



# SoFlacs



Vol. 25, No. 6

South Florida Section ACS

September 2015



## Section Seminar Meetings

### Dr. Daniel Rabinovich

Professor of Chemistry, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

will present seminars at the following venues on one or more of the topics below

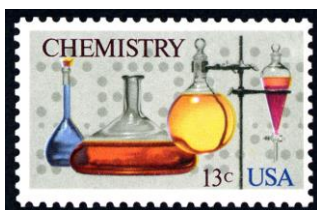
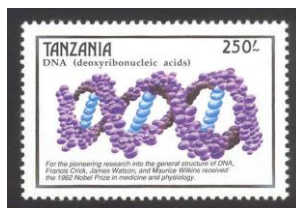
Monday, September 21, 12:30 PM  
(refreshments at noon)  
Wolfe Center, Room 157  
FIU - Biscayne Bay Campus  
3000 NE 151 Street, Miami  
Contact: delgadam@fiu.edu  
"Stamps and Syntheses"

Monday, September 21, 5:30 PM  
(refreshments at 5:00 PM)  
Wiegand Science Building, Room 116W  
Barry University  
11300 NE 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave, Miami Shores  
Contact: gfisher@barry.edu  
"Chemistry on Stamps"

Friday, September 25, 5:00 PM  
(dinner following)  
Florida Gulf Coast University  
Building, AB7 room 114  
10501 FGCU Blvd. South, Ft. Myers  
Contact: johnreilly@fgcu.edu  
"Stamps and Syntheses"

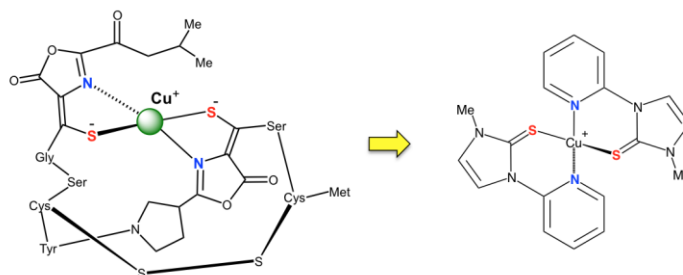
### The World of Chemistry on Postage Stamps

Postage stamps constitute a simple yet effective means of communication, often used to inform the general public on a variety of topics, including history, geography, literature and the arts. A surprisingly large number of stamps have also been issued to commemorate scientific discoveries or to honor well-known scientists. Significantly, postage stamps can also be used as engaging teaching tools in the classroom and to enhance the appeal of publications or technical presentations. This talk will feature postage stamps and other philatelic materials pertaining to the history of chemistry, the discovery and sources of the elements, chemical structures and formulas, laboratory equipment, biochemistry, the chemical industrial, and related topics often encountered in the teaching of chemistry.



### "Synthetic Analogues of Methanobactin"

Methanobactin (mb) is a fascinating small protein that plays a key role in the acquisition and transport of copper ions in methane-oxidizing bacteria such as the particulate form of methane monooxygenase (pMMO). The copper(I) center in mb features a distorted tetrahedral  $[\text{CuS}_2\text{N}_2]$  center in which the metal ion is surrounded by two oxazolone nitrogen atoms and two thione donor groups, a structural feature unprecedented in biological systems. This presentation will outline the design and application of several new pyridine/thione and pyridine/selone mixed-donor ligands to the synthesis of copper(I) complexes that mimic the metal center in mb.



Dr. Rabinovich was born and raised in Lima, Peru. He obtained his undergraduate (B.S.) degree from the Catholic University in Lima and a Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry from Columbia University in 1994. After postdoctoral work at Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico, he joined the Department of Chemistry at The University of North Carolina at Charlotte, where he is now a Professor of Chemistry. His research interests are in synthetic and structural inorganic, bioinorganic, and organometallic chemistry, including the coordination chemistry of multidentate sulfur- and selenium-donor ligands and the preparation of synthetic analogues of metalloenzymes, as documented in some 60 peer-reviewed publications. He is also the Editor of *Philatelia Chimica et Physica*, a quarterly publication dedicated to the study of postage stamps related to chemistry and physics, and a regular contributor to *Chemistry International*, the IUPAC bimonthly newsmagazine.

# Congratulations to

**Milagros (Milly) Delgado**

## Recipient of the Zaida C. Morales-Martinez Prize for Outstanding Mentoring of ACS Scholars



This year's recipient is Dr. Milagros (Milly) Delgado from Florida International University (FIU), Biscayne Bay Campus in Miami. She has been mentoring ACS Scholars since the inception of the program in 1995. From 1999 to 2003 Dr. Delgado was a member of the Blue Ribbon Panel on Minority Affairs, a member of the Committee on Minority Affairs from 1998-2004 and a member of the ACS Scholar's Selection Committee since 2001. Many students mentored by Dr. Delgado have completed or are in the process of completing graduate degrees in chemistry. Her most recent ACS Scholar, which she mentored since his first year at FIU, will begin his pursue of a PhD degree this year at Purdue University. Another one transferred to New York University and just graduated with a degree in Chemical Engineering and obtained a position at Dow Chemical in Delaware. Although the student was no longer at FIU, Dr. Delgado kept constant communication with her. Dr. Delgado has been a Councilor for the South Florida Section since 1998, member and chair of the ACS Committee on Project SEED 1995- 2003, elected member of the Committee on Committee from 2004-2009, and most recently an elected member of the Committee on Nominations and Elections 2010-2015. At the local level Dr. Delgado is Co-Advisor of the FIU ACS Student Chapter since 1995. This offers her many opportunities to mentor not only ACS Scholars and Chemistry students but many other science students. Dr. Delgado received the Excellence in Teaching Award from FIU in 1995, Outstanding Volunteer from the South Florida Section in 2014 and became an HHMI Fellow at FIU in 2014.

The Zaida C. Morales-Martinez Prize for Outstanding Mentoring of ACS Scholars was initiated by Dr. Robert Lichter and initially funded with a \$10,000 grant from the Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation made possible through Dr. Lichter. The annual \$1,000 prize recognizes individuals who have done an exemplary job in mentoring students in the ACS Scholars Program. It is named in honor of our own SoFL-ACS member Ms. Zaida Morales-Martinez (affectionately known as "Mamma Z") the mentoring consultant for the ACS Scholars Program, who was instrumental in the establishment of the Scholars Program and other initiatives to address the need to increase the presence and participation of underrepresented minorities in chemical science. For information on contributing to this award, and on becoming a mentor in the ACS Scholars Program, call 1-800-227-5558, ext. 6250, or email to [scholars@acs.org](mailto:scholars@acs.org).



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## SoFL-ACS Received a ChemLuminary Award

The 17th Annual ChemLuminary Awards celebration was held during the ACS National Meeting in Boston, MA, on August 18, 2015. The South Florida section received a ChemLuminary award for "Most Creative NCW Celebration Using the Yearly Theme." More than 100 teachers from Broward County participated in a one-day, hands-on, professional development workshop on reengineering candy. Teachers learned how to apply their physical science knowledge to develop a new candy, based on the common "no cooking required" Tootsie Roll recipe. Teachers would then have their students re-engineer the candy, name it, and present a marketing strategy. Special thanks to Lisa Milenkovic for organizing and hosting the workshop. The award was presented by George Heard, Chair of the Committee on Community Activities (left in picture) and ACS President-Elect Donna Nelson (right in picture) and received by SoFL-ACS Councilors Milly Delgado, Zaida Morales-Martinez, and George Fisher.



### 2015 SoFL-ACS Officers

Past Chair: Jesse Bernstein, Miami Country Day School, 601 NE 107 St., Miami, FL 33161, 305- 779-7260, [bernsteinj@miamicountryday.org](mailto:bernsteinj@miamicountryday.org)  
Chair:: K.V. Venkatachalam (Venk), Department of Biochemistry, College of Medical Sciences and College of Osteopathic Medicine, Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33328, 954-262-1335, FAX 954-262-1802, [venk@nova.edu](mailto:venk@nova.edu)  
Chair-Elect: Dr. John Reilly, Florida Gulf Coast University, Ft. Myers, 219-590-7200, [johnreilly@fgcu.edu](mailto:johnreilly@fgcu.edu)  
Secretary: Milagros Delgado, Department of Chemistry, FIU Biscayne Bay Campus, AC1-382A, 3000 NE 151<sup>st</sup> Street, North Miami, FL 33181, 305-919-5966; [delgadom@fiu.edu](mailto:delgadom@fiu.edu)  
Treasurer: Leonard Keller, Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry, FIU, 12000 SW 8<sup>th</sup> St. Miami, FL 33199, (305) 348-3081; [kellerl@fiu.edu](mailto:kellerl@fiu.edu)  
National Councilors: Zaida Morales-Martinez (2015), (305) 386-3206, [moralesz@fiu.edu](mailto:moralesz@fiu.edu); Milagros Delgado (2016), FIU, 305- 919-5966, [delgadom@fiu.edu](mailto:delgadom@fiu.edu); George Fisher (2016), Barry University, 305-899-3430, [gfisher@barry.edu](mailto:gfisher@barry.edu)  
Alternate Councilors: Vic Shanbhag (2015), Nova Southeastern University, 954- 262-8331, [shanbhag@nova.edu](mailto:shanbhag@nova.edu); Dimitri Tamalis (2016), Florida Memorial University, 305-626-0267, [dimitri.tamalis@fmu.edu](mailto:dimitri.tamalis@fmu.edu); Lisa V. Milenkovic (2016), Broward County Public Schools, 754-321-2620, [lisa.milenkovic@browardschools.com](mailto:lisa.milenkovic@browardschools.com).