



# SoFlacs



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South Florida Section ACS

December 2007

## ELECTION BALLOT ISSUE

### NOMINEES FOR 2008 OFFICERS

#### NOMINEE FOR CHAIRMAN

**NOTE:** The current Chairman, Dr. Michael Elliott, assumed the Chairman's position when 2007 Chairman Dr. Pomeroy left the section. Thus, Dr. Elliott must stand for re-election as Chairman.



#### Michael J. Elliott

Mike received a B.A. in Chemistry and French and a M.A. from the University of Virginia and a Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of Texas at Austin. He is currently Assistant Professor of Chemistry at Florida Memorial University after having been at Barry University for many years. Current teaching assignments include General Chemistry, Analytical Chemistry, and Physical Chemistry. Mike won two teaching awards while in graduate school at the University of Texas and

loves teaching. In terms of community service, Mike has performed many demonstrations to third-grade students and continues his participation in Doctor Rock and the Terminal Degrees, the faculty and staff rock band at Barry University. He has been an ACS member since 1985 and has served the South Florida section as its first Secretary in 1992 and, later, as Treasurer from 1993 to 1997. Mike also served as the Executive Treasurer of Gamma Sigma Epsilon National Chemistry Honor Society from 1993 to 1997.

#### Dr. Elliott's Position Statement

The South Florida Section has historically supported education by providing travel money to undergraduate students, sponsoring speakers, and performing demonstrations to elementary schools students and mall patrons. All of these initiatives have been successful and we should continue to expand these programs to the extent we are able. I applaud the South Florida's efforts in reaching out to historically underrepresented minorities and women and will continue to support any effort to attract bright and talented students into careers in chemistry. An area in which the South Florida Section has not been as successful is in providing programs to our large number of retired chemists. As Chair, I will continue to investigate ways to reach out to our retired chemists to see what the South Florida Section can offer that would interest them. I also believe that is important that all of the universities in our area continue to cooperate as we have historically done and keep each other apprised of events on our respective campuses.

#### 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 TREASURER

#### Leonard Keller



Dr. Keller received his B.A. in chemistry from Rutgers University in 1965 and his Ph.D. in chemistry from Yale University in 1970. He was an NIH Postdoctoral Fellow at Brandeis University from 1970-72. He was a "founding faculty member" at Florida International University where he has been since the university's opening in 1972. He was chairman of the FIU Chemistry Department from 1981-1994 and currently holds the rank of Professor. Dr. Keller served as chairman of the Miami Subsection of the Florida Section in 1977 and has been treasurer of the South Florida Section since 1998.

#### Dr. Keller's Position Statement

My close association and connections with the chemistry community in South Florida over the past 30+ years and my experience as section treasurer since 1998 will enable me to continue to serve the Section both as treasurer and as an executive committee member. I will maintain the tradition of fiscal responsibility that has been the cornerstone of my tenure as section treasurer.

#### NOMINEES FOR COUNCILOR

**NOTE:** In addition to the current National Councilor/Alternate Councilor, SoFL-ACS has been granted an additional Councilor. Thus, we will be electing two Councilors and two Alternate Councilors. The two candidates with the largest number of votes will become Councilors and those receiving next two highest votes will become Alternate Councilors for 2008-2010.



### **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**

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.



### **George T. Duncan**

George received his B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Miami (1970), his M.S. in Chemistry from Florida Atlantic University (1983), and a Ph.D. in Biology from Florida International University (1996). He first became interested in forensics as a senior in college. He was a member of the Dade County Crime Laboratory from 1969 to 1972 and a forensic chemist from 1972 to the present at the Broward County Sheriff's Office Crime Laboratory. He has trained in the fields of serology, drug analysis,

trace evidence, firearms analysis, and crime scene investigation. He is author or coauthor of over 20 papers in the field of chemistry and molecular biology. He has been an adjunct instructor in chemistry at Broward Community College South since 1987 and is presently an adjunct professor at FIU and Nova Southeastern University. He is a member of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, and a member of the American Genetics Association. He was Chairman of the South Florida ACS Subsection in 1990, before it became a section, and Alternate Councilor 1992-94.

#### **Dr. Duncan's Position Statement**

The ACS should encourage the diversification of the membership in the profession of chemistry. Because of the job situation in the sciences today, diversification, student internships, and the like should be fostered for future advancements in the sciences.

### **George H. Fisher**



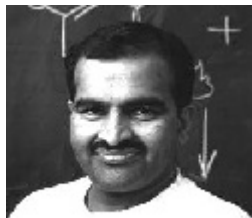
George received a B.S. in chemistry from Rollins College, M.S. in organic chemistry from University of Florida, and Ph.D. in organic from the University of Miami. He is currently Professor of Chemistry at Barry University, where he teaches organic and nursing chemistry and does research on neurochemistry of D-aspartate. At Barry U. he received the Presidential Scholar award in 1998 and 2007, and the Faculty of the Year award in 2002. He is the faculty advisor to the Barry's "Outstanding" 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. He is also a section editor of the journal *Amino Acids* and is National Executive Treasurer of Gamma Sigma Epsilon Chemistry Honor Society. He is a member of the Florida Academy of Sciences and Sigma Xi.

#### **Dr. Fisher's Position Statement**

My record of ACS service over nearly 40 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.

### 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 to 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.

### Richard R. Shreve

Dr. Shreve holds doctorate degrees from the Illinois Institute of Technology (Chicago), MBA from Western New England College (Springfield, MA), and BS and MS in Chemistry from Western Illinois University (Macomb, IL), with additional study in chemistry and polymer science at Middle Tennessee State University (Murfreesboro, TN), Utah State University (Logan, UT), University of Akron (Akron, OH), and the University of Massachusetts (Amherst, MA). He has held a wide variety of technical, managerial, and consulting positions in a career spanning over 50 years. He is now "thrice retired" to Boynton Beach. He taught Chemistry at a variety of community colleges, both as a full time and as an adjunct faculty member and was the Section Head of the Chemical Technology program at the University of Akron. He now teaches chemistry full time at Palm Beach Community College and takes on special technical research projects for select clients. For more than 25 years he was a guest lecturer at national meetings, in industrial seminars and professional organizations at a variety of locations throughout the world. Industrially, Dr. Shreve has worked for several major corporations and consulted with over 300 companies. He was a founding member and CEO of The R Group, Ltd., Richton Park, IL; this technology oriented consulting firm developed special techniques of analyses applicable to companies in India, Great Britain, Russia, Poland and Ukraine. He has also held industrial positions with: the Continental Group, Chicago, where he was responsible for product development, strategic analysis and all pricing decisions regarding products in the USA and Canada; CPC International Inc., Argo, IL as a Senior Chemist and R&D Group Leader



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in New Product Development; with the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company (Chemical Division) Akron, Ohio as a Senior Development Engineer; as a Research Chemist for Monsanto/Shawinigen Company in Springfield, MA. Dr. Shreve is an Emeritus Member of ACS.

#### 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, vote for two first choices and two second choices.
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. 21

CHAIRMAN (vote for one)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Michael Elliott** or \_\_\_\_\_

CHAIRMAN-ELECT (vote for one)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Rose Mary Stiffin** or \_\_\_\_\_

TREASURER (Vote for one)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Leonard Keller** or \_\_\_\_\_

COUNCILOR/ALTERNATE COUNCILOR (Vote for 2 first choices and 2 second choices)

	First Choices	Second Choices
<b>Milagros Delgado</b>	_____	_____
<b>George Duncan</b>	_____	_____
<b>George Fisher</b>	_____	_____
<b>Venkatesh Shanbhag</b>	_____	_____
<b>Richard Shreve</b>	_____	_____

## Time to Renew Your ACS Membership?

2008 renewals are now available for online payment. Simply go to [www.acs.org/acsdues](http://www.acs.org/acsdues). No stamps. No envelopes. No checks. Renew your ACS membership with a credit card on our secure web site today.

## Keep It Growing

In honor of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Project SEED (1968-2008), we are encouraging members to make a contribution to the program. Please consider use of these

## New fuel cell cleans up pollution and produces electricity

Scientists in Pennsylvania are reporting development of a fuel cell that uses pollution from coal and metal mines to generate electricity, solving a serious environmental problem while providing a new source of energy. They describe successful tests of a laboratory-scale version of the device in a study scheduled for the Dec. 1 issue of *ACS Environmental Science & Technology*, a semi-monthly publication. In the new study, Bruce E. Logan and colleagues point out that so-called acid-mine drainage (AMD) is a serious environmental problem that threatens the health of plants and animals as well as the safety of drinking-water supplies, due mainly to the high acidity of contaminated waters and its high content of metals, particularly iron. AMD poses difficult and costly environmental clean-up problems. They describe development of a new type of fuel cell that is based on microbial fuel cells, which are capable of generating electricity from wastewater. Using a solution similar to AMD, they showed that the device efficiently removed dissolved iron from the solution while also generating electricity at power levels similar to conventional microbial fuel cells. Improvements in the fuel cell will lead to more efficient power generation in the future, the researchers say. The iron recovered by the device can be used as a pigment for paints or other products, they note.

## OFFICERS OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA SECTION ACS FOR 2007

Chair: Michael J. Elliott, Florida Memorial University, Miami, FL 33054, (305) 626-3704, [melliott@fmuniv.edu](mailto:melliott@fmuniv.edu).

Immediate Past Chairs: Robert (Skip) Pomeroy and K.V. (Venk) Venkatachalam, Department of Biochemistry, Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33328-2018, (954) 262-1335, [venk@nova.edu](mailto:venk@nova.edu).

Chair-Elect: Vacant

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

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

National Councilors: Zaida Morales-Martinez (2009), FIU, 305 386-3206, [moralesz@fiu.edu](mailto:moralesz@fiu.edu); Milagros Delgado (2007), FIU, 305 919-5966, [delgadam@fiu.edu](mailto:delgadam@fiu.edu).

Alternate Councilors: George Fisher (2009), Barry University, 305-899-3430, [gfisher@mail.barry.edu](mailto:gfisher@mail.barry.edu); George Duncan (2007), Broward County Sheriff's Crime Lab, 954 831-6147, [george\\_duncan@sheriff.org](mailto:george_duncan@sheriff.org)

Membership Applications: available from the secretary, Dr. Milagros Delgado (see secretary info above).

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EDITOR and BUSINESS MANAGER: George Fisher, Department of Chemistry, Barry University, 11300 N.E. 2nd Ave., Miami Shores, FL 33161, (305) 899-3430, FAX (305) 899-3479; e-mail: [gfisher@mail.barry.edu](mailto:gfisher@mail.barry.edu).

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SoFL-ACS WEB SITE: <http://www.soflacs.org>



**Donald S. McCorquodale Jr. Ph.D.**  
**Microbiology Supervisor**

1460 W McNab Rd  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309  
ph: 954.978.6400  
fax: 954.978.2233  
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