

## MISNOMERS AND BAD TERMINOLOGY IN ICP SPECTROSCOPY

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This talk will describe the overall status of ICP spectroscopy as a distinct scientific field. It has made many important contributions to scientific advances in other areas, but suffers from its own internal crisis, namely, the perception by others that there is not much left to do. One contribution to this issue is the fact that there are a number of common misunderstandings in the field, plus some poor terminology. Examples include the following:

1. ICP emission instruments are said to view the plasma radially, but in fact they view it with lateral resolution only.
2. ICP-MS instruments are said to do simultaneous multielement analysis, when almost all of them measure signals from various ions sequentially.
3. Various ICP-MS manufacturers use different terms to describe their means for removing polyatomic ions, when all these devices should be called merely collision cells. Even the journals have fallen for this one.

Lots more will come to mind by the time the talk rolls around.