

The Minnesota Chemist



Chair's Corner

Dear Minnesota ACS Members,

As fall fades into winter and then comes back again outside of my window, I am writing my last Chair's Corner and reflecting on the journey we've shared since July of 2022. As the pandemic faded, our section has gradually transitioned back to having in-person events and we are committed to meeting more often in the future. Section's finances are in excellent shape. I am excited to see promising new faces that have joined our ranks as volunteers and section officers and appreciate the energy and enthusiasm that they bring to our section.



And there are more officers coming: our Local Section 2023 Election is open through 11:59 pm on Wednesday, November 15, 2023. If you already voted, thank you for helping shape the future of MN ACS.

Last week our section held a mini-symposium "Facing the PFAS Problem: Understanding the Chemistry of PFAS and Addressing the Challenges of its Environmental Fate" with 96 in-person and 41 on-line attendees. A poster session featuring 12 posters was followed by presentations by Prof. Matt Siimick (Department of Environmental Chemistry, Division of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health, University of Minnesota) and Prof. William Arnold (Department of Civil, Environmental, and Geo-Engineering, University of Minnesota). The evening ended with a discussion panel moderated by Prof. William Pomerantz with Dr. Brian Mader (Vice President - Global Environmental Health Safety Laboratory, 3M) joining our speakers. The symposium was held at the Chemistry Department at the University of Minnesota. We thank Dr. William Pomerantz and Prof. Philippe Buhlmann for organizing and Oxford Instruments for co-sponsoring this event.

The upcoming local section events include a Chemistry Job and Career Fair held at the Metropolitan State University this Thursday, November 16th from 4 to 6 pm (please, register at <https://www.mnlocalsectionacs.org/event-info/mn-acs-chemistry-job-recruiting-fair>), a Senior Chemists' meeting on Friday, November 17th at 11:30 am at the Green Mill Restaurant at 57 Hamline Avenue South, and a Younger Chemists' social event on Friday, December 1st from 6 to 8 pm at Bad Axe Throwing. The holiday gathering has been planned for December at Urban Growler, on Thursday, December 21st starting at 5:30 pm. Details for each event can be found below.

Change, much like the seasons, is inevitable. It has been a privilege to serve as the Chair of the Minnesota Local Section. I am thankful to the section's officers and executive committee members for their support and guidance during my tenure. Dr. Catherine Sutton will serve as our 2024 Local Section Chair and I am excited to see the continued growth and success of our section under her leadership.

May the upcoming holidays be filled with laughter, gratitude, and the company of those who bring joy to your life. I am wishing you and your loved ones a delightful holiday season and a prosperous New Year!

Warm regards,

Ekaterina (Katya) Kadnikova, PhD
Chair, Minnesota Local Section of the American Chemical Society

ACS MN Local Section News

Save the date for the MN Local Section of the ACS Holiday Party!

Where: Urban Growler (2325 Endicott St, St Paul, MN 55114)
When: Thursday, December 21 starting at 5:30 pm

Please join us to celebrate the holiday season and end of 2023 with food, drinks, and camaraderie. We will have games with door prizes and crafts for little ones. Loved ones are welcome to attend. Please RSVP using the following link no later than December 14. <https://forms.gle/B9PBxYTy7MJiaKr96>



The Minnesota Local Section of the American Chemical Society is pleased to announce our 13th annual

Chemistry Job & Recruiting Fair

The Chemistry Job and Recruiting Fair will be held from 4 – 6 P.M. on, **November 16th, 2023** at the **Science Education Center** of **Metropolitan State University** in Saint Paul, MN.

Past companies and organizations that have attended the career fair include:

Aerotek, Apex Life Sciences, Experis, H.B. Fuller, Medtronic, Medtox Laboratories, Pace Analytical, Land O'Lakes, Lab Corp, Verum Scientific, WuXi AppTec, Minnesota High Tech Forum, Sherwin Williams, University of MN Department of Chemistry, University of MN Department of Medicinal Chemistry, University of MN Environmental Health Sciences, University of MN M.S. in Patent Law, MN-ACS senior Chemists.

***4-6pm meet with recruiters
light snacks and beverages will be served.***

This event is an opportunity to meet with technical recruiters from the Twin Cities area and is open to professionals and students from chemistry and related fields. Sophomore and junior chemistry majors are also encouraged to attend to inquire about internships.

Please RSVP to James Wollack, jwollack@gmail.com by November 10th. If RSVPing as a group please include the number of folks you are RSVPing for.

MN ACS Education Outreach In November

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

The early part of November has provided two opportunities for the Minnesota Chapter of the ACS to engage in outreach to chemistry educators. On Friday, Nov. 10, the Minnesota Science Teachers Association 2023 Minnesota Conference On Science Education was held in Rochester, and MN ACS education chair, Chuck Handlon, who lives in Rochester, was part of the team planning the conference.

Gretchen Burke a University of Minnesota graduate student and member of the Joint Safety Team came down to the conference with another graduate student and JST member Jonathan Nguyen. Gretchen is the current JST representative on the MN ACS executive board. They shared an exhibitor table with Chuck Handlon ACS Education chair. (photo below)

They brought the ACS banner and information about the JST Science Teachers summer safety workshop and the University of Minnesota Chemical Waste collection. They also brought some samples of synthesized organic compounds that were stereoisomers and models of two of the molecules. Chuck provided a flyer that described the benefits for ACS and American Association of Chemistry Teachers membership. Included on the flyer

was a description of the MN ACS “High School Chemistry Teacher of the Year” award.

The conference was attended by over 300 participants, mainly teachers K – 12. A number of secondary science and chemistry teachers expressed an interest in the summer JST workshop and hopefully, this will boost attendance in 2024.

Then on Thursday, November 16, Chuck Handlon will participate in the annual MN ACS Career Fair. This table emphasizes the importance and benefits of STEM teachers, in particular a high school chemistry teacher career. Chuck will be joined by Kayla Swanson a member of the “Elevate Teaching” Team. Elevate Teaching is a campaign to promote the profession of teaching and attract new teachers, especially BIPOC teachers. Kayla did a presentation on Elevate Teaching and is excited to form a collaboration with MN ACS to promote STEM teaching.

As the calendar year ends, we look forward to more collaborations in chemistry education and support for chemistry educators.



From left to right, Gretchen Burke, MN ACS Executive Board JST Representative, Chuck Handlon, MN ACS Education Committee Chair and Jonathan Nguyen, U of Mn graduate student and JST member.

Volunteer opportunities



Chemists-in-the-Library Event

On October 21st, the MNACS sections’ outreach program Chemists-in-the-Library visited the Minneapolis Central Library. The event was a success with visitors of all ages. Kids enjoyed making fake snow, the hamster’s toothpaste, bouncy balls, and creating their own unique art piece in milk! The dry ice bubbles and demonstrations were a big hit again!

The kids are back to visiting libraries in droves, but getting together enough volunteers for these events has been a little bit harder since coming back from the break forced upon us by the COVID-19 pandemic. If you are interested in helping as a volunteer, please contact Phil Buhlmann (buhlmann@umn.edu); he would be grateful to hear from you. No preparation before events is required, and no commitment has to be made; volunteers can sign up for one event at a time.

Chemists-in-the-Library Events 2023

18 Nov 1:30 PM: Oxboro

9 Dec 1:30 PM: Roseville



YCC Social Event: Axe throwing and food!

Friday, December 1st, 6-8 pm CT

YCC is hosting a social event on **Friday 12/01/2023 at 6-8pm at Bad Axe Throwing (Hennepin Ave.)!**

(Bad Axe Throwing: 611 Hennepin Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55403; it is a 3 min walk from the Warehouse District / Hennepin light rail stop (blue and green lines))

Feel free to join us to connect with other early career scientists in the twin cities over free food, drinks, and axe throwing!



As MN-ACS is covering the fees for axe throwing and food, I ask you to **please RSVP here by Monday 11/20/2023** so I can reserve for the appropriate number of participants. If you do RSVP, please plan to come as your spot will be paid for. :)

And if you are interested in learning more about MN-ACS YCC events and being on

a [YCC email list, feel free to share your information here.](#)

I look forward to meeting you and I hope you stay hydrated, warm, and well!



MNACS Senior Chemists

last event for the year on November 17th, starting at 11:30am

Last Senior Chemists Event for This Year!

The Minnesota ACS Section Senior Chemists group will meet on **Friday, November 17 at 11:30 am at the Green Mill Restaurant at 57 Hamline Avenue South** (Hamline and Grand Avenue) in the private room, where we have met several times before. There is a convenient parking lot less than a block away just across Hamline Avenue, next to the Sinclair gas station. This will be our Holiday Lunch so there will be door prizes. We will order from the menu. Please bring along a book that you found interesting, fiction or non-fiction, to exchange or give away.

Please let Ken Latham know if you would like to come, by Monday, November 15. Ken's email is lathamke@mac.com

We look forward to seeing you!

Lynn Hartshorn, lghartshorn@stthomas.edu, and Ken Latham, lathamke@mac.com



ACS National News

2023 Local Section Annual Reports Now Live in ACS Community Connection

We are pleased to announce that ACS Community Connection, the online service for annual report and event submissions, is now available for the 2023 Local Section Annual Reporting cycle. Please bookmark the [Annual Reporting web page](#) for easy access to the Community Connection login page, user guides, and other important resources. All

2023 and 2024 local section officers may access Community Connection with their ACS ID and password.

The chair of your local section may designate additional non-officer volunteers (e.g., Community Activities Coordinator, YCC Chair, Webmaster, etc.) to access and complete your group's annual report and event forms. To assign a non-officer access to Community Connection, please send the non-officer's name, local section affiliation, and ACS ID to connection@acs.org.

The deadline for submitting your completed annual report and ChemLuminary self-nominations is February 15, 2024. Your local section's 2023 allotment will be released to your treasurer following your local section's annual report submission.

Election Results for 2024 Officers and Directors

A petition to add international representation to the ACS Board of Directors was approved by Council and the Board of Directors and ratified by the ACS Membership.

As a result, the Board will add as a voting member a new international district director, while eliminating one director-at-large position from the Board. The election of the first international district director (2025-27) will take place during the 2024 ACS Election beginning in September.



Society members elected the following officers and members of the Board of Directors for 2024:

President-Elect

- **Dorothy J. Phillips**, retired, director of strategic marketing, Waters, Milford, Massachusetts

Board of Directors

- **Bonnie (Helen A.) Lawlor (District III)**, retired, executive director, National Federation of Abstracting and Information Services, Philadelphia
- **Jeanette M. Van Emon (District VI)**, retired, research chemist, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Las Vegas
- **Wayne E. Jones Jr. (director-at-large; reelected)**, provost and vice president of academic affairs, University of New Hampshire, Durham, New Hampshire
- **Carolyn Ribes (director-at-large; reelected)**, business analytical leader, Dow Chemical, Terneuzen, Netherlands

These newly elected officers will join or continue service on the ACS Board of Directors in 2024. The list of current board members, their photos, official biographies, and other information about Society governance is available on the [ACS website](#).

Book a Speaker Today with the ACS Speaker Directory

During her remarks to Council, ACS President Judy Giordan reaffirmed her goal for all local sections to use the ACS Speaker Directory to book a speaker by year-end. The ACS Speaker Directory provides users with access to over 500 speakers who are available to present technical science talks, lead career development & professional advancement presentations, explore general interest, popular science topics, and more. Book your speaker today at www.acs.org/speakerdirectory. (ACS ID and login required)

2024 WCC Merck Research Award – Application Deadline, December 1

The WCC Merck Research Award recognizes eight individuals* who will present at a WCC/Merck symposium during the ACS Fall 2024 Meeting. Individuals in their third and fourth year of graduate school with a research focus in one or more of the following – Organic, Medicinal, Analytical, Chemical Biology, Computational or Structural Chemistry, and related disciplines are eligible. This award is open to U.S. citizens (studying anywhere) and non-U.S. citizens attending a graduate program in the U.S. or Canada. The application deadline is **December 1. [Apply!](#)** *This includes women (both cis and trans) and persons assigned female at birth (AFAB).



Plan now for IUPAC Global Women's Breakfast 2024

Join the global chemistry community in Catalyzing Diversity in Science by:

- Building active networks of people of all genders
- Overcoming barriers to gender equality
- Promoting professional and inclusive practices

Learn more about hosting or attending events on February 27, 2024, as [ACS celebrates the IUPAC Global Women's Breakfast](#).

WCC 2023 Mini-Grants for Local Sections and International Chemical Sciences Chapters

The Women Chemists Committee (WCC) is offering a limited number of grants to ACS local sections, student chapters, and international chemical sciences chapters that wish to sponsor an event/activity that will increase the engagement of members who have identified as women chemists and will encourage innovative activities that will benefit the local community, regional meetings, and DEIR. WCC will provide up to \$1,000 in grant funds as reimbursement for events that occurred between January 1-December 1 on a first-come, first-serve basis upon the approval. [Apply by December 4](#) and include the WCC logo for your event. Send questions to wcc@acs.org.



ACS Student Chapter Awards Announced for 2022-2023

Over **300 ACS student chapters** around the world have been recognized for excellence in their programs and activities during the 2022-2023 academic year. The Society Committee on Education awarded 71 outstanding, 122 commendable, and 135 honorable mention awards, while the Green Chemistry Institute recognized 21 chapters for integration of green chemistry activities into their portfolios. Local sections are encouraged to reach out to their local student chapters to congratulate them on their hard work and results.





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