

Editing Message: MN Chemist 2019 Issue 5

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# The Minnesota Chemist

Official Publication of the Minnesota Section of the American Chemical Society

Issue 5, November 2019



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## Greetings from the Chair

Hello MN-ACS members,

First, I would like to encourage you to vote in the upcoming officer election. We are aiming to get higher voter turnout in our second year of electronic balloting. Look for an email with a link to your ballot.

It has been a busy fall. Over 100 people showed up for the MN-ACS family day in September. The new location in Highland Park worked well and we look to host it there in future years depending on the facility's availability. Around 80 people attended this year's MN-ACS career fair. Based on preliminary feedback from stakeholders, next year we will return to the late afternoon format for the fair. This year it was held earlier in the day at the request of the national ACS office who provided additional workshops. Information on the November meeting and the December social are included later in this newsletter. Sign-up is already available on-line for both of these events. Finally, I would like to thank all volunteers for helping the section execute a successful year of outreach and professional development activities. The incoming chair, Bruce Bear, has a well thought out slate of events planned in the spring. We both hope to see you at an event soon if your schedule allows.

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



## Annual MN-ACS Elections

Good morning MN-ACS members! Our local ACS elections are upon us again.

The Minnesota Local Section of the American Chemical society serves chemists, chemical engineers, educators, and the general public in Minnesota and western Wisconsin. As elected officials, ACS-MN officers and committee chairs work tirelessly to bring in science speakers, organize community outreach events, promote social and professional networking, collect the most up-to-date information on potential jobs/internships/higher-eds, and then communicate these opportunities to our members.

We have the following 2019 positions up for election:

Secretary  
Nominations Committee (industry representative)  
Nominations Committee (U of MN representative)  
Nominations Committee (Small college representative)  
Councillor  
Chair-elect

Your input and votes are critical to the continuing success of our local section. Please review these candidate bios and vote! Candidate information is presented at the end of this email and can also be found in the online ballot.

Check your email inbox for a message from Election Coordinator titled "ACS MN Local Section 2019 Election Ballot - login information below" for your unique ballot access. The ACS MN Local Section 2018 Election is open through 11/14/2019 11:59:00 PM Central Time (UTC -6).

For technical support (available Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm central time USA excluding holidays) call 866-909-3549 or [support@directvote.net](mailto:support@directvote.net). For other questions, contact James Wollack [[jwollack@stkate.edu](mailto:jwollack@stkate.edu)].



## Available Job Position

Hamline University – Analytical Chemistry Instructor

Hamline University seeks a part-time ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY Instructor for \$620 / 1

minimal requirements. Please email Rita Majerle for more information ([rmajerle01@hamline.edu](mailto:rmajerle01@hamline.edu)).

## Upcoming Events



### 3M: State of Science Index - November 12<sup>th</sup>

**Date:** Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>  
**Time:** 06:00 pm - Dinner  
07:00 pm - Speaker

**Location:** Country Inn and Suites -- Maplewood room  
6003 Hudson Road, Woodbury Minnesota

**Limit:** Limited to first 80 registrants  
**RSVP Deadline:** Please sign up by Friday November 8<sup>th</sup> at noon  
**Cost:** \$15 \$5 (students)

**Menu:** Dickey's Bar-b-que: Beef brisket, chicken breast, caesar salad, macaroni and cheese, baked potato casserole, buttery rolls, soda, water, dessert. Vegetarian Option (loaded baked potato), Sour cream cheese, butter.

**Speaker:** **Dr. Jayshree Seth,**  
**Corporate Scientist and Chief Science Advocate, 3M**

**Abstract:** Science matters to us - at 3M we care about science. We wanted to understand the public's perception around science so we conducted a global third party study called the '3M State of Science Index' and what we found is that science is underappreciated, invisible and taken-for-granted. People don't seem to understand or acknowledge the role of science in their daily lives but have huge expectations for what it should deliver in the future. It is clear science needs advocates! Last year, Jayshree was appointed as 3M's first-ever Chief Science Advocate and she is using her scientific knowledge, technical expertise and professional experience to advance science and communicate the importance and benefits of science in everyday life, helping to make science more accessible and foster a new generation of scientists and science advocates. She will be sharing the results of the survey, what 3M is doing about it and a call for action for all of us!



**RSVP at our new website.**

<https://www.mnlocalsectionacs.org/event-info/november-meeting>

Note some members have had trouble accessing the website with google chrome. If chrom does not work please try a different browser.

## Upcoming Events



### Senior Chemists Lunch - December 4<sup>th</sup>

**Date:** Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>  
**Time:** 11:00 am

**Location:** Basement of the St Paul Hotel , 350 Market St, St Paul

**Limit:** Limited to first 30 registrants  
**RSVP Deadline:** Please sign up by Friday November 29<sup>th</sup> by emailing Lynn at [lghartshorn@stthomas.edu](mailto:lghartshorn@stthomas.edu)

**Cost:** The lunch will cost about \$20 per person (including tax and gratuity per person) but the Senior Group funds will reimburse everyone for \$10 so the lunch will cost you only about \$10.

**Menu:** We will choose from the sideboard.

If you park in the Lawson Ramp (see Google maps, it is on Wabasha and 5th St.) and bring your ticket to the cafe for validation you will also get 2 hours free parking!

Bring \$10 cash to Lynn, who will pay the total bill.

There will be a book exchange. Please bring a book that you have enjoyed to give to someone else, and be prepared to say a few words about it.

For any questions, email Lynn at [lghartshorn@stthomas.edu](mailto:lghartshorn@stthomas.edu)

### December Social - December 5<sup>th</sup>

## Upcoming Events



**Date:** Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup>  
**Time:** 06:00 pm - Social hour (cash bar)  
06:45 pm - Dinner

**Location:** Mancinni's Char house  
531 7th St W, St Paul, MN 55102

**Limit:** Limited to first 50 registrants  
**RSVP Deadline:** Please sign up by Monday December 2<sup>nd</sup> on our [website](#)\*  
**Cost:** \$21 member/guest \$15 (students)

**Menu:** Choice of steak, chicken, or vegetarian entrée. Plus relish tray, salad, baked potato, garlic toast, coffee/tea/milk, cake.

Network with local chemists, grab a drink, have a good meal, and win a door prize!

\*Note some members have had trouble accessing the website with google chrome. If chrom does not work please try a different browser.



## Volunteer Opportunities

### Great Lakes Regional Meeting - June 2021

June 6<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> 2021 at Augsburg University, Minneapolis MN

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 James Wollack if you are interested in any of these volunteer opportunities ([jwollack@stkate.edu](mailto:jwollack@stkate.edu)).



### Annual MN-ACS Elections - Bios

#### Secretary (vote for one)

##### 1. Brian Manor (secretary candidate)



Brian received his B.S. in Chemistry from Kent State University and Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He has worked as a Visiting Assistant Professor both at Loras College and recently at the University of St. Thomas. He has served in related secretary positions in the past, most recently as a secretary in the Curriculum Committee at Loras College.

The recording and archiving of institutional knowledge is important to the long-term sustainability of any organization. I will work to maintain an accurate record of executive meetings for the benefit of all members.

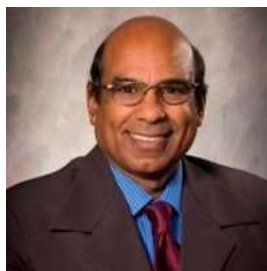
##### 2. Amanda Case (secretary candidate)



I am currently in my fourth year as an Assistant Professor at Augsburg University, where I teach general chemistry, physical chemistry, and an advanced lab on spectroscopy and computational chemistry. My research with undergraduates aims to measure the kinetics of gas-phase peroxy radical reactions that are relevant in atmospheric or combustion processes. Prior to coming to Augsburg, I received my PhD at the University of Wisconsin studying gas-phase reaction dynamics and then did post-doctoral work on the photoelectron spectroscopy of anions and the solvation dynamics of anionic clusters at the University of Colorado. As a semi-recent transplant to the Twin Cities, I am excited to get involved with the MN ACS Chapter.

**Nominations Committee (industry representative, vote for one)**

**1. Ramesh Kumar (industry nominations committee representative)**



Ramesh has extensive experience within the ACS at both the local and national levels including service on the Committee on patents and related matters + subcommittees (2012 – 2018), Chair National ACS E.V. Murphee Award (Industrial and Engineering) Selection Committee (2017 – present), Local MN – ACS Awards Chair (2012– present), Councilor and Alternate Councilor (2002 – present), MN-ACS nomination committee, Chair MN ACS student affiliate and student mentor (1997 – 2002), MN-ACS Chair, MN –ACS Executive Committee(1998-present). His professional positions and honors include - 3M Corporate Scientist/Fellow (Retired), 2009 member of prestigious 3M Carlton Society, 2015 ACS Fellow, University of Idaho 2019 Silver and Gold Alumni Association Award. Ramesh has 60 issued US patents and several pending patents. He is a co-author of 27 publication in reputed chemical journals. Currently Ramesh is an Adjunct Professor in Chemistry Department at St. Catherine University.

I have been a strong advocate of council involvement in issues that matter to our local section, participating in local as well as national ACS meetings. What matters most in our section is the interaction with communities in general and not just the "community involved in chemical enterprise". As a councilor and nominations committee member, I will participate and support in executing our local section's goals to serve key stakeholders (our section members, National ACS, local companies that employ chemists, undergraduate and graduate students) of our section. I would be honored to continue to represent 2500 member Minnesota section at the National level.

**Nominations Committee (U of MN representative, vote for one)**

**1. Will Pomerantz (U of MN nominations committee representative)**



Will Pomerantz is an associate professor in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Minnesota. His research lab uses chemical biology approaches to understand transcriptional and epigenetic processes in the cell. He has been an American Chemical Society member for 18 years. He has worked with the Minnesota ACS section as part of the nomination committee since 2017, and served as chair of this committee in 2019. Last year he worked to establish a University of Minnesota small grant award to support local efforts at the University of Minnesota with chemistry specific projects. One of his current goals is to continue to widen the base of members associated with our local section.

**Nominations Committee (Small college representative, vote for one)**

**1. Marites (Tess) A. Guino-o (small college nominations committee representative)**



Marites (Tess) A. Guino-o received her PhD in Chemistry from Syracuse University in 2007. After completing her degree, she joined Prof. David Glueck as a post-doctoral researcher at Dartmouth College. Dr. Guino-o joined the Chemistry Department at the University of St. Thomas in 2010 and is currently an associate professor there. I have been an ACS member since 2003. I would like to be part of the nominations committee for Minnesota ACS section so I can give back to this organization that has helped me professionally since I became a member.

**2. Patty Pieper (small college nominations committee representative)**



Patty is a member of the chemistry faculty at Anoka-Ramsey Community College in Coon Rapids where she has primarily taught organic, general and introductory chemistry courses since 1998. She serves as the chair of the college's curriculum committee and has been a faculty advisor for the Muslim Student Association and the Chemistry Club. She has been a collaborator on a number of NSF grants and was a nominee for the 2017 Minnesota State Board of Trustees Excellence in Teaching Award. Patty received her B.S. in Chemistry from Augsburg University (1990), her Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from the University of Minnesota (1996) and did post-doctoral research in the Department of Medicinal Chemistry at the U of MN (1997-98).

As a member of the nominations committee I would do my best to help recruit members to serve the Minnesota Chapter of the ACS in various capacities and would promote attendance at our events. Although I have attended local section meetings for many years, I haven't had the opportunity to contribute as a volunteer. I would like to take a more active role in this organization and would appreciate an opportunity to serve this community of chemical professionals as a member of the nominations committee.

**3. Matthew (Matt) O'Reilly (small college nominations committee representative)**



Matt is an Assistant Professor at the University of Wisconsin–River Falls. He teaches mainly organic chemistry, and his lab focuses include enantioselective methods toward the synthesis of biologically relevant scaffolds and antibiotic discovery. Matt has attended various ACS MN events since he has lived in the area, and he often attends the national meeting. Matt is looking to get more involved with the local section, and he sees this position as a step toward that greater level of involvement.

**Councilor (vote for up to two candidates)**

**1. Ramesh Kumar (councilor candidate)**



Ramesh has extensive experience within the ACS at both the local and national levels

2018), Chair National ACS E.V. Murphee Award (Industrial and Engineering) Selection Committee (2017 – present), Local MN – ACS Awards Chair (2012– present), Councilor and Alternate Councilor (2002 – present), MN-ACS nomination committee, Chair MN ACS student affiliate and student mentor (1997 – 2002), MN-ACS Chair, MN–ACS Executive Committee (1998–present). His professional positions and honors include - 3M Corporate Scientist/Fellow (Retired), 2009 member of prestigious 3M Carlton Society, 2015 ACS Fellow, University of Idaho 2019 Silver and Gold Alumni Association Award. Ramesh has 60 issued US patents and several pending patents. He is a co-author of 27 publications in reputed chemical journals. Currently Ramesh is an Adjunct Professor in Chemistry Department at St. Catherine University.

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## 2. Lynn Hartshorn (councilor candidate)



Lynn obtained her B.Sc. and Ph.D. in England, and worked in industry for a few years before moving to Minnesota with her husband Dick Hartshorn, a 3M employee, in 1979. Lynn taught at the University of St Thomas in St. Paul for over 25 years until her retirement in 2011. She was tenured in 1995 and taught classes and labs in physical chemistry, environmental chemistry, non-majors chemistry and (mainly) general chemistry; eventually leading the General Chemistry program. She did research in science education, introducing active learning techniques into the general chemistry classes. She was also Chemistry Department chair and Science Division director for a few years. During summers Lynn obtained grants which were used to fund science workshops for about 60 elementary teachers each year for 10 years.

Her volunteer work for ACS has included working on three national committees since 1999: Local Sections, Meetings and Expositions, and now, Senior Chemists. Lynn has edited the National ACS Senior Chemists' Newsletter since it began in 2012. It is sent as an email attachment to all senior chemists in ACS about three times a year. Her volunteer work for the ACS Minnesota Section has included the positions of Secretary, Chair-Elect and Chair, and now Senior Chemists' coordinator. She started the Section senior chemists' group about 3 years ago and has organized lunch time meetings with short talks, and tours, about once a month since then. She has been a Councilor for the MNACS Section for 19 years, and would be happy to represent the section for another term as Councilor.

## 3. Nicholas Schlotter (councilor candidate)



Employment: Hamline University, Department of Chemistry, 2000-present, SCCS Technologies, Inc., consulting firm, 1995-present, Bellcore (Bell Labs breakup), Member of Technical Staff, 1984-1990. IBM Research, San Jose, CA, postdoctoral researcher, 1980-1983

Education: PhD, Chemistry, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA 1980. MS, Physics, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA 1978. BA, Chemistry, Carleton College, Northfield, MN, 1974. ACS Activities: Chair, MN ACS section, 2017 Chair-elect, MN-ACS section, 2016-17. Member, MN ACS section, 1997-present. Chair, ACS Local Section, Monmouth County, New Jersey, 1991 Executive committee member, ACS Local Section, Monmouth County, NJ, 1994-97. National Councilor, ACS Local Section, Monmouth County, NJ, 1996-97. Technical Contributions: My graduate and postdoctoral work focused on vibrational spectroscopy of molecular crystals, polymers and thin films. Later, at Bell Labs (also Bellcore) I continued working on molecular films (spontaneous and Langmuir-Blodgett) related to electronic applications. I also have experience working in a small company (directing research on films for capacitors) and later as an independent consultant to a medical device firm, I was involved in work on surface coatings for capacitor films. The thin film work, starting at IBM, was the foundation for the nanotechnology related topics that I have been investigating at Hamline University, since 2000. (Superhydrophobic surfaces (and the intermolecular forces), CdSe quantum dots, Raman spectroscopy of molecular films, and graphene.) Most recently, I have been developing model sandwich immunoassay methods to optimize the method in which one uses surface enhanced Raman spectroscopy (SERS) to detect the disease marker captured by the antibody in the detection system. I currently have over 45 publications in journals and book chapters.

Statement: I have been involved with the American Chemical Society since graduate

would hope to share our concerns with the national and to bring back useful ways to improve our section. There are many challenges that the ACS faces going forward and many of them (such as open-access to the scientific literature, affordable education, etc.) are going to be local issues for our Minnesota section. I also think we have not found a way to connect with the bulk of our section in a meaningful way. I hope to work on finding ways to engage the membership that will be more meaningful and useful as we go into the future.

#### 4. James Wollack (councilor candidate)



James Wollack started out his career in chemistry at Saint John's University where he graduated with a B.A. in chemistry in 2004. Afterwards he attended the University of Minnesota where his graduate work in the Distefano lab focused on prenylated cell-penetrating peptides and synthesizing non-natural enzyme substrates. The cross-disciplinary nature of this work required collaboration with many departments at the University of Minnesota including: BMBB, Medicinal Chemistry, Physics, and the Masonic Cancer Center. James is currently chair of the chemistry and biochemistry department at St. Catherine University in Saint Paul, MN where he conducts research in green chemistry, prenylation, and organic synthesis. He has previously served MN-ACS as section chair (2011-2014, 2018-present), awards committee member (2011-2019), secretary (2009-2010), family day co-coordinator (2015-2019), Great Lakes regional board director (2015-present), career fair coordinator (2011-present), young chemists committee chair (2010-2011) and councilor (2017-present). He is also co-chair of the 2021 Great Lakes regional meeting which the section will host at Augsburg University.

"Currently I serve on the national membership affairs committee. If I am reelected as councilor, I look to continue in this role to develop more flexible and affordable membership options. As not all members attend national meetings there should be more affordable membership options that allow chemists to interface with the society on more regional, local, and divisional level. I also plan to use my position as councilor to advocate and plan for the 2021 regional meeting scheduled to be held in Minneapolis. As part of my service obligations as councilor I plan to continue to coordinate the section's fall family day and annual career fair. I look to use my knowledge of how MN-ACS functions to help mentor new executive committee members and volunteers."

#### Chair-elect (vote for one candidate)

##### 1. Michael Wentzel (chair-elect candidate)



Michael is an Associate Professor in the Department of Chemistry at Augsburg University. He received his undergraduate degree at Creighton University, his master's degree at the University of Pennsylvania, and his doctorate at the University of Minnesota. He began his position at Augsburg in 2011 and teaches a variety of courses with a major focus on organic chemistry. His research group is involved with chemical education research developing laboratories and new communication strategies for chemists. The group also develops new organic methods focused on green processes using microwave irradiation and flow chemistry.

As a member of the local section, I have been involved as an alternate councilor for a number of years. I have helped organize a number of events for the local section and I am currently helping plan the upcoming ACS regional meeting to be held in Minneapolis at Augsburg in 2021. I hope to increase participation especially amongst the undergraduate and graduate students within the section. I am honored to be considered for Chair-elect and I am excited for the opportunity to lead while helping to continue the great work of others within the local section.

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

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