



THE ORGANIC REACTIONS CATALYSIS SOCIETY

Newsletter for the 22nd Biennial ORCS Conference

January 2007

www.orcs.org

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2008 ORCS MEETING



The 22nd ORCS Conference on the Catalysis of Organic Reactions will be held in Richmond, Va. at The Jefferson Hotel on **March 30 through April 3, 2008.**

Letter from the Chairman

Happy New Year! As we all get back to work after the year end holidays, the organization for the 22nd Conference begins to get active. With this letter I want to highlight the work of your Officers and Board of Directors who make up the Executive Committee.

The officers currently serve two year terms while the Directors serve four year terms. The terms are staggered to keep continuity while also continually bringing new members into the governing of the Society.

The Executive Committee oversees the business of the Society and helps plan, organize and run the conferences. While this is a lot of work and sounds like a daunting task, the Executive Committee members manage to do the work with only three one day meetings held in the two years between conferences. Each member of the Executive Committee accepts specific responsibilities and tasks and does much of the actual work with only email and phone calls to keep the other committee members informed of the progress of the many tasks that

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ORCS Executive Committee

Officers:

Michael Prunier
Alan Allgeier
Stephen Schmidt
Helene Shea
Steven Quimby

Directors:

Kathryn Hayes
John Super
Baoshu Chen
Bert Chandler
James White
Pierre Gallezot

NACS Representative:

Stephen Jacobson

(Letter Continued)

combine to produce the conference. One of the great strengths of ORCS is the dedication and talent of the members who agree to serve on the Board. The Chairman sets the tone for the conference and is responsible for the overall planning and running of the meeting. One of his tasks is to coordinate the activities of the board members who are arranging finances, exhibitors, publicity, communications, awards, outreach activities, posters, updates of the web site, travel grants, the poster session, registration etc.

Without the work of the Board members, the conference would not be possible. In fact many other members also make the conference possible. Members serve on the Editorial Board, serve as Session chairs as well as many other special tasks that arise during the planning process.

I am asking each ORCS member to consider participating in an ORCS activity. This can be as informal as finding one or two new members to attend the 2008 meeting or suggesting/encouraging a colleague to submit a presentation for the meeting. You can also participate more formally by agreeing to serve on a subcommittee or agreeing to run for a position on the Board. As a Board member you can help determine the focus and future of the Society. You can help prepare and run a conference that meets the needs you consider vital to the Society's membership. I feel great satisfaction in trying to help make sure ORCS is available, useful and relevant to new generations of catalysis scientists just as it was for me when I started attending ORCS conferences in 1984. Other Board members have expressed this same sense of personal accomplishment by serving ORCS in some capacity.

I am looking forward to the 2008 conference and will work hard to make this a conference that meets the high standards set by our previous conferences. This newsletter is one new way I am trying to keep you informed of the activities that occur between conferences so that you can be more involved in the Society. I will be asking many of you to help in some capacity and I hope you will consider volunteering to serve ORCS.

Have a great New Year and I'll see you in Richmond.

Michael L. Prunier
Chairman of the Organic Reactions Catalysis Society

Call For Nominations

Nominations for the Paul. N. Rylander and the Murray Raney Award are now being sought. Please see the web site (www.orcs.org) for information on these awards as well as the lists of previous winners and send your nominations to any Board member. Your nomination should include the nominee for either award, the reasons you feel that this person should win the award, and a brief summary of the work/publications of the nominee. Supporting letters are acceptable but are not required. **Nominations should be submitted by 4/1/2007.**

ORCS Mailing List

ORCS has a mailing list of contacts for anyone interested in catalysis who may be interested in attending a conference, submitting an abstract or just keep up with the Society's activities and plans. If you would like to be added to the list or know someone we should be contacting, please send the appropriate contact information to publicity@orcs.org and we will add the contact to our files. You can also ask to be removed from our files at the same address.

Sponsors

ORCS is very grateful for the companies who sponsor our organization. We would like to publicly acknowledge the sponsors of the 21st Conference in Orlando:

Platinum

Degussa Corporation
Grace Davison
Parr Instrument Company

Gold

Air Products
CRI Catalyst Company
Eli Lilly & Co.
Engelhard Corporation
Merck
Süd-Chemie
Umicore

Silver

Amgen
DuPont
Nova Molecular

ORCS also acknowledges the North American Catalysis Society and the ACS/PRF for grants that are used for student travel awards and for support for academic participation.

If your company is interested in a sponsorship for the 2008 conference, please contact John Super.

Sponsorships

After the 2004 meeting, the amount of cash in the Society's bank accounts was negligible and the ORCS Board decided to change the Corporate Financial Support program in hopes of significantly increasing the total financial assistance from our industry partners as part of the solution to this problem. The Board created a tiered Sponsorship Program, establishing three levels of sponsorship: Silver (\geq \$1000), Gold (\geq \$3000), and Platinum (\geq \$5000) with increasing recognition and visibility associated with each tier.

The Platinum level is recognized prominently at the awards dinner, all technical sessions and on the carrier given to all attendees with their meeting materials and primarily supports the general costs of the meeting and running of the Society.

The Gold level is recognized at the awards dinner and the poster session and primarily supports graduate students and postdoctorals who participate in the poster session.

The Silver level is recognized at the awards dinner and primarily supports the luncheons and other miscellaneous meeting expenses.

All levels of Sponsorship have a listing on the Society's web site and in the published meeting program.

As a result of these changes, the Society's cash reserves grew modestly. For the 2006 conference, our sponsors contributed about \$30,000 cash and about \$20,000 of direct payments for the coffee breaks, receptions and entertainment. This represented almost 1/2 of the direct expenses needed to conduct the 2006 meeting. This support is very important to the Society. We were able to improve our financial situation and still keep our membership dues and conference fees low compared to similar Societies and Conferences.

The sponsorship program is again being led by Director John D Super. Please contact John at jsuper@houston.rr.com for additional information.

John is also looking for an associate to help expand the sponsorship program for 2008. If you have an interest in serving in this important position, please contact John. For the 2008 meeting the Society particularly wants to increase the number of sponsors from new catalysis focuses and newer-to-ORCS businesses.

ORCS Survey

Chair-elect Alan Allgeier has written a survey to help determine the attitudes and feelings of the membership to help plan for future conferences and ORCS activities. You will receive the survey electronically and we very much hope you will take a few minutes to complete the survey. ORCS is your organization and exists to further the science of catalysis and to meet the needs of our membership. Your input is vital to helping your elected Board know what you think and your participation will be very much appreciated.

Catalysis Meetings in 2007



VIII International Symposium on Catalysis Applied to Fine Chemicals September 16-20, 2007 Verbania, Italy

The first Call for abstracts will be available in the first half of November.

Visit our website for additional information:
www.sci-gic.it/?Cafc8

Links to web sites for these meetings are on the ORCS web site for your convenience.

ORCS Archive

I am in the process of organizing an archive of ORCS history. In addition to the ORCS files which the Secretary/Treasurers have collected, I am looking for any other information or memorabilia from ORCS meetings such as pictures, registration lists, programs, badges etc. We have a list of all pre-registered attendees from 1984-2006 and this will be added to the web site with other historical information as we collect it. I still do not have a copy of the registration lists from any of the first nine meetings. If you have any ORCS memorabilia that you are willing to donate, please contact Mike Prunier (chair@orcs.org). If you are not willing to give up your original items, I am willing to pay to get copies made or electronic versions scanned for inclusion into the archive.

I am also looking for interesting facts about any of the meetings. This can be firsts like the first poster session, first 3.5 day meeting, first Parr sponsored breaks, presentations by Nobel prize winners etc. or can be interesting occurrences like the tornado passing overhead in Williamsburg in 1984 leaving the hotel without power and the guests with a candlelight cold cut dinner in the hallways. I appreciate anything you have to offer and I hope to have a display at the 2010 meeting reflecting the rich heritage of ORCS and her members for all to see and enjoy.