

**American Chemical Society  
Division of Environmental Chemistry  
Student Awards Committee**

**Fall Meeting 2009**

1. For some unknown reason, there were only 7 applicants for the Graduate Student Paper Award (Gonter Symposium). This continues a trend over the last 3 years where the number of applicants has essentially decreased by 50% each year. Applications for the student award have also decreased recently. The quality of applicants for both awards is still very high, however.

It is my conclusion that the email list that I have is not reaching as many people as in years past because of changes in email address, email filters, etc. If the Division has access to an email list of members or other email lists, I would like to request a copy. We should also continue to post the award announcement on the Division's web page.

Manuscripts were sent out for review in January. Thanks to the following reviewers: George Cobb, Kevin Johnson, Audra Morse, Jaclyn Canas, Gopal Coimbatore, Lianfa Song, and Andrew Jackson. Each manuscript received at least 2 reviews. Based on the average scores and reviewer comments, I sent letters to Jennifer Guerard, Christopher Gorski, Amrika Deonarine, Robert Delatolla, Haizhou Liu, and Dongsuk Han indicating that they were the 2009 winners. The Gonter Award Symposium is scheduled for Tuesday afternoon followed by the Division dinner at which the award presentations will be made.

2. The 2010 award announcements will be mailed by the end of September.

*Todd Anderson*

### C. Ellen Gonter Environmental Chemistry Award

The Division of Environmental Chemistry sponsors research paper awards for graduate students. These awards are competitive and judged on the basis of research and writing quality. Up to seven awards are presented annually. These awards represent the highest honor granted by the Division of Environmental Chemistry for students.

All graduate students enrolled full-time in chemistry, environmental engineering or other programs emphasizing environmental chemistry are eligible. The research paper must be relevant to environmental chemistry, the student must be the first and major author and the work must have been done while attending the student's current institution.

Graduate students who receive this award will present their papers at the C. Ellen Gonter Environmental Chemistry Awards Symposium at the American Chemical Society National meeting in the Fall. Each awardee will also receive a \$1,000 cash award at the Environmental Division Dinner at the national meeting, a one year membership in the Environmental Division and recognition in *EnvirofACS*, the newsletter of the Division, and in *ES&T*.

C. Ellen Gonter was born on February 28, 1922 in Dover, OH. She graduated with a B.S. in Chemistry in 1952 from Carnegie-Mellon University. She was a certified professional chemist. She worked for the U.S. Army in chemical warfare service during World War II, U.S. Steel Corp., was supervisor of analytical research for Pittsburgh Coke and Chemical Co., manager of the water division of the Nuclear Utilities Service Corp. of Pittsburgh and the National Sanitation Foundation of Ann Arbor, MI. She did much consulting work throughout her career. She was an Emeritus member of the American Chemical Society.

Dr. Gonter served in many capacities within the Division of Environmental Chemistry including serving as the Chair (1973), Secretary (1969-1971) and Treasurer (1976-1977). Ellen attended nearly every meeting during her career and could be found manning the Division table at many of those meetings. She was instrumental in the development and establishment of this award in 1985. Due to her tireless volunteer efforts, the Division bestowed her with the Distinguished Service Award in 1979.

Dr. Gonter was also a member of the American Institute of Chemists, the Society for Applied Spectroscopy, the International American Society for Testing and Materials for which she was secretary and member of the Board of Directors of the Pittsburgh section of the Society of Women Engineers. She had many papers published for the chemical industry.

At the Spring National Meeting, the Division of Environmental Chemistry decided to honor the memory of Ellen, with her passing on September 14, 2006, by renaming the Graduate Student Research Paper Award to the C. Ellen Gonter Environmental Chemistry Award.

## 2009 Recipients

Christopher A. Gorski, Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA. Paper: New conceptual model for interpreting the redox behavior of magnetite in anoxic environments.

Dongsuk Han, Department of Civil Engineering, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX. Paper: Sorption of selenium(IV) and selenium(VI) to synthetic pyrite (FeS<sub>2</sub>) and stabilization *via* surface reactions.

Amrika Deonarine, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Duke University, Durham, NC. Paper: Precipitation of mercuric sulfide nanoparticles in NOM-containing water: Implications for the natural environment.

Haizhou Liu, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Washington, Seattle, WA. Paper: Interactions of Pb(II)/Pb(IV) solids with chlorine and their effects on lead release.

Robert Delatolla, Department of Chemical Engineering, McGill University, Montreal, QC, Canada. Paper: *In situ* characterization of nitrifying biofilm: Minimizing biomass loss and preserving perspective.

Jennifer Guerard, Environmental Sciences Graduate Program, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH. Paper: Photochemical fate of sulfadimethoxine in aquaculture waters.