

The Minnesota Chemist



Chair's Corner

Greetings! I have not expected to be writing this message until January 2023, but as John Lennon said, "Life is what happens to you while you're busy making other plans." Our 2022 Chair, Dr. Trisha Miller, has moved out of Minnesota; thus, by our local section by-laws, I was swiftly upgraded from the Chair-Elect to the Chair half-a-year early. We wish Trisha and her family the best in Colorado!

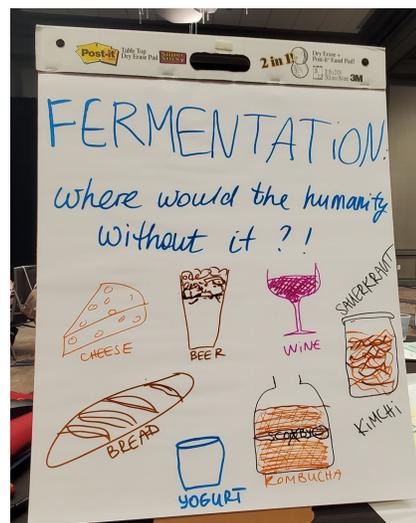


In preparation for my role as a Chair, I attended the ACS Leadership Institute at the end of May in Atlanta. It was a great way to meet with other newly-elected local section officers from all over the country and to get a crash course on planning inclusive activities, obtaining funding, and communicating with the members. The workshop I liked the best was the one where we got to design our own local section event and plan for it. The one I proposed was a Science Café dedicated to fermentation. It turned out to be a popular topic - here is our flyer (artwork by yours truly). If you are interested in helping to develop this into MN Local Section activity in the next year, let us know [online!](#)

As many of you, I am excited about the return to in-person local and national activities. Later this summer I will be traveling to the 27th BCCE (Biennial Conference on Chemical Education) held at Purdue University on a travel award from the ACS Division of Chemical Education. Many of our MN ACS members would be participating in ACS National Meeting in Chicago, including our award-winning Joint Safety Team. If you are a graduate student or PUI faculty, the deadline for travel awards is August 1st. Finally, our 2022 Awards Meeting will also be taking place in-person on September 8th at the Bad Weather Brewing Company. I am looking forward to meeting many of you there!

Please feel free to reach out to me or the other officers and committee members at any time if you have suggestions, ideas, or needs that we can support [here](#).

Enjoy the rest of the summer and stay safe and healthy!
Ekaterina (Katya) Kadnikova





2022 In-Person Awards Meeting

Date: Thursday, September 8th, 2022

Venue: Bad Weather Brewing Company, 414 7th St W, St. Paul, MN 55102 (651-207-6627)

Social & Pizza Dinner: (includes 2 tickets for drinks, Pizza, Salad, Fruit Salad and cookies/bars) - 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Award Presentation: 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Title: Chemistry and Chemistry Education Without Justice and Justice Education is a Single Story - Dr. Angela N. Osuji of Washburn High School

Abstract: Science as a discipline provides us with an exciting pathway to knowledge. Science as a human endeavor gave us the framework and language to seek, understand, and explain the natural world. The [Framework for K-12 Science Education](#) (p277) urges us to promote scientific literacy among **all** the nation's people as a democratic ideal worthy of focused attention, significant resources, and continuing effort. Science and science education aimed at explaining phenomena and designing solutions must aim for science for all anchored in justice for all. Justice-centered science pedagogy addresses inequities as components of larger oppressive systems.

Chemistry as science enjoys the unique identity as the gateway into other science disciplines and into many STEM careers. Conversely, certain practices in chemistry education also act as the gatekeeper for many. In doing so, Chemistry becomes a pathway to systemic inequities that cause systemic harm. Chemistry education, therefore, has a responsibility to deconstruct this systemic harm.

However, I posit that chemistry and chemistry education devoid of justice and/or justice education is a single story. It is incomplete. It is a disservice to our students and society. There should be and there is room at the Chemistry table for ALL. My presentation will focus on some of my efforts in advocating for Justice -centered science education for all my students and my journey in developing my capacity as a justice-centered chemistry educator in Minnesota.

Cost - \$10/person. Please pay on arrival. (**50 and 60 years members who are being honored in this meeting and their spouses don't need to pay**).

RSVP: Email [Ramesh C. Kumar](mailto:Ramesh.C.Kumar)



Fall 2022 ACS National Meeting Travel Grants From the MN ACS Section

Travel grants are available to support travel to the [Fall 2022 ACS National Meeting in Chicago, IL: Sustainability in a Changing World](#).

\$750 travel grants are provided for senior graduate students to present their research at the ACS national meeting. Application criteria and instructions can be found in [this document](#).

\$500 travel grants are provided for chemistry faculty at PUI or community colleges to attend an ACS national meeting. Application criteria and instructions can be found in [this document](#).

The deadline for both grants is **August 1st**



Updates from the Local MN ACS Section

MN ACS Chapter Assists with Chemical Safety Outreach

By Chuck Wheeler Handlon, MN ACS Education Chair
chuckwheelerhandlon@gmail.com

The University of Minnesota's Joint Safety Team (JST) held a two-day workshop on chemical safety for high school science teachers on June 28th and 29th. As the chair of the MN ACS Education Committee, I was invited to assist in the planning and participate as a speaker.

The event was the first of its kind and provided a valuable resource as well as staff development for a group of eight science teachers. Attendees represented school districts in the MSP/St. Paul region as well as outstate districts as far away as Hibbing, St. Cloud, and Fergus Falls. The workshop was free. Both staff development Continuing Education Units and possible graduate credit from the U of MN were offered.

Planning for the event was led by Vilma Brandao, Dr. Nyema Harmon, and Steven Butler of the University of Minnesota. The program went from 8:00 AM till 4:00 PM and was structured around lecture presentations, group discussions, and hands-on activities in the

laboratory.

Topics covered during the workshop included: developing best practices and a chemical hygiene plan for teaching chemistry, understanding the proper PPE equipment and protocols for high school laboratory work, understanding chemical storage and chemical waste standard operating procedures, and promoting safety culture in the laboratory and planning effective, safe demonstrations.

Teachers were given the experience in the laboratory of identifying unknown chemical wastes and safely practicing some exciting chemical demonstrations. The workshop also included a tour of the University of Minnesota Chemical Waste handling facility accompanied by some interesting stories by director Adam Krajcek.

The general consensus of both participants and presenters is that valuable connections were made and important safety training had been provided. There is also a feeling that science teachers are not adequately prepared in chemical safety through the teaching licensure process. There is a great need for workshops such as this for more teachers. This training should perhaps be required of all licensed science teachers.

The MN ACS wishes to thank the U of MN JST Committee for providing this service and is grateful to be of support. Tentative plans are to evaluate the program and perhaps provide a version at the Minnesota Science Teachers Association fall Minnesota Conference On Science Education (MNCOSE) which will be held November 3 – 5 in Duluth, Minnesota.

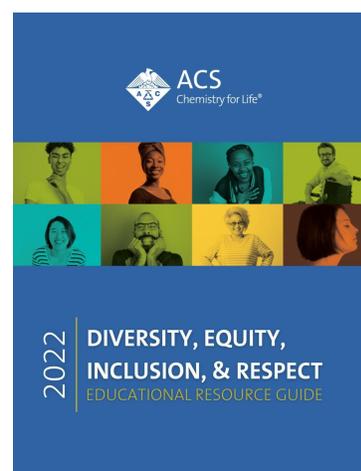
Below are two photos, the first a snapshot of participants during the tour of the U of MN Chemical Waste Facility and the second of participants engaging in a pyrotechnical demonstration using flash paper and a remote igniter.





2022 DEIR Educational Resource Guide

The Office of DEIR is proud to announce the release of our new 2022 DEIR Educational Resource Guide. The Guide contains a non-exhaustive list of resources meant to provide further enrichment and education on common DEIR topics and terms, such as allyship, microaggressions, unconscious bias, and more. It is meant as a starting point for those interested in learning more about DEIR issues. To learn more about the Office of DEIR [check out our website](#) or contact us at diversity@acs.org.



Join the ACS Board in Chicago as they hold a conversation with Hannibal Johnson on Diversifying Leadership at Every Level

When: August 21st, 2022, 12:00 - 1:00 pm CT

In-Person: Skyline Ballroom W375C,
McCormick Place West (Boxed lunches will be provided)

Virtual: Accessible through the national meeting platform

Questions: secretary@acs.org

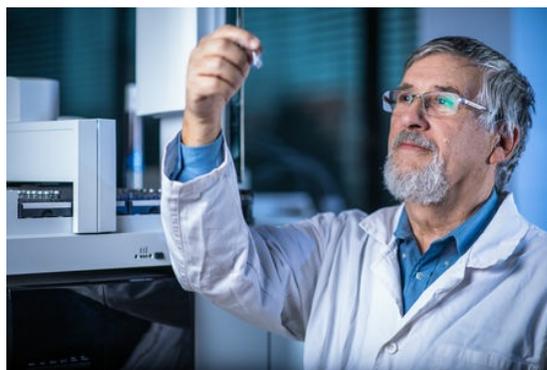


Underrepresented Students in STEM Symposium

Join us Saturday, September 24th for a free, in-person research symposium hosted specifically to present scientific research, research proposals, or scientific papers of BIPOC students in STEM in the Twin Cities. More information can be found [here](#).

USSS-TC Registration Deadline: Saturday, September 10th

Abstract and Poster Submission Deadline: Saturday, September 10th



The MN ACS Senior Chemists' Group is in Action Again!

The MN ACS Senior Chemists' Group is in action again! Ken Latham (Lathamke@mac.com) and Lynn Hartshorn (Lghartshorn@gmail.com) recently arranged a successful lunch for the Seniors Group, which was held on Tuesday, June 28th at the Green Mill Restaurant in Woodbury, using their outdoor dining space. If you missed that event and would like to be included in our monthly Senior Chemists lunches, please email Ken to be added to our email list. We are also happy to get suggestions about possible places to lunch, and future tours that we could do.



University of Wisconsin-River Falls (UWRF) is looking for an instructor for the Spring '23 semester and possibly Fall.

UWRF needs a temporary instructor for the upcoming academic year. **Our greatest need is for the spring, preferably with organic chemistry expertise, but applicants in all disciplines will be considered.** There may be opportunities to teach lecture and/or labs. We might also have opportunities for someone to cover some labs this fall if there is interest. The link for our Ad Hoc hiring pool posting can be found [here](#).



Updates from ACS National

Register for ACS Fall 2022

Register and join us August 21-25 for ACS Fall 2022! Join us in the windy city at McCormick Place Convention Center (MPCC) or virtually across the globe. The theme, "Sustainability in a Changing World," will be at the event's core programming.

Access the official meeting program and use the filtering capabilities to find programming by division, date, session type, symposia, and time block.

[Visit the website to learn more about the meeting and register.](#)

Director-at-Large Hybrid Town Hall

SAVE THE DATE

August 21, 4:30 pm CT

Sheraton Grand Chicago-Chicago Ballroom VII

Virtual Information Coming Soon

Join us for a hybrid Town Hall and meet your candidates for Director-at-Large, 2023-2025. Hear opening statements and participate in the question-and-answer session.

Town Hall Meeting on Membership Transformation

In consultation with ACS governance and staff, we have rolled out changes in how we handle lapsed memberships. Starting in April 2022, members who do not pay their dues are automatically moved to the Community Associate category after 60 days. With the launch of the new membership packages and the opportunities this provides the ACS community, we have conducted a series of communications to further explain the membership changes. You may consider viewing a recording of one of our [Town Hall meetings](#) and visiting our [FAQ](#) for additional details. For additional questions not already covered, please send your inquiry to componentsupport@acs.org. [Read more](#).



[Visit our Website](#)

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