

Background Colors

Home Social **Messages** Contacts Send Track Reports Surveys Events Campaigns Tools

Current Theme

Issue 3

empty theme

+ Add new theme

Body Background Color

None



Default Font Style

Arial 12 Set

The Minnesota Chemist

Official Publication of the Minnesota Section of the American Chemical Society

Issue 2, April-May 2019

**Follow us on Social Media!**

Twitter - @minnesotaacs and

@projectseedmn

Facebook - American Chemical Society - Minnesota Local Section Group

Instagram - @mnacssocial

**Greetings from the Chair**

Hello Minnesota chemists,

Our new website is up and running and working well. Check it out at www.mnlocalsectionacs.org. You can look up and register for future meetings using the new site.

Our June meeting is a social at Flat Earth Brewing at 5:30. Bring some colleagues from work or invite a friend that you have not seen for a while. Come and celebrate summer with MN-ACS.

This year the national office contacted us to see if they could present ACS career navigator live in the Minnesota section. This event will replace our annual November career fair for this year only. It will have expanded programming in the morning followed by our traditional career fair in the afternoon. Registration will be through the national ACS website. <https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/careers/career-fair/minnesota.html>

We are also looking for local university chem clubs to help with MN-ACS fall family day. Each chem club that signs up three volunteers will be eligible for a \$150 grant to their club (limited to three clubs). Family day is scheduled to be the first Saturday afternoon after Labor Day and is usually held in Mendakota Park in Mendota Heights. Look for registration later this summer. Contact jwollack@stcate.edu if you or your chem club is willing to volunteer.

In two years the section will host the 2021 Great Lakes Regional Meeting. We are currently looking for volunteers to do the following.

1. Undergraduate program coordinator – Will coordinate undergraduate events and poster sessions for the meeting.
2. Program chair – This volunteer will help put together the program and them. This person will also assist in recruiting session chairs and making sure all sub-disciplines of chemistry are represented. This volunteer would serve on the executive planning board for the meeting.
3. Session chairs – Members that are interested in a certain topic can volunteer to run a session. These volunteers will then solicit people to register for the meeting and contribute papers on the session topic.
4. Logo design – This artistic member would design a logo for the meeting to help advertise. The logo would reflect the Minnesota section.

Please contact me if you are interested in any of these volunteer opportunities (jwollack@stcate.edu).

Dr. James Wollack
Associate Professor of Chemistry, Chair
St. Catherine University

Upcoming Events



Career Navigator LIVE presents ACS Career Day Minnesota – Thursday September 12th, 2019 at Saint Catherine University

The American Chemical Society is offering a one-of-a-kind free career day to chemists in the Minnesota area. For this year only this event will replace the annual career fair that is usually held in November. Enjoy a networking breakfast and lunch while receiving personalized career advice from leading employers in your field. This is a great opportunity to learn how to take your career to the next level and discover what new skills you need to sharpen. #ACSCareerDays are where meaningful connections are made!

Register now for one amazing day packed with professional skill-building opportunities, networking activities, and interactive workshops designed to navigate your career.

Account Name: American Chemical Society- Local Sections Account Number:#9228

[Sitemap](#)

Menu Zones Design

Email Designer

Background Colors

Current Theme

empty theme

[+ Add new theme](#)

Body Background Color

None

Default Font Style

Arial Set

Upcoming Events



June Social: Saint Paul Brewing

**When:** Tuesday, June 11th**Location:** Saint Paul Brewing (Formerly Flat earth Brewing)

688 Minnehaha Ave E, St Paul, MN 55106

Appetizers/networking: 5:30 pm St. Croix Lanes, 1153 N. St. Croix, River Falls

Cost: \$10 (includes two drink tickets and pizza). Soft drinks also available.

Come and join MN-ACS for a Tuesday evening happy hour. Network with other chemists and section volunteers. Bring some friends from work and or meet someone new.

RSVP at our new website. www.mnlocalsectionacs.org

Upcoming Events



PUI Sustainable Polymer Education & Research Consortium Workshop

When: July 18th - 19th, 2019**Location:** Augsburg University

Through the support of a University of Minnesota Institute on the Environment Mini-grant and the Minnesota Local ACS Section Innovative Project Grant, a FREE two-day workshop will be offered for higher education chemistry instructors on sustainable polymer curriculum materials. The workshop will be held on the Augsburg University campus. Applicants are welcome from primary undergraduate institutions and associate degree programs.

Applications are due **June 17, 2019**: <http://bit.ly/PUISustainablePolymersWorkshop>

Participating professors will be introduced to the topic of green and sustainable chemistry in the context of polymers. They will gain hands-on experience with laboratory experiments which model their syntheses, properties, analysis, and mechanical testing. Instructors will be able to choose from a variety of experiments to explore that are suitable for a range of course levels; from introductory to upper-division. Examples of the use of renewable monomers, green reaction conditions, and design for degradation will be shared. Accompanying lesson plans provide a forum for the discussion of the role polymers and plastics play in society, their environmental and human health impact, and strategies for designing more sustainable materials.

Time will be allotted for group discussion, reflection, and assessment of the experiments as well as opportunities for recasting into guided-inquiry experiments or tailoring to individual programs. Participants will be asked to share their own current efforts in incorporating macromolecular topics at their institutions in meeting ACS CPT guidelines. The workshop will serve as a starting point for building a consortium of academics that continue sharing and collaborating on the creation and implementation of green polymeric curriculum materials. Monthly google hangouts will be opportunities to continue discussion of implementation and research. The meetings will also highlight research of the NSF Center for Sustainable Polymers in the area of sustainable polymers and local industrial efforts. Institutional teams are encouraged to apply. Space is limited so apply today. Lunch and parking at Augsburg University will be provided. Lunch will be offered each day of the workshop.

For questions please contact Professors Michael Wentzel (wentzelm@augsburg.edu) or Jane Wissinger (jwiss@umn.edu)



Senior Chemists Group

Account Name: American Chemical Society- Local Sections Account Number:#9228

[Sitemap](#)

Menu Zones Design

Background Colors

Current Theme

empty theme

[+ Add new theme](#)

Body Background Color

None

Default Font Style

Arial Set**Events**[Email Designer](#)

A short presentation about the research project. Since this was a new venue, and a rather different location from our usual meetings, I would be interested to hear your opinions of this as a lunch time meeting location. If you liked it we may go back there sometime next year.

Watch this magazine, as well as the MNACS web site, www.mnlocalsectionacs.org for news about the Fall luncheon meetings. We will begin meeting again in September, probably Wednesday September 18. I would really like some input from each of you about what you like, and what you don't like about our meetings, plus suggestions for short talks, venues and tours.

If you would like to give an informal 20-minute talk please let me know. Our topics are usually scientific, but not research-level talks. They are more general talks. Or if you would like to discuss an interesting book that you have read, that would be good also.

You are invited to attend the Minnesota Section's Summer Social on June 11 at 5:30 pm at Flat Earth Brewing Company: see the above web-site for details and to register.

We welcome new members to our seniors' group, (you don't even have to be retired!) and guests are always welcome.

I would like to thank Ken Latham for all the work he does; he is responsible for sending out all the emails about our lunches and also helps to take reservations. Thanks, Ken!
Lynn Hartshorn; lhartshorn@stthomas.edu

MN ACS Awards Ceremony, May 20 2019

The event took place at White Bear Lake Area High School, and began with dinner catered by Donatellis. After dinner, James Wollack, Chair of the Minnesota Section, welcomed everyone and conducted some business: asking for nominations from the floor for upcoming elections. Following this, several awards were given

The 50, 60 and 70 year awards for Senior Chemists:

50-year awards were presented to Robert Kinney, Melvin Leitheiser and Ronald Rizzo. A 60-year award was presented to Wayne Wolsey.

Other 50-year members who were recognized but not present were Ralph Ellefson, Donald Janes, Edward Travnick, and John Trend.

60-year members who were recognized were Gerald Crawford, Arnold Fredrickson, Jerry Mohrig, Ronald Plante, Melville Sahyun, James Throckmorton and Alvin Zigman (deceased).

70-year members who were recognized were Wayman Lee and George Tiers.

The Lyle Hall Senior Chemist Award:

This award, named after a longtime and very active member of the Section, was presented to Truman Schwartz for his lifetime service to the Chemistry Community, both national and local. Wayne Wolsey read the citation and made the presentation.

The Janet Tarino Volunteer Award:

This award is also named after a former section member who was active in volunteering, especially with children and high school students. The award was presented by Jerry Kersten to Roberta Naujok, who has volunteered with the Chemistry Olympiad for several years.

The MN-ACS High School Teacher Award:

This award is given to a High school teacher who has shown excellence in chemical education. Jane Wissinger presented the award to Cassandra Knutson in recognition of her contributions to green chemistry education. Cassandra is a teacher at White Bear Lake High school.

Following the awards, Cassandra Knutson talked about her chemistry teaching, and how it had changed since she began teaching, especially in that it became more student-centered, and in her development of greener chemistry labs and demonstrations.

At the end of the evening, all the awardees were presented with flowers.



Left to right: Robert Kinney, Melvin Leitheiser, Ronald Rizzo, Wayne Wolsey.
The photo was taken by Nick Schlotter.

2019 Lyle Hall Senior Chemist Award

Macalester College DeWitt Wallace Professor Emeritus A. Truman Schwartz has been chosen as the 2019 recipient of the Lyle Hall Senior Chemist Award for Lifetime

Account Name: American Chemical Society- Local Sections Account Number:#9228

[Sitemap](#)

Background Colors

Current Theme

empty theme

[+ Add new theme](#)

Body Background Color

None

Default Font Style

Arial Set

Truman received his B.A in Chemistry from the University of South Dakota in 1956, and after being chosen as a Rhodes Scholar, earned a B.A. and M.A. from Oxford University. His Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry came from M.I. T. in 1963. After a brief industrial career at Procter and Gamble, he joined the Macalester Chemistry Faculty in 1966. During some financial hard times and administrative turmoil, he was appointed as Dean of the Faculty for two years.

He was noted for his excellence in teaching, while on sabbatical, at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and was the recipient of the C.M.A. Catalyst Award in 1982. Bassam Shakhashiri invited Truman to join him at the N.S. F. in 1986-7, where Schwartz served as Deputy Director of Teacher Preparation and Enhancement. He spent several summers as Lecturer and Director at NSF Institutes for Secondary Teachers at Madison, Berkeley, and Princeton.

Truman's writing and organization abilities led him to becoming the Lead Author and Editor of the first two editions of Chemistry in Context: Applying Chemistry to Society, the ACS chemistry curriculum for non-science majors. He naturally gravitated to national leadership within the Division of Chemical Education. He served as Program Chair for the 7th Biennial Conference in Chemical Education, followed by Chair of the Division of Chemical Education in 1990—the first time the Division received the Outstanding Large Division Award.

Truman has received numerous awards including, an Honorary D.Sc. from his alma mater, the Brasted College Teaching Award from Minnesota ACS, Fellow designation by AAAS, and the James Flack Norris Award for Outstanding Teaching from the Northeastern Section. Macalester College has recognized him with the Thomas Jefferson Award for Service, and the DeWitt Wallace Chair mentioned above. Since retirement in 2006, Truman has received two major ACS awards, the George C. Pimentel Award in Chemical Education in 2007 and selection as an ACS Fellow in 2010, as nominated by the Minnesota Section. He has been a steady contributor to the Journal of Chemical Education, with three articles and two book reviews appearing since retirement. He has served on Advisory Committees to the Chemistry Department and the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of South Dakota as well as creating the endowed Truman and Beverly Schwartz Distinguished Faculty Award program.

His avocations include trumpet playing, gourmet cooking, and travel; He and Beverly have attended several international chemical education conferences.

It is most appropriate that Truman be recognized for a lifetime of Professional Service and Activities within the Minnesota Section and the chemical education arena.



2019 Janet Tarino Volunteer Award

Roberta Naujok

May 20, 2019

Roberta Naujok has been chosen for the 2019 Janet Tarino Volunteer Award of the Minnesota Section of the American Chemical Society. Janet Tarino, a retiree from the Mansfield campus of The Ohio State University, was an extraordinary volunteer in her seven year (2002-2009) membership in the MN ACS Section, before moving to California, where she passed away in 2012. She was a co-founder of the Chemists in the Library group, demonstrator at the Science Museum of Minnesota and with the Kids and Chemistry activity, participant with the Chemistry Olympiad, and frequent judge at Science Fairs.

Roberta studied at Marquette University and received her B.Sc. in Chemistry from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in Madison. She also received her Ph.D. at UW-Madison in 1997. Eight published papers and two abstracts of talks at National ACS meetings resulted from her graduate work on liquid-solid interfaces. From 1997-2014, she was an Advanced Research Specialist at 3M in the Corporate Research Analytical Laboratory. She received a patent and was coauthor of a publication on polyfluoro-compound complexes from her work at 3M.

She served as a substitute teacher at several western-Wisconsin high schools while pursuing the Secondary Educator Certification Program at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, which was completed in 2015. Since 2015, she has been teaching full-time Chemistry and Astronomy at Hudson (WI) High School.

A few years ago, Roberta was one of several industrial chemists and college chemistry teachers who volunteered to help rejuvenate the Minnesota ACS Section participation in the national ACS Chemistry Olympiad competition for high school students and was the formal Chair of the group. In 2019, when the Winchell Undergraduate Science Research Symposium precluded the usage of space at Century College, Roberta quickly arranged for the Minnesota Section final written and laboratory exercises to be done at Hudson High School.

Roberta has a long history, going back to her days at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, of working with elementary and middle school, and high school students in science camps, Junior Achievement programs, and science clubs.

It is most appropriate that Roberta Naujok receive the 2019 Janet Tarino Volunteer Award.



2019 Report on MN-ACS Co-Sponsorship of Winchell Undergraduate Research Symposium

The Minnesota ACS Section was a co-sponsor, with the Minnesota Academy of Science (MAS) of the Winchell Undergraduate Science Research Symposium held on the campus of Century College on April 27, 2019. The ACS Section paid the registration fees of \$1,510 (and a \$300 co-sponsorship fee) for 22 chemistry/biochemistry undergraduates, within the Minnesota ACS Section, who displayed posters or made oral presentations. These students represented: Bethel University, Concordia University-St. Paul, Rochester Community and Technical College, St. Catherine University, St. Olaf College, and University of St. Thomas.

All presentations were judged by a set of MAS-selected judges, and the following were recognized as particularly outstanding.

Particularly Outstanding—Oral Presentations

Background Colors

Current Theme

empty theme

[+ Add new theme](#)

Body Background Color

None

Default Font Style

Arial Set**Biochemistry/Organismal & Physiological Sciences:**

Nicholas Ziebell, Brooke Salo, Hannah Pavek, Maddie Hentges, and Mary Ann Yang (Adviser), *A Novel Ex Ova Culturing Vessel Designed for Experimental on Chicken Embryo's Chorioallantoic Membrane*, Concordia University

Judges' Choices—Poster Presentations:

Rylie K. McDonell, Hongliu Wang, and Justin J. Donato (Adviser), *Characterization of the Transmembrane Region of a Novel Ceftazidime Resistance Gene*, University of St. Thomas

Megan E. Moberg and Daron E. Janzen (Adviser), *Donor Atom and Ring Size Effects of Platinum(II) Complexes with Sulfur Containing Ligands*, St. Catherine University

Sam A. Brunclik, Alex M. Mench, Melanie H. Nevins, Emily L. Nolan, Anna K. Olson, Monica Osnaya, Andrew J. Reuter, Chris M. Seong, and Elodie E. Marlier (Adviser), *Optimizing the Synthesis of a Novel Tetradentate Mixed Donor Ligand*, St. Olaf College

Alexandra J. Schmeltzer and Gina J. Mancini-Samuelson (Adviser), *Modifying Glassy Carbon Electrodes with Graphene Oxide Derivatives to Control Conductivity*, St. Catherine University

Wayne C. Wolsey, Liaison between MN-ACS and Minnesota Academy of Science

**2019 High School Teaching Award****Cassandra M. Knutson****May 20, 2019**

Cassandra M. Knutson has been chosen as the recipient of the 2019 High School Teaching Award, given by the Minnesota Section of the American Chemical Society every three years (in rotation with the College Teaching Award and the Section Research Award). Cassandra is a High School Chemistry Teacher in the White Bear Lake School System.

Cassandra was nominated by Jane E. Wissinger, Morse-Alumni Distinguished Teaching Professor at the University of Minnesota Chemistry Department and Organic Chemistry Laboratory Director. Jane has long been designing new curricular materials for college and high school students which model green chemistry principle sustainable polymers, and guided-inquiry pedagogy. In 2016 Cassandra approached Jane about bringing a Green Chemistry presentation into her AP chemistry classroom. It soon became evident that Cassandra was a unique teacher who was constantly innovating and bringing state-of-the-art science and teaching methods to her students.

The experiment which Jane brought was which her University of Minnesota team had developed in the NSF-funded Center for Sustainable Polymers which used medical sutures to illustrate polymer concepts, green chemistry principles, and utilized guided inquiry. A collaboration soon developed in which Cassandra has spent summers at the University of Minnesota expanding not only this particular experiment, but has led to several others, including the usage of smart phone cameras to measure concentrations via color measurements. Other high school teachers have been recruited.

The results of experiments have been shared with the broader chemistry community via four co-authored publications in the Journal of Chemical Education, four presentations at national ACS meetings, and two presentations at national Green Chemistry Institute meetings.

Cassandra's enthusiasm and passion for her classroom work, which has evolved in her becoming more of a coach and less of a classroom lecturer was further exemplified by her story which she shared with the keynote address at the May 20 MN-ACS Section meeting held at the South Campus of White Bear Lake High School.

**2019 Minnesota State Science Fair Awards**

The MN ACS Section has for many years given Special Awards in Chemistry/Biochemistry at the Minnesota State Science Fair, sponsored by the Minnesota Academy of Science. The event was held at the Earle Brown Heritage Center in Brooklyn Center on March 30-31, 2019.

Middle School Awards:**Top Prize (\$50)**

Maggie Banks, "A Multi-Faceted Solution: How Decanting Frequency Affects Growth of Single Crystals", Stillwater Middle School, 7th Grade

Honorable Mentions (subscription to ChemMatters)

Maggie Fuller, "How Does the Type of Fat Affect the Density of a Shortened Cake?", Murray Middle School (St. Paul), 8th Grade

Madeline Larson, "Efficiency of Hydrogen Fuel Cell Electrolytes", Bemidji Middle School, 7th Grade

Grace Pogin, "The Science of Spherification", Lakeview Christian Academy (Duluth), 8th Grade

Senior High Awards:

Account Name: American Chemical Society- Local Sections Account Number:#9228

[Menu](#) [Zones](#) [Design](#)

Background Colors

Current Theme

empty theme

[+ Add new theme](#)

Body Background Color

None

Default Font Style

Arial

12

[Set](#)

Email Designer
11th Grade

Honorable Mentions (subscription to *ChemMatters*)

Roberaa Ayana & Vincent Dylan, "Solving a Protein Puzzle: Countering Inflammatory Disease by Engineering an Accurate Model of the C3aR Protein Receptor", Breck School, 11th Grade

Matteah Ojard, "Microlead Analysis in Acidic Solutions", Lakeview Christian Academy (Duluth), 10th Grade

Catherine Pirtle & Christiana Wilke, "Monkeying Around: Comparing Isotope Distributions in Baboon Tissue", Breck School, 11th Grade

Thanks to Sarah Dimick Gray, David Tweeten, Todd Williams, and Wayne Wolsey for helping with judging on behalf of the MN ACS Section.

Wayne Wolsey, Liaison between MN-ACS and MAS

If you have content for The Minnesota Chemist, please send it to Taysir Bader, Editor (bader072@umn.edu)

American Chemical Society | 1155 Sixteenth Street, NW | Washington, DC 20036
Copyright © 2015 [American Chemical Society](#). All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you opted-in to receive it or due to your relationship with an ACS Local Section.