

# PUGET SOUND CHEMIST

BULLETIN OF THE PUGET SOUND SECTION OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

Volume 62, Number 1



CHEMISTRY

FEBRUARY 2001

## Feeling alone?

Is the universe bereft of sentient beings (well, apart from us)? Peter Douglas Ward, Professor of Geological Sciences and Adjunct Professor of Zoology at the University of Washington, will give a talk titled "How rare is the Earth and where are all the extraterrestrials?" on Wednesday, February 28, at the Center for Urban Horticulture near the UW campus.

This talk, cosponsored by Sigma Xi and the Puget Sound Section of the American Chemical Society, will begin at 7:30 p.m. Refreshments will be provided at a social at 6:30 p.m. No reservations are needed.

To get to the Center for Urban Horticulture, exit I-5 at NE 45th St. in Seattle and head east. Cross over the University Village Viaduct and continue to the first stoplight (a five-way intersection). Turn right and continue to NE 41st St.; turn left.

The Center will be on the right at 3501 NE 41st St.

Since his Ph.D. in 1976, Ward has published more than 100 scientific papers dealing with these paleontological and zoological topics. Ward, a professor at UW since 1985, currently chairs an international panel on the Cretaceous-Tertiary extinction, and served as editor for the recently published volume, *Global Catastrophes in Earth History*, sponsored by the National Academy of Science and NASA. He was elected as a Fellow of the California Academy of Science in 1984. Ward is a co-founder of the Institute

(please see Ward, page 5)



*Charles "Chuck" Cornman is the new Chair-elect of the Puget Sound Section. He is a Senior Product Development Chemist with Georgia-Pacific Corporation in Bellingham since January 1999. In other election news, George Kriz of Western Washington University was elected councilor (term expiring in 2003) and Clarita Bhat of Shoreline Community College was elected alternate councilor. Sara Selfe was re-elected Section secretary, as was David Munch for Section treasurer.*



PUGET  
SOUND

# CHEMIST



Newsletter for the Puget Sound Section

On-line version: [www.btia.net/acs/](http://www.btia.net/acs/)

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, PUGET SOUND SECTION

### Chair

Justine Furutani	(206) 729-9428 justine@btia.net	Mark Wicholas	(360) 650-3071 (2002) Fax: (360) 650-2826 wicholas@chem.wvu.edu
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### Chair-elect

Charles Cornman	(360) 752-6729 crcornma@gapac.com	Deborah Wiegand	(206) 543-2248 (2002) wiegand@u.washington.edu
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### Past Chair

Kathy Hohstadt	(425) 823-9210 hohstadt@jps.net	George Kriz	(360) 650-3070 (2003) Fax: (360) 650-2826 kriz@chem.wvu.edu
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### Secretary

Sara Selfe	(425) 640-1645 sselfe@edcc.edu
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### Alternate Councilors (Year term ends)

(2001)	OPEN
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### Treasurer

David Munch	(206) 523-3763 (206) 587-4130 dmunch@sccd.ctc.edu	Sue Jackels	(206) 296-5946 (2002) sjackels@seattleu.edu FAX: (206) 296-5786
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### Editor

Tracy Furutani	(206) 528-4501 tfurutani@sccd.ctc.edu	Sheri Baker	(360) 715-9424 (2002) smbaker@gapac.com
		Clarita Bhat	(206) 546-4575 (2003) ccbhat@msn.com

### Councilors (Year term ends)

William J. Wasserman	(206) 329-7750
(2001)	

**Puget Sound Chemist**, PO Box 15269, Seattle, WA 98115-0269

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## Puget Sound Section ACS Executive Committee Future Meetings in 2000

Meetings are open to all members and are held at 6:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be **Wednesday, February 14, 2001**, in room 2430C (above the Bookstore) at North Seattle Community College, 9600 College Way North in Seattle.



# Nominate your fave teacher!

by Randy Engel, Education Committee Chair

The American Chemical Society Puget Sound Section is announcing a call for nominations for the 2001 Local Award in High School Chemistry Teaching, with the winner of the award to be presented at the November 2001 meeting of the Local Section.

To qualify, a nominee must be actively engaged in the teaching of chemistry in a high school (grades 9 through 12). The awardee will receive a commendation and a cash award, and will also be forwarded to the Regional Award Committee for consideration for the 2002 Regional Award.

The award will be based on four criteria: the quality of the nominee's teaching, the nominee's ability to challenge and inspire students, the nominee's extra-curricular work in promoting chemistry, and the nominee's willingness to keep up-to-date in the field.

Nominations can be made by any individual with the exception of a member of the award committee or a currently enrolled student of the nominee. Nominations are due Friday, April 6, 2001; and nomination forms are available from Randy Engel at [tawnydog@earthlink.net](mailto:tawnydog@earthlink.net) or call (206) 523-4572. You may also download a nomination form from the Puget Sound Section website <http://www.chem.plu.edu/acs>. Nominations should be returned to Education Committee, Puget Sound Section, 7712 18th Avenue NE, Seattle, WA 98115.

Teachers nominated for this award must teach in a high school located in one

of the Puget Sound Section counties: Chelan, Clallam, Grays Harbor, Island, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Kittitas, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, Skagit, Snohomish, Thurston, and Whatcom. We

will also consider nominations for teachers in Douglas, Okanogan, and San Juan counties, which are not currently assigned to any Section.

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## Section Activities

## 50-year members: we salute you!

The Puget Sound Section is pleased to honor our 50-year members for 2001. They are R. Arthur M. Spencer Jr. of Kirkland; Margaret J. Pitts of Seattle; H. Dale Turner of Puyallup; Terence H. Brown of Vancouver; Robert B. Sheppard of Bellevue; and Edward E. DeNike of McAllen, Texas. The *Chemist* cordially invites all of these members to submit remembrances of their lives and careers for publication in future issues of the newsletter. Correspondence may be addressed to: 50-year Member Issue, Puget Sound Chemist, PO Box 15269, Seattle, WA 98115; or, better, e-mailed to [tfurutani@sccd.ctc.edu](mailto:tfurutani@sccd.ctc.edu). The Section meeting in which the 50-year members will be honored will be held in late March at the EB Foote Winery in Tukwila; details will be published in the March issue of the *Chemist*.

### Section offers K-12 school grants

The Puget Sound Section of the American Chemical Society intends to give several one-year grants or scholarships to K-12 teachers in the Section's geographic area.

Any proposals that promote chemistry education will be considered. The following list gives examples of proposals that we would be interested in funding; however, proposals for other projects or activities will also be given serious consideration.

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1. Grants to groups or organizations involved in chemistry education.
2. Funding to put on workshops, short courses, or seminars for the improvement of teaching chemistry.
3. Expenditures for supplies and equipment for high school students doing chemistry demonstrations at K-9 schools, chemistry students participating in science fairs, or chemistry students doing career days for younger students
4. Funding to purchase chemistry

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journals and books including demonstration, safety, and waste disposal texts: for example, *ChemMatters*, *Chem-13 News*, *WonderScience*, and *the Handbook of Chemistry and Physics*.

i. Scholarships for K-12 teachers to attend chemistry courses, conferences, or institutes.

You may apply for grants of up to \$500. Please submit one-page proposals for these programs to: Education Committee, Puget Sound Section, 7712-18th Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98115. Be concise, clearly describing your proposal and detailing how specified monies will be used, along with a corresponding timetable. If matching money will be used to fund the proposal, please indicate this. The Education Committee will review proposals on March 1, 2001. A one-page summary of accomplishments will be due no later than August 31, 2001.

We will consider grants for greater than \$500 if the grant involves more than one institution or would impact an exceptionally large number of students. Contact Randy Engel at [tawnydog@earthlink.net](mailto:tawnydog@earthlink.net) if you have questions about this.

The Puget Sound Section includes the following counties: Chelan, Clallam, Grays Harbor, Island, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Kittitas, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, Skagit, Snohomish, Thurston, and Whatcom. We will also consider requests from San Juan county, which is not currently assigned to any section.

The Puget Sound Section Education Committee's membership includes Randy Engel (Chair, North Seattle Community College), Herb Bryce and David Munch (both of Seattle Central Community College), Mary OBrien (Edmonds Community College), Laura Spencer (Edmonds-Woodway High School), and Steve Ufer (Washington High School).

## **South Sound Regional Science Fair volunteers needed**

The South Sound Regional Science Fair invites the members of the Puget Sound Section of the American Chemical Society to assist in judging K-12 student projects submitted by students from Pierce and Thurston Counties. The fair takes place in the Olson Auditorium on the campus of Pacific Lutheran University on Saturday, March 17, 2001.

The judges' training and breakfast begins at 8 a.m., with the judging of student projects starting at 9 a.m. There will be a judges' lunch at 11 a.m., with the Grand Awards Ceremony concluding the fair at 3 p.m.

From I-5, take SR 512 east to the Pacific Avenue exit. Go south on Pacific Avenue to 125th and make a right turn. When 125th T's with Yakima, turn right and follow the road to the left. Olson Auditorium is in the right and parking is in the rear.

Please come and enjoy a day interacting with young science enthusiasts from all over the south Puget Sound area. If you have any questions, please contact Marge Halstead at [halstemc@plu.edu](mailto:halstemc@plu.edu).

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## **Ward** (continued from p. 1)

for Astrobiology at UW, and Program Member for both the Astrobiology Conference (NASA Astrobiology Institute; April 2000) and for the Impact 2000 Conference (Lunar Planetary Institute; July 2000).

Ward has published nine books, including *On Methuselah's Trail: living fossils and the great extinctions* (1991, W.H. Freeman), *The End of Evolution: on mass extinctions and the preservation of biodiversity* (1994, Bantam Books); and *Rare Earth: why complex life is uncommon in the universe* (with Don Brownlee) (2000, Copernicus :Springer Verlag).



# Treasurer's Report by David Munch

Treasurer's Report  
PUGET SOUND SECTION  
AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY  
31-Dec-00

	2000 BUDGET	2000 Year-to-Date
<b>INCOME</b>		
Annual ACS Allotment	\$11,269	\$11,269.00
New Member Commissions	30	0.00
Local Section Dues	5,800	6,044.52
Publications (advertising)	1,000	0.00
Directory (advertising)	0	0.00
Meals (total revenue)	1,000	380.00
Receipts (Chem Demo Wkshop, ACS pins, Safety Tapes, etc)	100	0.00
Interest WStECU checking, savings, CDs	1,400	1,349.73
Interest, Dividends ACS Investment Pool		231.61
Donations, Contributions (PA fund, minting PA medals, etc)	100	0.00
Rebate from ACS for councilor travel expenses	6,000	2,619.70
Reimbursement for Pauling Award expenses	300	0.00
Other	0	0.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$26,999</b>	<b>\$21,894.56</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Administration	\$100	\$28.69
Education Committee	6,000	3886.42
( National Chemistry Week		0.00 )
( Donations: Expanding Your Horizons		0.00 )
( South Sound Regional Science Fair		450.00 )
( Precollege Program		
( Chem Olympiad		0.00 )
( Chemistry for Kids		208.02 )
( Chem equipment/supplies for younger stude		500.00 )
( Chem Workshops for students/teachers K-12		0.00 )
( Recognition awards for HS students		0.00 )
( Grants to HS groups for K-9 chem demos		2118.40 )
( Matching grants to HS for publications		110.00 )
( Scholarships K-12 teachers / chem classes		500.00 )
( HS Chem teachers group		0.00 )
Employment Committee	350	0.00
Public Affairs Committee	0	0.00
Professional Relations and Status Committee	100	0.00
Public Relations Committee	0	0.00
Safety Committee	100	0.00
Local Meetings (includes speakers' expenses)	2,000	765.95
Pauling Medal Symposium	2,500	3,696.36
Meals (total expenses)	1,000	301.51
Publications (printing, mailing, etc.)	8,000	6,570.15
Directory	2,000	0.00
Awards	200	0.00
( Mailings, etc.		
( Pauling Award (1999)	1,500	1,113.55
( High School Teacher Award	300	300.00
( Student Affiliate Award	300	372.63
( Distinguished Service	100	0.00
( Dinners 50yr Members	100	0.00
Travel Subsidies for Councilors	9,000	7,739.51
Travel Subsidy and Fee for LSO Conference	500	412.10
Other (\$2000 Grant to NORM2001 + \$5000 Donation to BCCE-2002)	500	7,000.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$34,650</b>	<b>\$32,186.87</b>
<b>NET GAIN (LOSS)</b>	<b>(\$7,651)</b>	<b>(\$10,292.31)</b>
<b>ASSETS AND CAPITAL</b>		
Washington State Employees Credit Union Checking account	\$156.62	
Account number 156176-0 Share account	56.69	
1 year WStECU CD #58648 @ 6.10% due 06/26/01	2,000.00	
1 year WStECU CD #00566 @ 6.10% due 05/20/01	7,500.00	
1 year WStECU CD #64971 @ 5.80% due 03/19/01	7,500.00	
ACS Pool Fund Total Cost: \$10,000.00 [\$7500 (Oct99) + \$2500 (Jul00)]		
1-Jan Market value: \$8,380.81 (+ \$2500 added)		Cash, CDs, & AC
1-Jul Market value (reported end previous quarter)	11,192.68	\$28,405.99
Pauling Award Medals 3 @ \$883	2,649.00	
A/V Equipment for Safety Talk (@ 10% of cost 10/90)	85.00	
<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>\$31,139.99</b>	



# Job opportunities

**Associate Dean, Science/Math Division** — Seattle Central Community College is seeking a head administrator of the Science and Math Division to work with faculty, staff, students and community to provide effective, responsive, quality curriculum and support programs in Biological, Computer, Earth and Physical Sciences, Mathematics, Health, Engineering and Science Technologies. This position is open until filled, however complete application packets received by Monday, February 12, 2001 will receive first consideration. For a more complete description and forms call (206) 587-4155, or <http://sccdweb.sccd.ctc.edu/humanresources/>

**Full-time Chemistry Instructor** — Seattle Central Community College is seeking an instructor; teaching responsibilities may include general chemistry, as well as preparatory chemistry, majors organic chemistry lecture and lab, and general, organic, and biochemistry for health paraprofessionals and biotechnology students. This position is open until filled, however complete application packets received by Monday, February 12, 2001 will receive first consideration. For a more complete description and forms call (206) 587-4155, or <http://sccdweb.sccd.ctc.edu/humanresources/>

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# Upcoming meetings

**Feb. 28**      **Peter Ward**, University of Washington  
(site: Center for Urban Horticulture)

**late March** **50-year member awards**  
(site: EB Foote Winery)

**April 24**      **Attila Pavlath**, US Dept. of Agriculture  
(site: Pacific Lutheran Univ., Tacoma)

**May 24**      **Dorit Noether**, ACS *Chemtech* columnist  
(site: North Seattle Community College)

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