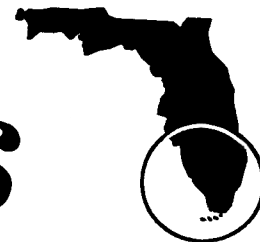




SoFlacs



Vol. 16, No. 5

South Florida Section ACS

December 2006

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

K. V. (Venk) Venkatachalam, Ph.D.

It is time to say "so long" as my term as chair ends. I am signing off with great satisfaction that SoFL-ACS has brought you various scintillating seminars and educational activities throughout the year. To go down the memory lane we started out 2006 in January with a seminar by Dr. Judith Bond, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine, on "Mechanisms and Regulation of Meprin Metalloproteases". In March, we hosted the local Chemistry Olympiad exam, coordinated and conducted by our education committee chair, Cheryl Doolittle (Pinecrest High School), followed by the National Chemistry Olympiad Lab Exam in April, coordinated by our program chair, Skip Pomeroy, and past chair, Vic Shanbhag. Their tireless and monumental diligence brought various high school teachers and students together for these exams. In April, SoFL-ACS cosponsored the Forensic Sciences Symposium and will do so again for the 2007 symposium in January (for details go to: www.soflacs.org and click on the respective 2007 forensic science event flyers). April 26-28 Dr. Daniel Rabinovich, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, presented three seminars on "Soft Scorpionates: We've Come a Long Way From Brimstone, Baby!" at Barry University, University of Miami, and FIU South Campus. On April 29 we held our "Annual Awards Banquet" at FIU North Campus. In May George Fisher (Barry University) and Dr. Vic Shanbhag (NSU) hosted a science ed workshop on "Inquiry Matters" for elementary school teachers with presenter/facilitator Patti Galvan from National ACS education division.

The fall program began on September 8 with Dr. Chris Liang, from Scripps Research Institute-Florida presenting a talk on "Multi-targeted Kinase Inhibitor *Sutent*, for the Treatment of Cancers". October 20-28 we celebrated National Chemistry Week with the theme "Your Home: It's All Built on Chemistry". On Friday Oct.

20 Dr. Carl Snyder, Univ. of Miami Professor Emeritus gave a very practical and valuable talk titled "At Home with Chemistry" along with demonstrations of household chemistry. On Saturday morning the 21st we had a hands-on teacher (middle and high school) workshop with various demonstrations such as toothpaste, paint, detergent and shampoo evaluations. Later in the morning and in the afternoon, we had seminars on cement (by Jeff Allis) and polymers (by Dan Maria). SoFL-ACS Program Chair Dr. Skip Pomeroy, along with Dr. Vic Shanbhag, once again tirelessly put these programs together. NCW culminated on Oct. 28 with "Science Day At The Mall" ably coordinated by SoFL-ACS Secretary Milly Delgado (FIU). There were science demonstrations and fun hands-on activities for kids and adults at the 163rd Street Mall in North Miami, presented by students and faculty from local middle schools, high schools, FIU and Barry University.

We ended our remarkable year of 2006 with the "Second Annual Chemical Sciences Symposium" on November 18 at NSU. With the success of the 2005 symposium, I wrote an Innovative Project Grant (IPG) and our section was among the few winners at the National ACS level and received \$3000 to conduct this year's symposium with the theme "Major Molecules of Life". Invited speakers gave talks on carbohydrates, lipids, amino acids and nucleotides, and several students and faculty presented research posters. Looking to next year, ACS has launched a "Science Café" program, and I was able to tap this resource by proposing some café themes. We will receive \$500 to conduct events in 2007. With all these activity accomplishments the South Florida ACS Section is certainly in excellent standing.

Finally, I thank the executive committee members for their diligence and counsel. Most of all I thank the faculties, students, teachers and all of you the members for electing me to serve as your Chair for 2006. Happy Holidays and Happy New Year in advance.

cut and save

FUTURE EVENTS - MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Check the South Florida ACS web for additional info and updates: www.soflacs.org

cut and save

Friday and Saturday, Jan. 19-20 – Forensics 2007 Symposium. Friday, 6:00-7:00 p.m., reception and poster session in Steel Auditorium of HPD Terry building on Nova Southeastern University campus, Ft. Lauderdale, followed by keynote address by Ms. Dayle Hinman, recently retired chief profiler and statewide coordinator of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement Crime Analysis/Profile Program. Saturday starting 8:00 a.m. (HPD Terry building) there will be a full day of symposia speakers, as well as a student poster session all through the symposium. Pre-registration is available on-line at <https://www.nova.edu/forconf05> or at the SoFL-ACS web site at www.soflacs.org. Registration fees: \$30 for student, \$40 non-student. See additional information inside.

Friday - Sunday, Jan. 12-14 – HPERs 2007: Health Professions Educational Research Symposium, Nova Southeastern University; web site: www.nova.edu/hpers.

March 25-29 – 233rd ACS National Meeting and Exposition in Chicago. See: www.chemistry.org/meetings.



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Forensic Sciences Symposium 2007



January 19 - 20, 2007

Nova Southeastern University, HPD Steele Auditorium, 3200 S. University Drive, Ft. Lauderdale

<http://www.nova.edu/~chemist/forensic07/forindex.htm>

<http://soflacs.org>

Presentations

January 20, 2007

Kenneth G. Furton

Forensic Chemistry
IFRI Director & Professor
Florida International University

Philip Levine

Forensic Dentist/Professor
Pensacola

M. Bonner Denton

Chemistry/Geosciences
Professor of Chemistry
University of Arizona, Tucson

Lenore Walker

Forensic Psychologist/Professor
Fort Lauderdale

Rene Herrera

Geneticist/Professor
Florida International University

Keynote

January 19, 2007 6 - 9 pm

Research Poster Contest
Social

Keynote Address

Dayle Hinman

Court TV's Show host of
"Body of Evidence, From the Case Files
of Dayle Hinman"



Special Events

January 20, 2007

Research Poster Contest
Detector Dog Demo
DNA Sample Collection

Workshops

January 13, 2007

Blood Stain Pattern Study
Insect Identification
Document Examination
DNA Analysis

Registration

Keynote event: No Registration needed

Conference: Registration needed \$30.00 (student), \$40.00 (non-student) (\$10 discount if registered before January 10)

Workshops: Registration needed Cost:\$20.00 Contact: shanbhag@nova.edu (954)262-8331

Online Registration: <https://www.nova.edu/forconf05/>

Mail Registration: Use the form below

Name: _____

School/Organization: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Mail this form with the check payable to **FFC / NSU**

Dr. Vic Shanbhag, FAR-MST, Nova Southeastern University, 3301 College Ave., Ft Lauderdale, FL 33314

NOMINEES FOR 2007 OFFICERS

NOMINEE FOR CHAIRMAN-ELECT

**Rose Mary Stiffin**

Dr. Stiffin is Dean of the School of Health and Natural Sciences and Associate Professor of Chemistry at Florida Memorial University in Miami. She has a B.A. (1978) in Chemistry, with honors (math minor), from Mississippi Valley State University; M.S. (1981) in organic from Mississippi State University under an NSF fellowship; and Ph.D. (1995) in biochemistry from University of Tennessee (Memphis). In between the M.S. and Ph.D. she worked for Dow Chemical, Cargill, and St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. After her Ph.D. she returned to

St. Jude's for two post-doctoral research positions. She taught one year at Rust College in Mississippi before coming to Florida Memorial College (now University) in 1999. In addition to ACS, Rose has been the coordinator of the Florida-Georgia Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation program (FGLSAMP), and involved in preparing students for research presentations at FMU and St. Thomas University science symposia and ACS meetings. She recently received a \$1M grant from NNSA-DOE for curriculum development in radiochemistry at FMU. She was also one of the plenary speakers at AfrICANDO conference where she spoke of the opportunities and threats to women of Africa and Diaspora in science, math, engineering and technology.

Dr. Stiffin's Position Statement

As SoFL-ACS chair, I would continue to invite speakers to expose members and students to research opportunities. I would form a journal club where faculty who don't have the opportunity or means to publish on a regular basis (such as myself) but who are still passionate about science could present an article from some journal. I would like to establish partnerships between Florida Memorial University and other universities/institutes where faculty could do research or internships. As chair, my one wish is to work well with the members and the public, to open the eyes of the public (especially minority or underrepresented youth) to the joys and opportunities that science has to offer.

NOMINEE FOR SECRETARY

**Milagros (Milly) Delgado**

Milly received her B.S. degree in Chemistry from the University of Puerto Rico at Rio Piedras in 1980, where she began her graduate work. She transferred with her major professor to the University of Miami where she received her Ph.D. degree in 1987. During 1987-1989 she was a postdoctoral fellow in the Inorganic Chemistry Department

at Oxford University, England. She returned to Miami in 1989 as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Chemistry at Florida International University. During the 1993-1994 academic year, Milly was awarded the State of Florida McKnight Fellowship for Junior faculty. In the Fall of 1994, Milly was assigned to FIU's North Miami Campus where she leads all chemistry teaching and supervises laboratories. In 1995 she received the excellence in teaching award and the Teaching Incentive Program award from Florida International University. Milly is involved in the integration of computers in the teaching laboratories and development of inquiry-based experiments. She was awarded an NSF grant for the purchase of computers and software. She has developed experiments that incorporate the use of sensors for measuring changes and computers for data collection, manipulation, and analysis. She has a strong mentoring and advising commitment toward science students at FIU, high school and elementary school levels. She participated in the Upward-Bound Program for high school students during the past twelve summers and has been involved in research with undergraduate and high school students. Milly is the advisor to the ACS Student Affiliate Chapter at FIU-

Biscayne Bay Campus that has been recognized for their community activities with multiple awards from FIU, ACS, and the Lyons Club.

Milly has been active in ACS governance since 1993 both at national and local levels. As a National Councilor, she was appointed Associate Member of the ACS Project SEED Committee, full member in 1994, and chair of the committee from 2001-2003. She was also appointed Associated Member of the Minority Affairs Committee in 1996 and full member since 1997. In 1997 she was appointed associate member of the Society Committee on Education (SOCED). Milly was elected member of the Committee on Committee in 2004 and reelected in 2006. She is member of the Subcommittee on Leadership Development. She has been a mentor and advisor for the ACS Scholars Program since 1995 and is a member of the ACS Scholar's Selection Committee since 2000. At the local level she was elected secretary in 1994 and continues to serve in the position. Milly has been active in outreach programs for K-12 students of Dade and Broward counties. In addition, during the last thirteen years, she has participated in the SoFL-ACS third grade demonstration program, has judged science fair projects, and has developed programs at elementary schools to increase the general public awareness on science with a Day of Science at the Mall for the last five years and Science Family Nights. For her volunteer work in Miami-Dade schools, Milly was recognized as outstanding volunteer for the county in 2003.

Dr. Delgado's Position Statement for Secretary

I have represented South Florida at National level by getting appointed and elected to ACS committees (SEED, Minority Affairs, Committee on Education, and Committee on Committees), attending Council meetings, and reporting back to our Section on activities or issues that affects us at the local level. It has been a pleasure to serve our section as secretary. During the last thirteen years I have carried the duties and responsibilities of the position. One of our largest challenges is increasing member participation in our activities and defining the needs of our constituents. To increase awareness and participation I will like to be informed preferably by e-mail (delgadam@fiu.edu) of activities, seminars, meetings, and volunteering opportunities that might be available in your area. I have a strong commitment to science education at all levels from South Florida youngsters to the general community. I plan to continue this commitment by enhancing outreach programs to convey a positive message about science and Chemistry. I will continue and will encourage others to participate in National Chemistry Week's activities.

NOMINEES FOR COUNCILOR

George H. Fisher

George received a B.S. in chemistry from Rollins College, M.S. in organic chemistry from University of Florida, and Ph.D. in organic from the University of Miami. He is currently Professor of Chemistry at Barry University, where he teaches organic and nursing chemistry and does research on altered amino acids in dysfunctional biological systems. At Barry U. he received the Presidential Scholar award in 1998 and the Faculty of the Year award in 2002. He is the faculty advisor to the Barry ACS Student Affiliates chapter. He has been a member of ACS since 1968 and a member of the Divisions of Organic Chemistry and Chemical Education. He has served the ACS for over 35 years in various positions. He was Miami Subsection Secretary-Treasurer in 1971 and 1976, Chairman-Elect in 1977, and Chairman in 1978. He was Florida Section Chairman-Elect-Designate in 1979, Chairman-Elect in 1980, and Chairman in 1981; South Florida Section Chair-Elect, 2002, and Chair (2003 & 2004). He was a National Councilor for 18 years, first for the Florida Section (1983-1991), and then for the South Florida Section (1992-2000), and is currently an Alternate Councilor. He received the SoFL-ACS Distinguished Service Award in 1991 and the ACS Southern Chemist Award in 1995. He is a member of

the ACS Project SEED committee 1984-1992, 1998-present, and the Local Section Activities Committee (LSAC) 1993-1996. He is currently editor of *SoFlacs*, National Chemistry Week coordinator, chairman of the budget committee, and chairman of the bylaws committee. He has participated in the National Chemistry Week Third Grade Demonstration programs since 1991. He was a mentor for several Miami Project SEED students from 1984 to 1990, and currently works with minority college research students through the MARC and MBRS programs at Barry Univ.

Dr. Fisher's Position Statement

My record of ACS service over the past 35 years demonstrates my commitment to ACS. I will continue to support the goals of ACS to improve the public image of chemists, to broaden the scope of chemical education, and to keep membership dues as low as possible while maintaining the level of services which members wish. National Chemistry Week programs are vital for educating the general public about the role of chemists and chemistry as a science. We also need to increase the ACS thrust for more involvement of under-represented minorities in science, through programs such as Project SEED and Minority Affairs.

Zaida C. Morales-Martinez



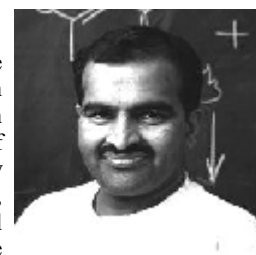
Zaida received her BS in chemistry from the University of Puerto Rico – Rio Piedras Campus and her MS in Analytical Chemistry from The Pennsylvania State University. She came to Florida International University (FIU) via Florida State University, University of Bridgeport (Connecticut), and University of Puerto Rico – Rio Piedras Campus. In 2003 she retired from FIU after 30 years (46 total teaching years) and now holds the rank of Professor Emeritus. While at FIU, Zaida received numerous awards. Before retiring, Zaida was awarded the University

Distinguished Service Medallion for her contributions to FIU and the community. Within the ACS organization, she received the Florida Section Civic Service Award, the first ACS Women Chemists Committee Southeast Regional Award for significantly stimulating and fostering diversity in the chemical sciences and the 2004 ACS National Award for Encouraging Disadvantaged Students into Careers in the Chemical Sciences sponsored by the Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation. Zaida served as a Florida Section councilor from 1986 to 1992 and for the South Florida Section from 1992-99, 2003-06. During these years she has been appointed to Project SEED Committee (9 years), SOCED (9 years), CMA (6 years), the Task Force for Undergraduate Programming at National Meetings (3 years), Task Force for National Chemistry Week (10 years), IAC (2 years), MAC (2 yrs, and numerous ad-hoc committees. In 1991, then ACS President Al Heining appointed her to the Task Force on Minorities in the Chemical Sciences. It was through the workings of this task force that the ACS Scholars Program was established. Zaida has participated in the Selection Committee of this program since its inception in 1995 and since 1999 she has been its Mentoring Consultant.

Zaida Morales-Martinez's Position Statement

In 1999 when the South Florida Section had to downsize from 3 two 2 councilors I chose to step aside and not forced a re-election. Not being a councilor during those years severely limited the national committees on which I was able to be appointed. Therefore, in 2003 I ran and was elected your councilor for 3 years. When I ran for election in 2003 I said: "I am seeking reelection so that YOU, the South Florida Section, can be represented in national decision-making committees. If elected, I promise to continue and intensify my activities on your behalf." Well, I kept my promise. I was appointed, as a full member, to the Council Committee of Membership Affairs (MAC). I was also appointed by the Board, as one of the three members from Council, to the Program Review Advisory Group (PRAG) for the 2006 cycle. Also, I attended all 6 council meetings. I come again asking for your vote to continue representing our South Florida Section locally and in the national arena. If you think that I have represented you well, please vote for me.

Venkatesh M. Shanbhag



Venkatesh (Vic) Shanbhag, Associate Professor of Chemistry at Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, received a B.Sc. in Chemistry (Physics minor) from University of Bombay, a M.Sc. in Analytical Chemistry from the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay and a Ph. D. in Inorganic-Analytical Chemistry from Texas A&M University. He teaches chemistry courses (Introductory, General, Organic, and upper division) to students pursuing their career in health professions. He has been a member of ACS since 1986, and has served ACS in varied capacities: meeting chair for DivCHED activities at Orlando ACS Meeting (2002) and Washington, DC ACS meeting (2005); served on the SoFL-ACS Executive Committee as communications coordinator, webmaster, alternate councilor, and the Chair-Elect/Chair/Past-Chair (2004-2006). He is co-organizer of the annual Forensic Conference series since 2003. He is involved in high school outreach activities through National Chemistry Olympiad, National Chemistry week and teacher workshops. Prior to coming to NSU in 1998 as Assistant Professor of Chemistry, he has worked as a Post doctoral research associate at Iowa State University, as a Visiting Professor at Slippery Rock University, and as an Assistant Professor and Director of Undergraduate Labs at Mississippi State University.

Dr. Shanbhag's Position Statement

I have been involved in ACS activities at local and national levels for over 15 years. I have demonstrated my outreach and organizational abilities through the Forensic Conference series, workshops for school teachers, and altogether excellent programming. As your representative on Council, I will take initiatives to increase the participation of members in scientific and related activities. I would like see SoFL-ACS facilitate the development of a consortium of educators for community outreach activities, initiate programs for retired chemists in the region, and facilitate the interaction between industrial and academic chemists. Since our section is geographically spread out, I would like to see that we hold regular regional activities within the local section. I would like for SoFL-ACS to facilitate empowering teachers at high schools and middle schools within the region. As a councilor, I would solicit your ideas and concerns regarding ACS policies and practices so as to present them to the council. I would follow the "listen & learn" motto during my term.

VOTE IN THE SOUTH FLORIDA ELECTIONS

1. Select and mark candidates on the ballot. If you wish to vote for individual(s) other than those nominated please write in their name(s). Vote only for as many candidates as indicated.
2. For Councilor, the candidate receiving the most votes will become the Councilor for a 3-year term. The candidate receiving the second highest number of votes will become the Alternate Councilor for a 3-year term.
3. Cut off the ballot below and place it in an envelope, sign the top left hand corner of the envelope, stamp and mail it to the secretary

Dr. Milagros Delgado
Department of Chemistry
FIU - North Campus, AC1-382A
North Miami, FL 33181

BALLOTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, Dec. 15

CHAIRMAN-ELECT (vote for one)

___ Rose Mary Stiffin or _____

SECRETARY (Vote for one)

___ Milly Delgado or _____

COUNCILOR/ALTERNATE COUNCILOR (Vote for two)

___ George Fisher _____ Zaida Morales-Martinez

___ Venkatesh Shanbhag or _____

REFLECTIONS ON FIFTY YEARS OF ACADEMIC CHEMISTRY

Cecil M. Criss, Professor Emeritus, University of Miami

To fully understand the past fifty years in academic chemistry one must consider two monumental events that occurred the previous decade: the invention of the transistor in 1947 and the creation of the National Science Foundation in 1950. The invention of the transistor is probably the most important invention of the twentieth century. The transistor and the resultant integrated circuits that followed enabled the construction of high-speed digital computers of moderate size so important to every aspect of our lives. It is difficult to imagine a chemistry laboratory now without computers. There would be no Fourier transform spectrometers, there would be little if any automatic data collection and analysis, and molecular modeling would be limited to balls and sticks. If the invention of the transistor was a technical prerequisite for the rapid progress in chemistry, the creation of the NSF was the financial powerhouse enabling academic chemistry to thrive. Universities made major contributions to solving technical problems during WW II, funded through the Office of Scientific Development and Research. During the war visionaries were wondering how this expertise could be transferred to solving national problems in peacetime. Vannevar Bush, at the request of President Roosevelt, wrote a report, "Science – The Endless Frontier," proposing an agency dedicated to pure research. The ultimate result was legislation that created the National Science Foundation.

The existence of transistors and the NSF were not apparent when I entered Kenyon College as a freshman in the fall of 1952. Money was scarce and instruments were few. Most instruments consisted of slide wires and ballistic galvanometers. The few electronic instruments available operated on vacuum tubes. No instruments were available for general chemistry and organic laboratories. Inorganic ions were identified through qualitative analysis schemes with visual color identification. Quantitative analyses were similar, detecting endpoints visually. Battery powered potentiometric pH meters with slidewires and built-in galvanometers were used for pH measurements. There were no IR or NMR spectrometers; organic compounds were analyzed by measuring physical properties of their derivatives. My senior research in analytical chemistry employed a Beckman DU Spectrometer, the most sophisticated instrument in the department, costing about \$2000. This excellent instrument had beautiful optics, but each point in the spectrum had to be taken manually after balancing the signal using a built-in potentiometer. The power source was a six-volt lead storage battery.

When I entered Purdue University in 1956, as a first-year graduate student the situation was not much different. The Department had only a few instruments available for routine analyses. There were no commercially built GCMSs, X-ray diffractometers, or NMR spectrometers for routine analyses, since commercial versions of these instruments either did not exist or had only recently come to market. It would be another two years before the Purdue Chemistry Department would purchase its first NMR, and this was for research in physical chemistry. A radio chemist had a home-constructed mass spectrometer. A friend of mine spent four years constructing the first X-ray diffractometer in the Department and determining the structure of one crystal for his Ph. D. thesis, using a Merchant mechanical calculator for numerical analysis. Today a similar crystal structure can be determined on a commercial instrument in a few hours. While commercial instruments did not generally exist, funds were becoming more plentiful through the recently created NSF and other government agencies (AEC and defense agencies) to purchase instrument components. But at the time each research group constructed its own instrument for a specific type of measurement. Because of the

enormous effort required to design, construct, and test instruments, research problems in physical chemistry were primarily instrument oriented rather than an application of a variety of instruments to solve a particular chemical problem. Once an instrument was constructed and tested it was applied to as many chemical systems as feasible, subject to that measurement technique. Thus, if a physical chemist constructed a microwave spectrometer, it would be dedicated to determining the pure rotational properties, and hence bond lengths, of as many molecules as could be easily obtained.

My Ph. D. thesis problem on the thermodynamics of high temperature aqueous solutions required a precision solution calorimeter. No commercial solution calorimeters existed, so I constructed one. The first of these was a glass dewar type vessel using a commercial platinum resistance thermometer, Mueller bridge, and ballistic galvanometer to measure temperature changes. A special optical path was created by pointing a 50-power telescope at a mirror in a galvanometer, which reflected the image of an illuminated millimeter scale on the opposite wall of the laboratory, creating an optical pointer arm of about 10 meters. The temperature sensitivity was about 0.0001 °C. Each data point had to be determined by balancing the bridge using the galvanometer and recording the bridge reading manually. After a few days of looking at the galvanometer through a telescope several hours each day it became obvious that an automatically recording device had to be devised. After considerable investigation we found a reasonably stable commercial microvolt dc amplifier to replace the galvanometer in the bridge circuit. The output was recorded on a 10-inch strip chart recorder. The amplifier was originally designed for measuring the dc output from thermocouple detectors in infrared spectrometers. My instrument was one of the first automatically recording calorimeters ever constructed.

Start-up funds for assistant professors were non-existent in the early 1960s. Fortunately, financial support from NSF and other agencies had begun to have an effect and it was relatively easy for one to obtain research funding by the end of the first year of an academic career. The launching of "Sputnik" in 1957 helped increase funding of science immensely in the early 60s. The full effects of government funding and the transistor made their mark in the late 50s and early 60's. Companies responded by selling commercial versions of some of the home constructed instruments of a decade earlier. There was a shift from vacuum tubes to transistors and integrated circuits. We obtained our first electronic desktop calculator in 1967. It could perform the four basic math calculations, and evaluate a simple square root in about 30 seconds. The first hand held calculator appeared around 1972. These metamorphosed into the first PCs in the early 80's. Fourier transform IRs and NMRs appeared at about the same time. I look back at this time as extremely exciting and as the golden age for academic chemistry.

There have been numerous surprises along the way. Three particularly exciting events come to mind: the "discoveries" of polywater in the mid 60s and cold fusion in 1989, both later disproved, and the discovery of C₆₀ in 1985, with confirmation in 1990. The latter discovery gave us the entirely new fields of fullerene chemistry and nanochemistry. I have also been surprised by the transformation of academic chemistry from a small cottage industry to big science, trending towards the creation of centers of excellence. The emphasis in research has shifted from instrument oriented problems of individual PIs to complex chemical problems requiring collaborative efforts among researchers, using a variety of expensive commercial instruments and technicians to operate them.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Milagros (Milly) Delgado, SoFL-ACS National Councilor, who during the ACS Council meeting in San Francisco in September was re-elected to the prestigious national ACS Committee on Committees (ConC), which oversees the activities of ACS committees.

And to the following student poster winners at the SoFL-ACS Chemical Sciences Symposium on November 18:

Francisco Alvarez, Pinecrest High School, Ft. Lauderdale, first place in layout and chemistry content; **Christophe Arteaga**, Barry University, second place in layout and third place in chemistry content; **Lashawn Oatman** and **Danielle Bayoro**, Florida Memorial University, second place in chemistry content; **Angela Castillo**, FIU Biscayne Bay campus, third place in layout.

OFFICERS OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA SECTION ACS FOR 2006

Immediate Past Chair: Venkatesh (Vic) Shanbhag, FAR-MST, Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33314, (954) 262-8331, shanbhag@nova.edu

Chair: K.V. (Venk) Venkatachalam, Department of Biochemistry, Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33328-2018, (954) 262-1335, venk@nova.edu

Chair-Elect: Robert (Skip) Pomeroy, FAR-MST, Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33314, (954) 262-8321, pomeroy@nova.edu

Secretary: Milagros Delgado, Department of Chemistry, Florida International University Biscayne Bay Campus, AC1-382A, North Miami, FL 33181, (305) 919-5966; delgadam@fiu.edu

Treasurer: Leonard Keller, Department of Chemistry, Florida International University, Miami, FL 33199, (305) 348-3081; kellerl@fiu.edu

National Councilors: Zaida Morales-Martinez (2006), FIU, 305 386-3206, moralesz@fiu.edu; Milagros Delgado (2007), FIU, 305 919-5966, delgadam@fiu.edu

Alternate Councilors: George Fisher (2006), Barry University, 305-899-3430, gfisher@mail.barry.edu; George Duncan (2007), Broward County Sheriff's Crime Lab, 954 831-6147, george_duncan@sheriff.org

Membership Applications: available from the secretary, Dr. Milagros Delgado, See secretary above.

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NATIONAL ACS WEB SITE: <http://www.chemistry.org>

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