

## LIFE LINES

**Dennis C. Shelly**, see *JALCA* **99**, 269, 2004. (Also see Dr. Dennis Shelly Obituary; *JALCA* **104**, 34, 2009)

**Divya Pasapulati**, information not available.

**P. Thanikaivelan**, see *JALCA* **96**, 27, 2001

**Biyu Peng**, see *JALCA* **102**, 261, 2007

**Clinton Hodges**, information not available.

**Lihong Fu** received her B.Eng. degree in 1982 from the Department of Pulp and Paper Making Engineering, Shandong Institute of Light Industry. She worked as production manager in a papermaking factory from July 1982 to May 1986. Since 1986, she has worked at Shandong Institute of Light Industry. She studied in the Department of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Shandong University from 1991 to 1995. From 1999-2002, she studied in the Department of Leather Science and Engineering, Sichuan University, and got her Ph. D degree in 2002. Her pastdoctoral thesis was about preparation and characterization of collagen based composite for tissue engineering. At present, she is a professor in the School of Light Chemistry and Environment Engineering, Shandong Institute of Light Industry. Doctor Fu is interested in animal and botanical fiber chemistry, modification and application, and leather processing. She has published more than 80 academic papers.

**Shuling Chai** received her B.Eng. degree in 1986 from the Department of Macromolecule Material and Engineering, Chengdu University of Science and Technology (now it is Sichuan University). She got her M. Eng. Degree in 1989 from the Department of Leather Science and Engineering, Chendu University of Science and Technology. Since 1989, she has worked at Shandong Institute of Light Industry; at present, she is an associate professor in the School of Light Chemistry and Environment Engineering, Shandong Institute of Light Industry. From 2001-2004, she studied in the School of Material Science and Engineering, Beijing Institute of Technology, and got her Ph. D degree in 2004. Doctor Chai is interested in polymer synthesis and modification, leather chemical materials, and leather finishing technology. She has published more than 40 academic papers. (See *JALCA* **103**ˆ167ˆ2008)

**Jingqiu Cheng** obtained his Ph.D. degree in 1991 from the Southwest Agriculture University, China. At present, he is a professor in the Sichuan University. Doctor Chen primary interests are Biochemistry and molecule biology.

**Yi Chen** received his bachelor's degree in 2006, from the Biomass and Leather Engineering Department of Sichuan University. Now as a master-doctoral student in the Key Laboratory of Leather Chemistry and Engineering of Ministry of Education in Sichuan University, he is engaged upon the preparation of polymer-based leather chemicals, with special interests in their corresponding nano composites.

**Xiuli Zhang** received her bachelor's degree in 2008, from the Biomass and Leather Engineering Department of Sichuan University. Now as a master student in the Key Laboratory of Leather Chemistry and Engineering of Ministry of Education in Sichuan University, she is working on the modification of polymer-based leather chemicals with nano technology.

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

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

**Ren Longfang**, see *JALCA* **103**, 416, 2008

**Wang Xuechun**, see *JALCA* **103**, 416, 2008

**Qiang Taotao**, see *JALCA* **103**, 416, 2008

**Ren Yongqiang**, male, a master of Shaanxi University of Science and Technology. His main study area is the biodegradation of leather chemicals.

**Xu Jianxin**, male, a engineer of Shangyuan Company in Zhejiang Haining. He mainly studies leather manufacture technics.

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## OBITUARY

### ROBERT EDWARD MERRIT

Robert Edward Merritt passed away in Columbus, Ohio on October 24, 2008, at the age of 78. He was born in Coudersport, Potter County, Pennsylvania, and attended the Port Allegany High School. He graduated in 1947 with magna cum laude, was the Class Valedictorian, and received the Bausch & Lomb Honorary Science Award. Bob graduated from Hanover College, Indiana, in 1951 with an A.B. degree in physics and mathematics (double major), where he received the David A. Kochenour Cup in Physics and Departmental Honors in Physics. Subsequently, Bob received his M.S. degree in 1953 from the University of Cincinnati in leather chemistry. For the next 6 \_ years, he was a research chemist with Barrentan Testing Corporation and its parent company, the American Extract Company, at Port Allegany, PA. He was involved with development of synthetic tanning materials from sulfite cellulose-based paper mill waste and phenolic resins.

In December 1959, Bob joined the staff of Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) in Columbus, Ohio, as an assistant editor. His first assignment was indexing and editing papers and patents from the CA Leather and Glue Section (later Leather and Related Materials Section). When CAS introduced a unified analysis into its editing operations in the early 1970s, Bob started doing both abstracting and indexing of the primary documents. As the number of papers dealing with leather chemistry decreased, Bob's responsibility was extended to cellulose chemistry, industrial carbohydrates, and other macromolecular sections. He was President of the CAS Recreation Association in 1967-1968. Bob retired as a Senior Associate Scientific Information Analyst from CAS in 2005 after 46 years of service. Only two other CAS staff members exceeded that record throughout the 100-year history of the company.

Bob also contributed his energy, time, and expertise to the chemical profession outside his regular work. While working in Pennsylvania, he served on several committees of the American Chemical Society (ACS) Penn-York Local Section. On the local Columbus scene, he was Chair of the ACS Columbus Local Section in 1986, the Section Councilor (1987-1992), and Alternate Councilor (1994-1996). On a national scene, as a member of the ACS Council, he served on the ACS Committee on Constitution and Bylaws. He was a member of the ACS for over 55 years.

His most enduring contribution to the ACS Columbus Section was his work for *The Chemical Record*. He was a member of its editorial staff for two decades (1966-1986) and served as its Editor for 17 years (1969-1986). No other editor in the 50-year existence of this newsletter has ever served that long. In the February 1987 issue of *The Chemical Record*, Bob wrote a "Valedictory," commenting jokingly that his first valedictory was delivered 40 years earlier at the high school. Bob has summarized the many changes that occurred in the operation and publication, including an early manual maintaining of the mailing list, production of mailing labels, changes of printers, and changes of format over these past 20 years.

Bob was also an active member of the American Leather Chemists Association from 1953 until he received life status with the Association in June of 1993. He served as Associate Editor of the *Journal of the American Leather Chemists Association* and was responsible for the preparation of the *Journal's* annual indexes from June, 1979 to February, 1996. He also was a member of the Editorial Board.

Bob was survived by his wife Joy and sons, Ronald E. (Micheleen) and Andrew R; grandchild Rachel; cousins Helen Draatz and Harriet Klotzbach.

(compiled by C. Adcock)

## XXX IULTCS CONGRESS TO BE HELD IN BEIJING IN OCTOBER

On 11-14 October, 2009, the 30th IULTCS Global Congress will be held in Beijing, China. As the organizer of this event, China Leather Industry Association (CLIA) sincerely invites friends from all over the world to take part in and contribute to this great event.

The preparation of Beijing Congress is now progressing smoothly. Beijing International Hotel, which is located in the centre of Beijing and in the middle of Chang' An Avenue, has been chosen as the venue. (For the details of hotel please refer to [www.bih.com.cn](http://www.bih.com.cn))

To allow more researchers to present their latest findings during the congress, the expiry dates of abstract and full paper collection have respectively postponed to March 31, 2009 and June 30, 2009. Researchers who would like to participate in this occasion please contact CLIA in time. Besides, the organizer has been started to accept registration. The early register will enjoy a discount.

For the detailed and latest information about the Congress, the paper collection and registration please visit: <http://www.chinaleather.org/iultcs>.

(March 2009)

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