

ASP 2008 Burlingame, California



Hyatt Regency, site of the 34th Meeting of the ASP.

The ASP welcomes all members to attend our 34th Meeting in Burlingame, California. Burlingame is very close to San Francisco and is also near the beautiful parks and beaches of San Mateo County.

The meeting will cover many diverse topics including environmental photobiology, photomedicine, low-level light effects, and mechanistic photochemistry in biological systems.

To find out more, go to: www.asp2008.org.



The atrium at Hyatt Regency.

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*Downtown
Burlingame.*



*The
Golden
Gate
Bridge.*

New Member Benefits

The ASP is working to increase your member benefits. This year we have added:



ASP Gifts are available from Café Press

- **Café Press** - ASP apparel and other ASP gift items. See: www.cafepress.com/PHOT
- **Job Search** - Free to members, more job listings, updates weekly, resume posting, etc. See: www.jobtarget.com/home/index.cfm?site_id=1901
- **Radiation Research Society** - ASP members can now attend RRS meetings at the RRS member rate. The ASP reciprocates this offer for RRS members.

We hope to add additional benefits in 2008. If you are interested in a particular member benefit that we currently do not offer, please contact me at: lhardwick@allenpress.com and let me know your suggestions. We are always happy to look into new benefits for you.

-Linda Hardwick

Poetry Contest

It has been 26 years since we had a photobiology poetry contest in this Newsletter, and the winning entries are, alas, lost in the mists of time. I have moved four times since then, and my collection of the old printed ASP Newsletters is somewhere in the basement. If anyone still has them accessible, please contact me and send me copies of the then winning limerick and double dactyl.

For inspiration, please read the opening verse of John Updike's 1979 poem, "Energy: A Villanelle":

*The logs give back, in burning, solar fire
green leaves imbibed and processed one by one;
nothing is lost but, still, the cost grows higher.*

Here's a link to the full text: www.hermitrock.com/article/energy-a-villanelle

We will only try for a limerick this first time. You all

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Letter From the Editor

New Widget for *Photochem Photobiol*

A web widget, also called a "gadget", "badge", "module", or other names, is a portable piece of the web that can be added to almost any web page. Anyone can easily create or download widgets with Widgetbox, SpringWidget, Yahoo! Widgets, or other free tools.



The box to the left is a picture of the new *Photochemistry Photobiology* web widget web that I recently added to the ASP homepage (with the encouragement of the web site committee and the editor and publisher of *Photochemistry Photobiology*). This widget lists forthcoming ("Online Early") publications for *Photochemistry and Photobiology*.

Simply click on the title of a "Recent Post" to read a forthcoming publication. These "Online Early Articles" are automatically updated in this box by capturing the RSS feed from Blackwell Press.

Click on "About" (bottom) to learn more about this Widget or to subscribe to the *Photochemistry Photobiology* RSS feed with your own RSS reader.

Click on the "Get Widget" icon (bottom) to add this widget to your own personalized home page (iGoogle, Netvibes, ...), social networking page (MySpace, Facebook, ...), Blog (Blogger, WordPress, ...), personal homepage, etc.

As always, we look forward to your feedback!

ASP News

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know the form and meter, so I'll forgo instructions (and there's always Wikipedia). Let's hope that a full generation later, photobiologists are just as inventive and funny as they were a quarter century ago! Please submit your entries to the Newsletter Editor:

ensmingr@twcnv.rr.com.

- **Bodo Diehn**

ASP Awards

ASP Research Award

Nomination Deadline: March 1st, 2008

The ASP Research Award recognizes individuals who have made major contributions to the fields of photobiology, photochemistry, and/or photophysics.

The Grants and Awards Committee is charged with selection of the recipient based on nominations by the Committee and by ASP members. These nominations should include an updated CV of the candidate. The following general criteria are intended to give flexibility in choosing the best candidate:

1. The candidate must be nominated by another member of the ASP and must have made a major research contribution to the field of photobiology. Self-nominations are not accepted.
2. The candidate must have at least 10 years of post-graduate (PhD or MD) research.
3. For equivalent candidates, preference is given to the candidate who has contributed most to the ASP.
4. The nomination package will stand for three years and can be updated yearly by the nominator. After three years, a new nomination package must be submitted.

The Award is \$1000 plus travel (total \$1500) and a Plaque.

Submit a letter of nomination outlining the nominee's qualifications along with the nominee's CV to **Miguel A. Miranda**: mmiranda@qim.upv.es

ASP New Investigator Award

Nomination Deadline: March 1st, 2008

The ASP New Investigator Award recognizes promising quality research performed at a relatively early stage in an investigator's career.

Competition is open to any investigator who has re-

cently entered the discipline. It is generally thought to be a young investigator (under age 36), but all investigators should be considered, even a senior scientist who is new to the area. The Committee should select an investigator who it feels will continue to excel in the field.

The Grants and Awards Committee is charged with selection of the recipient based on nominations by the Committee and by ASP members. These nominations should include an updated CV of the candidate.

The Award is \$1000 plus travel (total \$1500) and a Plaque.

Submit a letter of nomination outlining the nominee's qualifications along with the nominee's CV to **Miguel A. Miranda**: mmiranda@qim.upv.es

All nominations will be collected and sent to the committee for consideration on the deadline, April 1, 2008. No nominations will be honored after this deadline.

-**Miguel Miranda**

Brighter Ideas, Inc. GFP-on-a-String



William W. Ward, associate professor of biochemistry at Rutgers University and longtime ASP member, is the founder and CEO of a new biotech company, Brighter Ideas, Inc..

Brighter Ideas is a multi-faceted company that offers premium proteins and high quality antibodies, contract protein production services, consulting and beta testing services for the biotech/bioprocess industries, and the development and manufacturing of unique diagnostics assays.

Brighter Ideas is happy to announce its newest development, a biomedical test for proteases and protease inhibitors. Tentatively called "GFP-on-a-String," this technology, invented in 2001 at Rutgers University, has been approved by the US patent office for issue in 2007 and has been licensed exclusively to Brighter Ideas.

"GFP-on-a-String" has applications in research, drug discovery, diagnosis, and clinical testing of

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Alzheimer's disease, HIV/AIDS, and many forms of cancer. In the case of Alzheimer's disease, "GFP-on-a-String" will be used to detect and combat the protease that leads to debilitating plaque formation in the brain, even before a patient develops advanced symptoms. With respect to HIV/AIDS, "GFP-on-a-String" will monitor drug-resistant mutations in HIV-associated proteases so that the most effective protease inhibitor drugs with the fewest side effects can be prescribed. As an aid in combating cancer, "GFP-on-a-String" will detect harmful proteases that allow cancer cells to metastasize.

"GFP-on-a-String" will effectively compete with all other protease tests currently used in drug discovery and disease abatement. The unique, patented design for "GFP-on-a-String" generates more information about proteases and human diseases than any other system on the market. Stemming from 35-years of research on Green-Fluorescent Protein by Rutgers Professor William W. Ward, "GFP-on-a-String" is scheduled for a mid-2009 launch, pending adequate funding.

Please visit the web site for more information about Brighter Ideas: www.brighterideasinc.com.

Brighter Ideas is currently seeking investment of \$1 million to complete the remaining pre-launch research and development.

-Randy Ward

Publications by ASP Members

ELDONET: Monitoring of Worldwide Radiation

ELDONET, the "European Light Dosimeter NETwork", is an international network of dosimeters that monitor solar and artificial radiation in the ultraviolet-B (280-315 nm), ultraviolet-A (315-400 nm), and photosynthetically active (400-700 nm) regions of the spectrum.

In the November/December issue of *Photochemistry and Photobiology*, ASP member **Donat-Peter Häder** (University of Erlangen, Germany) and colleagues report on ELDONET data that compares solar radiation data in these three wavelength regions at 17 widely distributed stations. Their results show that on clear days, solar irradiance follows a definite latitudinal gradient, with stations closer to the equator having greater irradiance.

However, the total annual dose at each station depends on numerous factors such as local climate, atmospheric conditions, and day-length distribution. For example, while the maximal irradiance is higher at a mountain station in Spain compared with a sea level station at similar latitude, the cumulative dose is higher at the sea level station. This is because there is often significant haze in these mountains during the morning, and this typically clears by noontime.

Symposium-in-Print: Photodynamic Therapy

Photodynamic therapy (PDT) is a treatment that involves administration of a photosensitive drug and its subsequent activation by light to destroy cancerous or other harmful cells. The September/October issue of *Photochemistry and Photobiology* features a Symposium-in-Print on PDT, with an introduction by ASP members **David Kessel** and **Thomas Foster**.

PDT is currently approved for the treatment of lung, bladder, head and neck, and skin cancers and for several non-cancerous conditions. The Symposium-in-Print is a collection of 11 articles, 9 preclinical studies and 2 clinical studies. Much of the preclinical research on PDT is focused on the development of safer and more effective drugs and several of the papers in this Symposium-in-Print are devoted to this topic. One of the clinical papers is on the use of PDT for treatment of urethral condylomata acuminata and the other is on use of PDT for early oral and laryngeal cancers.

-PAE (modified from ASP web site)



ASP Homepage Usage Statistics

Counter Dates: Sept 10, 2007 to Dec 17, 2007
(98 days)

Total page views: 4470 (avg of 45.6 per day)

Total unique visits: 2277 (avg of 23.2 per day)

Browser Share:

Internet Explorer (5.x, 6.x, 7.x): 61%
Firefox (1.x, 2.x): 26%
Safari (1.x, 2.x): 7%
Mozilla (1.x): 6%

Upcoming Events

Interactive Map:

www.pol-us.net/map.html

January 3-6, 2008

18th Inter-American Photochemistry Society Winter Conference

St. Petersburg, FL

Web site: www.i-aps.org/18th_wintconf/mainpage.htm

January 13-18, 2008

Gordon Research Conference: Sensory Transduction in Microorganisms

Ventura Beach Marriott
Ventura, CA

Web site: www.grc.org/meetings.aspx?year=2008

January 19-24, 2008

SPIE BiOS 2008: Biomedical Optics Symposium and Exhibition

San Jose, CA

Web site: spie.org/x13196.xml

Jan 25-27 and Feb 1-3; March 15-20; Apr 4-6 and 11-13; June 1-6;

July 13-18; July 27-Aug 1, 2008

Protein Purification: Principles & Practice – 5 ½ day hands-on laboratory course

Web site: www.rci.rutgers.edu/~crebb/protein.html

January 27-February 1, 2008

Gordon Research Conference Photosensory Receptors & Signal Transduction

Ventura, CA

Application deadline: Jan 6, 2008

Web site: www.grc.org/programs.aspx?year=2008&program=photosens

Feb 2-6, 2008

16th IUPAB Congress
Long Beach, CA USA

Web site: www.biophysics.org/meetings/2008/

February 10-14, 2008

CECP 2008, Central European Conference on Photochemistry

Bad Hofgastein, Austria

Web site: www.ptc.tugraz.at/gastein

February 29-March 2; April 25-27; June 27-29; October 10-12, 2008

Tutorials in Protein Purification: 3 day hands-on instruction in Downstream Processing

Web site: www.rci.rutgers.edu/~crebb/Tutorials.html

March 28-30; May 16-18; Sept 19-21, 2008

Biochemical Separations: An Introduction to Laboratory Techniques in Biotechnology

Web site: www.rci.rutgers.edu/~crebb/biosep.html

April 6-9, 2008

OSEO 9th World Congress World Organization for Specialized Studies on Diseases of the Esophagus

Web site: www.oeso.org

May 28-June 1, 2008

International Plant Photobiology Meeting

(25th Annual Missouri Plant Biology Symposium)

Columbia, MO

E-mail: Mannie.Liscum@missouri.edu

Web site: www.biosci.missouri.edu/liscum/IPPM08.html

June 15-19, 2008

17th World Hydrogen Energy Conference

Brisbane, Australia

E-mail: whec2008@icms.com.au

Web site: www.whec2008.com/

June 20-25, 2008

34th ASP Meeting

Burlingame, CA USA

Web site: www.asp2008.org

June 27-July 2, 2008

ASPB-2008

American Society for Plant Biology
Merida Mexico

Web site: www.aspb.org/meetings/pb-2008/

July 7-11, 2008

5th International Conference on Porphyrins and Phthalocyanines
Moscow, Russia

Web site: www.u-bourgogne.fr/spp/icpp.htm

July 28-Aug 1, 2008

XXII IUPAC Symposium on Photochemistry

Gothenburg, Sweden

Web site: photoscience.la.asu.edu/Goteborg2008/

Sept 7-11, 2008

XIII International Symposium on Luminescence Spectrometry

University of Bologna

Bologna, Italy

Web site: www.isls2008.unibo.it/

October 4-8, 2008

5th European Meeting on Solar Chemistry and Environmental Applications

Palermo, Italy

Web site: spea5.altervista.org/

October 18-20, 2008

IV Latin American Congress of Photobiology

Porto Alegre, Brazil

Web site: www.LSPP.net

June 11-15, 2009

2009 International Photodynamic Association World Congress

Seattle, WA

Web Site: www.pms.ac.uk/ipa/congress2009.php

June 18-23, 2009

15th International Congress on Photobiology

Duesseldorf, Germany.

Upcoming Events for Plant Biologists, 2007-08

American Society for Plant Biology
Web site: <http://aspb.org/calendar/listall.cfm>

Upcoming Events for Chemists, 2007-2008

American Chemical Society
Web site: www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/acdisplay.html?DOC=meetings\index.html

American Society for Photobiology



Lux et Vita since 1972

Thank you for your interest in joining the **American Society for Photobiology**. Please print this page, fill out the form, and send it with payment to:

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