



New Haven Section
VOLUME 22, NUMBER 4, November, 2005

November 12, 2005 – New Haven Section Meeting

Dr. Marco Leona

**David H. Koch Scientist in Charge
Department of Scientific Research
The Metropolitan Museum of Art**

will present

Art and Chemistry: Authenticity, History of Technology, and Conservation

PLEASE NOTE

This will be a Saturday meeting and will include a light lunch, Dr. Leona's presentation and a tour of the Wadsworth Atheneum Conservation Lab

November Meeting Details
Message from the Program Chair and the Acting Chair
Photos from the October meeting
National Chemistry Week contests may still be entered
ACS Newsletters and Alerts

Saturday November 12, 2005

Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford, Connecticut

Dr. Marco Leona

will present

**Art and Chemistry: Authenticity, History of Technology,
and Conservation**

Wadsworth Atheneum	Sandwich and cold salad buffet	12:00
600 Main Street	Dr. Marco Leona Presentation	1:00
Hartford, CT 06103	Tour of Wadsworth Atheneum	2:00
(860) 278-2670	Atheneum open for viewing exhibits	3:00-5:00

Restored to Life: *Benjamin West's The Raising of Lazarus* (see below)

www.wadsworthatheneum.org



Abstract: In the talk I will discuss the activities of the Department of Scientific Research at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and show how scientific techniques are applied to the understanding and preservation of our rich artistic collections.

Brief Biographical Sketch: Marco Leona is the David H. Koch Scientist in Charge of the Department of Scientific Research at The Metropolitan Museum of Art. Dr. Leona graduated with a "Laurea in Chimica" from the Università degli Studi di Pavia (Pavia, Italy), and obtained a Ph.D. in Crystallography and Mineralogy from the same university in 1995.

As a scientist working in an art museum, Dr. Leona is mostly

concerned with the material aspects of works of art. His role at the Metropolitan Museum is that of contributing to and enhancing art historical and art conservation research through the application of scientific techniques. The scientific examination of works of art, the identification of their constituent materials and manufacturing techniques, dating and authentication, the investigation of aging and degradation mechanisms, and the monitoring of environmental conditions in display and storage areas of the museum are the main tasks with which he and his staff are charged.

Dr. Leona entered the art and cultural heritage studies field when he decided to explore an alternative career in chemistry through an NEA-Mellon fellowship at the

Conservation Research Laboratory of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA). He then joined the staff of the Freer Gallery of Art in Washington DC, to conduct research on the techniques and materials of Japanese paintings. After a second period at LACMA, as senior conservation scientist, he moved to New York, where he now heads the newly created Department of Scientific Research of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Dr. Leona's own interests lay in the intersection of art and technology and in the elucidation of the material aspects of art production, either for the enhancement of our knowledge of past cultures, or for the preservation of their material vestiges.

His published contributions include the development of new techniques for the non-invasive analysis of works of art by reflectance spectroscopy, the study of Tibetan painting techniques and materials, Infrared and Raman spectroscopy studies of the pigments indigo and Maya blue, Surface Enhanced Raman spectroscopy analysis of natural dyes, and various other topics.

Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford – Saturday November 12, 2005

A sandwich and cold salad buffet will be served at **noon**

Dr. Leona's presentation will begin at approximately **1:00 PM**

The tour of the Wadsworth Conservation Lab will begin at approximately **2:00 PM**

Attendees will be able to view other museum exhibits from 3:00 – 5:00 PM

Cost: All attendees

Lunch buffet and program (includes museum admission) \$20

Please make your reservation by contacting Dennis Jakiela by Thursday evening November 10, 2005, at (203) 375-1137 or e-mail to: djakiela@hampfordresearch.com. Please leave your name, telephone number and number of buffet reservations desired. Cancellations must be made 24 hours prior to the meeting or you may be charged for the buffet. **Attendance at the buffet**

Directions to Wadsworth Museum in Hartford

FROM I-91N & I-91S: Take I-91 to Exit 29A (Capitol Area). Bear right at Pulaski Circle. Right onto Gold Street. Museum is straight ahead at the intersection of Gold and Main Streets.

FROM I-84E: Take I-84 eastbound to Capitol Avenue Exit 48B. Turn left on Capitol Avenue, and when it ends, turn left on Main Street. The museum is on the right, two blocks up.

FROM I-84W: Take I-84 westbound to Downtown Hartford Exit 54 (left exit). Immediately after crossing the Founder Bridge, turn left on Columbus Blvd. Turn right on Arch St., the right on Prospect Street. The back of the museum is on the left, one block up.

Restored to Life... at the Wadsworth Atheneum



Restored to Life is the culmination of a fifteen-month conservation project of a monumental canvas by Benjamin West, one of the most influential American painters of the eighteenth century. One of the largest paintings in the Atheneum's collection, *The Raising of Lazarus* was originally commissioned as an altarpiece for England's Winchester Cathedral.

Kirkwood Award Winner Receives Nobel Prize in Chemistry

Earlier this month the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announced the recipients of the 2005 Nobel Prize in Chemistry. The three chemists receiving this honor, for their work in the development and understanding of olefin metathesis, were; Yves Chauvin of the French Petroleum Institute, Robert H. Grubbs of California Institute of Technology, and Richard R. Shrock of Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

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In April of this year Professor Grubbs was the recipient of the 2005 John Gamble Kirkwood Award presented jointly by the Yale University Department of Chemistry and the New Haven Section. It is interesting to note that since the establishment of the Kirkwood Award in 1962, twelve of the twenty-two recipients subsequently have won the Nobel Prize.

On behalf of the New Haven Section, a note has been sent to Professor Grubbs congratulating him on this most remarkable achievement.



Photos from the October Meeting

Section members at the October meeting held at the University of New Haven received a lesson in miniaturization for chemical processing from Dr. Ronald Besser of the Stevens Institute of Technology. In this day of escalating costs for raw ingredients and waste disposal, working with reduced quantities of materials has become a priority in industry. The meeting was jointly sponsored by the New Haven Sections of ACS and AIChE.

Dr. Ronald Besser, Guest Speaker



Attendees Enjoying the Presentation

A Message from your Chairmen: Busy Lives, waning interest threaten future of the New Haven Section.

If attendance of the membership at recent dinner/lecture meetings of the New Haven Section of the ACS is an indication of member interest, this phase of Section activities may soon be going the way of the slide rule.

Officers of the Section have been aware for some time now that attendance at meetings has been declining. This decline was again noticeable at the two meetings held this fall. Attendance at the September meeting, where Prof. Sanjay Malhotra of NJIT gave a very interesting and informative talk on *Ionic Liquids*, was approximately 13, including 4 officers of the Section. The October meeting was held at the Univ. of New Haven, where Prof. Ron Besser of Stevens Institute presented a talk on *Miniaturization for Chemical Processing*. This meeting, which was held jointly with the local chapter of the AICHE, had 7 Section members in attendance, including 4 officers. These meetings can be cited as examples that the Section is trying to provide its members with speakers on a variety of scientific topics, at meetings held at different locations within New Haven County. When dinner/lecture meeting attendance, from a Section that has slightly greater than 1000 members averages approximately 12 individuals, with 7 or 8 of that number being officers of the Section, it is questionable if these meetings, which the Section has been providing for many years, should continue as part of our program.

A larger issue related to the poor meeting attendance is that without a reasonable number of active members (those who have an inclination to get involved in Section activities, or those who regularly attend the meetings for the social interaction, or to hear a lecture on a scientific topic of general interest presented by a recognized expert in the field) in a short time there will be no pool of individuals to draw on to fill the positions necessary to keep the Section and its activities alive. We are approaching that time now.

This edition of the Bulletin should have contained a ballot for the election of a Program Chairman, Secretary, Councilor and Alternate Councilor. But because we have not been able to find anyone who would be willing to run for these offices, we are unable to hold that election. The current Chairman was not elected, but is serving as an appointee of the Executive Board, according to Section By-Laws, until January 2006, when the Program Chairman will assume the role of Section Chairman. But that will leave the Section without a Program Chairman. Due to the lack of member involvement it has been necessary for many of the current officers to fill multiple roles. For example, one of your Councilors is also serving as editor of the Bulletin, and administrator of the Section Web Site.

The Executive Committee already has begun to meet to discuss ways to keep the Section viable. What may have to be done may depend on whether we can stimulate members to become more active and involved with the society at the local level. Therefore, we are asking you to help us understand why attendance at dinner/lecture meetings is unimportant to you, and why you prefer not to become involved with your scientific society. We are aware that everyone's lives are very busy and that we

all have our priorities, but if there are other issues regarding the local Section (meeting venues, lecture topics, meal pricing, transportation, etc.) that are keeping you from becoming involved, please tell us about them. Therefore, we are asking that as soon as possible, please e-mail your comments on this issue to either Dennis Jakiela at djakiela@hampfordresearch.com, or David Smudin at dsmudin@aol.com. For more information on the history and activities of the Section we recommend that you visit our website at <http://membership.acs.org/N//NewHaven>.

Many of you may not be aware that there are activities and programs other than the periodic dinner/lecture meetings that the Section is involved with. Therefore, we plan to present discussions of these activities in future Bulletins, with the hope that some of them may arouse your interest. Through this Bulletin we will also keep you informed of any changes in operation of the Section in an attempt to maintain its future existence. And finally, if you can become involved let us know, or come out to a meeting. The meeting on November 12th will certainly be a good one to attend.

David Smudin, Interim Chairman, 2005

Dennis Jakiela, Program Chairman

National Chemistry Week (NCW), 2005 - Chemistry and Toys

National Chemistry Week was celebrated October 16-22. The Section participated with written contests and poster contests for grade school, middle school and high school students. The contests involved this year's theme "The Joy of Toys" highlighting chemistry in toys. It is not too late for individuals or classes to enter the contests. If you know of interested students or teachers, please contact Ms. Caroline Maselli directly at (203) 573-2039, or by e-mail at caroline.maselli@chemtura.com.

ACS Newsletters & Alerts

Continuing Education offers a bi-monthly *ACS Short Courses* newsletter. The newsletter includes information about new courses, changes to the short courses calendar, and special offers.

Every other month the Education and International Activities Division sends out *Chemunity News*, an e-mail newsletter informing readers to new content on the education pages and relevant promotions. To subscribe to this newsletter please contact education@acs.org.

American Chemical Society Student Affiliates Program *FANmail* is an email newsletter from the Faculty Advisor Network.

Community Coordinator News is a quarterly newsletter that keeps you up to date on all of the offerings of the Office of Community Activities and the Comm. on Community Activities.

C&EN Online offers a weekly Table of Contents e-mail. To subscribe, send an e-mail to webmaster.cen@acs.org. Readers can also sign up for a *PDA version* of C&EN. This free service is provided through AvantGo.

ACS ProSpectives Conferences offers automatic updates on upcoming conferences *New Conference Alerts*.

The *Green Chemistry Institute International E-mail Network* provides a rapid

communication tool for green chemistry researchers, educators, government officials and interested members of the public. To join, send e-mail to gci@lanl.gov.

CPT offers a newsletter to provide updates on *Guidelines for Undergraduate Chemistry Programs*.