

**Council meeting with Synchrotron, SAS, Small Molecule, Service and Fiber
July 30th 2009**

Synchrotron SIG (Marc Allaire, Chair-elect)

Ernst Bergmann, Current Chair.

2009 ACA: Two synchrotron only sessions: Instrument (all day), and Diagnostics in Data Collection, the latter being very well attended. Two co-sponsored sessions; Structural Enzymology (with BioMac) and Complementary Methods (with BioMac, SAS).

Proposed for 2010 ACA: Following on from this years instrument sessions; "New tools, new light" (1/2 day). It is the 40th anniversary of the 1st diffraction pattern from a synchrotron. They would like to celebrate this with a Plenary given by Gerd Rosenbaum, who would then Chair the session that followed. A co-sponsored session "Radiation damage" with BioMac. Two workshops proposals; one on longer wavelength macromolecular phasing with BioMac (see BioMac annual report for more details) and the other on remote data collection with ISIG (see Council lunch with ISIG minutes). These cannot be on the same year as they would compete.

Synchrotron supports the proposed 2010 Transactions Symposium on the hydrogen atom.

SAS SIG (Littrell (Chair) & Tsuruta (Chair-elect))

2009 ACA: There were only 7-8 at the SIG meeting. They have possible officers identified for the election ballot. The SAS session (SAS modeling and simulation) on Thursday morning was particularly well attended.

2010 ACA: They have a list of 6 sessions either alone (3) or co-sponsored (2 with BioMac / Synchrotron, and 1 with ISIG / Materials), and proposed chairs for each of them.

Small Molecule SIG (Staples, Chair-elect)

See annual report. Discussion related to items in the annual report

2009 & 2010 ACA: Although "Cool structures" was not well attended this year due to competing session, they would like to put this on again next year (without a conflict). Small Molecule SIG likes this because all the talks are chosen from submitted abstracts across all appropriate sessions. "Would you publish this?" was a great success. Want to do this again in 2010 but with fewer speakers and more discussion. Except for "Cool Structures" all their sessions had 20-30 attendees.

The SIG is preparing a PDF on how to become Chair of the SIG or a Session Chair. This would also be appropriate from Service SIG. Younger members feel that this positions only for older members. This would be a good general document to adapt for the ACA website and other SIGs.

Britten brought up the subject of joint SIG meetings, and suggested that Small Molecule consider this (with Service?).

Service (Kahn Chair-elect)

See annual report. Discussion related to items in the annual report

2009 & 2010 ACA: The current Chair (Dale Swenson) was not able to attend the ACA due to financial issues at the University. This was the same for many Service SIG members. The JANA workshop was very well attended. Service would like to run a follow-up 1/2 day session in the 2010 program where speakers present their structure solutions. "Would you publish this?" was a great success, and they would like to run it again next year. There was interest from BioMac and Powder to also develop something similar. Britten suggested that this session would be a good way to identify a hot topic, and then suggest on that for the following years meeting. Wilmot mentioned that it would be better if this could be run on Tuesday evening in 2010, to enable YSSIG members to attend as it clashed with the 2009 Mentor / Mentee dinner.

2010 Transactions Symposium: Khan got his PhD from the Bau lab. He offered to Chair the Transactions with Christina Hoffman at Oak Ridge National Labs. He had already organized a Bau symposium to celebrate Bob's science. He also had a list from Bob of speakers he had wanted to be invited to his retirement symposium.

Service SIG had a well attended SIG meeting. In 2012 Service SIG will be 25 yrs old. They would like to have some kind of celebration at that meeting. Service SIG members are teaching courses for credit and not recognized appropriately by Institutions. ACA meetings are held in very expensive places, and this is contributing to the inability of Service SIG members to attend the ACA in these economically challenging times.

Fiber (Joseph Orgel, Chair)

There was no annual report as only officially participate every 2 years.

There had been concerns about the viability of the SIG, but it had been saved, and in fact interest in fiber diffraction was increasing. Paul Langan is Chair-elect. They would like 2 half-day sessions in 2010, as they are growing, and APS is there. They would like to have a hands-on data collection workshop at BioCAT. Ideally they would like a 1/2 session of mini-tutorial lectures in different areas of fiber diffraction. Gerald Stubbs would give an introduction to explain the relationship between the different areas (Micro- cryo- fiber diffraction). Then this would be followed by a hands-on workshop at BioCAT (either 1/2 or whole day). This could run in parallel to the main meeting, or just after. The second session would be on "Amyloidosis", potentially with BioMac / Synchrotron. This had not been discussed with the membership or the other SIGs. It was pointed out that BioMac / ISIG had run a neurological diseases session in 2008.

**Council meeting YSSIG, General, BioMac, ISIG and 2010 ACA
July 28th 2009**

Young Scientists SIG (Huether and Jackson)

See annual report. Discussion related to items in the annual report

1 & 2. This year the YSSIG mixer and mentor/mentee dinner were a great success. Both had been moved to a day earlier (mixer Sunday; dinner Monday). This had helped integrate people who were new to the ACA, or had traveled alone from their lab, and this was aided by the "1st time" ribbons. YSSIG had put together a hand-out for newbies (Ryan Jackson). This year it was e-mailed to people attending for the first time. Next year YSSIG requests that this be included in the registration materials. It will also be put on the ACA web-site. This year YSSIG was co-sponsor with ISIG for a panel discussion featuring professionals from the crystallography field. Next year ISIG and YSSIG would like to do something similar again. Numbers show that only ~10% end up in academia, although ACA meetings are mainly populated with academics.

General SIG (Noll)

There was high interest in General this year (27 posters and 18 lectures). They had 2 half day sessions with co-sponsorship. The CEC is interested in supporting a session focused on equipment that is coming back into fashion. All SIGs were struggling to get officers and people at their annual meetings. ACA needs to be more proactive about explaining the benefits of joining a SIG. Von Dreele stated that this seemed to be an excellent topic for the next President's column in RefleXions. For SIGs with common interests, SIGs have begun to combine annual meetings. A request was made that the time and place of SIG meetings place text detailing time and place of SIG meetings following the appropriate sessions in the program book, rather than in small type at the top of the program page. Noon SIG meeting time was always better attended. Some of these clashed with vendor events. Unfortunately ACA cannot dictate the date and time of these. A suggestion that was well received was to delay the start of a SIG sponsored session by half hour to hold the SIG meeting, e.g. 9am SIG meeting, and start session immediately afterwards at 9:30am.

BioMac SIG (Horton)

See annual report. Discussion related to items in the annual report

The BioMac SIG sponsored sessions have been well attended. Structural Enzymology had so many abstracts that it was expanded to a full day for Thursday. There were 10 session ideas for next year. BC Wang, who could not attend, had requested another session on long-wavelength phasing and possibly a workshop. There were complaints that the internet was not free in the rooms (though it was in the hotel lobby). It was agreed that internet was not a good idea in lecture halls, as it is very distracting when people check e-mails during the talks.

Industrial SIG (Klei & Bell)

See annual report. Discussion related to items in the annual report

Rydel, the current Chair of ISIG, had been unable to attend due to his company not granting him time to come to the meeting. Klei substituted. ISIG again had had a very successful joint session with BioMac on vaccines. Next year it was hoped they the two SIGs would have a joint session on cardiovascular disease. However, after 6 years, there was serious concern about the viability of

ISIG. There were only 9 people at the SIG meeting; 6 of whom had already been ISIG officers. Klei put out an emergency call via e-mail last night to make a plea for support and people to volunteer as ISIG officers. They have over 100 members. It was pointed out that powder and materials are also strongly linked to industrial. Materials and powder talks had been included in this years session talks.

The economy and consolidation had impacted industrial attendance at the ACA meeting. It was suggested that they could combine their SIG meeting with BioMac. A split SIG meeting, with the 1st 20 mins being BioMac and 2nd industrial was well received. Workshop with Synchrotron on remote data collection had been tabled. Gerard Bricogne, who is partially supported by a consortium of industrial interests (Global Phasing) might head up a refinement workshop that should have industrial interest. The expense of workshops was brought up. Could local university sites be used to reduce costs? Council had already tabled this as an option, and saw no problem with this (the workshops would become satellite meetings).

Bristol-Myers Squibb have given 30 laptops to ACA, and this could be continued in future years. Bruker kindly included them in their vendor shipments, thus reducing problems with customs. HP had also loaned 4 high powered computers for the twinning workshop. Von Dreele thanked Klei for arranging this generous gift.

2010 ACA meeting Program Chair (Ross Angel)

Posters: If possible can we have all posters up from Sunday-Tuesday, and assign a day to each poster presenter to man their posters. If this cannot be done can session related posters be split onto different days, so that poster presenters would still get a chance to see 2/3rd of their session's posters. A Poster Chair should be appointed to organize this and the judging of poster prizes. As this is crystallographic meeting presenters should be encouraged to include substantive crystallographic data. Include this in poster information, and stress that crystallographic data would be a key component in selecting winners for poster prizes. It was suggested that someone could write a short article on this topic for the Spring edition of *RefleXions* (How to win a poster prize at the ACA annual meeting).

Awards: The Etter Early Career Award is a YSSIG organized symposium that features young scientists picked from the submitted abstracts. For the other two prizes (Fankuchen and Trueblood) 2 sessions would be held back at the planning meeting.

Transactions Symposium: Hydrogen atom focus, which would also honor Bob Bau's life-time contributions to science. It already had the backing of 4 SIGs. Angel proposed to think of it as 2 half-day sessions. He already had a session lay-out and had identified some Chairs. The session topics would be chosen to minimize competing sessions. Web-site does not have any of the previous years electronic transactions on it, and this is really crucial for the membership as a resource, and for the speakers to know that their talks had been web published.

Evening session "Would you publish this?": This was a trial and it had been very popular. It discussed in an informal environment the solution of difficult small molecule structures. 70 people attended. Therefore, this type of evening session should be included in next years program. This year it clashed with the mentor/mentee dinner. Next year Tuesday would be preferable so it did not clash with YSSIG events.