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## LIFE LINES

**Chao Wu**, see *JALCA* **108**, 294, 2013

**Wenhua Zhang**, see *JALCA* **100**, 447, 2005

**Xuepin Liao**, see *JALCA* **100**, 447, 2005

**Yunhang Zeng** received her Ph.D. degree in Leather Chemistry and Engineering from Sichuan University in 2013. After graduating, she joined Sichuan University as a faculty member. Her research focuses on clean technology of leather manufacture.

**Bi Shi**, see *JALCA* **99**, 220, 2004

**M. Nidhin** obtained his doctoral degree from the University of Madras, Chennai, India, in 2012, and a Master's in chemistry from the Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala. Dr. Nidhin worked on the polysaccharide template synthesis of iron oxide nanoparticles. He pursued his research at the Chemical Laboratory of Central Leather Research Institute. After his graduation, Dr Nidhin moved to the Amity School of Applied Sciences as a Faculty in Nanoscience.

**R. Aravindhnan**, see *JALCA* **101**, 445, 2006

**K. J. Sreeram**, see *JALCA* **106**, 239, 2011

**Jie Liu** received his master's degree in 2011 from Qilu University of Technology, China. Now as a doctoral student in the Key Laboratory of Leather Chemistry and Engineering of Ministry of Education in Sichuan University, he is working on the extraction and modification of collagen for versatile applications.

**Zhou Xu**. As a doctoral student in the Key Laboratory of Leather Chemistry and Engineering of Ministry of Education in Sichuan University, China, his research focuses on the structure-property relationship of collagen.

**Yi Chen**, see *JALCA* **104**, 227, 2009

**Haojun Fan**, see *JALCA* **100**, 29, 2005

**Yanhong Li** received her bachelor's degree in biotechnology of light industry from Sichuan University, China, in 2012, and then started her successive postgraduate and doctoral programs study in Sichuan University. Now as a doctoral student, her research work focuses on the application of enzyme in the leather manufacture.

**Xinju Jia** is a junior of biomass and leather engineering department in Sichuan University, China. His main research interests are biotechnologies in the leather manufacture.

**Biyu Peng** received his Master's Degree (1994) and Ph. D. (1999) in Leather Chemistry and Engineering from Sichuan University (China). He pursued his postdoctoral research work as a visiting scientist in Leather Research Institute of Texas Tech University, USA, from 2004 to 2006. Now he is a Professor in National Engineering Laboratory for Clean Technology of Leather Manufacture, Sichuan University, China. Recently, his research work mainly focuses on biochemistry technologies in leather manufacturing and enzyme engineering.

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# ALCA 110<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION

## JUNE 18-20, 2014

### GIDEON PUTNAM RESORT, SARATOGA SPRINGS, NY

**Welcome to an exciting venue of events that will be unfolding for us from June 18 to June 20, 2014.** We will host the 110th Annual Convention at the beautiful Gideon Putnam Resort at Saratoga Spring, New York. It is a first class facility that you can learn more about by logging on to their website at <http://www.gideonputnam.com>.

Again this year will be an email around mid March containing all details about the convention. Also voting for our Slate of Candidates will be done via email in late April. The online convention registration form has been updated and is ready for use or you can print out a form and send it to us. Visit [www.leatherchemists.org/annual\\_convention.asp](http://www.leatherchemists.org/annual_convention.asp) to download the registration form. Continue checking this website for new information and announcements about the 110th Annual Convention.

The schedule this year is entirely new. Prior to the official opening of the convention, the annual golf tournament will be held Wednesday, June 18, at the Saratoga Spa Gold Course beginning at noon. Pre-registration for golfers is a must to facilitate the start of the tournament. Further information on the golf outing will be found under the golf tab under this section.

The official opening of the convention will begin with Registration on Wednesday, June 18, from 5 to 7 pm in the Lobby followed by a Cocktail Reception and Dinner on the Gideon Patio. It will be a great time to have conversations with old and new associates in the leather industry.

ALCA President Steve Lange will open the Technical Program at 8 am on Thursday, June 19. This year's technical program is being organized by Vice-President Sarah Drayna and will offer a wide array of leather technologies covering tanning to finishing to environmental issues can be viewed in the coming months under this section of our website under Technical Program. The John Arthur Wilson Lecture will feature Jakov Buljan of Croatia. The title of his presentation is "Some Considerations about International Technical Cooperation in the Tanning Sector." The technical sessions will end at 4:45 pm followed by the Annual Fun Run at 5:30 pm. Thursday's activities will be capped off by a cocktail party at Portico from 7:15 to 8 pm followed by the Awards Banquet from 8 to 10 pm at the Arches. This will be an exciting evening that you won't want to miss.

Technical papers will resume Friday morning at 8 am with the Annual Business Meeting ending the morning sessions. At noon everyone is invited to attend the Sports Activities Awards Luncheon at the Arches from 12:15 to 1:15 pm. Prizes will be awarded for the Fun Run and golf outing as well as door prizes. The convention will close after the Sports Activities Awards Luncheon.

Please make plans now to join us for a wonderful time at the Gideon Putnam Resort.

Doug Morrison  
Convention Chair



# 110th ALCA Annual Meeting June 18-20, 2014 Gideon Putnam Resort Saratoga Springs, New York, USA

## Tentative Technical Program starting Thursday, June 19

### *John Arthur Wilson Memorial Lecture*

***“Some Considerations about International Technical Cooperation in the Tanning Sector”***

***by Jakov Buljan, Leather Consultant, Ex-Chief of UNIDO Leather  
and Leather Products Unit, Zagreb, Croatia***

### *Eagle Ottawa LLC Sponsored Speaker*

***The Significance of Getting the Science Correct When Fighting for the Leather Industry  
by Mike Redwood, LeatherNaturally!, UK***

### *Discussion Panel*

***USHSLA Update by Stephen Sothmann, President U.S. Hide, Skin & Leather Association, Washington, D.C.***

***IULTCS Update by Dietrich Tegtmeyer, Vice President of the IULTCS, Luverkusen, Germany***

***LIA Update: Challenges and Opportunities by John Wittenborn, President Leather Industries of America,  
Washington, D.C.***

***Topics to Include Current Industry Positions on Carbon Footprint***

### **Other Papers to be Presented on Thursday and Friday:**

**Chemistry of Syntans and Their Influence on Leather Quality** by Jochen Ammen, BASF, Ludwigshafen, Germany

**Powdered Hide Model for Vegetable Tanning. II Hydrolysable Tannin** by Eleanor M. Brown,  
United States Department of Agriculture, Eastern Regional Research Center, Wyndmoor, PA

**Strategies and Challenges in Sourcing Leather Today** by Kerry Brozyna, Wolverine, Rockford, MI

**Environmental and Regulatory Updates for Chrome Chemicals and Tannery Discharges** by Eric Dick,  
Elementis LTP Inc., Milwaukee, WI

**Understanding the Enzyme-Assisted Beamhouse Process** by Marcelo Fraga de Sousa, Buckman Laboratorios Ltda., Brazil

**Common Problem Solving and Cross Over Technologies** by Tom Klaas, Testfabrics, Inc., West Pittston, PA

**Prospects and Development of Innovative Technologies for Leather Production in the Republic of Uzbekistan**  
by T.J. Kodirov, Tashkent Institute of Textile and Light Industry, Uzbekistan

**Preparation of Nonwoven and Green Composites from Tannery Solid Wastes** by Cheng-Kung Liu,  
United States Department of Agriculture, Eastern Regional Research Center, Wyndmoor, PA

**Global Footwear Sourcing - China and Beyond** by Peter T. Mangione, Global Footwear Partnerships LLC, McLean, VA

**Brazilian Cattle Hide Supply Chain** by Guilherme Motta, JBS Brazil, Brazil

**Development of an Alternative Low Salt Bovine Hide Preservation Using PEG and Crude Glycerol**  
by Mila Aldema-Ramos, United States Department of Agriculture, Eastern Regional Research Center, Wyndmoor, PA

**Biopolymer Colloid Systems Based on Collagen and Keratin  
with a Multifunctional Effect for Application in Cosmetics** by Jan Sedliacik, Technical University in Zvolen, Slovakia

**Utilization of Agricultural By-Products to Supplement Gelatin in Preparation of Products for Leather**  
by Maryann M. Taylor, United States Department of Agriculture, Eastern Regional Research Center, Wyndmoor, PA

**Leather in the 21st Century** by Simon Yarwood, World Trades Publishing/World Leather Magazine, UK

# COUNCIL CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES

## AMERICAN LEATHER CHEMISTS ASSOCIATION

### SPRING COUNCIL MEETING

**March 18, 2014 • 10 am Eastern/9 am Central Standard Time**

#### Present

Officers:	Steve Lange, Sarah Drayna, David Peters
Council Members:	Gary Rennerfeldt, Andy Rhein, John Rodden, Susan Steele
Convention Chair:	Doug Morrison
Executive Secretary:	Carol Adcock

#### **1. Welcome.**

President Steve Lange opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. It was confirmed that a quorum was present. November 14, 2013 minutes were previously approved by email.

#### **2. Convention Status Update.**

2014 Annual Meeting

#### Update and Overall Schedule

Doug Morrison, Convention Chair, reported that the convention would be held at Gideon Putnam Resort in Saratoga Springs, NY, June 18 – 20. Plans for the convention are well underway. He is in the process of picking menus for the meals. The room rate will be \$305 per night for a single and \$210 per person per night for double occupancy. The rate includes lodging for one night, breakfast, lunch, dinner beginning on the day of arrival, as well as service charge and taxes.

Breaks will be in a hallway a little distance from the technical sessions which should help on noise around the technical session area. There will also be a table for registration by the break area. The hotel does have a shuttle to the hotel. Participants will need to contact the hotel to make a reservation for the shuttle.

The registration fee for those staying at the designated hotel will remain the same as last year. The cost for all those staying at another facility will be the regular registration fee plus the meal plan for the three days of the convention. Accompanying guests not staying at the designated hotel will have to pay a fee for joining the group for meals. Our website, [www.leatherchemists.org](http://www.leatherchemists.org), has been updated with all details for the convention with the exception of the technical program.

#### Financial Campaign

Mr. Morrison reported that Donis Bosworth has previously been approved by council as Convention Vice Chair for 2014. She has already contacted last year's sponsors and has started contacting new prospects today. There will still be the three levels of sponsorships, namely, Gold, Silver and Bronze as in the past several years. There will also be an opportunity to sponsor a social event. She has already obtained commitments from three sponsors and is off to a good start.

#### Technical Program

Sarah Drayna reviewed the schedule for the technical program that was sent out to Council on Monday. She is still confirming speakers for a Users Panel. She has a Panel Discussion session that will have Stephen Sothmann of the USHSLA, John Wittenborn of the LIA, and Dietrich Tegtmeier of LANXESS. There are slots for 20 speakers including the Wilson lecturer.

Mrs. Drayna also reported that Eagle Ottawa will start an annual speaker sponsorship this year. The officers are preparing a Memorandum of Understanding for the sponsorship. A speaker for this year has already been identified. His name is Mike Redwood and he will be talking about the Leather Naturally Campaign. Mr. Peters said that he was familiar with the speaker, and that people will not be disappointed with the presentation. He felt it will be a great addition to the technical program.

#### Wilson Lecture

The Wilson lecture is on schedule with Jakov Buljan of Croatia, leather consultant and ex-Chief of UNIDO Leather and Leather Products Unit. He has already obtained his flight as well as his visa. The title of his presentation is "Some Considerations about International Technical Cooperation in the Tanning Sector." His bio and photo as well as abstract of his paper are on our website, and will be published in the April issue of the Journal.

#### Activities and Entertainment

Mr. Morrison reviewed the overall schedule. Before the official start of the convention, the Annual Golf Tournament will be held Wednesday, June 18, at the Saratoga Spa Golf Course with golfers teeing off every 9 minutes beginning at 12:02 pm. Box lunches will be furnished at the course. A cocktail reception and dinner are scheduled on the Gideon Patio, weather permitting, for Wednesday evening, June 18, at 7 pm.

The Annual Fun Run will be Thursday, June 19, from 5:30 to 6:30 pm followed by a reception from 7:15 to 8 pm at the Portico. The ALCA Award Banquet will be held at the Arches from 8 to 10 pm.

#### Alsop Award

The recipient of the award was previously approved by Council and will be notified to seek attendance at the convention.

#### O'Flaherty Award

The recipient of the award was previously approved by Council and will be notified to seek attendance at the convention.

#### AV Coordinator

Doug Morrison, Convention Chair, has checked with Khorshed Alam to see if he was willing to be the Coordinator for the technical sessions. His company has approved him attending the convention and being the AV Coordinator for 2014 and possibly 2015.

#### Publicity

Mr. Peters reported that he has sent convention information as well as the history of the ALCA to several leather magazines. One has already done a piece on their online magazine. He will update the information as the technical program progresses.

#### 2015 Convention Update:

Doug Morrison, 2015 Hotel Arrangements Chair and Convention Chair, reported that the 2015 site was picked by Council due to the attrition suffered at the 2013 Annual Convention. We will return to Pinehurst for the 2015, and they will allow one-half of the attrition to be credited to the convention. In addition a deposit of \$5,000 was also required. The deposit was paid last week. Therefore when we arrive at the convention in 2015, we should have a credit toward the convention of \$13,570.38. This will be very helpful for 2015 but might be a cash flow challenge in 2014.

The schedule for the 2015 convention will be similar to the 2013 one except the convention will be moved up one day, running from a Wednesday through Saturday, plus there will be a group lunch and dinner on the day of the golf tournament. The dates of the convention are June 9 – 12 2015. The dates are earlier than usual, but they were the only dates available in June for 2015.

### **3. Financial Reports.**

Council had previously been emailed the financial statements for 2013 and the Performance vs. 2013 Budget report. The reports showed a loss for the year 2013 of \$13,061 which was higher than the anticipated loss of \$9,952 reflected on the approved 2013 budget. Income in most areas was a little lower than anticipated including the profit from the 2013 convention. After review of all financials for 2013, it was felt that the

Association is in sound financial position. A financial analysis was performed on the 2013 books. The auditor's letter is attached to these minutes.

Motion was made and carried to accept the 2013 financial reports.

Executive Secretary Carol Adcock reviewed the Membership Report and Breakdown as of March 11. There are a total of 348 members at the present time including SLTC members participating in the Journal exchange.

Ms. Adcock also reported that final notices for dues and subscriptions have gone out. A list of unpaid dues was also reviewed. All will be dropped from the Association per the by-laws as of April 1. Mrs. Adcock reported that 6 advertisers committed for 2014 journal advertising, with an additional one being obtained in February. All are paid with the exception of the new one.

### **4. Technical Committee Reports.**

Technical Committee Coordinator, David Peters, submitted the following written report:

#### Education Committee – Mainul Haque, Chair

No written report had been submitted by Chair, Mainul Haque. However, Mrs. Adcock gave an oral report on the Leather Technology Correspondence Course administered by the committee. The committee has received several inquiries about the course which prompted an inventory of the books that accompany the course. She ordered 30 Leather Technicians Handbooks by Sharphouse and 32 Practical Leather Technology by Thorstensen. All have been received and paid for. She also had 20 sets of the course booklet printed. One new student has been received with more anticipated.

#### Environmental Affairs Committee – Mila Ramos, Chair

Received an update from, COTANCE, for whom we prepared then submitted a letter of support to their EU environmentally friendly initiative. They appreciated our support for their endeavor. They held a big meeting discussing their proposed initiatives late last year.

We had a successful teleconference meeting among the committee members last Nov 19. We were able to cover the planned agenda previously advised. Those present were: All USDA-ERRC members, Kim Dirks and Gary Rennerfeldt. We are opening our eyes and ears to new reports on impact of hides and leather industry and what people have done to remediate the problem.

#### Methods and Specifications Committee – Lori Hyllengren and Nick Latona, Co-Chairs

The ASTM D31 committee will meet April 23 at the USDA's ERRC in Wyndmoor, PA. The D31 committee is working on

numerous projects, of which some include an Atomic Absorption method for total chrome of wet blue, currently being balloted at the subcommittee level. Also, being balloted are revisions to the Relative Stiffness of Leather by Means of a Torsional Wire Apparatus, revision and title change for Abrasion Resistance of Leather (Rotary Platform, Double-Head Method), and a new test method for the Resistance of Finish to Heat Aging (Finish Stability). We will be conducting a round robin for a HPLC method to determine the amount of fungicide (Diiodomethyl-p-tolylsulfone) in leather. If there are any labs interested in participating in this round robin, please contact Nick Latona.

Research Liaison Committee – Lori Hyllengren and Eleanor Brown, Co-Chairs

The first announcement for the RLC meeting on April 22 was sent out Feb. 18, 2014. The second announcement with hotel arrangements went out March 11.

Motion was made and carried to accept the Technical Committee Report.

**5. Editor’s Report**

Robert White submitted the following written report:

February 27, 2014

Dear ALCA Officers and Councilors:

**Editor’s Report**

Comparative manuscripts activity during the most recent 6-month period (September through February) was:

	Received	Rejected	Approved	In process
2014	36	10	16	10
2013	34	10	14	10
2012	33	11	12	10

The surges of new submissions late last year and Editorial Board retirements slowed processing times. With our EB now at 17 members, processing times are more normal. I am now scheduling approved manuscripts for our June 2014 issue.

Starting last summer we had three resignations from the EB. I want to thank Dr. Ken Boni, Dr. Nick Cory and Dr. Graham Lampard for their dedicated help with timely and perceptive reviews during their years of peer review service. To better align with the global reach of the *Journal*, recruiting of new EB volunteers included a much more international focus. I am most pleased to welcome to the *JALCA* Editorial Board: Dr. Meral Birbir, Dr. Bi Shi, Elton Hurlow, John Moore, Dr. Roger Pinto, Dr. J. Raghava Rao and Maryann Taylor (an ad hoc reviewer for many years).

The *Journal* page count for year 2013 was 6% higher than the previous year. Our continuing good teamwork with the design publishing resource, KSA&D, enables us to consistently upload our e-*Journal* on the first day of each month.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert F. White

*Journal* Editor

Council reviewed the Editor’s report and felt the *Journal* was in good hands. Motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the Editor’s Report as written.

**6. Other Committee Report**

Ways and Means Committee

Chair of the committee, Andy Rhein, submitted the following written report:

As of March 14, 2014 our Portfolio was valued at \$ 258,143. For the first quarter of 2014 the Portfolio decreased by (\$983)!

Year to date the Portfolio decreased by (\$983) to \$258,143!

Returns for 2013 totaled \$26,501. Returns since inception in 1996 total \$301,488.

The following represents the present Asset Allocation:

Equities	\$190,133	73.70%
Fixed Income	\$ 39,521	15.30%
Alternative	\$ 13,360	5.20%
Other	\$ 10,192	3.90%
Cash	\$ 4,937	1.90%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$258,143</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Respectfully submitted,

Andreas Rhein

Motion was made and carried to accept the Ways and Means Committee Report.

Nominating Committee

The 2014 Nominating Committee submitted a Slate of Candidates which was approved by Council. The 2015 Slate of Candidates will be as follows:

- Councilors:
- Mark Gilbert, Alberdingk Boley, Inc.
  - Rodolfo Ampuero of Zschimmer & Schwarz
  - Beat Schelling of Wickett & Craig
  - Steve Schroeder, Jr. of Atlas Refinery Inc.

There was no need for a candidate for the office of Vice President Elect with the elimination of the position due to the new tenures set in the bylaw revisions passed in December of 2013. Motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the Slate of Candidates recommended by the 2014 Nominating Committee chaired by Steve Gilberg with Prasad Inaganti and Rob Harvey also being members.

The election will commence shortly using electionbuddy.com. Ballots are due no later than 5 pm on June 1, 2014.

#### **7. Old Business**

No old business came before Council.

#### **8. New Business**

No new business came before Council.

#### **9. Next Council Meeting**

The next Council meeting will be on Wednesday, June 18, at Gideon Putnam Resort at 8:30 am in the Blue Room. The meeting will include the hotel staff at the beginning of the meeting. Council was reminded that they would probably need to arrive on the 17<sup>th</sup> of June in order to participate in the meeting. Mr. Morrison suggested that those interested might play golf Wednesday afternoon at the Saratoga Springs National Golf Course.

The old and new Council will meet on Friday, June 20, at Gideon Putnam for a breakfast meeting from 7 – 7:45 am to introduce the new members of Council and briefly discuss the convention.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Adcock, Executive Secretary

**Scott Northam, CPA**  
1302 58th Place  
Lubbock, TX 79412  
Phone (806) 535-7409

### **INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES**

American Leather Chemists Association  
1314 50th Street, Suite 103  
Lubbock, TX 79412

I have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were agreed to by American Leather Chemists Association (ALCA), solely to assist you in evaluating the revenue and expense transactions of the Organization for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013. ALCA's management is responsible for the presentation of the revenue and expense transactions. This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of those parties specified in this report. Consequently, I make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

I examined the detailed general ledger and a representative sample of the revenue and expense transactions and the related underlying supporting documentation for the organization for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013 for the purpose of determining whether the documentation presented properly supported the revenue and expense transactions and were properly categorized within the financial records. I found no significant exceptions within the revenue and expense transactions tested.

I was not engaged to conduct, and did not conduct, an examination, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion on the financial statements of the Organization. Accordingly, I do not express such an opinion. Had I performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to my attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of by the directors and management of American Leather Chemists Association and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than those specified parties.

SCOTT NORTHAM, CPA  
Lubbock, Texas  
March 6, 2014