Two new divisions announced

The American Oil Chemists’ Society has announced formation of two new divisions.

The new Industrial Oil Products division is for persons interested in the research, development, engineering, marketing, and testing of industrial (nonedible) products derived from fats and oils. Such products would include fuels, lubricants, coatings, polymers, paints, inks, cosmetics, and dielectric fluids. The synthesis of novel derivatives from fats and oils with potential as new industrial products and genetically engineered new crops also will be included, a statement from AOCS said.

The new Feed Microscopy division was organized by members of the American Association of Feed Microscopists who voted to join AOCS as a division. Feed microscopy is the science and art of identifying and evaluating, both qualitatively and quantitatively, feed ingredients and feed rations by use of a microscope.

Both groups are organizing technical sessions to be included as part of the 1998 AOCS Annual Meeting & Expo to be held May 10–13, 1998, in Chicago, Illinois. Persons interested in joining these divisions should contact AOCS Member Programs, P.O. Box 3489, Champaign, IL 61826-3489 (phone: 217-359-2344; fax: 217-351-8091; e-mail: membership@aocs.org).

Princen to step down as editor-in-chief

L.H. (Bert) Princen will end his tenure as editor-in-chief of the Journal of the American Oil Chemists’ Society at the end of 1997 after 15 years of volunteer service as an associate editor and editor-in-chief for that publication.

Princen notified AOCS President James K. Daun in a letter during September. Princen has served as editor-in-chief since January 1991, about the time he retired as director of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Northern Regional Research Center (now the National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research) in Peoria, Illinois.

A native of The Netherlands, he received his undergraduate and doctoral degrees from the State University of Utrecht. Princen had been a lecturer/researcher with the University of Southern California in Los Angeles and a researcher with the Dutch National Defense Research Council before joining the USDA staff in Peoria in 1960. In 1974 he was named chief of the horticultural and special crops research unit, and in 1982 became assistant center director. Two years later he was appointed center director.

Princen became an AOCS member in 1975. He succeeded Thomas H. Applewhite as the journal’s editor.

The editor-in-chief of the publication is appointed by the AOCS Governing Board upon recommendation of the AOCS Publications Activities Coordinating Committee.

W.M. Linfield dies, 1987 Bailey recipient


Dr. Linfield was perhaps best known for his research on soaps and related materials at the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Eastern Regional Research Laboratory in Wyndmoor, Pennsylvania, from which he retired in 1984 as a research leader. His research career involved the development of deodorant soaps and cationic fabric softeners, and synthesis of antibacterial agents and of novel surfactants and their applications, especially of lime soap dispersing agents. The lime soap dispersing research was commercialized in Japan and in Europe and used in production of more than 100 million pounds of soap annually. His work resulted in more than 110 publications.

Dr. Linfield traveled internationally to act as a consultant and to conduct seminars. He was a lecturer at the 1977 World Conference on Soaps and Detergents in Montreux, Switzerland, served as an associate editor for the Journal of the American Oil Chemists’ Society, and organized numerous technical sessions for AOCS national meetings.

Dr. Linfield received the AOCS North Central Section’s Alton E. Bailey Award on Feb. 17, 1987, at a dinner meeting in suburban Chicago.

He was born in Germany and
began his technical education at the Technische Hochschule in Hannover. He received his bachelor of science degree in chemistry from George Washington University in 1940, and his master's (1941) and a doctorate in pharmaceutical chemistry (1943) from the University of Michigan.

After a postdoctoral fellowship in cancer research at Northwestern University, Dr. Linfield worked for the Emulsol Corporation, where he began his research on the synthesis and evaluation of cleaning materials, E.F. Houghton and Co., Quaker Chemical Products Co., Armour and Company, Culver Chemical Company, and the IIT (Illinois Institute of Technology) Research Institute before joining the USDA staff in 1971.

He joined AOCs in 1956 while head of research in the soap division at Armour and Company in Chicago, Illinois. He became an emeritus member of AOCs in 1985.

Survivors include his wife, Shirley, and a daughter.