourself or request that someone else write one. It's available, free, to anyone with access to the Internet. Unlike Google and other web search engines, a search of Wikipedia does not retrieve commercial websites. It allows reproduction under the "copyleft" principle, which the site explains by stating, "Wikipedia content can be copied, modified, and redistributed *so long as* the new version grants the same freedoms to others and acknowledges the authors of the Wikipedia article used (a direct link back to the article satisfies our author credit requirement)."

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## National Academies Warn About the Country's World Leadership in Science

Last month, the National Academies Committee on Science, Engineering, and Public Policy (COSEPUP), a joint committee of the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, and the Institute of Medicine, released a report called "Rising Above the Gathering Storm: Energizing and Employing America for a Brighter Economic Future." This report was produced at the request of a bipartisan group of senators and representatives, who asked the National Academies to respond to the following questions:

"What are the top 10 actions, in priority order, that federal policy-makers could take to enhance the science and technology enterprise so that the United States can successfully compete, prosper, and be secure in the global community of the 21st Century? What strategy, with several concrete steps, could be used to implement each of those actions?"

The resulting document states "the committee is deeply concerned that the scientific and technical building blocks of our economic leadership are eroding at a time when many other nations are gathering strength." The report makes recommendations in four areas:

**K-12 education:** "Increase America's talent pool by vastly improving K-12 science and mathematics education." Included

here, for example, is a major initiative for science and math master's programs for middle- and high-school teachers.

**Research:** "Sustain and strengthen the nation's traditional commitment to long-term basic research..." Included is a proposal to double federal investment in long-term basic research over the next 7 years.

**Higher education:** "Make the U.S. the most attractive setting in which to study and perform research so that we can develop, recruit, and retain the best and brightest students..." For example, the report proposes funding 25,000 new four-year undergraduate and 5,000 new graduate scholarships/fellowships each year for students in the sciences, math, and engineering.

**Economic policy:** "Ensure that the U.S. is the premier place in the world to innovate..." by enhancing intellectual property protection and providing tax incentives for industrial innovation.

COSEPUP's report will hopefully have an important influence on Congress for years to come. The report is something all chemists should be aware of. You can read the full report at [www.nationalacademies.org/cosepup](http://www.nationalacademies.org/cosepup). Or, you can look at just the Executive Summary at <http://www.nap.edu/books/0309100399/html>.

Joel Shulman, Chair  
Government Relations Committee

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Mark your calendar for March 12-17, 2006. And pack your walking shoes for your most productive week all year.

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|              |                                |
|--------------|--------------------------------|
| September 18 | No Sponsor Solicited           |
| October 14   | UC Chemistry Department        |
| November     | No Meeting                     |
| December 7   | Xavier University              |
| January 18   | The Procter and Gamble Company |
| February 15  | Givaudan Flavors               |
| March 15     | Advanced Testing Laboratory    |
| April 19     | Girindus America Inc.          |
| May          | Seeking Sponsor                |

Submitted by:  
 Ted J. Logan, Chair  
 SPonsorship Solicitation Committee  
 Cincinnati Section, ACS.

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## Joseph Priestley



### "Gas"

Joseph Priestley (1733-1804). British chemist and Unitarian Minister. Priestley earned his living as a minister and teacher at various dissenting academies. His work in chemistry was done in his spare time and largely during the period when he served as private librarian to Lord Shelburne. It dealt almost exclusively with the use of the pneumatic trough to discover a large number of new "airs" or gases, including nitrogen oxide, nitrogen dioxide, dinitrogen oxide, ammonia, hydrogen chloride, sulfur dioxide and, most famously of all, oxygen (1774). He also investigated the processes of brewing, photosynthesis, respiration, and invented soda water. Priestley was a prolific writer, not only on chemistry, but also on the subjects of theology, history, geography, natural philosophy, and electricity. Due to his liberal political opinions, his home and laboratory were destroyed by a Birmingham mob in 1791,

and he spent his final years in Northumberland Pennsylvania, where he wrote several pamphlets defending the outdated phlogiston theory against Lavoisier's newer oxygen theory of combustion.

*Courtesy of Professor William Jensen, Oesper Chair of the History of Chemistry and Chemical Education, University of Cincinnati and MeasureNet Technology Ltd. For more information, e-mail [noteablechemists@measurenet-tech.com](mailto:noteablechemists@measurenet-tech.com)*

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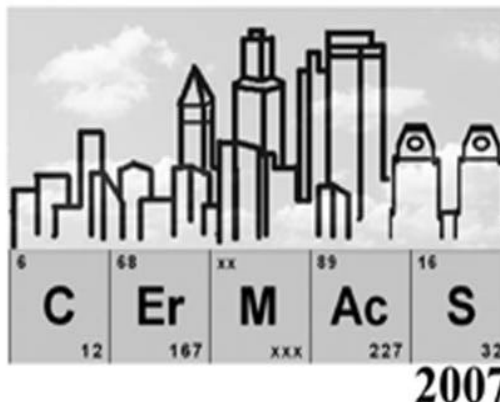
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**May 20-23, 2007**

**Northern Kentucky Convention Center  
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The organizers of CERMACS2007 invite you to mark your calendars to attend this action packed meeting of science and fun! Stay informed on the latest details, check our website at [www.cermacs2007.org](http://www.cermacs2007.org)

CERMACS plans to begin with a *Teachers Program* & then continue with *Technical Sessions, Poster Sessions* and *Vendor Exhibit Show*

*Poster Sessions Sunday, May 20-Tuesday, May 22*

*Vendor Exhibits & Sponsored Activities throughout the meeting*

*ACS Clearinghouse & Employment Activities throughout the meeting*

*Tentative Symposia Topics* in the areas of:

- Investigative Forensic Science-CSI Chemistry
- Chiral Separations
- Phosphorus Chemistry
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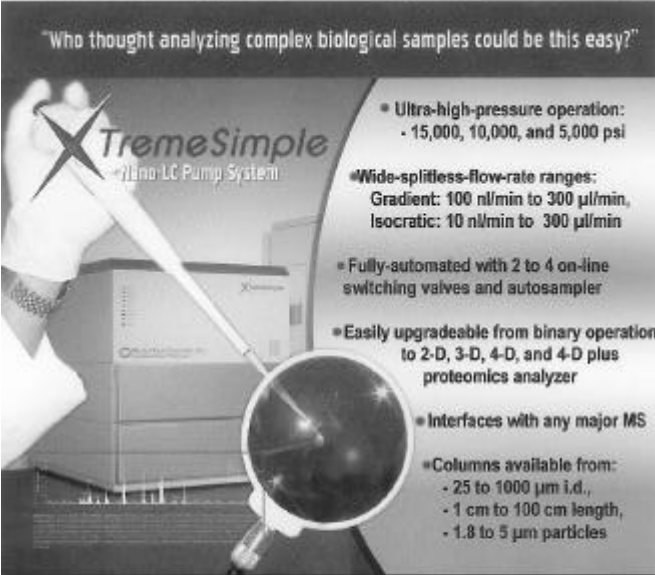
(Continued from page 8)

Wikipedia also has disadvantages, the most significant is that the articles are written by volunteers who may or may not be experts in the field, and they are not peer reviewed in the sense that scholarly journals are. New articles are tagged, and members of the Wikipedia community are invited to edit them or suggest that they be deleted from the website. The appearance of the articles is quite professional, and much of the information is provided in the form of links to authoritative websites such as the official Nobel Prize website. A search for "carbonium," for example, yields an article on Carbocation and has a link to the text of George Olah's Nobel Prize lecture on the topic. On the other hand, articles may be superficial or slanted. This is a good place to satisfy curiosity, not a good place to do serious research.

The size of Wikipedia is impressive. Since its founding in 2001 by an Internet entrepreneur named Jimmy Wales, 770,000, English language articles have been posted and hundreds of thousands of articles are available in nine other languages. The website has a long way to go before it covers the entire universe of human knowledge. For example, there's still no article on the Oesper Award – but there will be one if anyone wants to write it.

Footnote: This year, the Chemical Information Discussion Group is offering hints and updates on chemical information resources available to most chemists and techniques for using them. Feedback, contributions, and requests for information you'd like to see in future columns are welcome. If you have any comments, suggestions, or contributions, please email them to [simmons.es@pg.com](mailto:simmons.es@pg.com)


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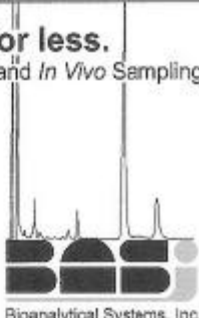
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