



# The Minnesota Chemist

Official Publication of the Minnesota Section of the American Chemical Society

Issue 1, February-March 2019



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## Greetings from the Chair

Hello section members. We are looking to have a wide offering of events this upcoming spring. In February, the section will celebrate the year of the periodic table with a lecture from Dr. Eric Scerri. Dr. Scerri has written several books on the periodic table and is considered an international expert on the topic. March will be the annual Minnesota Technical Symposium. This annual event is held jointly with nearly a dozen other local scientific societies. The topic is advances in 3D printing and will be held at Ecolab. There will be multiple speakers as well as the chance to network with scientists from these other societies. The April meeting will be a tour of Land O'Lakes' new 52,000 square foot research facility in River Falls, WI.

Looking long term, the section is in the planning phase for hosting the Great Lakes Regional ACS meeting in 2021. To make this meeting a success we will need volunteers from a wide variety of places including the University of Minnesota, chemists from industry, and the many smaller colleges and universities in the area. We are currently searching out venues and are identifying possible themes for the meeting. If you have any input or you would like to help organize a part of this meeting please contact me ([jwwollack@stakte.edu](mailto:jwwollack@stakte.edu)). The broad expertise and experience in our section is a valuable resource, and we want to make sure it is highlighted when we host in 2021.

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

## Upcoming Events



## February 18<sup>th</sup>: The Periodic Table, Its Story & Its Significance

In celebration of the international year of the periodic table (and its 150th anniversary!), the Minnesota Local Section of the American Chemical Society is pleased to announce the upcoming February 18th, 2019 Meeting: **The Periodic Table, Its Story & Its Significance**

**Presenter: Dr. Eric Scerri**, leading authority on the history and philosophy of the periodic table

Eric R. Scerri is a chemist, writer and philosopher of science, of Maltese origin. He is a lecturer at the University of California, Los Angeles; and the founder and editor-in-chief of *Foundations of Chemistry*, an international peer reviewed journal covering the history and philosophy of chemistry, and chemical education.

He is a world authority on the history and philosophy of the periodic table and is the author

and editor of several books in this and related fields. Dr. Scerri was a participant in the 2014 PBS documentary film, *The Mystery of Matter*. He has also written several books on the periodic table.

Eric Scerri attended Walpole Grammar School in Ealing. He received his BSc from Westfield College (University of London), his Certificate in Postgraduate Study from the University of Cambridge, his MPhil from the University of Southampton, and his PhD from King's College London.

Please see his website <http://www.ericscerri.com> for more information about his books and work.

**When:** Monday, February 18th, 2019  
 5:00-6:00pm - Lab tours  
 6:00-7:00pm - Dinner (menu provided by Kowalski's Catering)  
 7:00-8:00pm - Presentation

**Where:** Metropolitan State, Jason R. Carter Science Education Center (SEC),  
 Dayton's Bluff, St. Paul  
 Parking available at Maria St. Parking Ramp for \$5; limited neighborhood parking

**Cost:** \$15 Meal Ticket/\$5 Student Meal Ticket; talk is free

**Please RSVP by February 14th to James Wollack ([jwollack@stkate.edu](mailto:jwollack@stkate.edu)) and pay at the door by cash or check.** Website is under construction and the Web Store is down until further notice.

## Upcoming Events



### March 7<sup>th</sup>: Annual Joint Minnesota Technical Society (MinnTS) Meeting

The Minnesota Local Section of the American Chemical Society is pleased to announce the annual joint Minnesota Technical Society meeting on March 7th, 2019:

**Theme: Advances in 3D printing**

**Presenters:** **Dr. Michael McAlpine**, Professor of Mechanical Engineering, University of Minnesota, **Amy Sissala**, R&D Senior Print Engineer, Stratasys

**When:** Thursday, March 7th, 2019  
 4:30 - Ecolab Tours Begin: Tour Ecolab's Central Plant, Food & Beveridge, & Pest Training Facilities (different tours from previous years!)  
 5:15 - Last Ecolab Tour Departs  
 5:00-6:00 - Registration, Social with refreshments and light appetizers  
 6:00-7:00 - Dinner  
 7:00-7:15 - Welcome message, introductions (Gary Korba)  
 7:15-8:00 - Dr. Michael McAlpine: "3D Printing Functional Materials & Devices"  
 8:00-8:15 - Break  
 8:15-9:00 - Amy Sissala

**Where:** Ecolab Schuman Campus, EcoCafe  
 655 Lone Oak Drive  
 Eagan, MN 55121

**Please RSVP to James Wollack ([jwollack@stkate.edu](mailto:jwollack@stkate.edu)) and pay at the door by cash or check.** Website is under construction and the Web Store is down until further notice.

Please go to <http://www.minnts.org/> for abstracts, menu, and registration.

## Upcoming Events



### Empowering Women in Chemistry: A Global Networking Event

The Chemistry Departments at Carleton and St. Olaf Colleges in Northfield are hosting a networking breakfast as part of the IUPAC global "Empowering Women in Chemistry" event, on the morning of February 12, 2019. This event will bring together women chemists and anyone who wants to support women chemists to explore professional opportunities at all

career stages. Register [here](#) for this free event.

**Hosted by:** The Carleton and St. Olaf Colleges Chemistry Departments

**Where:** Carleton College Weitz Center for Creativity – Room 236

320 3rd St. E, Northfield

Tuesday, February 12, 2019

8:15 - 9:30 am

## Upcoming Events



## Upcoming Competitions

### Regional Science Fairs within MN-ACS Territory

Mankato - February 16 (at Minnesota State U-Mankato)

Rochester - February 12-15 (at Northrop Community Science Center)

St. Cloud - February 23 (at St. Cloud State University)

Twin Cities - March 1-2 (at Coliseum in State Fair Grounds)

### State Science Fair (Minnesota Academy of Science)

March 30-31 (at Earle Brown Heritage Center, Brooklyn Center)

### Winchell Undergraduate Science Research Symposium/Annual Meeting of Minnesota Academy of Science

April 27 (at Century College)



## ACS-MN Conference Travel Grants

The Minnesota Section of the American Chemical Society is pleased to announce the availability of travel grants to the following recipients who are studying or working in the areas served by the section:

-Two travel grants at \$500 each for **graduate students** to attend the spring ACS meeting in Orlando (Mar 31 - Apr 4).

-One \$500 grant available for **faculty at liberal arts or community colleges** to attend the spring ACS meeting. \*\*\*\*\*new this year\*\*\*\*\*

You must already be registered for the national meeting.

Application materials are here:

<http://nmr.chem.umn.edu/GradTravelGrantApp.doc>

<http://nmr.chem.umn.edu/PUICCTravelgrant.doc>

Deadline for applications is: **March 1 at noon.**



## Call for Award Nominations

### 2019 Janet Tarino Volunteer Award

The Janet Tarino Volunteer Award will be given to an individual for outstanding volunteer service to Minnesota ACS, and/or chemistry related projects and events not directly connected to Minnesota ACS. This person will have demonstrated an exceptional passion for and commitment to community outreach, and dedication to projecting a positive image of chemists. Nominating documents should include curriculum vitae and examples of volunteer service. The award consists of a plaque which will be presented at the May meeting of the section. Nominations should be submitted electronically to the Chair of MN ACS Awards Committee, Rita Majerle ([rmajerle01@hamline.edu](mailto:rmajerle01@hamline.edu)) before or on March. 7, 2019.

### 2019 Minnesota Section High School Chemistry Teaching Award

In 2019 the section will recognize an outstanding high school chemistry teacher with the

Award for Excellence in High School Chemistry Teaching. The most recent awards, in 1995, 1998, 2001, 2004, 2007, 2010, 2013, and 2016 were given to Rena Benedict of Forest Lake, Marcy Copeland of Granite Falls, Patricia Richards of Como Park High School, Michael Minnema of North Community HS, Becky Keller of Highland Park HS, St. Paul, Jamie Crannell of Chaska HS, Jennifer Steiger of Mahtomedi HS, Janice Gepner of St. Paul Academy, Ian Bronson of North High School and David Tweeten of Minnehaha Academy.

The nominee must be engaged in the teaching of chemistry of high school (grades 9-12). The nomination must include a biographical sketch, a list of publications (if any) and a statement of and evaluation of the nominee's achievements as a high school chemistry teacher. The nomination should clearly demonstrate the following attributes: (1) the quality of the candidate's teaching including effective methods of presentation; (2) the ability to challenge and inspire students; (3) extracurricular work in chemistry including science fairs, science clubs, and activities that stimulate the interest of young people in chemistry and related sciences; and (4) willingness to keep up-to-date in chemistry.

The nominating packet may include up to four supporting letters from supervisors, associates, MN section members, or former students who have graduated from high school.

The award consists of a plaque and cash award of \$500 which will be presented at the May meeting of the section.

The nomination procedure is simple - submit the nominating letter and all supporting information to the chair of the Awards Committee. Paper copies cannot be accepted. The deadline for completed nomination packets is March 7th, 2019; send them to Rita Majerle, (rmajerle01@hamline.edu).

#### **2019 The Lyle Hall Senior Chemist Award**

The Lyle Hall Senior Chemist Award is based upon post-retirement professional activities of a member of the Minnesota ACS Section who has entered into formal retirement from his/her primary job. Professional activities can include volunteer ACS service, volunteer activities in any other scientific organization such as the Minnesota Academy of Science (i.e. Science Fair Judging), professional writing, consulting, and/or research. Nominations (including no more than 2 seconding letters) should be sent to Rita Majerle (rmajerle01@hamline.edu). A CV is useful. The Awards Committee may also select an award recipient, based upon their collective knowledge of the activities of an individual. The deadline for completed nomination is March. 7th, 2019.

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If you have content for The Minnesota Chemist, please send it to Matthew Hammers, Editor ([mhammers@umn.edu](mailto:mhammers@umn.edu))

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