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74th Annual Herty Award Celebration Honoring Professor Gregory H. Robinson Franklin Professor of Chemistry, University of Georgia 2008 Herty Medalist

The Georgia Section of the ACS proudly awards the Charles Holmes Herty Medal to Professor Gregory H. Robinson, and recognizes his work and service contributions to the Southeast since his first academic appointment at Clemson University in 1985. Dr. Robinson has made seminal contributions to the areas of main group and transition metal chemistry that have forced chemists to reconsider traditional theories of molecular structure and bonding. He has also mentored countless students in the southeast, particularly under-represented minority students, and has served the nation through his multiple advisory roles at the NSF, the Ford Foundation and the ACS.

Professor Robinson obtained his B.S. in Chemistry (1980) from Jacksonville State University (Alabama) where he was also a member the Gamecock football team (earning All-Conference and the Gulf South Conference Defensive Player of the Year Awards in 1979). He proceeded from there to graduate school at the University of Alabama where he studied the organometallic chemistry of aluminum under the guidance of Professor Jerry L. Atwood. Upon receiving his Ph.D. in Chemistry (1984), he joined the faculty of Clemson University (South Carolina) and developed a productive research program emphasizing the organometallic chemistry of the group 13 elements. In 1994, Professor Robinson was awarded an Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellowship and studied in the laboratory of Prof. Dr. Herbert Schumann at the Technical University of Berlin (Germany). Professor Robinson joined the faculty at The University of Georgia in 1995 and is now the Franklin Professor of Chemistry.

Professor Robinson's research may be described as both provocative and innovative. Highlights include the experimental realization of the concept of metalloaromaticity—

that a metallic ring system can exhibit traditional aromatic behavior—with a class of gallium compounds referred to as cyclogallenes (*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1995**, 117, 7578). Professor Robinson also reported the first example of a compound possessing a gallium-gallium triple bond—a compound that has fascinated computational and synthetic chemists for more than a decade (*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1997**, 119, 5471). Recent highlights include the report of a metallocene-complexed dibismuthene (*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2005**, 127, 7672), synthesis of a neutral compound containing a boron-boron double bond—the first “diborene” (*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2007**, 127, 12412), and the preparation of a neutral gallium analog of the tropylium ion—the first “gallepin” (*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2007**, 127, 13380).

The Herty Award Lecture is entitled Counterintuitive Chemistry: An Organometallic Excursion. Professor Robinson's research group has been studying fundamental issues of structure and bonding of organometallic compounds for some time. Regarding the heavier main group metals, in particular, they have found that there is no general correlation between bond distance and bond multiplicity. Quite unlike the case for carbon, compounds containing heavy main group metals such as gallium, tin, or lead have double bonds that are longer and weaker than the corresponding single bonds. On a related issue, this presentation will also discuss a newly discovered chemical phenomena known as metalloaromaticity: the concept that metallic ring systems can display traditional aromatic behavior.

Reservation deadline is 5:00 PM, Thursday, March 20th—see page three for all details. →→→



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Minority Affairs Committee seeking new members

If you are interested in developing programs and activities that encourage and support minority participation in the chemical sciences consider joining the Georgia Section-ACS Minority Affairs Committee. Work is just beginning on the 2008-2009 program calendar so it's not too late to share your ideas on enhancing diversity in the chemical profession--particularly at the local level.

Contact information:
Chair--Vernita Lockhart
Telephone-- 404 676 4055
[Email--vlockhart@na.ko.com](mailto:vlockhart@na.ko.com)

Upcoming Women Chemists Committee (WCC) Event

Mark your calendars for Food, Facials & Fun

Join the WCC on Monday, June 9th at 6 pm for a facial at the Empire Beauty School – Dunwoody location. We'll learn from an Esthetician about the chemical composition of faces and how they benefit us. Cost is \$15/person. RSVP (or make cancellations) by 5 PM on May 23rd to Lynn Sullivan at dsullivan@kforce.com or 404-459-2254. Please include your name and contact information when making the reservation. Payment should be made to the "Georgia Section ACS" and will be collected at the door. If you make a reservation and then don't attend, you will be charged for the facial, as we have to guarantee the number.

Location: 4719 Ashford Dunwoody Suite 205 Dunwoody 30338 (the WalMart Parking Lot)

There will be 5 raffles for free pedicures as well!!!

THE FILTER PRESS

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Postmaster: Send address changes to Joe Stoner, 569 Greenwood Ave., Atlanta, GA 30308.

March Meeting: Thursday, March 27, 2008 Counterintuitive Chemistry: An Organometallic Excursion Professor Gregory H. Robinson

Time: 6:30 - 7:00 PM Arrive

7:00 - 8:00 PM Dinner

8:00 - 9:30 PM Recognition of 50 and
60 Year Members

Presentation of Herty Award Medal

Herty Award Recipient Lecture

**Location: Georgia Tech Hotel & Conference
Center, 800 Spring St NW, Atlanta, GA 30308**
404-347-9440

Dinner Menu—Please not your choice of entrée when making your reservation:

- **Tilapia** mariniere—sauteed tilapia with a saffron vongole sauce
- New York **Strip** au poivre with a brandy cream sauce
- **Vegetarian** option

Both entrees come with a café salad, seasonal vegetables and starch, hot rolls, ice tea, hot tea and coffee, chocolate trilogy for dessert.

Cost for meal option: \$40 per person; \$30 for teachers and retirees, and \$25 for students.

Payment should be made to the "Georgia Section ACS" and will be collected at the door. If you make a reservation and then don't attend, you will be charged for the meal, as we have to guarantee the number of meals.

RSVP to Deborah Sauder, dsauder@ggc.usg.edu (preferred) or 678-407-5844 **by 5 PM on Thursday, March 20, 2008.** Please note whether you would like the tilapia **OR** strip **OR** the vegetarian option when making your reservation.

Directions to the conference center can be found at <http://www.gatechhotel.com/AboutUs/mapDirections.cfm>

Parking is \$6 for 4 hours.

Herty Medalist Undergraduate Research Symposium (HMURS)

In conjunction with the Herty Medalist Presentation and Lecture on Thursday, March 27, the Herty Medalist Undergraduate Research Symposium will once again be held at Morehouse College on Friday, March 28, 2008.

The featured component of HMURS is a poster session for undergraduates. The deadline is March 15, and undergraduate researchers are encouraged to register and participate. The best poster presenters will receive \$500 travel grants that can be used to attend a future ACS meeting (even after they graduate), and 1-year memberships to the ACS.

Attendance is open to all chemists, and undergraduates in your group and school are especially encouraged to attend. There is no fee to register, and food will be provided during the poster session!

In addition there will be presentations by GREGORY ROBINSON (the 2008 Herty Medalist), CORA MACBETH, LOREN WILLIAMS, and DABNEY DIXON.

Registration information may be found at:

<http://chemistry.gsu.edu/ACS/HMURS/>

2008 ACS Georgia Section Minigrants information and applications may be found at:

<http://www.chemistry.gsu.edu/ACS/Minigrant/>

Georgia Section Academia/Industry Forum

This first Academia/Industry Forum held at Kennesaw State University on February 22, 2008 was an encouraging success. Look for this to be an annual event, as attendees noted that the collaboration between academia and industry is one of the most successful sources for innovation.