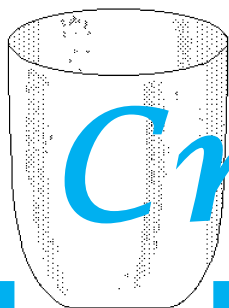


The Crucible



Volume CIV, No. 10

August 2019

Call for Nominations

Pittsburgh Section of the ACS Pittsburgh Award



The Pittsburgh Award was established in 1932 by the Pittsburgh Section of ACS to recognize outstanding leadership in chemical affairs in the local and larger professional community. This Award symbolizes the honor and appreciation accorded to those who have rendered distinguished service

to the field of chemistry. The Award consists of a plaque presented annually at a section dinner. Members of the Pittsburgh Section, or in exceptional cases, nonmembers, who have done work worthy of recognition toward increasing chemical knowledge, promoting the chemical industry, benefiting humanity, or advancing the Pittsburgh Section, are eligible for consideration.

The Distinguished Service Award

The Distinguished Service Award was established in 2007 by the Pittsburgh Section of the ACS to expand and replace the predecessor Chairman's Award of the section. Both recognize outstanding volunteer service to the Section. The Award, consisting of a plaque, is presented annually at a Section dinner, which is open to the public. Members of the Pittsburgh Section, past or present, who have provided outstanding service in advancing the Pittsburgh Section, are eligible for consideration.

Nominations for both awards are solicited from the membership of the Pittsburgh Section. Please include your contact information, the nominee's contact information, any supporting letters, and the nominee's CV. More information about the awards, including information on past winners can be found on the ACS website: <http://www.pittsburghacs.org/awards/pittsburgh-award/> Please send all nominations (or questions about nomination process) to Pittsburgh Section Chair-Elect, Dr. Matthew Price, price@calu.edu. Nominations are due by **Tuesday, September 1, 2019**.

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My Experience at the ACS National Conference in Orlando, FL

By Michelle Karpinsky, Junior Chemistry/Forensics major at Saint Francis University

The conference was a unique learning experience for me as this was my first ACS meeting. While attending the conference, I took advantage of technical sessions and attended a forensics talk presented by Dr. Candice Bridge and Dr. Michael Sigman from the University of Central Florida. Attending scientific presentations will help me to solidify my current interest in earning a Ph.D. in forensic chemistry. I participated in both the undergraduate research student poster session and chemistry club poster session. I also had the chance to walk around the exposition floor.

The undergraduate poster session on Tuesday afternoon was simply astounding. It was exciting and inspiring to see so many undergraduates pursuing research in lots of different areas of chemistry. I had an opportunity to talk to many presenters and their research was fascinating, many in areas related to my work. I also had enlightening conversations with fellow undergraduate researchers and professors, gaining ideas on how to improve my research. The SFU Chemistry Club poster presentation at the Sci-Mix on Tuesday night gave me a similar experience as the undergraduate poster session. I networked with some chemistry clubs and gained new ideas I would like to implement into the SFU chemistry club. One chemistry club arranged for club members to visit different industries to learn about what they can do with

a chemistry degree. Another club had a Halloween themed science day in which students would demonstrate different chemistry experiments to the community. It was cool to see other clubs interest-



ed in our projects and considering them for their clubs. It was also a great honor to receive the ACS Outstanding chemistry award and Green Chemistry club award. As president of the club, I hope I can achieve what the previous officers attained and continue in overseeing the success of Saint Francis' club.

While at the conference, I also attended the graduate fair. As previously mentioned, I attended a forensics session and had a new door open for me. I had not considered UCF as a potential graduate school. I had no idea they were conducting research in forensics or that it would be so interesting. Dr. Candice Bridge spoke about her research in lubricants, paint analysis using DART-MS, and other projects. While I was not able to speak with Dr. Bridge, I

did network with UCF representatives at the graduate fair. At the graduate fair I spoke with representatives from different universities that had both a chemistry Ph.D. and a focus in forensics. I was able to network with these schools and asked how the student representatives were enjoying their programs.

The exposition floor was interesting. I had the chance to speak to companies who specialized in Atomic Force Microscopy, AFM. I was able to learn more about our own AFM and how to improve our usage for my undergraduate research examining calcite surfaces. I recognized many instruments I have used in various classes at SFU. I was able to learn more about new instruments I have never seen or used before. I was able to talk with Nanalysis about the new tabletop NMR my spectroscopy class helped to choose for the SFU Chemistry department.

I want to thank the Pittsburgh Section of the ACS for funding the travel grant and for allowing me to participate in a wonderful conference and meeting so many inspiring researchers.



The History of the ACS "On the Road" Mildred Perry Memorial Lecture

Upon reflection of the recent history of the Pittsburgh Local Section, one would see Millie Perry's significance. She served as Chair of the section and General Chair of the Central Regional Meeting in Pittsburgh in 2003. She was also instrumental in establishing the ACS "On the Road" Lecture to make our section's large geographical footprint feel more united. Read [Millie's bio and how this lecture came to be](#), written by John Baltrus. We miss you every day, Millie!

Thank you to member Dr. John Baltrus for this contribution.



CERM 2003 Meeting – Plenary Lecture John Fenn (2002 Nobel Laureate in Chemistry)

Congratulations to Pittsburgh Section Councilor Kimberly Woznak



ACS Pittsburgh Section Councilor and National Women Chemists Committee Chair Kimberly Woznak wrote an article in Chemical and Engineering News, "[Embracing the glorious diversity of ACS](#)"

Congratulations, Kimberly!

A Celebration of our 2019 50, 60 and 70 Year Members

On July 23, we had a luncheon to celebrate our 2019 50, 60, and 70 year members. We all thoroughly enjoyed a lovely lunch! Thanks for all your years of service!

Pictured left to right 2019 Chair Dr. Brad Davis, Dr. Norman C. Clampitt, Jr., Dr. Gabriel C. Fusco, John P. Auses, Sam E. Chacra



2019 Earth Day Poem Contest Winners

As part of the American Chemical Society's (ACS) 2019 Chemists Celebrate Earth Week (CCEW) celebration, the Pittsburgh Section ACS sponsored an illustrated poem contest for students in grades K-12. Students could pick topics related to the 2019 CCED theme "Take Note: The Chemistry of Paper." Poems could be any style (free verse, limerick, haiku, etc.). Entries were judged based upon relevance to and incorporation of the theme, word choice and imagery, colorful artwork, adherence to poem style, originality and creativity, and overall presentation.

Each 1st place winner received a check for \$50 and their winning poem was entered into the national ACS CCEW poetry contest sponsored by the ACS's Committee on Community Activities. The Pittsburgh Section did not have a winning entry in the national contest.

And the winners of the 2019 Pittsburgh Section ACS's CCEW poem contest:

K-2nd Grade - [Entry on Page 5](#)

Ava G. (1st Grade), McKnight Elementary School, Teacher: Marie Noonan

3rd-5th Grade – [Entry on Page 6](#)

Gus H. (3rd Grade), John Paul II Homeschool Co-op, Teacher: Allison H.

6th-8th Grade - [Entry on Page 7](#)

Ria K. (7th Grade), Moon Area Middle School, Teacher: Monica Zajicek

9th-12th Grade

No entries received

Congratulations to all our regional contest winners!

Congratulations to our Latest Travel Grant Winners

We are pleased to announce the latest winners of the Pittsburgh Section Travel Grant. **Carnegie Mellon University Graduate student Karoline Eckhart** will present Peptide-graphene conjugates as biomaterials with structure-assembly control. **Carnegie Mellon University Graduate student Yingwei Lei** will present Correlated series of Au/Ag nanoclusters revealing the evolutionary patterns of asymmetric Ag doping. Congratulations and safe travels to San Diego in August!

Congratulations to the University of Pittsburgh Department of Chemistry and Department of Environmental Health and Safety

The American Chemical Society Division of Health and Safety (CHAS) has awarded these departments with the 2019 SafetyStratus College and University Health and Safety Award for having an outstanding undergraduate laboratory safety program! Congratulations, University of Pittsburgh!



Mark your calendars!

National Chemistry Week ChemFest

at the Carnegie Science Center

Friday & Saturday, October 25th and 26th, 2019

For more information or to volunteer please contact

Evonne Baldauff - ebaldauff@waynesburg.edu - 724-852-7617

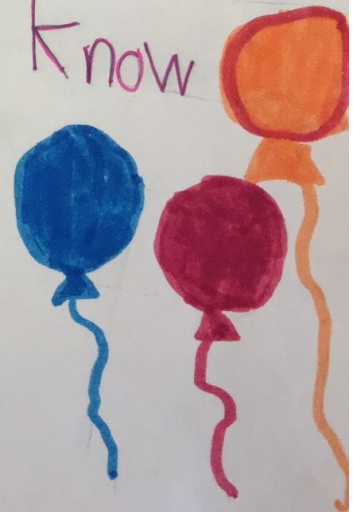


Ava G. (1st Grade), McKnight Elementary School, Teacher: Marie Noonan

Ode to My Birthday Card

O spruce!
How towering, absorbing O_2 , H_2O , sun
What a transformation to lowly pulp,
pressed with color.
Vatman, with your mold, hanging,
dried.

Creative writer, artist, how
you add to the paper!
O, Birthday card! I know
someone loves me.

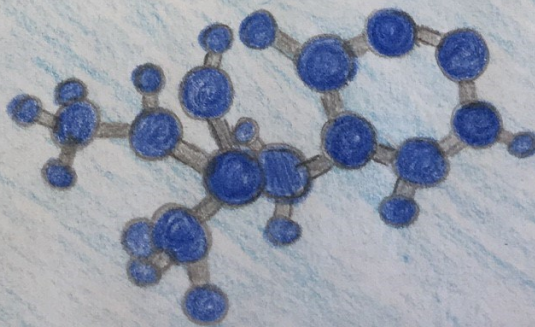
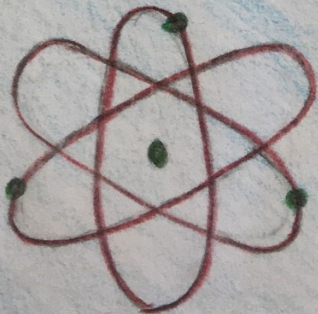
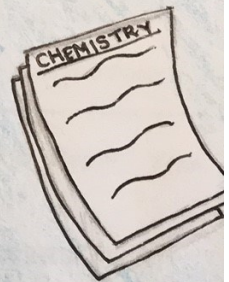


Gus H. (3rd Grade), John Paul II Homeschool Co-op, Teacher: Allison H.

THE CHEMISTRY OF PAPER



Transforming trees to paper involves a lengthy process, beginning with creating pulp from raw wood, lignin from the cell wall is separated from cellulose fibers, producing a mixture to make strong, resilient papers!



Ria K. (7th Grade), Moon Area Middle School, Teacher: Monica Zajicek



Dear Academic ACS Pittsburgh Section Members,

The Pittsburgh Section of the American Chemical Society has budgeted funds to help encourage undergraduate/graduate student participation in national and regional ACS meetings. The awards are intended to help defray meeting registration and travel-related expenses (lodging, transportation, per diem) for eligible students. Awards will be made based on the scientific merit of the paper/poster to

be presented, financial need, and preference will be given to ACS members.

To apply for the funds, applicants should complete the attached application and return it by the relevant deadline. The deadlines for receipt of applications are as follows:

- **06/01 (for travel to be completed by 12/31)**
- **12/01 (for travel to be completed by 06/30)**

As noted on the application, students should include an abstract and confirmation (if received) of the paper/poster being accepted for the Meeting. In addition to the application form, applicants should include a recommendation letter from the PI of the project being presented and/or a recommendation letter from another and a personal statement as to the anticipated benefits of meeting attendance.

Applications can be made electronically (*preferred*) by emailing the application to Heather Juzwa

(hjuzwa@shimadzu.com or heather_sapko@hotmail.com) or by mailing a hard-copy application (Pittsburgh Section ACS Travel Grants / Heather Juzwa / Center / 321 Winners Circle / Canonsburg, PA 15317).

Since 2013, the Pittsburgh Section of the ACS has awarded up to four \$500 grants each year to aid our undergraduate/graduate student members in presenting papers or posters at ACS Meetings.

This is an ongoing program in our Section, and details will be updated on our website, (www.pittsburghACS.org), as necessary.

Applicants will be notified via email that their application was received. All efforts will be made to announce awards within two weeks of the application deadline, and all applicants will be notified of the final committee decisions. Our Section is looking forward to helping increase the participation of local students in ACS conferences. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Heather Juzwa, ACS Pittsburgh Section Student Travel Grants, Chair

Senior Field Sales Engineer, Shimadzu Scientific Instruments, Inc.



<i>Application Deadline</i>	<i>Travel Completion Date</i>
December 1 st	June 30 th (subsequent year)
June 1 st	December 31 st (same year)

Name of Applicant: _____

Name of Institution: _____

_____ Undergraduate Student / Year

_____ Graduate Student / Year

Mailing Address to Receive Payment if Awarded _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

PI: _____

ACS Membership No.*: _____

**If you do not know your ACS number, please email hljuzwa@shimadzu.com to receive it by email.*

Meeting Location: _____ Meeting Date: _____

Project Title: _____

_____ Paper Presentation _____ Poster Presentation

**Please attach a copy of your project abstract to the application.*

Has your project been accepted? Yes No

**Attach documentation regarding acceptance if received at point of application.*

Will this be your first presentation at an ACS national or regional meeting? Yes No

Purpose of grant: _____

Other funding sources (if any):

Personal Statement of anticipated benefits of meeting attendance

Has the applicant received a travel grant from the ACS Pittsburgh Section in the past? Yes No

If your application was selected, the Pittsburgh Section of the ACS would like you to write a short (one page) description of your activity upon completion of the conference for publication in our monthly newsletter, The Crucible, and on our website. The description is due within 30 days of the meeting attended.

I am willing to complete this report: Yes No

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Send completed hard-copy applications and supporting documentation to:

Pittsburgh Section ACS Travel Grants

Heather Juzwa, 321 Winners Circle, Canonsburg, PA 15317

Electronic copies of completed applications should be sent to hlijuzwa@shimadzu.com and heather_sapko@hotmail.com. Be

Business Directory

Services

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Crucible Deadline

The deadline for items submitted to The Crucible is the 15th of the month prior to publication. For example, all items for the September 2019 issue must be to the editor by August 15, 2019.

Services

Volunteers Needed!

There are a number of volunteer opportunities in the Pittsburgh ACS section! If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Heather Juzwa at hjuzwa@shimadzu.com!



Society for

Analytical

Chemists of Pittsburgh CALLING NEW MEMBERS

Dues Only \$10.00, Call the SACP

Administrative Assistant at

412-825-3220 Ext. 212 **Right Now!**

The Crucible

The Crucible is published monthly, August through May. Circulation, 2,500 copies per month. Subscription price, six dollars per year. All statements and opinions expressed herein are those of the editors or contributors and do not necessarily reflect the position of the Pittsburgh Section.

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Services

Get Connected!

Stay up-to-date on all the happenings of the Pittsburgh Section ACS

Section's Website:

www.pittsburghacs.org

Facebook Page:

Pittsburgh Section of the American Chemical Society

Linked In:

Pittsburgh Section of the American Chemical Society

Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh

- Professional Networking within the Spectroscopy Community
- Monthly Symposia by Prominent Researchers
- Promoting Science Education



To Join Call Amy: 412-825-3220 ext 212

The Crucible

A newsletter of the Pittsburgh Section of the American Chemical Society

124 Moffett Run Rd.

Aliquippa, PA 15001

Change of Address

If you move, notify the American Chemical Society, 1155 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

To avoid interruption in delivery of your CRUCIBLE, please send your new address to Traci Johnsen, 124 Moffett Run Rd., Aliquippa, PA 15001. Allow two months for the change to become effective.

Pittsburgh Area Calendar

Mark your Calendars!

National Chemistry Week ChemFest

at the Carnegie Science Center

Friday & Saturday, October 25th and 26th, 2019

For more information or to volunteer please contact

Evonne Baldauff - ebaldauff@waynesburg.edu - 724-852-7617

Stay up-to-date on all the happenings of the

Pittsburgh Section ACS Section's Website:

www.pittsburghacs.org

Facebook Page:

Pittsburgh Section of the
American Chemical Society

Linked In:

Pittsburgh Section of the
American Chemical Society