From the desk of
Michael G. Koehler, Ph.D.
2013 Chair of the Chicago Section of the American Chemical Society

December 18, 2012

The Chicago Section of the American Chemical Society and The Jury of the Willard Gibbs Medal are pleased to announce the selection of Professor Charles Lieber, the Mark Hyman Professor of Chemistry at Harvard University, as the recipient of the 2013 Willard Gibbs Medal.

Since 1911, the Chicago Section of the American Chemical Society, one of the oldest and largest sections in the Society, has presented the prestigious Willard Gibbs Medal “To publicly recognize eminent chemists who, through years of application and devotion, have brought to the world developments that enable everyone to live more comfortably and to understand this world better.”

The Jury of the Willard Gibbs Medal deliberates for months on the nominations for the Medal. Their deliberations recognized Professor Lieber as one of the great explorers of our times. Through his research, collaborations, teaching and publications, he has taken us on a journey into the realm of the nanoworld and provided us with the tools and technologies to not only help us see and understand this dimension of our world, but also to shape and transform the future with it. Professor Lieber has provided innovative tools and methodologies to see, characterize and synthesize nanowires and nanoscale materials. His ingenuity in the application of these technologies is transforming our world of medical diagnostics, computing, energy, optoelectronic devices and biological sciences. These are the attributes of a Gibbs Medalist and his years of devotion to chemistry and its applications to society have earned him this honor.

Professor Lieber joins an august group of 101 other Willard Gibbs Medalists, including Svante Arrhenius (1911), Leo Baekeland (1913), Marie Curie (1921), Irving Langmuir (1930), Linus Pauling (1946), Louis Hammert (1961), Glenn Seaborg (1966), Albert Cotton (1980), EJ Corey (1984), Mario Molina (1998), David Evans (2005), and 90 other highly esteemed chemists who have earned their place in the history of chemistry. It is an honor to add the name Dr. Charles M. Lieber to this distinguished list of chemists.

Professor Lieber looks forward to addressing the Society on the occasion of the Presentation of the Medal. This is tentatively scheduled for Friday evening, May 17, 2013. Please join us for this historic celebration as we congratulate Professor Lieber on this prestigious honor.

For further information regarding the Willard Gibbs Medal and its presentation on May 17, 2013, please contact the office of the Chicago Section of the American Chemical Society or Michael G. Koehler, Ph.D. Chair of the Chicago Section as listed below.