



SoFlacs



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South Florida Section ACS

November 2013

Election Ballot Issue for 2014 Officers



NOMINEE FOR CHAIRMAN-ELECT

Dr. K.V. Venkatachalam (Venk)

Dr. Venkatachalam received his PhD from the Department of Biochemistry at Texas A&M University (1991), MS in plant physiology (1985) and BS in biology (1983) from Washington State University. He has been Professor of Biochemistry in the Health Professions Division, College of Medical Sciences at Nova Southeastern University (NSU) in Ft. Lauderdale since 2005 where he teaches biochemistry and molecular biology for osteopathic medicine, dentistry, pharmacy and optometry students. He has been mentoring many doctoral and undergraduate students on various medical biochemistry research projects, for which he has received external and internal research grants. His current research interests are in the field of organic Sulfur in Cancer Cell Metabolism. He recently received grant from Kenyon Foundation of Florida to work on the role of intracellular methionine in cancer cell metabolism. He has published in various high impact peer-reviewed journals. Prior to coming to Florida in 1999 as an Associate Professor of Biochemistry at NSU, he held research positions at NIH in Bethesda, MD, Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, TX, and Carnegie Institute of Washington at the Stanford University Campus, Stanford, CA. At NIH, he was also part of the teaching faculty of the Department of Biochemistry, Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences (FAES). He is also part of various review/editorial board for many reputed peer reviewed journals and grants. As past Chair of SoFL-ACS (2005) he brought various activities to the students, faculty and the community. Notable ones are the Chemical Sciences Symposium, Seminars, and obtaining National ACS funding of an "Innovative Project Grant" (IPG) for a Science Café series that brought very educating and enriching topics for the general public. Dr. Venk is all enthralled and energized to bring improved and new activities to the South Florida section of ACS.

Dr. Venkatachalam's Position Statement

As Chair my mission would be to have more common topics that would be of immense value to the scientific community as well as the global community at large. In summary:

- Inclusive topics that would be of interest to both chemists and biologists and various related chemical fields for seminars, colloquiums, meetings, research symposiums where undergraduate and graduate students can present their research, Science Cafés for the public, and a Science Olympiad for high school students.
- More interactions among students of various disciplines.
- More interactions among faculties of chemical, biological and physical science.
- Making aware of biological ways of solving chemical problems.
- More contribution to the Pre K-12 schools and the community.



NOMINEE FOR TREASURER

Dr. 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 a NIH Postdoctoral Fellow at Brandeis University from 1970-72. He is a Founding Professor 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 40+ 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 ALTERNATE COUNCILOR

Dr. 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 PhD 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, she was assigned

to FIU's Biscayne Bay Campus, where she leads the lower division chemistry teaching, supervises laboratories, and advises pre-professional and chemistry students. In 1995 she received the excellence in teaching award and the Teaching Incentive Program award from FIU. She is involved in the integration of computers in the teaching laboratories and development of inquiry-based experiments. She was awarded an NSF grant to purchase computers and software and 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 fifteen summers and has been involved in research with undergraduate and high school students. Milly is the co-advisor to the ACS Student Chapter at FIU-Biscayne Bay Campus that has been recognized for their community activities with Outstanding Chapter awards from the ACS for the last six years and a "Green Chapter" award for the last five years. 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 Associate Member of the Minority Affairs Committee in 1996 and full member 1997-2005. In 1997 she was appointed Associate Member of the Society Committee in Education (SOCED) and was an elected member of the Committee on Committees 2004 - 2009 where she was on the subcommittee on Leadership Development. In 2012 She was elected to the Nominations and Elections Committee of the ACS and secretary of the committee for the last two years. 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. For the last two years she has secured funds and has helped organize and host Inquiry Based Workshops for high school chemistry teachers with participation of teachers from Miami-Dade and Broward counties. In addition, during the last 15 years, she has organized and hosted the South-Florida Student Awards Banquet, multiple speakers, and has developed programs at elementary schools to increase the general public awareness of science such as a Day of Science at the Mall, Science Family Nights, and helped organized the annual SoFL-ACS National Chemistry Week Family Day. 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 SoFL-ACS at the national level by being appointed or elected to several ACS committees. I have attended all Council meetings, and reported back to our Section on activities or issues that could affect us at the local level. It is important to continue to be visible and active in the decision-making process of ACS to garner support and recognition for our efforts in continuing our mission to reach the general public and support the local chemistry community. Areas of concern for me are reaching out to the industrial sector of our section and our West Coast members. I helped organized a general meeting and seminar that will take place in Florida Gulf Coast University in January to reach out to that region of south Florida, a tradition we should continue in the future. For our industrial members I am working with local members in writing a grant to host an innovative event benefitting them. For student members I am working with student chapters to host a common meeting for leaders of each chapter to facilitate communication and the organization of common events. This will help to bring together our younger members in the Local Section. Have Ideas? Want to be involved? I encourage you to email me at delgadam@fiu.edu. What are issues you would like to be addressed at National or local level? Continue to be active and if you have ideas on what works for you in your area, please let us know.

Dr. George Fisher

George received a BS in chemistry from Rollins College (1965), M.S. in organic chemistry from the University of Florida (1968), and PhD in organic from the University of Miami (1972). He is currently Professor of Chemistry at Barry University, where he teaches organic and does research on neurochemistry of D-aspartate. At Barry University 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 Barry's award-winning ACS Student chapter. He received the SoFL-ACS Distinguished Service Award in 1991, the ACS Southern Chemist Award in 1995, and the ACS award for Encouraging Disadvantaged Students to Enter Careers in the Chemical Sciences in 2013. As an ACS member since 1968 he has served the ACS for over 40 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 in 2002, and Chair in 2003 and 2004. He has been a National Councilor/Alternate Councilor for over 30 years, first for the Florida Section 1983-1991 and then for the South Florida Section 1992-2000, an Alternate Councilor 2001-2003, and currently Councilor 2004-present. He was a member of the ACS



Project SEED Committee 1984-1992 and 1998-2009; the Local Section Activities Committee (LSAC) 1993-1996; and currently on the Community Activities Committee, 2010-present. He is also editor of *SoFlacs* newsletter, National Chemistry Week/Earth Day coordinator, chairman of the budget committee, and chairman of the bylaws committee. He has presented Chemistry Magic Shows/Demos since 1991 to enthuse elementary students about science. He was a mentor for several Miami Project SEED students from 1984 to 1990, and now coordinates the SoFL-ACS SEED program. At Barry University he works with minority college research students through the MARC and RISE programs. He is also Executive Treasurer of Gamma Sigma Epsilon National Chemistry Honor Society and a member of the Florida Academy of Sciences and Sigma Xi.

Dr. Fisher's Position Statement

My record of ACS service over 40 years demonstrates my commitment to ACS. I will continue to support the goals of ACS to improve the public image of chemistry and the impact of chemistry on everyone's life, to broaden the scope of chemical education by outreach to local schools. Educating our younger students (K-12) is a priority. We need to reach children early (elementary age) about the importance of chemistry and science to their everyday lives. I will also endeavor to continue to present a positive image of chemistry to the general public through National Chemistry Week programs and my service now on the national ACS committee on Community Affairs (NCW and Chemists Celebrate Earth Day). I will work to increase the ACS thrust for more involvement of underrepresented minorities in science through programs such as Project SEED, ACS Scholars, and Minority Affairs. As a Councilor I have voted to keep your membership dues as low as possible while maintaining the level of services which members wish. I ask for your vote for re-election as your national Councilor.



Dr. Lisa Ventry Milenkovic

Lisa earned a BS in chemistry from the University of Miami (1985) and PhD in analytical chemistry from Northeastern University (1990). She was quality Assurance Manager, Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, Boston, MA (1990-1994) and adjunct professor at Northeastern University (1992-1994). She then returned to Miami as a research associate at the University of Miami Rosenstiel

School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences (1994-1995); independent Consultant, Laboratory Automation, Instrument connectivity, database design and interface programming for environmental and pharmaceutical industry (1995-2003); half-time Assistant Professor, Barry University, teaching analytical and environmental chemistry (1998-2001); Staff Developer, Core Curriculum - Science, and Elementary Science Teacher, Broward County Public Schools (2004-2012); STEM Supervisor, STEM and Instructional Resources, Office of Academics, Department of Instruction and Interventions, Broward County Public Schools (2012-present). She was District Finalist, Teacher of the Year 2009, and 2007 Environmental Educator of the Year. She has been an ACS member since 1985.

Dr. Milenkovic's Position Statement

Throughout my career, I have worked to provide resources to support others as an educator and mentor. The ACS is one organization that well serves in that capacity for career chemists and for students in all levels of education. I currently serve as a STEM Supervisor for Broward County Public Schools. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education, especially the engagement and retention of STEM students as they progress from prekindergarten through career, is a topic that is receiving much-needed attention at all levels. I am afforded the opportunity to interface with all these levels – providing resources to support STEM from prekindergarten through 12th grade and connecting the K-12 system with higher education, non-profits, municipalities and businesses to afford every student the opportunities that a strong STEM education provides. My experience with the ACS began as a Student Affiliate member and active graduate student chapters. I served the local South Florida ACS section with the local section Women's Chemist Committee and as webmaster for the section in the mid-1990s. I look forward to once again contributing to the South Florida ACS section as a Councilor-Alternate Councilor. In this position I will work to support the outreach and education efforts of the South Florida ACS section.



AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY
South Florida Section
Department of Chemistry
Barry University
11300 NE 2nd Ave.
Miami Shores, FL 33161

Dr. Dimitri Tamalis

Dimitri received his bachelor's in chemistry from McPherson College, KS, in 1990 and his PhD in biochemistry from Kansas State University in 1997. Currently he is a tenured associate professor of Chemistry at Florida Memorial University where he has worked for the last 11 years. His research interests include the characterization of naturally occurring radioactive materials (NORM) and methods of remediation for contaminated sites. In addition to his teaching and research duties at FMU, he is the co-chair of the Institutional Review Board, the chair of BKK scientific honor society, and the chair of the annual Research and Performing Arts Day committee.



Dr. Tamalis' Position Statement

During the last seven years that I have been an ACS member I have steadily increased my participation in SoFL-ACS activities culminating in my position as chair in 2013. It is my intent to continue my contributions to the field of Chemistry in general in my new capacity as councilor. More specifically, I will continue to be oriented towards student-centered education and research, especially towards underrepresented minorities in the field of chemistry. It is also my intent to aid my colleagues in the executive committee and to strengthen SoFL-ACS through participation in meetings, functions, decision making, and student recruitment. Finally, I plan to spread the ACS "message" through high school visits and an effort to hold executive meetings outside the South Florida area.

VOTE IN THE SOUTH FLORIDA ACS ELECTIONS

1. Select and mark nominees 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 (2) choices. The two nominees that receive the most votes will become Councilors and the next two remaining nominees will become Alternate Councilors.
3. We also solicit your opinion (straw poll – non-binding vote) if the South Florida Section should pursue revising its bylaws to allow electronic voting.
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 - Biscayne Bay Campus, AC1-382A
North Miami, FL 33181

BALLOTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6

CHAIRMAN-ELECT _____ K.V. Venkatachalam or _____

TREASURER _____ Leonard Keller or _____

COUNCILOR (vote for two)

_____ Milagros Delgado _____ George Fisher _____ Lisa Milenkovic

_____ Dimitri Tamalis or _____

Straw Poll – Should SoFL-ACS revise its bylaws to allow electronic voting:

____ Yes _____ No

SoFlacs, the publication of the South Florida Section, American Chemical Society, is published periodically.

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