



*“Please mark your calendars and make plans to join us in San Diego...”*

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## 19th American Peptide Symposium to be held June 18-23 in San Diego

*Jeff Kelly and Tom Muir, Symposium Co-chairs*

On behalf of the American Peptide Society, we invite you to participate in the 19th American Peptide Symposium: Understanding Biology Using Peptides, to be held in San Diego, California, June 18 - 23, 2005. The symposium will highlight many of the recent developments in the broad area of peptide science, with a particular emphasis on how these advances are being applied to basic problems in biology and medicine.

This Symposium will cover cutting-edge research presented by a wide range of distinguished speakers, as well as poster presentations by scientists from all over the world. In addition, we expect more than 75 exhibitors. Specific topics to be covered include novel synthetic strategies, peptides in biological signaling, post-translational modifications of peptides and proteins, peptide quaternary structure in material science and disease and peptides as tools in drug discovery.

The venue for this Symposium will be the Town and Country Resort and Convention Center; a San Diego landmark spread out over 40 acres with convenient access to San Diego's most popular destinations. Sandy beaches that stretch for miles along the Pacific are just minutes away, as are the San Diego Zoo, SeaWorld Adventure Park, Balboa Park and the sparkling Mission Bay Aquatic Park. And just to the North are Legoland and the Wild Animal Park.

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## 19th American Peptide Symposium

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San Diego is also a city with character - rich in arts and culture and steeped in history. All of that, and 350 sunny days per year make San Diego the perfect environment in which to relax for a few days before or after the Symposium. Please mark your calendars and make plans to join us in San Diego for this exciting event.

Further details are available at the Symposium website:

[http://www.americanpeptidesociety.com/\\_symposium](http://www.americanpeptidesociety.com/_symposium)

--Jeff Kelly and Tom Muir, Symposium Co-Chairs

## 19th American Peptide Symposium Schedule

An at-a-glance schedule can be downloaded from

[http://www.americanpeptidesociety.com/\\_symposium/Working%20Schedule%20Final.pdf](http://www.americanpeptidesociety.com/_symposium/Working%20Schedule%20Final.pdf)

### Saturday, June 18

**8:00-10:00 am:** Protein Society Special Session

Chair: Jeff W. Kelly; Rama Ranganathan, Roland Riek, Homme W. Hellinga, Tracy Handel

**10:00-10:30 am:** Coffee Break

**10:30 am-12:30 pm:** Protein Society Special Session (continued)

Andrea Cochran, Martin Gruebele, Felicia Etzkorn, Fabrizio Chiti

**12:30-1:00 pm:** Lunch on Own

**1:00-3:00 pm:** Dr. Bert Schram Young Investigators' Mini-Symposium

Chairs: John P. Mayer and Alain Fournier; Deborah Rothman, Miquel Vila-Perello, Barbara Mulinacci, Beili Quan, Florence Brunel, David Zoeteway, Remco Merkx, James Cain

**3:00-3:15 pm:** Refreshment Break

**3:15-5:15 pm:** Young Investigators' Mini-Symposium (continued)

Evgenia Glukhov, Luis J. Cruz, Hope Wilson, John Blankenship, Karthikan Rajagopal, Christina Foerg, Matthew Hartman

**6:00-9:00 pm:** Opening Reception

### Sunday, June 19

**8:00-10:00 am:** #1: Peptide and Protein Synthesis Strategies

Chair: Richard A. Houghten; William D. Lubell, Dirk T. S. Rijkers, John S. McMurray, Scott Miller

**10:00-10:30 am:** Coffee Break

**10:30 am-12:20 pm:** #1: Peptide and Protein Synthesis Strategies (continued)

Philip Dawson, Manfred Mutter, Fernando Albericio, Nicole Sampson, Paolo Botti

**12:20-2:00 pm:** Poster Session I and Exhibit Hall Lunch

**2:00-5:20 pm:** #2: Biosynthesis of Bioactive Peptides

Chair: Wilfred van der Donk; Stephen Blacklow, Richard Roberts, John Robinson, Mohamed Marahiel, Richard DiMarchi

**4:20-5:20 pm:** Opening Keynote Lecture  
Peter G. Schultz

**5:20-7:00 pm:** Poster Session II and Exhibit Hall Social Hour

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# 19th American Peptide Symposium Schedule

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## Monday, June 20

**8:00-10:10 am:** #3: New Themes in Anti-Microbials and Quorum Sensing

Chair: Tom W. Muir; David Craik, David Andreu, Tobin Dickerson, Reza Ghadiri, Sylvie Blondelle

**10:10-10:30 am:** Coffee Break

**10:30-11:30 pm:** #3: New Themes in Anti-Microbials and Quorum Sensing (continued)

Richard Novick, Wilfred van der Donk

**11:30 am-12:30 pm:** Merrifield Award and Lecture

Richard A. Houghten

**12:30-2:00 pm:** Poster Session III and Exhibit Hall Lunch

**2:00-4:30 pm:** #4: Post-Translational Modifications of Peptides and Proteins

Chair: Philip Dawson; Philip Cole, Mark Distefano, Kirill Alexandrov, Michael Carrasco, Marcey Waters, Linda Hsieh-Wilson

**4:30-6:00 pm:** Poster Session IV and Exhibit Hall Social Hour

**6:00-9:00 pm:** Speakers Dinner, Stephen Birch Aquarium (by invitation only)

## Tuesday, June 21

**7:55-10:15 am:** #5: Goodman Memorial Session

Chairs: Joseph P. Taulane and Richard A. Houghten; Joseph P. Taulane, Fred Naider, Luis Mroder, Claudio Toniolo, Charles M. Deber, Peter W. Schiller, Richard A. Houghten

**10:15-10:45 am:** Coffee Break

**10:45 am-12:45 pm:** #6: Towards

Peptides as Potential Therapeutics I

Chair: William D. Lubell; James Nowick, Paul Alewood, Gregg Fields, G.M. Anantharamaiah, David Lawrence

**12:45-2:00 pm:** Poster Session V and Exhibit Hall Lunch

**2:00-4:40 pm:** #7: Peptide & Protein Design

Chair: Jeff W. Kelly; Donald Hilvert, Lars Baltzer, Niels Andersen, Hisakazu Mihara, Annette G. Beck-Sickinger, Samuel H. Gellman

**4:40 - 6:00 pm:** Poster Session VI and Exhibit Hall Social Hour

**6:00-9:00 pm:** Merrifield Award Dinner, Trellises Garden Grille (by invitation only)

## Wednesday, June 22

**8:00-9:50 am:** #8: Peptide Quaternary Structures in Mat'l Science and Disease

Chair: Samuel H. Gellman; Dek Woolfson, Evan Powers, Sean Decatur, Joel Schneider

**9:50-10:30 am:** Coffee Break

**10:30-11:15 am:** Makineni Award and Lecture

Robin E. Offord

**11:15 am-12:30 pm:** Lunch on Own Poster and Exhibit Hall Dismantling

**Free Afternoon**

## Thursday, June 23

**8:00-10:00 am:** #9: Peptide and Protein Arrays

Chair: Hisakazu Mihara; Gavin MacBeath, Xiaolian Gao, Christian F.W. Becker, Thomas Kodadek, Julio A. Camarero

**10:00-10:30 am:** Coffee Break

**10:30 am-12:10 pm:** #10: Towards Peptides as Potential Therapeutics II

Chair: Fernando Albericio; Robin Polt, Clemencia Pinilla, Ernesto Abel-Santos, Robert Hodges, Beate Kokschn

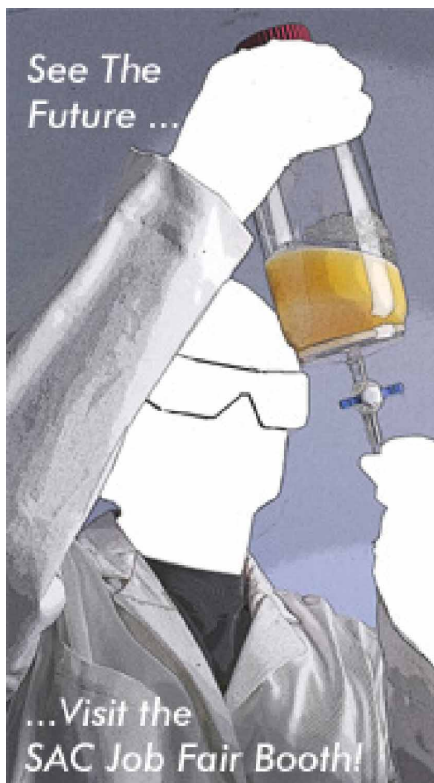
**12:10-1:10 pm:** Lunch on Own

**1:10-4:10 pm:** #11: Proteomics and Emerging Technologies

Chair: Tom Kodadek; Horst Kessler, Henning Mootz, Victor J. Hruby, Galia Blum, Kevan Shokat

**3:10-4:10 pm:** Closing Keynote Lecture  
Christopher Walsh

**06:00 - 11:00 pm:** Closing Banquet Festivities



## SAC Programming at 19th APS Symposium Aimed at Early-Career Peptide Scientists

The APS Student Affairs Committee (SAC) is pleased to host the sixth annual Young Investigators' Mini-Symposium and Poster Competition, and the Young Scientist Job Fair at the 19th American Peptide Symposium in San Diego.

### Young Investigators' Mini-Symposium and Poster Competition

The sixth annual Bert Schram Young Investigators' Mini-Symposium will offer an exciting launch to this year's American Peptide Symposium, providing a forum for early-career peptide scientists to competitively present their research to a wide audience of peers, mentors and established peptide scientists. The Mini-Symposium will take place on Saturday, June 18, 2005 from 1:00 to 5:30 PM with the Symposium opening reception to follow.

Eligible young investigators will also have an opportunity to compete in the Poster Competition. The investigators will present their research in a poster format and field questions from a panel of judges.

Winners of the Mini Symposium and Poster Competition will be announced during the Closing Banquet of the Symposium, with cash prizes at stake. APS Members are encouraged to provide valuable assistance with the Poster Competition by volunteering their time and talent to serve on the panel of judges. Donations and sponsorship opportunities are also available and are accepted on behalf of the Society so that these events can continue to benefit our young investigators.

### Young Scientist Job Fair

The Student Affairs Committee sponsors the Young Scientist Job Fair in conjunction with the American Peptide Symposium. This activity is provided free of charge to assist young scientists in identifying employment opportunities and potential academic and industrial employers. Interested scientists and potential employers who want to participate in the Job Fair may register at the Student Affairs Committee Job Fair Booth at the posted times and during poster sessions. Additionally, positions at a more experienced level are sometimes included in this job fair for individuals interested in parallel job transitions.

Non-confidential "Candidates" and "Positions" files will be located at the Job Fair Booth for viewing by Job Fair participants. A message center will also be available to facilitate contact between candidates and employers during the symposium. Pre-registration can be completed using the Employment Section of the American Peptide Society's web site or by visiting the SAC Job Fair link at the Symposium Site. For on-site registration, candidates will need to supply two copies of their CV and registration forms to participate in the job fair. Forms and further instructions are available on the Symposium web site.

For more information on these events please refer to the Symposium web site: [http://www.americanpeptidesociety.com/\\_symposium/index.asp](http://www.americanpeptidesociety.com/_symposium/index.asp). If you are interested in becoming a member of the Student Affairs Committee or volunteering to judge the Poster Competition, please contact DeAnna Long ([dwlong@pepnet.com](mailto:dwlong@pepnet.com) at Peptides International) or Ryan Holder ([jholder@amgen.com](mailto:jholder@amgen.com) at Amgen).

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## SAC Programming at 19th APS Symposium

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### About the APS Student Affairs Committee

The Student Affairs Committee (SAC) of the American Peptide Society consists of graduate students and post-doctoral associates dedicated to providing insights, programs, and resources geared toward the needs of the young investigator of the modern peptide research community. SAC programs are open to student, post-doctoral, and independent researchers that are members of various international peptide societies around the world, and, at the time of the Symposium, are less than three years beyond their graduate/post-doctoral research training.

SAC Members include Florence Brunel, Ph.D. (The Scripps Research Institute), Audrey Kelleman (University of California, San Diego), John Blankenship (University of Montreal), Jason Moss (The Scripps Research Institute), and Krista Wilson (University of Florida). New members are always welcome.

On behalf of the Student Affairs Committee, we look forward to seeing you in San Diego.

--DeAnna Long and Ryan Holder

### SAC gratefully acknowledges the following sponsors:

For the Bert Schram Young  
Investigators' Mini-Symposium:  
The ESCOM Science Foundation

For the Young Investigators'  
Poster Competition:  
CS Bio.

## Protein Society Special Session to Open 19th American Peptide Symposium

At the 18th American Peptide Symposium in Boston, Bill DeGrado (then President of the Protein Society) and Roger Freidinger (President of the APS) began discussing ideas for closer interactions between our societies. One idea, which both Presidents felt had potential, was organizing and sponsoring a special session at each other's society's symposia.

The current President of the Protein Society, Bob Matthews, followed up this initial discussion by inviting the APS to sponsor a one day symposium at the Protein Society meeting in San Diego, August 14-18, 2004. Specifically, this symposium would be on the first day of their meeting and would involve seven lectures of 45 minutes each.

The APS Council accepted this proposal and also invited the Protein Society to sponsor a session at the 19th American Peptide Symposium in 2005; their Council accepted this invitation. Bob Matthews and Roger Freidinger also agreed to exchange Society booths at the exhibitions of our respective meetings.

Robin Offord organized the APS session under the theme of "Synthetic and Semisynthetic Proteins." The following speakers participated: Phil Dawson, Steve Kent, David Lawrence, Tom Muir, Robin Offord, Ron Raines, James Tam. The session was very well attended and was judged highly successful.

Jeff Kelly, the Protein Society's President-elect, has now organized a session for the first morning of the 19th American Peptide Symposium on June 18, 2005 based on the theme "Protein Design." The following speakers will participate: Rama Ranganathan, Roland Riek, Homme W. Hellinga, Tracy Handel, Andrea Cochran, Martin Gruebele, Felicia Etkorn, Fabrizio Chiti. The American Peptide Society welcomes the Protein Society to our Symposium and looks forward to what promises to be an outstanding scientific session.

The Council of the American Peptide Society is hopeful that our interactions with the Protein Society will be beneficial to both organizations. We look forward to future interactions between the two societies.

## New Benefit for APS Members

The American Peptide Society has arranged with Academy Savant, Inc. to make available their CD-based training course "Introduction to Protein & Peptide Analysis with Mass Spectrometry" at a 25% discount off the list price currently advertised on their website. Information may be obtained at <http://www.academysavant.com> or 1-800-4-SAVANT. APS members should arrange a purchase of the course directly with Academy Savant.

## John Smith Elected Vice President-elect of FASEB

John Smith was recently elected Vice President-elect of FASEB. John has represented the APS at FASEB for the last 8 years, first on the Board of Directors and most recently on the Science Policy Committee. He is the first officer to be elected from an associate member society. His election to this office recognizes the outstanding work he has been doing on our behalf at FASEB. Congratulations to John on this achievement!

## 2005 APS Election Results

Congratulations to the following successful candidates in the 2005 APS election:

- ◆ President-elect: Richard Houghten
- ◆ Treasurer: Tom Lobl
- ◆ Council: Ernest Giralt, Carrie Haskell-Luevano, Jeff Kelly, DeAnna Long
- ◆ Nominating Committee: Wayne Cody, Phil Dawson, Steve Kates, Michal Lebl, Laszlo Otvos, Roger Roeske

Thank you to all members who were candidates in the election.

## American Peptide Society Council Meeting Highlights

The American Peptide Society Council met by teleconference on February 17, 2005.

Jeff Kelly and Tom Muir joined the meeting to report on the status of plans for the 19th American Peptide Symposium. Commitments from sponsors and invited speakers have been good. Based on the number of abstracts that had been received, it was decided to extend the deadline for abstract submission. The Program Committee will meet shortly after the deadline to select additional oral presentations and finalize the program. The program and abstracts will be provided to Wiley for publication in a special issue of *Biopolymers (Peptide Science)*. The Protein Society special session on the first day of the meeting will be on the topic of protein design.

Plans for the Goodman Memorial Symposium are progressing well. The Council voted to guarantee \$40,000 in travel grants to mainly support attendance by younger participants. Donations of \$15,000 and \$10,000 for this purpose has been received from UCB Bioproducts and the Eli Lilly Company respectively, and efforts are underway to obtain more of this money through donations.

Jeff Kelly reported that compilation of the book of standard operating procedures for Symposium organization is proceeding well. This compilation should be a valuable resource for future Symposium organizers.

DeAnna Long (Student Affairs Committee Co-chair) reported that the committee is again fully staffed, and Ryan Holder is the new co-chair. Planning for the Dr. Bert Schram Young Investigators' Mini-Symposium (sponsored by The ESCOM Science Foundation) and the Young Investigators Poster Competition at the Symposium is underway. Judges for the poster competition are being sought.

Donna Freher-Lyons reported that 427 members have paid their 2005 dues to date, an excellent result compared to the same period in recent years. Of that number, 171 have chosen the new 2 year membership.

Richard Houghten (Treasurer) and Tom Lobl (Finance Committee Chairman) reported that recent initiatives to put Society services on a more professional basis and cut expenses are taking effect. It is anticipated that linking Symposium registration fees and membership will have significant benefits. Measures such as cutting Council meeting expenses by using teleconferences and web site sponsorship are beginning to bear fruit.

The Council acted on a number of items.

- ◆ It approved a proposal from Sylvie Blondelle (Symposium Proceedings Editor) that all Symposium attendees will receive the Proceedings in CD format as a benefit of registration. She will investigate the feasibility of providing a hard copy for an additional fee. This approach will result in substantial cost savings for the Society.
- ◆ The 2005 election slate proposed by the Nominating Committee (Gregg Fields, chair) was approved by Council. The election will be conducted electronically beginning in April.
- ◆ An audit of the APS financial records to be conducted in 2005 was approved.
- ◆ A proposal from Richard Houghten for a new award recognizing service to peptide science apart from research contributions was approved. The first recipient will be Dr. Rao Rapaka of NIDA.
- ◆ The Council voted to continue APS associate membership in FASEB. The advocacy of FASEB for biomedical research is seen as an important benefit of membership.

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## Council Meeting Highlights

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It was noted that Richard Houghten has been chosen to receive the 2005 Bruce Merrifield Award and Robin Offord was selected to present the 2005 Rao Makineni Lecture. The Council thanked John Smith, Chair of the Awards Committee (which is constituted by the Chair and operates independently of the Council), for the good work of his group.

Good progress was reported by Lila Gierasch (Editor) on growth of the official APS journal *Biopolymers (Peptide Science)* and by Tom Lobl (Web Site Committee Chair) on APS web site development. The Council members expressed pleasure with these reports.

It was noted that the APS will be organizing a session on peptide chemistry at the Summer Neuropeptide Conference in July, 2005. Michael Chorev is planning and chairing the session.

The next Council meeting will be held in San Diego on June 17 prior to the start of the Symposium. At that time, newly elected officers and councilors will take office.

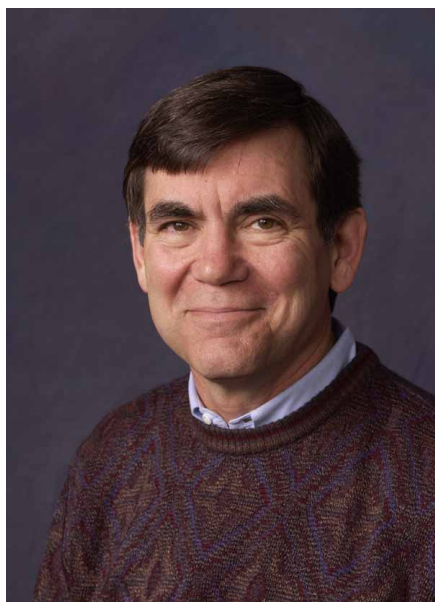
## Houghten to Receive 2005 Merrifield Award

The American Peptide Society is pleased to announce that Dr. Richard A. Houghten has been chosen to receive the R. Bruce Merrifield Award for 2005. Previously called the Alan E. Pierce Award and sponsored by Pierce Chemical Company from 1977-1995, the Merrifield Award was endowed by Dr. Rao Makineni in 1997.

Richard Houghten is internationally recognized as an expert in the fields of molecular diversity, combinatorial chemistry, and peptide chemistry. He received his doctorate in organic chemistry under the direction of Professor Henry Rapoport at U.C. Berkeley in 1975. In 1986, while a faculty member at The Scripps Research Institute, Dr. Houghten founded his first company, Multiple Peptide Systems, to commercially synthesize peptides for the research community. He founded Torrey Pines Institute for Molecular Studies in 1988. Now in its 14th year, the Institute has evolved under the leadership of Dr. Houghten to become a world-class research center which prioritizes academic freedom and career growth.

To develop and commercialize the combinatorial chemistry methods developed at the Institute in its early years, Dr. Houghten founded Trega Biosciences, Inc. (formerly Houghten Pharmaceuticals Inc.), a publicly traded biotechnology company, in 1990. He co-founded Spyder Instruments to develop and commercialize robotic chemical synthesizers, and is currently President of his fourth for-profit company, Mixture Sciences Inc., which focuses on the use of mixture-based combinatorial libraries for the development of t-cell based cancer vaccine and the identification of novel ligands from orphan G-coupled receptors.

Dr. Houghten has authored more than 450 scientific publications and is an inventor on 58 issued patents. He founded *Peptide Research*, now *The Journal of Peptide Research*, is co-Editor-in-Chief of *Molecular Diversity*, and is on the editorial boards of 10 other journals. He was co-chair of the 2nd International Peptide Symposium in San Diego in 2001, and has served both as the Secretary and the Treasurer of the American Peptide Society. Other charitable activities include his current position as Vice Chairman of the Medical Research Agencies of America.



Dr. Richard A Houghten

## Offord to Be 2005 Makineni Lecturer

The American Peptide Society is pleased to announce the selection of Dr. Robin Offord to be the Rao Makineni Lecturer for 2005. Dr. Offord will deliver his lecture as part of the program at the 19th APS Symposium this June in San Diego.

Robin Offord was a pioneer of the technique known as protein semisynthesis, and has concentrated on applying various aspects of protein science to real clinical problems. The most recent work of his laboratory has produced a chemokine analogue that is one of the most potent anti-HIV substances known. He has written, co-authored, or edited six books and is the author or co-author of about 160 scientific papers, mainly in various fields of protein science. He is coinventor on several granted Patents.

Dr. Offord originally trained as a physicist, and worked for the UK Atomic Energy Authority. However, he did his Ph.D. and a Post-Doctoral year at the Molecular Biology Laboratory, Cambridge, U.K., where he worked on protein and nucleic acid sequencing in the group of Frederick Sanger and collaborated with, among others, César Milstein and Aaron Klug. He then went to Oxford, where he was Lecturer in Molecular Biophysics and Tutorial Fellow at the College of Christ Church, before leaving for Geneva, Switzerland, in 1980. Since that date he has been Professor and Chairman of the Department of Medical Biochemistry, University of Geneva and was the Medical Faculty's President of Pre-Clinical Medicine from 1994-2001.

Dr. Offord has been a member of several governmental, private and academic advisory bodies in the UK, the USA and Switzerland, and has served as Editor, Managing Editor, and Editorial Board member of a number of international journals. Over the last 25 years, he has been a scientific consultant for many major pharmaceutical and biotechnology firms. He was a co-founder of the California-based startup which divided to become CIPHERGEN Biosystems and Gryphon Sciences, and has been a Director of Geneva Bioinformatics (GeneBio) SA. In 2000-2001 he was founding President and Executive Vice-Chairman of Geneva Proteomics (GeneProt) Inc., and has now returned to his University post. His most recent distinction was to share the "Man of the Year, Switzerland" award (2002) of the financial journal "l'agefi."

The Makineni Lectureship is dedicated to Rao Makineni, a longtime supporter of peptide science, peptide scientists, and the American Peptide Society. The Lectureship honors an individual who has made a recent contribution of unusual merit to research in the field of peptide science, and is intended to recognize original and singular discoveries rather than cumulative or lifetime contributions. The Lectureship is endowed by PolyPeptide Laboratories and Murray and Zelda Goodman (2003); the Lecture is presented at the biennial American Peptide Symposia.

## Three APS Members Chosen to be AAAS Fellows

Three APS members were among the 308 newly-elected Fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) as of September, 2004. These individuals were officially recognized for their contributions to science at the Fellows Forum held on February 19, 2005 during the AAAS Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. The APS members so honored at that ceremony were: Dr. Henry Mosberg (University of Michigan); Dr. David Lawrence (Albert Einstein College of Medicine); and Dr. Jeffrey Aube (University of Kansas). The new Fellows received a certificate and a blue and gold rosette pin as a symbol of their distinguished accomplishments.



*Dr. Robin Offord*

## Tam Receives 2005 Hirschmann Award



Dr. James P. Tam

The American Chemical Society and Merck Research Laboratories are pleased to announce Dr. James P. Tam as the recipient of the Ralph Hirschmann Award in Peptide Chemistry for 2005. James Tam is a medicinal chemist who has dedicated his career to peptide chemistry and biology in a biomedical context. His motivation has been to take the principles of physical organic chemistry and apply them to find novel types of synthesis and molecular design for peptides and proteins. One reason to synthesize peptides is to gear antibody production in a tailored direction for use as therapeutics as well as diagnostics.

In his work on vaccine design, Tam developed a versatile design platform known as multiple antigen peptides (MAP), which are chemically defined to eliminate the production ambiguity of conventional designs. They induce a very specific immune response provoking production of specific antibodies. The MAP technique involves multimerizing differing synthetic peptide antigens and fastening immunomodulating molecules. In particular, Tam mastered how to create structurally defined dendrimer subunits with an architecture of a controlled number of branches. This structure permits controlled structure-activity relationship studies, eliminates the use of extraneous adjuvants, and is applicable for oral or nasal delivery to elicit mucosal immune responses. In Tam's view, chemistry is key to the design of MAPs. In fine-tuning this technique, for example, Tam looked at how MAPs might be modified to optimize targeting and delivery. He found that lipidation, the attachment of lipophilic anchors to the dendrimers, showed distinct advantages in obtaining a cellular response and thus in its use in synthetic vaccines. This advance in peptide chemistry greatly aids in vaccine design, and MAP has become a commonly used technique around the world. For example, this technique was applied to malaria, hepatitis, HIV, and foot and mouth disease.

Tam also expanded upon the solid-phase peptide-synthesis method developed by R. Bruce Merrifield in the 1960s in which the growing peptide chain is anchored to a polymer. Realizing that dendrimers, branched peptides, and proteins with unusual architectures were difficult to synthesize by conventional methods, Tam sought a way to evolve this solid-phase synthesis in order to couple unprotected peptide segments in an aqueous environment that is conceptually similar to abiotic synthesis. The method he found falls in the class of chemoselective chemical ligation, which entails the assembly of peptides or biopolymers through a high degree of selectivity. This approach avoids the requirements to protect the reactive groups and coupling reagents. Drawing on the work of Daniel Kemp, Tam and others, notably Steve Kent and his coworkers, developed a repertoire of ligation methods for the synthesis of complex peptides, proteins, and dendrimers, using synthetic or DNA recombinant building blocks. Such methods remove the size limitation of conventional peptide synthesis methods.

Born in Hong Kong, Tam received his B.S. and Ph.D. degrees in medicinal chemistry at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. After a postdoctoral scholarship at Rockefeller University, he became an associate professor there in 1982. He joined Vanderbilt University as a full professor in the department of microbiology and immunology in 1992. In 2001, he established the School of Biological Sciences and the Biosciences Research at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore while continuing his research activity and appointment at Vanderbilt University. This year, he joined Scripps Research Institute-Florida to head the HIV therapeutics and vaccine program.

The American Chemical Society established the Hirschmann Award in 1988 to honor lifetime achievements in and contributions to the field of peptide science. The award was presented before the Division of Organic Chemistry of the ACS.

## American Peptide Society Newsletter

Published quarterly by the American Peptide Society,  
<http://www.americanpeptidesociety.com>.

President: ..... Dr. Roger Freidinger  
Treasurer: ..... Dr. Richard Houghten  
Editor: ..... Ellen T. Brenner ([ellenbr@ispswest.com](mailto:ellenbr@ispswest.com))

We are always seeking items for your society's newsletter—either scientific or personal, as long as they are relevant to the peptide field, the Society, and its members. Please email your news items, along with any photos or graphics, to the Editor, Ellen Brenner, at the above address. Items should be either Microsoft Word document attachments, or plain text included in the body of the email. Photos should preferably be in either JPEG or EPS format.

## 29th European Peptide Symposium: Gdansk, September 3-8, 2006

The European Peptide Society is pleased to announce that the 29th European Peptide Symposium will take place in Gdansk, Poland from Sunday, September 3rd to Friday, September 8th, 2006.

The scientific sessions, poster presentations and an exhibition will take place at the newly built Gdansk Congress Centre in the Baltic Philharmonic Hall, conveniently located on the Motlawa River in the center of the town.

Keeping up the tradition of European Peptide Symposia, the 29th EPS will cover all aspects of the latest developments in peptide research, providing researchers with different backgrounds an opportunity to present and exchange ideas.

For further details, please visit the Symposium website at [www.29eps.com](http://www.29eps.com), or contact the Symposium's Secretariat:

Kenes International  
Tel: +41 22 908 0488  
Fax: +41 22 732 2850  
Email: [29eps@kenes.com](mailto:29eps@kenes.com)

## 6th International Australian Peptide Conference: October 9-14, 2005

The Australian Peptide Association is pleased to announce preliminary details of the Sixth International Australian Peptide Conference. This will be held at Hamilton Island on the Great Barrier Reef in Queensland on October 9-14, 2005. The date has been purposely chosen to allow delegates the opportunity of experiencing Australia's weather and surroundings at their finest.

Hamilton Island is situated in the heart of the Whitsundays and is one of 74 tropical islands that lie between the Queensland Coast and The Great Barrier Reef. It has magnificent local scenery, beaches and abundant wild life. It is readily accessible from major airports in Australia via its own airport or from the local mainland airport at Proserpine and then by ferry. It is a place to experience everything or enjoy doing absolutely nothing; idyllic coral fringed beaches provide the backdrop for an ideal tropical holiday experience.

Accommodation has been arranged at the island's Reef View Hotel which is famous for its breathtaking views. This four-star property has the largest standard size hotel rooms in Australia with a choice of Garden View rooms (floors 1 - 4) and Coral Sea View rooms (floors 5 - 18). The views from the Reef View Hotel are amongst the best in the world. The Reef View Hotel, set in beautiful landscaped tropical gardens, offers a selection of luxurious rooms and suites, each with its own private balcony. It also has superb convention and social facilities, and a wide range of extracurricular activities has been planned for the duration of the conference. An all-inclusive package that represents excellent value has also been arranged.

We have completed assembling a program committee which will have the duty of putting together an outstanding program that will cover the cutting edge of peptide research, ranging across chemistry, structure and function, proteomics and bioinformatics, immunology, biology, physiology, clinical studies, and pharmacology.

As part of our preparations, we have established a web site that will provide full details of all aspects of the meeting, including that of the special travel arrangements and resort package and pre- and post-meeting tours. The address of the site is <http://www.peptideoz.org>.

Announcements will be e-mailed out to researchers whose addresses are available to the organizing committee, who would be grateful if APS members could inform as many of their friends and colleagues as possible whom you think would also be interested. In the meantime, please contact the committee's secretary, Mibel Aguilar ([Mibel.Aguilar@med.monash.edu.au](mailto:Mibel.Aguilar@med.monash.edu.au)) to register your e-mail address, to be sure of being kept fully informed of developments with the conference. All subsequent information will be posted electronically.

In the meantime, the Organizing Committee urges you to keep October 9-14, 2005 free for joining us at this important, exciting and enjoyable international conference on peptides.