

# Industrial Oil Products Division



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## AOCS Industrial Oil Products Division Newsletter March 2010

### AOCS ANNUAL MEETING SPECIAL

#### Message from the Vice Chairperson

Dear IOP Division members:

Greetings to you on this cold winter day, as we look to the upcoming springtime relief. This seasonal change is a metaphor for the oil and chemical industries in general, as I've recently read in a year review late last year, "And perhaps the best that can be said for the year is that it is nearly over" (Reisch and Tullo, Chem. Eng. News 87 (51), 24-29). With political issues like the tax credit controversy, the start of this year may still prove rough for industrial oil products where I expect attendance will be a bit lower than the past few years. However, the upcoming meeting gives us something to look forward to, where our session chairpersons have worked tirelessly to bring you the valuable sessions that you want and need to see and hear. Highlights of the lineup, 54 presentations in the preliminary stage, will be detailed later in this newsletter by those hard-working individuals. Finally, we also announce our winners of the two big division awards, the SDA/NBB Glycerin Innovation Award, and the USB Industrial Uses of Soybean Oil Award. Please congratulate the winners, and encourage nominations for next year's awards. As always, please feel free to get involved in our Division. I look forward to seeing those of you who can make it to the meeting.

Sincerely,  
Ken Doll

#### Election of Division Officers

The current Division board term of office expires in May 2010. With the new Division guidelines, we will now vote for an Executive Steering Committee consisting of a Chairperson, a Vice Chairperson, and a Secretary/Treasurer. All other Division positions will be appointed by the officers. Beginning with the

#### Division Officers

##### Chairperson

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##### Secretary/Treasurer

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##### Immed. Past Chair

Max Norris  
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Executive Steering Committee selected in 2010, term limits will be for one year, with the option to serve for up to three years in the same position. AOCS has recently solicited nominations in a separate email to Division members. Elections for the three Executive Steering Committee positions are expected to take place in March 2010.

### **IOP Session Previews**

#### **Industrial Oil Products Posters**

As is normally the case, poster submissions for the upcoming annual meeting cover a wide range of important topics, including various aspects of biodiesel, bio-based polymers, surfactants, glycerol utilization, as well as other industrial products from vegetable oils. Please stop by the posters during the dedicated viewing session to meet the presenters. They will be eager to discuss their findings with you. If you cannot make the dedicated poster session, feel free to stop by at your leisure, as they will be available for viewing throughout the meeting in the Expo Hall.

#### **Preview of IOP 3: New Glycerol Uses**

Increased global production of biodiesel since the late 1990s has created an abundance of crude glycerin that has significantly impacted the glycerin market resulting in a decline in glycerin pricing. Because the economic viability of the biodiesel and oleochemical industries are closely linked to glycerol, the deterioration of glycerol prices negatively affects the cost of materials derived from these industries. Although glycerol has many commercial uses, these markets are generally considered mature, making it difficult to absorb the glycerin surpluses. To this end, new chemistry to convert glycerol into high volume value-added products is being developed. The new glycerol uses session is dedicated to hosting the latest research, market developments, and uses of glycerol and will focus on the latest developments.

#### **General Industrial Oil Products Session**

By Darrell Sparks

I, along with my co-chair, Dr. Rafael Hernandez, invite you to attend the Division's General Session at the 101st AOCS Annual Meeting & Expo in Phoenix. This year, the session will feature nine presentations. Topics will cover a wide range of areas, such as biorefineries, fuel additives, and synthetic biology. Additionally, multiple speakers will discuss alternative pathways for production of biofuels, including

biodiesel, bio-oil, and green diesel. The research presented will be based on a variety of lipid feedstocks, ranging from crop-based sources, such as soybeans, to microbial sources, such as yeast, algae, and activated sludge. The session will also feature several student papers, so this will be an excellent opportunity to interact with young investigators. The session is formally titled IOP 5: General Industrial Oil Products and will begin at 1:55 pm on Wednesday, May 19. I hope to see you there!

### **Award Announcements**

#### **SDA/NBB Glycerine Innovation Award**

The winner is Prof. Ramon Gonzalez, Rice University, Houston, Texas. His phone number is 713-348-4893; e-mail: [ramon.gonzalez@rice.edu](mailto:ramon.gonzalez@rice.edu)

The award consists of a \$5,000 honorarium and a plaque. Also, the Division offers a complimentary luncheon ticket. No funds are available to support meeting registration or travel expenses to attend the meeting.

He has been asked to give the award address, currently scheduled for the Division's Tuesday, May 18 afternoon session, "New Glycerol Uses."

#### **USB Industrial Uses of Soybean Oil Award**

The award recipient is Dr. Herman Benecke, Battelle Columbus Operations, Columbus, Ohio. His phone number is 614-424-4457; e-mail: [beneckeh@battelle.org](mailto:beneckeh@battelle.org)

The award consists of a \$3,000 honorarium and a plaque. No funds are available to support meeting registration or travel expenses to attend the meeting.

He has been asked to give the award address at the IOP Division luncheon, Monday, May 17 from noon-2:00 pm.