

Newsletter #11

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Organization News

Highlights of 2010

The year 2010 was a busy one for Chemists Without Borders. Our second annual membership meeting was held in November in Sunnyvale, California, USA. Chief Operating Officer K. C. Wang and President Bego Gerber attended the Social Enterprise World Forum and Summit in June. We also had a booth at this meeting. The increasing recognition of Chemists Without Borders was in no small part triggered by the presence of President Bego Gerber and K. C. Wang at a variety of venues including talks at community colleges and American Chemical Society regional and national meetings. Vice-President Steve Chambreau authored a grant request to the Mojave Section of the American Chemical Society that resulted in a \$3000 grant to begin work on validation of portable arsenic analytical methods. IT Leader Jay Raghu reviewed, tested the key features and confirmed the usability of GiftWorks. This paved way for implementation of the fundraising and non-profit management application at Chemists Without Borders.

Chemists Without Borders is delighted to announce a new partnership with [Bangladesh University](#) and [Beyond Benign](#) as Bangladesh University inaugurates the Centre for Environmental Research along with a new major in Environmental Science. Bangladesh University has also offered itself as a platform for

Chemists Without Borders' operations in the region. These include implementing a culturally and regionally appropriate Green Chemistry curriculum in collaboration with Beyond Benign, and additional curricula that will be valuable to, say, the farm boy and farm girl who have left school prematurely to support the family.

Student Chapter in Santa Barbara

The University of California at Santa Barbara Chemists Without Borders chapter merged with the Chemistry Club on campus. As such, the chapter will be able to accomplish a lot more

including offering resources to get into Graduate School laboratories, offering trips to ACS conferences, and possibly hosting workshops for chemistry majors to improve their graduate school applications. The student chapter will keep both the original ideas with Chemists Without Borders alive while still providing absolutely necessary resources for chemistry majors.

The UCSB Chemists Without Borders members have been working in the local Goleta watershed in collaboration with the Santa Barbara Channel Keepers (SBCK). The “Stream Team” tests the local creeks that comprise the Goleta Slough and take monthly trips to key locations in the watershed to test pH, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, and conductivity. While small variations in values such as pH and dissolved oxygen occur throughout the natural cycle of a day, large changes over time could have drastic effects on any organisms in the streams and surrounding areas. In addition to offering support on these monthly trips, the UCSB chapter is considering starting its own project to test these same parameters at dawn, when photosynthesis has ceased for hours, to compare to the values gathered by SBCK during the afternoon. How much dissolved oxygen is still held after a night’s worth of organic compound oxidation by decomposers? The Channel Keepers have expressed great interest in seeing the results of this project, and Chemists Without Borders are looking forward to starting a monthly project that is all their own.



Arsenic Analytical Methods Validation Workshop

On Saturday March 12, Chemists Without Borders will host an arsenic analytical methods validation workshop in Boron, CA. The SONO filter and portable analytical methods for aqueous arsenic concentrations will be discussed and available for inspection. On Sunday, in Ridgecrest CA, Secretary Lois Ongley will discuss experiential undergraduate chemical education strategies such as service learning. This opportunity is funded by the American Chemical Society – Mojave Section. For more information, contact Vice President [Steve Chambreau](#).

Management Team

President	Bego Gerber	Chief Operations Officer	Vacant
Vice-President	Steve Chambreau	Compliance Officer	Frances Pai
Secretary	Lois Ongley	Development Officer	Julia Russell
Advisor	Abul Hussam	IT Leader	Jay Raghu
Communications Officer	Vacant	Project Manager	Debbie Andres

Member News

Lois Ongley, Secretary

Lois Ongley was recently reappointed as Secretary. Her responsibilities include the newsletter and maintaining notes on the wiki. She is a Professor of Geochemistry at Unity College in Maine. As a chemistry educator she has expertise in service-learning as an experiential pedagogy for undergraduate students. Her research interests are in metal contamination of water and sediments. She holds an undergraduate degree in Geology (Middlebury College); Master of Science degrees in Geology (Texas A&M University) and Environmental Science and Engineering (Rice University) as well as a PhD in Environmental Science and Engineering from Rice University. She teaches general chemistry, analytical chemistry, hydrogeology, geology and upper level courses in environmental analysis.



Jay Raghunathan, IT Leader

Jay Raghunathan is primarily responsible for building the information technology (IT) capabilities, leading the efforts and sustaining strong growth of the IT organization. Jay brings many years of experience in IT and expertise in application development, change management, framework development, global implementation, lean project delivery, process improvement, strategy development and management consulting, with a proven track record in creation and growth of agile delivery organizations. Jay has spearheaded numerous business and technology transformation initiatives spanning diverse business functions and industry segments in the Americas, Asia, Europe and the Middle East. He has offered and implemented automation, application modernization, business analytics, business process reengineering, collaboration, knowledge management, systems integration and workflow solutions at small, medium and large companies. Jay has a master's degree in Information Systems from the University of San Francisco.



Julia Russell, Development Officer

Julia Russell recently joined Chemists Without Borders as Development Officer. In this position, Julia focuses on foundation and corporate fundraising both for specific projects and for the organization as a whole. Julia grew up in Northern California, received her BA in Environmental Politics from Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington, and is now living in the Bay Area again. She is the Foundation and Corporate Relations Associate at The Bay Area Discovery Museum, an environmentally focused children's museum in Marin County.



K. C. Wang, Life-time Honorary Member

K. C. Wang recently completed his term as Chief Operating Officer (COO) of Chemists Without Borders. K. C. was an invaluable leader and organizer who will be missed as he takes a new position. We wish him well in his new position. K. C. was awarded a life-time honorary membership as thanks for his dedicated service.

Initiatives

Education

Education opportunity is one of the keys to developing the ability to solve the significant problems that result in human suffering around the world. Lack of understanding of chemical principles can result in significant environmental problems locally and globally. Chemists Without Borders will support all who seek to understand the earth and its processes better with an eye to using the [principles of green chemistry](#) to improve the state of the environment.

We currently have two educational initiatives: the Green Chemistry Project and the Bangladesh University Center for Environmental Research. The project managers are Debbie Andres and Lois Ongley respectively.

Water

Everyone needs clean healthful water to sustain life. Chemists Without Borders is working with the inventors of the SONO Filter Dr. Abul Hussam, Associate Professor of Chemistry at George Mason University and Dr. A.K.M. Munir, General Secretary of Manob Sakti Unnayan Kendro in Bangladesh, to help ensure that many in Bangladesh who might not otherwise have access to arsenic free water can use the SONO filter to improve their living conditions.

Funding

Chemists Without Borders is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit, public benefit organization incorporated in the State of California. It is funded by donations and grants. You may help us in our efforts as there are several ways to donate to Chemists Without Borders. In addition to donating your time and expertise, you may donate via Paypal (<http://www.chemistswithoutborders.org/donate.html>) or you may send a check directly to Bego Gerber, President, Chemists Without Borders, 745 S. Bernardo Avenue #A121, Sunnyvale, CA 94087. Donations are tax deductible.

Even better, should you have contacts at foundations or other institutions that might be interested in supporting Chemists Without Borders, please send us that information as well to begogerber@chemistswithoutborders.org. We would need both a contact name and phone number.

Special Thanks to:

Richard Lyman who founded the University of California at Santa Barbara Chemists Without Borders section.

Nazneen Khanam for her persistent and ongoing efforts to ensure the success of the Chemists Without Borders - Bangladesh University initiative.

Vy Nguyen for stepping forward to take responsibility for transaction maintenance, in [GiftWorks](#) on continued basis.

Evan Sarina, for helping in the preparation of the brochure for Chemists Without Borders, and encouraging some of his collegemates to volunteer at Chemists Without Borders.

Daniel Thomas and Dan Lent who ably led the Arsenic Project Team into the process of business plan development.

Newsletter contributors include Steve Chambreau, Bego Gerber, Jay Raghu, Julia Russell, and James Stanfill. Lois Ongley was the editor and layout coordinator.

Send your news and information to [Lois Ongley](#).



Chemists Without Borders is a public benefit, non-profit, international humanitarian organization designed to alleviate human suffering through the use of proven chemical technologies and related skills.

Our primary goals include, but are not limited to, providing affordable medicines and vaccines to those who need them most, supplying clean water in developing countries, facilitating sustainable energy technologies, supporting green chemistry education, and providing emergency disaster relief.

Chemists Without Borders alleviates human suffering in developing countries by:

Mobilizing global resources and expertise, knowledge and creativity

Developing self-reliance operating models

Organizing around sharable processes and activities

Partnering through social entrepreneurs and humanitarian organizations