



**ALBERTA SULPHUR RESEARCH LTD.
Center for Applied Catalysis and Industrial Sulfur Chemistry**

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ASRL Board Newsletter

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Board News

Update on Directors

Two directors were re-appointed and one directorship was affirmed by vote for an additional three-year term at the last Annual General Meeting of the Company held in Calgary in June of 2008. Thus the composition of the Board has not been altered and currently stands at nine directors (see list of directors below).

Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer

The ASRL Board has decided to make the position of CFO a part-time paid position in order to provide continuity year-to year regarding financial oversight, preparation of financial statements, responsibilities during financial audit process, and completion of tax documents. Mr. Darren Johnson (Husky Energy, current CFO) has kindly agreed to remain in that position until a suitable candidate is retained.

Chief Legal Counsel

The Board is seeking nominations to the newly-created officer position of Chief Legal Counsel. Candidates will be licensed law practitioners. Please send nominations to Mr. Dave Sikorski (energytransfersys@shaw.ca).

Schedule of Members Fees and Research Contributions

In accordance with the commitment made by the Board in late 2006, the ASRL membership fees and research contribution amounts will remain unchanged for the third consecutive year (2009-2010). The Board will be taking up a review of the fee structure this year.

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Mr. Ken Sourisseau (Shell Canada, Chairman of the TAC) is seeking new members for the committee to help in the decision-making process. For those interested in an opportunity to participate more directly in the formulation of the Core Research Program, please contact Mr. Sourisseau (k.sourisseau@shell.com).

University of Calgary

Endowed Chair

Drs. Peter Clark (ASRL Technical Manager and Professor of Chemistry) and Brian Key (Chemistry and Vice-Dean, Faculty of Science) have held discussions with many ASRL member companies in an effort to obtain funding for the new ASRL Chair in Sulfur Chemistry and will continue to do so through the balance of 2009. As will be reported to the membership at the January Chalk Talk, their work has been very productive and their continued efforts in this initiative are greatly appreciated.

U of C / ASRL Agreements

The agreement between the University of Calgary and ASRL is a document that was originally formulated and executed in 1964 and which has been renewed every five years since that time up to 2006. It is one of the fundamental documents of your organization that describes, in part, how ASRL will operate as an institution affiliated with the Chemistry Department in the Faculty of Science and housed within the extended University campus. The renewal process that began in 2005 was intended to re-formulate the agreement in such a way that preserves the essential and valuable relationship between the two organizations while at the same time updates and more precisely articulates the terms of that relationship. The draft agreements have been reviewed by Mr. Davis, Dr. Clark, Mr. Sikorski and legal counsel and are currently before the Operations Group of the Provost of the University for deliberation. We expect to have feedback from this committee in the near future.

In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that we mark the passing of our friend and colleague, Mr. Ed Fitzpatrick, on September 29, 2008 after a hard-fought struggle with lung cancer. Ed was a hard working and inquisitive scientist who contributed greatly toward the success of ASRL. He was born in Quebec and his family moved often until settling in Penhold Alberta in 1972. Ed laboured as a roofer for many years and eventually formed his own small business. In 1986 he enrolled at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology where he graduated with honours as a Chemical Technologist. While working at the Alberta Research Council he met Dr. Peter Clark who later invited Ed to ASRL. It soon became apparent that Ed was going to add several new dimensions to our group, including a significant experimental ingenuity component to our high-pressure laboratory and an enhanced outlook regarding safety systems. He worked on a variety of projects and many of you would have come to know Ed through those activities.



You may have experienced his tenacity, his honesty, and his creativity. We hope that many of his best qualities will persevere in the lives of his two sons Jonathon and Gregory. Among Ed's many interests and joys in life were his work, music, fishing, camping, carpentry and spending time with friends and family, of which there were many. He is dearly missed and fondly remembered by so many, including all of us here at Alberta Sulphur Research Ltd.

As part of our effort to honour Ed's life, ASRL, through the Student Awards Office at the University of Calgary, has established the Ed Fitzpatrick Memorial Bursary. This award will be given to a student entering their third year of study in a degree program in Chemistry at the U of C. Preference is to be given to a student who, like Ed, started their studies in a technical school or college. The first bursary will be awarded in the Fall of 2009.

Company News

Staff Updates

Dr. Clement Lau has retired after 25 years of service. The Board is grateful for all of the work that Dr. Lau has done for the company over the years. ASRL Chairman David Sikorski joined the research group to celebrate with Clement at a BBQ last summer. On behalf of the entire company we wish him well in his retirement. Jennifer Leung has left our group to enter a Masters Program at the University of British Columbia. We wish her all the best in her studies.

ASRL welcomes the following individuals who have or will soon start research within our group:

Dr. Ruohong Sui (tailgas process development; NSERC funded Industrial Research Fellowship)

Dr. Bryan Demko (bitumen chemistry)

Dr. Binod Giri (physical chemistry)

Shawn Manley (research position with a focus on analytical chemistry)

Awards & Appointments

Dr. Robert Marriott has been appointed as a member of the Canadian National Committee of the Committee on Data for Science and Technology (CNN/CODATA), an interdisciplinary body established by the International Council for Science (ICSU). We congratulate Rob and are pleased to support and encourage his contribution in this significant endeavour.

Recent Presentations

Some recent conferences and workshops at which ASRL has participated include The First Kazakhstan International Sulfur Conference, Astana, Kazakhstan; the Penwell Oil Sands and Heavy Oil Conference & Exhibition, Calgary, AB; the Brimstone Sulphur Symposium, Vail, CO; the StatoilHydro Research Summit, Trondheim, Norway; Sulphur 2008, Rome, Italy; the Aramco sponsored PEATEM Conference, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia; the Royal Society of Chemistry sponsored Shell Castle Conversation Sulphur Workshop, London, UK; Canadian Sour Gas Forum, Calgary, AB;

Special Projects

SO₂ Injection JIP

The special project on SO₂ Injection (Phase 1) is well under way with five sponsor companies and four investigators (ASRL, Alberta Research Council Inc., Black & Veatch and Fekete Associates Inc.). Initial research results are very interesting and the collaboration between representatives of the funding companies and the investigators has proven to be very fruitful. Participation as a sponsor of this project is still open. You may contact Paul Davis or Peter Clark to pursue this opportunity.

Field Test of Coverings for Above Ground Sulphur Storage

This potential project will be the subject of an update at the January Chalk Talk.

New Members

The Board welcomes the following new members to ASRL:

KPS Technology (Category 3)

Virtual Materials Group (Category 1)

PetroChina (Category 6)

We look forward to working with these companies.

ASRL Student Award

The 2008 Sulphur Industry Prize was awarded to Mohammed Elamine Aiffa. The prize is intended to recognize and support academic excellence and Mohammed was chosen from among many worthy candidates. He will receive a \$500 scholarship.

Upcoming Events

January 21-22, 2009: ASRL Extended TAC Meeting and Semi-Annual Chalk Talk; Palliser Hotel, Calgary, AB

May 21-22, 2009: 5th Annual Sour Gas Production Symposium (See ASRL website for details).

June 24, 2009: ASRL Annual General Meeting and Semi-Annual Chalk Talk; University Research Centre, Calgary, AB

Solicitation of New Board Members

The Board invites individuals from member companies in good standing (Category 2-6) who are interested in the governance of ASRL to stand for election to the BOD. Three positions will be available at the next AGM in June, 2009. While it is possible to be nominated from the floor, it is preferable that intent be indicated prior to the AGM. Please contact Krys Ciesluk if you are interested in running for a Board position. She will pass you name on to the nominations committee.

Board of Directors:

Dave Sikorski (HEC Technologies), President (re-elected 2008)

Jordy Partington (CNRL), 1st Vice President (re-elected 2008)

Dennis Koscielnyk (Jacobs), 2nd Vice President (elected 2006)

Jan Bindon (Husky) (elected 2007)

Elmo Nasato (Goar Allison, Ltd.) (elected 2007)

Elise Mophett (BASF) (elected 2006)

Scott Northrop (ExxonMobil) (elected 2006)

Robin Street (Worley Parsons) (elected 2007)

Richard Surprenant (Shell Sulphur Solutions) (affirmed by vote 2008)

Management:

General Manager Paul Davis

Technical Manager Peter Clark

Senior Administrator Krys Ciesluk

This is a semi-annual ASRL Newsletter from the Board of Directors to the member Companies of ASRL. Any questions to the BOD, topics of interest or feedback on the newsletter can be sent to either Krys Ciesluk or Scott Northrop (Editor of the Newsletter).