Monthly Meeting
Panel Discussion: Alternate Careers for Chemists at the Brookline Holiday Inn

Henry A. Hill Award Address
By Arthur S. Obermayer

Report from Malta
By Morton Z. Hoffman

Advice from a Wife, Mother and Assistant Chemistry Professor
by Mindy Levine
Frontiers of Science: Research and Education in the Middle East

The sixth biennial “Malta Conference” (Malta-VI) was held November 10-15, 2013, at the Hilton Hotel on the Mediterranean island of Malta. These conferences, which are organized by the Malta Conferences Foundation (MCF), a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, are dedicated to the use of science diplomacy as a bridge toward peace in the Middle East. They feature plenary lectures by Nobel Laureates, workshops on topics of importance to scientists and educators from the region, oral and poster presentations by participants from the Middle East, and ample time for everyone to make personal and professional connections.

Previous conferences were held in Malta in 2003 and 2005, in Istanbul in 2007, in Amman, Jordan, in 2009, and in Paris in 2011 at UNESCO headquarters as part of the celebration of the International Year of Chemistry.

Representatives from 15 Middle Eastern countries (Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Palestinian Authority, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey, and the United Arab Emirates) were present at Malta-VI. A total of 80 invited participants, including students and early-career scientists, attended; 15 others were unable to come to Malta, a member of the European Union, because of visa problems.

Plenary lectures were given by Yuan T. Lee (Taiwan), Return to Nature, Back to Sunshine; Ada Yonath (Israel), Mid-East Regional Collaborations for Investigating Cellular Molecular Machines; Danny Shechtman (Israel), Quasi-Periodic Materials – A Paradigm Shift in Crystallography; Claude Cohen-Tannoudji (France), Atoms and Light; and Roald Hoffmann (U.S.), Protochemistries Are the Bridge.

Plenary presentations were also made by Yvonne Pope (Chemical Abstracts Services, U.K.), SciFinder – The Choice for Chemistry Research; Monique Beaudoin (U.S. Office of Naval Research Global, London), Organic Synthesis and Earl Scerbo (The Henry Syng Philanthropic Foundation, New York), Henry Syng Philanthropic Foundation, New York), Science Education at All Levels; Cathy Costello (U.S.), Return to Nature, Back to Sunshine; Ada Yonath (Israel), Mid-East Regional Collaborations for Investigating Cellular Molecular Machines; Danny Shechtman (Israel), Quasi-Periodic Materials – A Paradigm Shift in Crystallography; Claude Cohen-Tannoudji (France), Atoms and Light; and Roald Hoffmann (U.S.), Protochemistries Are the Bridge.

The distinguished guests: (l-r) Marinda Wu (ACS President), Rob Luke (British High Commissioner to Malta), Zafra Lerman (President, Malta Conferences Foundation), George Abela (President, The Republic of Malta), Gina Abercrombie-Winstanley (U.S. Ambassador to Malta), Henry Frendo (President, Malta National Commission for UNESCO), and Mustafa Al-Ammar (Earth Ambassador for the Protection of the Planet and Preservation of Peace), Sustainable Peace and Youth Leadership, who also performed a number of Iraqi songs and ballads.

Greetings were offered at the opening ceremony by Zafra Lerman (President, MCF), George Abela (President, The Republic of Malta), Gina Abercrombie-Winstanley (U.S. Ambassador to Malta), Rob Luke (British High Commissioner to Malta), Henry Frendo (President, Malta National Commission for UNESCO), who read a message from Irina Bokova, the Director General of UNESCO, and Marinda Wu (ACS President).

The opening address on “Science for Peace” by HRH Princess Sumaya Bint El Hassan (President, Royal Scientific Society of Jordan), who was unable to attend because of illness, was read by a member of the Jordanian delegation. Evening receptions were held during the week at the residences of Ambassador Abercrombie-Winstanley and High Commissioner Luke.

The following workshops, which were chaired by their organizers, were held:

• Chemistry and Bio-Medicinal Chemistry: Cathy Costello (U.S.), Masoud Mehrgardi (Iran), Mohammed El-Khateeb (Jordan)
• Analytical, Nanotechnology, and Material Science: Khalid Al-Saad (Qatar), Essam Al-Jumaily (Iraq), Ossama Assad (Israel)
• Energy, Environment, Air and Water Quality: Chuck Kolb (U.S.), Yehuda Shevah (Israel), Tareq Abu Hamed (Israel), Alfred Abed Rabbo (Palestinian Authority)
• Chemistry Safety and Security: Leiv Sydnes (Norway), Nadia Kandile (Egypt), Saeed Al-Alawi (Bahrain)
• Science Education at All Levels: Howard Alper (Canada), Rachel Mamlok-Naaman (Israel), Boshra Mossaad Awad (Egypt)

Forty-four oral presentations were made in the workshop sessions; 25 posters were on view throughout the entire meeting.

At the end of the conference, the workshop organizers provided summaries of the talks in their sessions, many of which were quite provocative and stimulating, and the vigorous discussions that ensued. Proposals were presented for future actions, including the continuation of existing collaborations and the development of new ones, the dissemination of the information from the workshop, and the search for funding to provide research and international exchange opportunities for students and faculty. In the closing continued on page 13
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Cover: Pictured at the cocktail hour prior to the October Meeting are (L-R)
Adelaide Cromwell Hill, Judith Obermayer, Anthony Cromwell Hill, Arthur S.
Obermayer and Dorothy Phillips, Chair of the NESACS Award Committee. Photo by James Phillips

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Advice from a wife, mother, and assistant chemistry professor

By Mindy Levine

The following is based on a talk I gave at the 246th National ACS Meeting in Indianapolis, as part of a symposium in honor of Women Chemists Committee Travel Award Alumnae:

It always makes me self-conscious to give advice to a diverse audience, as it is quite presumptuous to think that at 30 years old and 3.5 years on this job, I have enough experience that I can tell other professionals, especially those who have more years of experience, how I think they can improve their work-life balance. However, I have found other people’s advice to be tremendously helpful, so I will attempt to pass along some of that wisdom and some tips that have worked for me.

I think that talking about work-life balance issues is crucially important for everyone, but especially for female professors in STEM disciplines, because there continues to be a significant gender gap in STEM. While that gap is narrowing at the undergraduate, graduate, postdoctoral, and even assistant professor levels, it remains high at the associate and full professor levels. This means that even when academic departments hire female professors, and invest tremendous time and resources in the success of those junior faculty members, some factors are disproportionately affecting women and causing them to leave academia at higher rates than their male colleagues.

Anecdotal evidence suggests that many of the factors that cause women to leave academia relate to their struggles in managing their work, personal, and family responsibilities successfully. Helping people navigate their work and personal obligations is not just a women’s issue – it is an issue that strongly affects any employee who has a family, or outside interests, or hobbies. It is also an issue that, if not addressed, will continue to negatively impact scientific progress, by preventing talented scientists from all backgrounds from using their talents to contribute to scientific progress. Dr. Rosalyn Yalow, in her Nobel Prize speech from 1977, said, “The world cannot afford the loss of the talents of half its people if we are to solve many problems which beset us.” This statement was true in 1977 and continues to be true more than 30 years later. I will therefore share some of my own experiences in an attempt to help other professors, both male and female, to navigate extensive and time-consuming professional and personal demands.

Some brief biographical information: I received a Ph.D. from Columbia University in 2008, under the guidance of Professor Ronald Breslow, and then spent 2 years doing an NIH-funded postdoctoral fellowship at MIT, working for Professor Timothy Swager. During that time, I gave birth to a son. In 2010, I started my independent career as a tenure-track assistant professor at the University of Rhode Island. During the past 3½ years, I have published 11 papers (with 2
Monthly Meeting

The 937th Meeting of the Northeastern Section of the American Chemical Society

Panel Discussion: Alternate Careers for Chemists
Thursday, January 16, 2014
Holiday Inn – Brookline
1200 Beacon Street, Brookline, MA 02446

4:00 pm Annual Meeting in “Whitney A”
4:30 pm Board Meeting in “Whitney A”
5:30 pm Social Hour in “Whitney B”
6:30 pm Dinner in “Whitney B”
7:30 pm Welcome, Dr. Catherine Costello, NESACS Chair

Panel Discussion: Alternate Careers for Chemists, or What Do I Want to Be When I Grow Up?

Dr. Heidi Erlacher, Partner, Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C.
Dr. Monica Palme, Senior Director of Drug Development, Pfizer, Inc.
Dr. Eddine Salah, Head of Chemistry, Atlas Venture
Dr. Katherine Lee, Moderator

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED

Dinner reservations should be made no later than noon, Thursday, January 9, 2014. Reservations are to be made using PayPal: http://acssymposium.com/paypal.html. Select pay with credit or debit card option and follow the additional instructions on the page. Members, $30; Non-members, $35; Retirees, $20; Students, $10. New members or those seeking additional information, contact the NESACS administrative secretary, Anna Singer, at secretary@nesacs.org (PREFERRED) or at (781) 272-1966 between 9 am and 6 pm. Reservations not cancelled at least 24 hours in advance must be paid.

If you wish, join us for the evening program only, starting at 7:30 pm. Reservations are not needed for those who will not attend the dinner.

Directions:
By Public Transportation: The Holiday Inn Boston-Brookline hotel is conveniently located across from the Green Line “C” St. Paul Street trolley stop.
From the Mass Pike: From US 90E, take Exit 18. Follow Cambridge signs right to Storrow Drive/Kenmore Square exit. Take the immediate right onto Beacon St., and proceed for 2 miles.
From 93 North or South: Take 93 to US 90E, then take Exit 18 as described above.
Parking: Metered parking is available on Beacon Street. Parking is available in the Holiday Inn garage ($15 maximum).

Biographies:

Heidi Erlacher

Heidi Erlacher received her B.A. degree, summa cum laude, with Highest Honors in Chemistry from Clark University in 1989 and her Ph.D. in 1996 from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where she worked with Prof. Jamie Williamson on the synthesis and structural analysis of modified RNAs. She did postdoctoral work exploring ribozyme kinetics at UMass Medical School and the Scripps Research Institute. In 1998, she returned to the Boston area and joined the Technology Specialist program in the Intellectual Property Section at Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C. Heidi became an associate at Mintz Levin after graduating cum laude from Suffolk University Law School in 2003, and became a member (partner) at Mintz Levin in 2008. Heidi’s practice focuses on strategic counseling and patent prosecution, primarily in the field of small molecule pharmaceuticals.

Monica Palme

Monica Palme received her B.Sc. (1988) and Ph.D. (1993) degrees from the University of British Columbia where she worked on the evaluation of camphor derivatives in terpenoid synthesis.
thesis under the direction of Prof. Thomas Money. She did postdoctoral work exploring the development of new glycosidation methodologies and application to the syntheses of complex oligosaccharides at the Swiss Institute of Technology (ETH) in Zurich under Prof. Andrea Vasella. In 1996 she worked as a medicinal chemist at Eisai Research Institute (Andover, MA), becoming a co-inventor of Halaven, a complex, fully synthetic macrocyclic ketone analogue of the marine sponge natural product halichondrin B which is approved to treat metastatic breast cancer. Monica spent 12 years at biotech companies in California where she became Sr. Director of Research Chemistry, Project Team Leader on multiple programs ranging from gastrointestinal to CNS diseases and Sr. Director of Drug Design and Discovery. This work included bringing a compound from inception to Ph 2 clinical trials and out-licensing. Currently, Monica is Sr. Director of Development at Pfizer in Cambridge, MA, where she uses her broad scientific experience in drug development strategy, options analysis, risk-mitigation assessment, and project information and communications management for multiple programs from discovery through IND filing, clinical trials up to Ph 2 and planning for Ph 3.

**Eddine Saiah**

Eddine received his Ph.D. in chemistry from Pierre and Marie Curie University (Paris, France) in 1992 followed by a postdoc at the Mayo Clinic Florida. He has worked at several companies, including DuPont Pharmaceuticals and Wyeth. He joined Pfizer in 2009 through the Wyeth acquisition where he was the head of the Medicinal Chemistry group in Cambridge, MA. At Pfizer, Eddine led the chemistry efforts for the Inflammation & Immunology group in Cambridge and also worked with the Orphan and Genetic Diseases group and was the chair of the Pfizer Medicinal Chemistry Design Network Group. Eddine was involved in a range of programs including oncology, cardiovascular, metabolic diseases and inflammation with multiple compounds in the clinic. Eddine joined Atlas Venture in June of 2013 where he is involved in multiple early stage companies.
The 9th Annual NESACS Golf Tournament was held on August 5th at Kerwood Country Club in Salem MA. We were fortunate to have had the opportunity to play at this prestigious 100-year old Donald Ross Course. It is a beautiful course running along the Danvers River. This year Ed Price, the CEO and founder of PCI Synthesis and member of Kerwood Country Club, offered to co-sponsor the tournament. The 5th of August was a nice day for golf, although a little windy. This year we had a total of 112 players. Every player really enjoyed the course and the terrific food.

This year the format of the tournament was different. We played a bramble which means that every player in the foursome hits his or her drive and then each player plays their own ball into the hole from the best drive position of the foursome.

Another difference this year was a delicious sit down BBQ lunch. Players also had the opportunity to go to the driving range and practice their chips and putts prior to the 1 PM shot gun start. Snack stations on the course were generously sponsored by Lyophilization Services of New England (LSNE) and Sage Chemical.

The tournament was followed by a social hour which was generously sponsored by CHEPHA, Ltd. There were hors d’oeuvres (lamb chops were a major hit!) and cocktails before the delicious buffet dinner. The social hour provides an opportunity for the players to brag about their games, but also an opportunity to network. Players from all areas of Pharma and biotech attend each year.

As always, prizes were given to the top three teams as well as to the players with the longest drive and closest to the pin shots. The first place team with a score of 63 was Ed Pelletier, Andrew Pelletier, Nick Diletto, and Joe Ketula. The second place team with a score of 64 was Edward_Cznicki, John Licata, Kevin Sparks, and Rick Fisher. The third place team with a score of 65 was David Rogers, Stephen Trahan, Anthony Tavalone and Joe Baumann. The longest drive for men was Perry Catchings and the longest drive for women was Amy Tapper. Closest to the pin for men was Henry Smith and closest to the pin for women was Cassandra Celatka. This year we also gave out raffle tickets and the pro shop provided a variety of gifts.

Historical Notes

By Myron S. Simon

Bernard Siegal 1925-2013

Bernard Siegal of Bedford, MA died on June 24, 2013 at the age of 88. He had been a member of the ACS for fifty years and was a former chair of the Society of Cosmetic Chemists. He graduated from Yeshiva University in 1945 and went on with chemistry courses at New York University and City University of New York, receiving the A.M. Degree in 1953. He received a Ph.D. in pharmaceutical sciences from Rutgers in 1968.

His career included 16 years at Bristol Myers leaving as Laboratory Director. In 1969 he was appointed Director of Product Research at Gillette and in 1979 joined Herbert V. Huster, Inc. of Quincy, MA where he developed a series of products for household and personal use. His work was in emulsion and suspension technology.

As well as his membership in several Chemical societies he was a member of the Regulatory Affairs Professional Society in which he earned certification.

He is survived by his sons William and Matthew, and daughter Dina, their spouses, and grandchildren Madeleine and Anna.

Clarence Grant 1930-2013

Professor Clarence “Tiny” Grant, 83, died on October 13, 2013 at his home in Exeter, NH.

He was born July 8, 1930 in Rollinsford, NH, the son of Merton and Susan (Hutchins) Grant. He graduated from The Dover, NH High School in 1947 and earned his B.S. in Chemistry at UNH in 1951. He earned his M.S. in 1956 and his Ph.D. from Rutgers University in 1960.

He taught at UNH for 36 years. He was Chairman of the Chemistry Department from 1976 to 1979, and retired as Professor Emeritus. His stu...
When I sent my photo to Dorothy Phillips, I warned her that I was growing a beard, but I hadn’t decided whether to shave it off. Indeed I am the same person as I used to be; I am not an impostor! Since I lost so much hair on the top, I decided to replace it with hair on the bottom.

Thank you for this honor. As a 61-year member of the Northeastern Section, I have been able to participate in Section activities over a long period of time and have enjoyed working with such fine people. I never wanted to be a bench chemist and have been pleased to have the opportunity to be creative by using my skills in research, business management, organization, politics, and legislation to advance the chemical profession.

I especially appreciate receiving the Henry Hill Award and am pleased that both his son, Tony, and his wife, Adelaide Cromwell, are here tonight. I have known them both well since I started my company in December 1960. Only a month later at the January 1961 Northeastern Section meeting, I met Henry Hill, who was planning to start his own company. We decided that there would be considerable synergism in working together.

I had already incorporated Moleculon, had found space to rent, acquired a large stock of chemical reagents from a chemical analysis company in Worcester that had gone out of business, and had talked with carpenters who were experienced at building lab benches - but nothing more, except some chemical experiments I had performed in my apartment kitchenette. Initially, we had no partitions, and bookshelves substituted for them. This first photo is of Henry and me sitting at our desks.

The first bookshelf we assembled held Henry’s bound volumes of many years’ issues of the Journal of the American Chemical Society. I specifically remember Tony helping to assemble the bookshelves shown in the next photo. My recollection is that he was about 12 years old at that time. He told me this evening that he was only 9.

In 1961, there were no angel investment groups, no incubators, and only one venture capital organization in the country, American Research and Development. We survived on our own money, doing a little consulting, for almost a year. All of a sudden on December 12, 1961, Moleculon received its first two significant contracts. They allowed us to buy some equipment, including an early gas chromatograph. The largest contract related to the work I had been doing in my previous job, nuclear weapons effects. This was a time when atmospheric tests had stopped, but underground tests continued for the next decade.

I am sure most of you are aware of the issues concerning whether the United States should bury its nuclear wastes underground within Yucca Mountain in Nevada. Well, both Henry and I spent a lot of time inside Yucca Mountain, where a major nuclear test took place. The next photo continued on page 13.
The highlights of the October Meeting are always the awarding of the Henry A. Hill Award for Meritorious Service to the Northeastern Section and the recognition of the 50-year and 60-year members of NESACS. Alfred A. Barney of Strem Chemical was also recognized as the 2013 Outreach Volunteer of the Year for the Northeastern Section. This year the Hill Award was presented to Arthur Obermayer a longtime colleague and friend of Henry Hill. We were very honored to have Dr. Hill’s wife, Adelaide Cromwell, and his son, Anthony Cromwell Hill, in attendance. The sixty-year members in attendance were Robert Stolow, Boris Levy and Robert Hong. Professor Ramesh Jasti of Boston University was unable to present his talk on carbon nanotubes. His student, Tom Sisto, ably stood in for him and presented the evening lecture. The meeting was held at the Boston University Florence and Chafez Hillel House which is located at 213 Bay State Road.

L-R) Ruth Tanner (NESACS Immediate Past Chair), 60-Year ACS members, Robert Stolow, Boris Levy and Robert Hong, Liming Shao (NESACS Chair), Catherine Costello (NESACS Chair-Elect).

Dr. Alfred A. Barney is recognized as the 2013 Outreach Volunteer of the Year for the Northeastern Section by NESACS Immediate Past Chair, Ruth Tanner.

Arthur Obermayer (L) receives the 2013 Henry A. Hill Award from NESACS Chair, Liming

Arthur Obermayer talks about Henry Hill.

Tom Sisto of Boston University Department of Chemistry

Don Rickter (L), an ACS Legacy Leader, with Mary Bet Dobson, Assistant Director for Individual Giving for the American Chemical Society.
The Fourteenth Annual Connections to Chemistry program took place at Burlington High School (Burlington, MA) on Wednesday, October 16th, 2013. The program is aimed at connecting high school chemistry teachers with the educational resources of the American Chemical Society. Each registrant participated in two of four different workshops which included a National Chemistry Week themed workshop on “Artificial Photosynthesis: A Workshop on Solar Cell Design” (given by Dr. Jonathan Rochford, UMass Boston), a presentation on “Hands-on Climate Change Science for Your Classroom” (given by Dr. Jerry A. Bell from the American Chemical Society), another National Chemistry Week themed workshop on “Electric Vehicle Powered by Renewable Energy” (offered by Dr. Deyang Qu, UMass Boston) and a workshop on “Inquiring Minds Want to Know: Recent Lab Practicals from the US National Chemistry Olympiad” (given by Mr. Steven Lantos, Brookline High School). Thirty-five registrants attended.

The participants were welcomed by Marietta Schwartz, Connections Program Chair and Chair of the NESACS Education Committee. Following the workshops and dinner (highlighted by the traditional baked apples with caramel sauce), the keynote address was given by Dr. Bell. His talk, entitled “Energy: Now and Forever?” gave an overview of the ACS Climate Toolkit and the basics of global climate change, why we should be informed on it, and what we can do to make sure that there is, in fact, “Forever”. His address was followed by the traditional raffle of American Chemical Society items. All of the participants received a one year’s subscription to *ChemMatters*, an award–winning magazine for high school chemistry, published by the ACS. Participants also received copies of the *Journal of Chemical Education, Chemical & Engineering News*, and *The Nucleus*. ◊

photos continued on page 11

L-R: Ruth Tanner (University of Massachusetts Lowell, NESACS Immediate Past-chair; Anna Singer, NESACS Administrative Secretary; Marietta Schwartz (University of Massachusetts Boston), Chair, NESACS Education Committee.

Jerry Bell (ACS), at left, and Alan Crosby (Newton South High School) with "Gus."

Jerry Bell (ACS) conducting his workshop, "Hands-on Climate Change Science for Your Classroom."

Kristen Vanderveen (The Bromfield School, Harvard, MA) at Bell’s climate change science workshop.

Jerry Gilligan, Ph.D. student of Deyang Qu (University of Massachusetts Boston), conducting the workshop, "Electric Vehicle Powered by Renewable Energy."

Steve Lantos (Brookline High School), Chair, NESACS High School Education Committee, preparing for his workshop.
Golf
Continued from page 7

such as a putter and a travel bag.

We are extremely grateful to our hole sponsors whose generous contributions provide support for NESACS programs. The 2013 sponsors are: Lyophilization Services of New England (LSNE), Cambridge Major Laboratories, Davos Pharma, IRIX Pharmaceuticals, Johnson Matthey, Litman Gerson, Mack, LLC, Edelstein and Co., O’Conner Carnathan, Prime Organics, Sage Chemical, and Strem Chemical.

Please visit the NESACS website to find links to our sponsors’ web pages and learn more about the products and services they provide. We are looking forward to the 10th annual tournament in 2014! Information will be posted on the NESACS website in the spring. ◊

2013 Connections
Continued from page 10

Jonathen Rochford (University of Massachusetts Boston) with participants in his workshop on solar cell design.

Jerry Bell (ACS) presenting the keynote address.

NESACS Archives Have Moved

The NESACS Archives were moved from their location of many years in the basement of the Regis College Library to a new temporary location at Sigma-Aldrich Corporation in Natick, MA. A more permanent long-term storage location is desired.

NESACS expresses great appreciation to Regis College for allowing NESACS to store its archives in its library. NESACS is further appreciative of Michael Singer and Sigma-Aldrich for making storage space available while a more permanent solution is sought. ◊

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Advice from Mindy
Continued from page 4

newly accepted publications), presented research at a number of conferences, and received external funding for our research. I also gave birth to a second son in January 2012. Throughout this time, I have struggled to successfully manage my personal and professional life. I expect that this struggle will continue to be a lifelong learning experience.

Work advice:
1. **To-do lists**: I think this cannot be emphasized enough. Make a lot of to-do lists. Make as many to-do lists as you can—and in all cases, the more specific the to-do list is, the better the likelihood that you will actually do the things on the list. In my case, I maintain 3 lists: (1) A long-range to-do list that I compile at the beginning of the semester/summer/winter break, which includes goals for each project (paper, grant application, etc); (2) A weekly to-do list that I compile on Sunday night, where I look at the long-range list and divide up the necessary tasks by day; and (3) the daily to-do list that includes so much of the minutiae inherent to this job (type up problem set solutions; order chemicals for a new project; proofread a budget justification for a grant, etc). I try to avoid scheduling any commitments in the morning (more feasible during the break time), so that I ensure that I’ve finished all the “major tasks” for the day and leave the minutiae for later in the day when I’m more distracted. Following to-do lists also takes away the emotional energy associated with constantly questioning whether you are working on the most important thing—you have already decided (with the long-range, weekly, and daily to-do lists) what the ‘most important’ thing is, and you no longer need to be constantly second-guessing yourself.

2. **Be possessive of your time**. Everyone has only a limited amount of time (24 hours in everyone’s day). People who are rushing to make a 6 pm day care pickup or who can’t come in until 9:15 am after school drop off have even more limits on their time. Designate times that you will meet with your students and times that you will keep your door closed. Think carefully before agreeing to go to meetings or serving on committees. Prioritize your time carefully.

3. **Limit the guilt**. Every time you are working, you have made a decision that you are doing what is most important at that time. Every time you are with your children, you have also made a decision (consciously or subconsciously) that this is where you should be spending your time. Once that decision is made, try to be done questioning it and feeling guilty that you are not doing something else.

Personal advice:
1. **Learn to live with a mess**. Prioritize what is important in your home life, and chances are good that cleaning up the toys/clothes/dishes/papers is not going to be a top priority. Either find someone that you can pay to clean up for you, or learn to live with a lot of mess.

2. **Delegate**. Cost permitting, do not do something yourself that you can pay someone else to do for you. This includes: cleaning bathrooms, washing dishes, shoveling snow, and raking leaves. But it can also include grocery shopping, picking up and dropping off dry cleaning, and other assorted errands. You might be surprised by the number of things that you can pay another person to do.

3. **Find more time in your day**. Try to find time to get work done on the weekends and holidays that doesn’t interfere with your family life. For me that is usually early morning. I will get up as early as I need to (routinely as early as 5:30; sometimes as early as 4 am) to get whatever work I need done before 8:30 am, when the rest of the family activities start.

4. **Talk to people**. Talk to as many people as you can to know that everyone who is a parent and a professor has to juggle a lot of responsibilities. We can commiserate and swap strategies of what works.

5. **Be explicit with your needs**. This is mostly related to your spouse/partner. I’ve gone to quite a number of talks about work-life balance where the speaker says, “Find a supportive spouse.” Unfortunately, I only started going to these talks after I got married. The problem with that kind of advice is that it is not actionable. How do you know whether someone will be supportive before you marry him/her? How do you deal with a spouse you already have who may not know what you need to be supportive? My advice on this is: Be explicit with your spouse about what you need him/her to do or say to support your work.

There are quite a number of challenges associated with being a wife, mother, and assistant professor simultaneously. The biggest one, in my opinion, is the general expectation that academia is a 24/7 job, and the reality that you are competing against people who aren’t parents or spouses and have more time to devote to the grant applications and scientific research. While you cannot change that reality, the best you can do is to work as hard as you can in the time you have, and hope that will be enough.

In conclusion, we are certainly not the first generation of women who are trying to balance demanding professional and personal lives, although there may be particular challenges for our generation. However, every day that we do good science, teach the next generation of chemists, apply for grants and publish articles, AND go home to a spouse, children, and partner and relate to them, we are showing that it can be done. We are not worse scientists for also being parents, spouses, and caregivers. In some ways, considering the life experience and perspective that our personal responsibilities confer, we may even be better scientists for it.
Report from Malta

Continued from page 2

Aerial view of Yucca Mountain with road to shed at tunnel entrance

Zafra Lerman (President, Malta Conferences Foundation), at right, with Gina Abercrombie-Winstanley (U.S. Ambassador to Malta).

(l-r) Nour el-Hoda Abd el-Hamid and Doaa Ali Mohamed, both from the Alexandria University, Egypt.

(l-r) Ahmed Mohammed Al-Rajeh and Mohammed Abdel Hakim, both from Qatar University.

Hill Award Address

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An aerial view of Yucca Mountain with road to shed at tunnel entrance

is of Henry and me and another Moleculon person, Bruce Norcross, cleaning pipes in a shed just outside the tunnel entrance to Yucca Mountain. The next photo is of us working on our experiment over a mile inside the tunnel entrance. The next photo is of our experiment as it was assembled, and the final photo is of its condition after the test.

Actually this was as expected. Indeed, we were able to bring the pipes back to our lab in Cambridge and carry out the desired chemical tests. For example, we discovered in this test that, although under normal heating conditions, Teflon decomposes into its monomer, tetrafluoroethylene. Under a very high temperature and extremely short pulse the principal decomposition product is perfluoroethane.

Henry and I continued to work closely together for three years, until he decided he wanted his own facility and moved from Cambridge to Haverhill. Outside of work, I remember spending many enjoyable evenings with Adelaide and Tony. I still recall their lovely house on Riverside Street in Watertown. Even in cooking, Henry made use of the appropriate laboratory equipment. I can picture him in his kitchen using a separatory funnel to separate the water phase from the oil

the Malta Conferences can be found at http://maltaconferencesfoundation.org.


Historical Notes

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For late breaking news, job postings and the latest meeting and event information please visit us at WWW.NESACS.ORG

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students voted him Outstanding Teacher in 1987.

Among the organizations he consulted for, he was a consultant to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and was given an Army Special Act Award in 1994.

He was a member of many scientific organizations and served as president of the Society of Applied Spectroscopy. His research studies yielded 52 journal articles and he also published five book chapters and 30 government technical publications.

In 1952 he married Helen Garland who survived him, along with 3 sons Philip, Stephen and David, their spouses, and five grandchildren. His brothers Donald and Kenneth had pre-deceased him.

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Dorothy Phillips Elected to ACS Board

Congratulations to Dorothy Phillips on her election to the Board of Directors of the American Chemical Society. She will serve a three year term on the Board (2014-2016).

Diane Grob Schmidt of The Proctor and Gamble Company is ACS President-Elect for 2014. She finished ahead of G. Brian Balazs of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and NESACS member, Charles E. Kolb, Jr. of Aerodyne Research.

Congratulations to all the candidates.

A Plea for Local Section Dues

When you receive your dues bill from National ACS it will include an item for Northeastern LS Voluntary Dues of $22. Every member of ACS who lives in New Hampshire or eastern Massachusetts is automatically a member of the Northeastern Section (NESACS). These dues are voluntary, and about half of our 6500 members choose not to pay them.

As Treasurer of NESACS, I would like to urge all members to pay these dues and support the Section activities, even if you do not regularly attend NESACS meetings. Dues constitute the major source of discretionary income to the Section. While most awards programs are supported by Trust funds, your dues and contributions fund activities such as those of the Education Committee, National Chemistry Week, Younger Chemists, and Project SEED, all of which benefit the general chemical community.

Non-payment of Local Section dues has no effect on the individual member. ACS does not permit us to discriminate between members who pay dues and those who do not, so, for example, the Nucleus is sent to all members by mail or electronically. Members for whom dues are non-deductible might prefer to send a contribution to NESACS, since contributions to the Section are tax deductible. Checks payable to NESACS can be sent to the Treasurer at 19 Mill Rd., Harvard, MA 01451 or to the administrative secretary.

Your support of the Section is greatly appreciated, and the Board of Directors conscientiously strives to see that all Section activities advance the chemical enterprise.

-Jim Piper, NESACS Treasurer

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