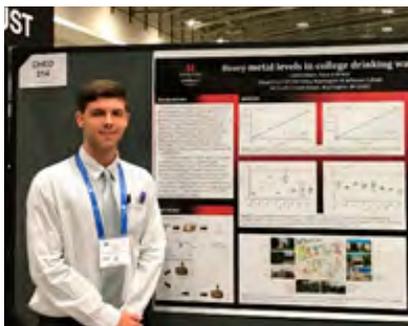


The Crucible

ACS Pittsburgh Travel Grant Winner, Caelin Celani, Summarizes ACS National Meeting Experience

The 254th American Chemical Society National Meeting and Exposition in Washington D.C. provided an opportunity that allowed for both personal and professional growth. During my stay in D.C., I was able to see a number of national and historic monuments including the National Mall, Holocaust Museum and Memorial, National Air and Space Museum, National Gallery, and Arlington Cemetery.



After the exploration around the city, I was lucky enough to spend several hours exploring the Exposition prior to my poster session. The time at the Exposition proved to be extremely informative by providing exposure to state-of-the-art analytical instruments and many novel synthetic techniques. I was able to get a sense of the vast expanse of research topics. In addition, since my research focused on lead(II) and copper(II) ion concentrations in drinking water, I made a point of examining other posters that also dealt with water analysis and remediation.

Near the end of my poster session, I was approached and handed an envelope that contained an award for my poster: "Certificate of Appreciation" for "outstanding material content." Included with this award was an invitation to an Environmental Division reception. I also had the opportunity to attend the

Analytical Division reception, where I was introduced to Dr. Karl Booksh from the University of Delaware – my current top graduate school choice. In our discussion, I spoke with him about his research and lab and learned he is very interested in accepting new graduate students. The chance to network with a professor whose research interest aligns with my interests will assist in my professional development.

To summarize, my time spent in Washington D.C. provided a stellar experience that allowed me to learn about a wide breadth of topics both chemistry and non-chemistry related, including American history, art, astrophysics, the United States Military, and international history. The ACS National Meeting and Exposition provided the chance for professional growth through award ceremonies, presentations, and networking opportunities. All in all, I think my time in Washington D.C. has made me both a better chemist and person. I would additionally like to thank the Pittsburgh Section of the ACS for the Travel Grant which provided this unique opportunity.

Please see Travel Award winner Halie Tucci's Trip Report on Page 5. For more information regarding Student Travel Grants, see page 10.

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ACS
Chemistry for Life®



2017 NCW Illustrated Poem Contest CHEMISTRY ROCKS!

The Pittsburgh Section of the American Chemical Society (ACS) is sponsoring an illustrated poem contest for students in Kindergarten - 12th grade. This regional contest is open only to students who live in the following Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia counties:

Ohio: Jefferson. Pennsylvania: Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Cambria, Clarion, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Jefferson, Somerset, Venango, Washington, and Westmorland. West Virginia: Brooke, Hancock, and Ohio.
Contest Deadline: **Entries must be received at the address below by 5:00 PM, Wednesday, November 1, 2017.**

Prizes: \$50 1st Place and \$25 2nd Place in each of 4 grade categories: K-2nd, 3rd-5th, 6th-8th and 9th-12th grades.

Mail entries to: Michael Mautino, 3485 Frye Ave, Finleyville, PA 15332. On the back of each poem please include the following information as your "entry form" as required in the contest rules below: student name, grade, school name, teacher name, teacher phone number and teacher e-mail address. For home school students please use parent/guardian information in place of teacher.

Winners of this regional illustrated poem contest will advance to the National Illustrated Poem Contest for a chance to be featured on the ACS website and to win \$300 or \$150 in cash prizes!

INSTRUCTIONS

Write and illustrate a poem using the NCW theme, "Chemistry Rocks!"
Your poem must be no more than 40 words and in the following styles to be considered:
HAIKU - LIMERICK - ODE - ABC POEM - FREE VERSE - END RHYME - BLANK VERSE

Possible topics include rocks, minerals, gemstones, salts, crystals, magma, mantle, sediment, stalactites, and stalagmites. Entries will be judged based upon relevance to and incorporation of the theme, word choice and imagery, and colorful, creative artwork

CONTEST RULES

- Poems must conform to a particular style. No poem may be longer than 40 words.
- The topic of the poem and the illustration must be related to the NCW 2017 theme.
- All entries must be original works without aid from others.
- Each poem must be illustrated on an unlined sheet of paper (of any type) not larger than 11" x 14". The illustration must be created by hand using crayons, watercolors, other types of paint, colored pencils, or markers. The text of the poem should be easy to read and may be printed with a computer before the hand-

- drawn illustration is added, or the poem may be written on lined paper which is cut out and pasted onto the unlined paper with the illustration.
- Only one entry per student will be accepted.
- All entries must include an entry form.
- All illustrated poems and/or digital representations of the poems become the property of the American Chemical Society.
- Acceptance of prizes constitutes consent to use winners' names, likenesses, and entries for editorial, advertising, and publicity purposes.



Join the Pittsburgh Section of the American Chemical Society as we celebrate

National Chemistry Week / ChemFest 2017

Where: Carnegie Science Center

When: Friday, October 27th, 10 AM to 3 PM

Saturday, October 28th, 10 AM to 4 PM

Join in the activities as we celebrate this year's theme

“Chemistry Rocks!”

- Visit over 30 exhibitors with hands-on experiments, activities, and demonstrations
- Visit the Drake Oil Well Museum's Mobile Energy Education Training Unit, located in the Carnegie Science Center's parking lot, Friday, October 27th only
- Catch special NCW/ChemFest-related theater shows

For more information about the NCW/ChemFest celebration in Pittsburgh, visit the Pittsburgh Section ACS's website at <http://www.pittsburghacs.org/outreach/national-chemistry-week/> or find us on Facebook at: **Pittsburgh ACS NCW**

You can also contact the Carnegie Science Center at (412) 237-1640 or the Pittsburgh Section ACS's NCW Coordinator Michael Mautino at (412) 413-4792 / michael.mautino@covestro.com



The Pittsburgh Section ACS 2017 NCW activities are sponsored by the Society for Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh, the Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh, the PPG Foundation, and the PPG Science Education Council.



Society for Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh



OCTOBER MEETING

**Monday, October 2, 2017
6:30 PM, Duquesne University**

“Gins of the Fathers: Can Alcoholism be Epigenetically Inherited”

Gregg E. Homanics, Ph.D.

Professor of Anesthesiology, Neurobiology, and Pharmacology & Chemical Biology
University of Pittsburgh

Abstract: Transmission of DNA variants from parent to offspring (i.e., Mendelian inheritance) has been the generally accepted explanation for the familial nature of alcoholism. However, despite decades of intense effort, only a few DNA variants have been identified and they only explain a small fraction of alcoholism heritability. The search for the “missing heritability” has reinvigorated interest in the once discounted theory that traits acquired during an individual’s lifetime can be transmitted across generations. Dr. Homanics will challenge the dogmatic Mendelian view of inheritance by focusing on investigations of transgenerational epigenetic inheritance (a.k.a., soft inheritance). He will address the provocative hypothesis that alcohol or stress exposure produce enduring epigenetic effects that can be passed through the germline, influence the epigenetic program of descendants, and ultimately impact alcohol drinking and behavioral responses to alcohol.

Biography: Dr. Homanics received a Bachelor’s degree in Animal and Veterinary Science from West Virginia University in 1984, a Master’s degree in Animal Science from the University of Kentucky in 1987 and a PhD in Animal Science with a minor in Biotechnology from North Carolina State University in 1991. Following completion of his doctorate, he was a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Pathology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In 1993, he joined the faculty at the University of Pittsburgh. For over 21 years, Dr. Homanics has maintained an active, continuously NIH funded laboratory that is focused on understanding the mechanism of action of alcohol. He has published ~150 peer reviewed publications. Dr. Homanics has received the University of Pittsburgh Survival Skills and Ethics Distinguished Mentor Award, the Department of Anesthesiology’s Most Productive Scientist Award, and a MERIT Award from the National Institutes of Health. He is currently Scientific Co-Director of a multi-institution consortium that is focused on causes and treatments for alcohol use disorders (the Integrative Neuroscience Initiative on Alcoholism-Neuroimmune). At the University of Pittsburgh, he serves/ has served on numerous committees including the IACUC, Department of Laboratory Animals Advisory Committee, the Tenured Faculty and Promotions Committee, the Pharmacology Graduate Executive Committee, and Anesthesiology’s Scientific Affairs Committee. He has also served/chaired numerous grant review panels for the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, the Medical Research Council, and others.

Dinner Reservations: Please email the SACP Administrative Assistant, sacpinfo@pittcon.org, by Monday, September 25, 2017 to make dinner reservations. Should you not have email, please call 412-825-3220, ext 204. Dinner will cost \$10 (\$5 for students) and checks are to be made out to the SACP. If you have any dietary restrictions, please let the Administrative Assistant know when you leave message.

Parking: Duquesne University Parking Garage entrance is on Forbes Avenue. Upon entering the garage, you will need to get a parking ticket and drive to upper floors. Bring your parking ticket to the dinner or meeting for a validation sticker. Please contact Duquesne University, if any difficulties should arise.

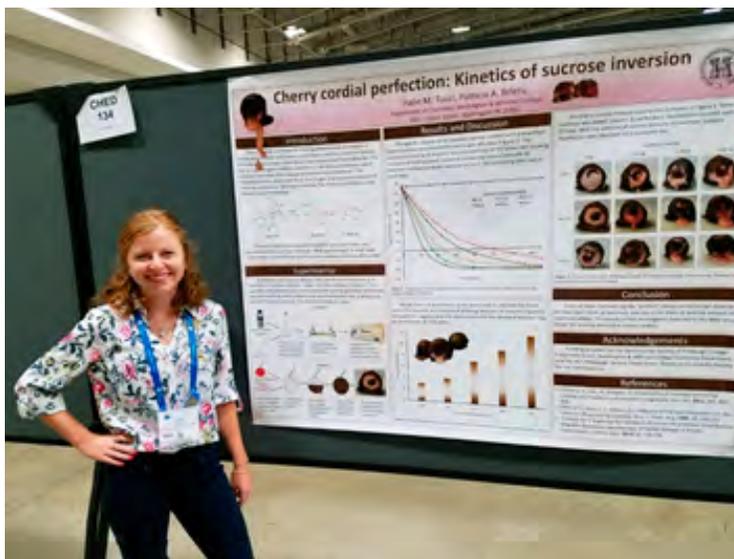
ACS Pittsburgh Travel Grant Winner, Halie Tucci, Summarizes ACS National Meeting Experience

During the four short days spent in Washington D.C. for the 254th American Chemical Society National Meeting and Exposition, I managed to discover new interests, find inspiration, and develop presentation skills. I am forever grateful for the opportunity provided by the Pittsburgh ACS Section Travel Grant.

After becoming acquainted with the city, it was time to present my poster. My research focused on studying cherry cordials and their rate of liquefaction, which is related to the rate of sucrose inversion. I did not realize the size of the room that I would be presenting in or the number of people that would be interested in the topic. The audience questions made me think on the spot to provide answers, which is something I found valuable in developing strong communication skills. I was surprised to see other posters that focused on food as well. For example, some studied whisky flavors using GC-MS or the effect of pesticides on food. Two of my peers from Washington & Jefferson College presented on other candy research relating to taffy and caramels. There are endless options to pursue research projects not only on food but also other topics such as space, water, and batteries.

One poster, in particular, captured my attention. It involved research from Quito, Ecuador regarding potable water. This research is especially important to me because during the spring semester of 2018, I will be studying abroad in Quito. I will be living amongst a host family and using their potable water. My goal has always been to mesh my two worlds of chemistry and Spanish and this researcher

was doing just that. Seeing the poster and being able to ask questions has inspired me to try to find some sort of research I can pursue while in Ecuador.



After the undergraduate poster presentation, I joined several other students to explore the city. Before this August, I had never visited our country's capital. For the first time, I saw the White House, the famed Lincoln Memorial, and other noteworthy sites. During this time of great political changes, it was moving to see people rally for subjects they are passionate about and to be a part of that experience. One site I was not expecting to enjoy so much was the Air and Space Museum. I have always overlooked science concerning space because it was so hard for me to comprehend. Some information I learned from the NASA representatives concerned dark matter and the solar eclipse. My newfound curiosity of space took off when I found out the timing of the conference was in line with the solar eclipse. Even more "space talk" was

brought up at the conference with research that focused on the conversion of carbon dioxide into oxygen using catalysts. New expeditions are uncovering new problems and therefore opportunities to pursue research to find solutions.

Another interesting part of the trip was when we all made our way down to the Exposition. There, we found many industrial representatives for instruments I had never seen and organizations I had not known about. Each one of us found a booth that suited our interests. My favorite booth was for the organization, WISDOM. The acronym stands for Women In

Science Demonstrating Outstanding Merits. Talking to this group gave me an extra push to inspire other women in STEM fields to also pursue their goals. I am so thankful for the help of the Pittsburgh section of the American Chemical Society in making my first ACS Conference possible. I feel that with these experiences, I am becoming a well-rounded scientist.





The Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh
October Joint Meeting
With the AAAP
(Amateur Astronomers Association of Pittsburgh)
held at Duquesne University



Wednesday - October 11, 2017
held at Duquesne University

- 5:30 PM Technology Forum Speaker's Presentation Power Center Ballroom Section C
- 5:30 PM Social Hour – Power Center Fides Shepperson Suite
- 6:45 PM Dinner – Power Center Ballroom Section C
- 8:00 PM Business Meeting – Power Center Ballroom Section C
- 8:15 PM Technical Program Speaker's Presentation – Power Center Ballroom Section C

<http://www.ssp-pgh.org/> and click on SSP Monthly Meeting “More Info” link

Dinner Reservations: Please register on-line at <http://www.ssp-pgh.org> to make dinner reservations NO LATER THAN Thursday, October 5, 2017 at noon. Dinner will cost \$10 (\$5 for students) and checks must be made payable to the SSP. This month's Main Entrée: Sauerbraten. Vegetarian Entrée: Grilled Vegetable Stack. If you have any dietary restrictions, please indicate them when you RSVP.

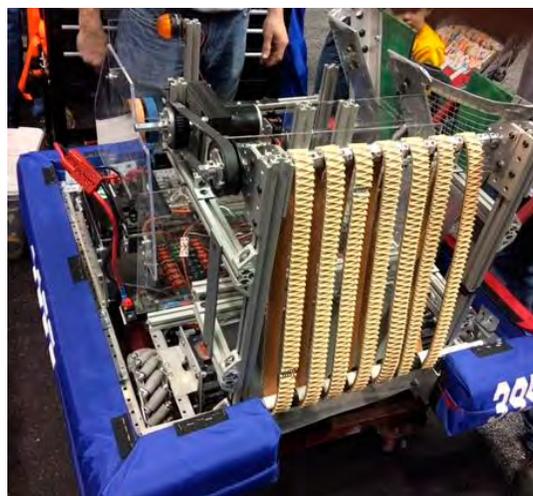
Parking: The Duquesne University Parking Garage is located on Forbes Avenue. Upon entering the garage, receive parking ticket and drive to upper floors. Pick up a parking chit at the dinner or meeting.

TECHNOLOGY FORUM - 5:30 PM

4H Robotic Team

4 H Robotic Team Demonstration

The 4-H Robotics Group will describe their robotics program, the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Competition, show short videos of the FIRST Program, their local robotics group program and competition, and demonstrate the capabilities of their latest robot which made it to the Semi-Final round of this year's competition.



Bio and Technical Program on Page 10

30th Annual Faraday Lecture



Bob Becker

"Ordinary Chemistry, Extraordinary Demos"

Spectacular demonstrations will delight and enrich students, teachers, and the general public. Come learn about combustion, exploding balloons, flame tornadoes, methane mambo, thermite, breathing helium and SF₆, and other spectacular scientific phenomena. You will sit at the edge of your seat and will see science in action.

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Tuesday, Wednesday, November 14 & 15, 2017

**Invitation letters will be sent out early in the school year
or you can go to the Society websites below.**

Tuesday, Nov. 14 - 7:30 PM

**Evening performance, free & open to the Public,
no tickets required**

Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall

4141 Fifth Avenue in Oakland, PA

Sponsored by

The Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh

The Society for Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh

www.sacp.org or www.ssp-pgh.org





Society for Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh



NOVEMBER MEETING

**Monday, November 6, 2017
6:30 PM, Duquesne University**

“Native MS in Structural Biology”

**Vicki Hopper Wysocki, Ph.D.
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry
Ohio State University**

Abstract: Characterization of the overall topology and inter-subunit contacts of protein complexes, and their assembly/disassembly and unfolding pathways, is critical because protein complexes regulate key biological processes, including processes important in understanding and controlling disease. Conventional structural biology methods such as X-ray crystallography and nuclear magnetic resonance provide high-resolution information on the structures of protein complexes. However, other emerging biophysical methods that provide lower resolution structural data (e.g. stoichiometry and subunit connectivity) on the structures of the protein complexes are also important. Native mass spectrometry is an approach that provides critical structural information with higher throughput on low sample amounts. The power of native MS increases when coupled to ion mobility (IM-MS), a technique that measures rotationally averaged collisional cross sections and thus direct information on conformational changes, or to high resolution mass spectrometry (HRMS). This presentation illustrates surface-induced dissociation/ion mobility SID/IM MS and SID HRMS for characterization of topology, intersubunit connectivity, and other structural features of multimeric protein complexes. Data for a number of protein-partner complexes are under investigation, where the partner can be small molecule ligand, protein, DNA, or RNA.

Biography: Vicki Wysocki received her PhD from Purdue University in 1987, under the direction of Professor Graham Cooks. Following a National Research Council postdoctoral appointment at the US Naval Research Laboratory, she became an Assistant Professor at Virginia Commonwealth University. She joined the University of Arizona in 1996 and eventually served as Chair of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. In 2012 she moved to The Ohio State University where she is Ohio Eminent Scholar of Macromolecular Structure and Function and Director of the Campus Chemical Instrument Center. In 2009, she received the Distinguished Contribution to Mass Spectrometry Award from the American Society for Mass Spectrometry, jointly with Professor Simon Gaskell. She is the 2017 ACS Field and Franklin Awardee for Outstanding Contributions to Mass Spectrometry. Her laboratory is part of the Waters Center of Innovation program. She is an associate editor for the ACS journal Analytical Chemistry. She has completed two years as Vice President for Programs of the American Society for Mass Spectrometry and assumed a two-year tenure as ASMS President in July, 2016. Professor Wysocki's research interests include bioanalytical mass spectrometry, peptide fragmentation mechanisms, proteomics and metabolomics (Invasive Aspergillosis, non-small cell lung cancer, pre-eclampsia; Salmonella), ion-surface interaction chemistry, and instrument development for improved dissociation and characterization of non-covalent protein complexes.

Dinner Reservations: Please email the SACP Administrative Assistant, sacpinfo@pittcon.org, by Monday, October 30, 2017 to make dinner reservations. Should you not have email, please call 412-825-3220, ext 204. Dinner will cost \$10 (\$5 for students) and checks are to be made out to the SACP. If you have any dietary restrictions, please let Administrative Assistant know when you leave message.

Parking: Duquesne University Parking Garage entrance is on Forbes Avenue. Upon entering the garage, you will need to get a parking ticket and drive to upper floors. Bring your parking ticket to the dinner or meeting for a validation sticker. Please contact Duquesne University, if any difficulties should arise.

Report on: ACS FALL 2017 NATIONAL MEETING – Washington D.C.

Four ACS Pittsburgh Section Councilors were in attendance in Washington D.C.

The meeting attracted approximately 12,904 attendees and an exposition of 421 booths.

The Candidates for President- Elect, 2018 are:

- Bonnie A Charpentier
- Willie E. May

The Council elected Karl S. Bookish, Mark D. Frishberg, Zalda C. Morales Martinez and Linette M. Watkins for three year terms (2018-2020) and Ella L. Davis for a one-year term (2018) on the Council Policy Committee.

The Council elected Michael Appell, Neil D. Jespersen, Mamie W. Moy, Eleanor D. Siebert, and Julianne M. D. Smist for three year terms (2018-2020) on the Committee on Nominations and Elections.

The Council elected Mitchell R. Bruce, Jetty Duffy-Matzner, Martha G. Hollo- mon, Diane Krone and Robert A. Pri- bush for three year terms (2018-2020) on the Committee on Committees.

The Committee on Meetings & Expo- sitions reported that the total meet- ing registration was 12,904. Of these, 7,938 were regular registrations, 1,068 were exhibitors, 2,997 were students, 475 were exposition only, and 426 guests. The exposition had 421 booths with 282 companies. The meeting had over 9,000 papers presented.

On the recommendation of the Com- mittee on Local Sections, the Council approved a petition from the South Jersey Local Section to annex the unas- signed and adjacent territory of Ocean County, New Jersey.

The Council defeated a proposal from the Committee Divisional Activities that it establish a probationary Divi- sion of Space Chemistry, effective Jan- uary 1, 2018.

A recommendation by the Committee on Membership Affairs that Council approve the Petition on International Chemical Sciences Chapters narrowly failed to achieve the two-thirds major- ity required to amend the Bylaws. The proposal would have amended Bylaw IX, Section 4, to permit finan- cial support for International Chemi- cal Sciences Chapters and to remove language from the By-laws prohibiting Chapters from having representation on Council.

The Society's 2017 Probable 1 Projec- tion calls for a Net from Operations of \$25.3 million. This is \$2.1 million favor- able to the Approved Budget and \$1.6 million higher than 2016. Total rev- enues are projected to be \$553.0 mil- lion, which is \$2.4 million unfavorable to the budget, but 5.0% higher than the prior year. Total expenses are pro- jected at \$527.6 million, which is \$4.5 million favorable to the budget, and 4.5% higher than 2016.

On the recommendation of the Society Committee on Budget and Finance, the Board voted to approve the advance member registration fee for national meetings held in 2018 at \$475, and to authorize two new program fund- ing requests: an ACS Online Course in Laboratory Safety, and a New Faculty Workshop Series.

The Pittsburgh Section of the ACS was recognized at the 19th Annual ChemLu- minary Awards Ceremony for the Out- standing On-Going National Chemistry Week Event.

Also, the Pittsburgh Section was nominated for three other awards: Outstanding Public Outreach Event Organized by a Student Group; Out- standing Community Involvement in National Chemistry Week; and Out- standing Performance by a Local Section- Large Size Category. Congrat- ulations to the Pittsburgh Section and the volunteers that make it happen.

Respectfully submitted,
Pittsburgh Section Councilors
Richard S. Danchik (Author)
Kim Woznack
Robert Mathers
Michael Mautino

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



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 a personal statement as to the anticipated benefits of meeting attendance.

Applications can be made electronically (preferred) by emailing the application to Heather Juzwa (hljuzwa@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.

The Travel Award Application can be found on pages 11-12 in this issue.

SSP September Meeting Continued from Page 6

TECHNICAL PROGRAM 8:15 PM

Dr. Blaise Canzian
*Systems Engineer Group Manager
L3 Technologies, Inc., Brashear
Division*



***“From John Brashear to
21st Century Optics
and Telescopes”***

Telescopes have evolved both in technology and mission since the early days of John Brashear’s company. Today’s telescopes are tasked with satellite laser ranging, laser satellite communication, challenging astronomical research, and satellite imaging. Complex engineering combined with new technological advancements in optic fabrication have expanded our space situational awareness and enable astronomers explore the universe like never before.

Biography: Blaise has a B.A. in Physics from Cornell University and Ph.D. in Astronomy from the California Institute of Technology. He is currently the systems engineer group manager for L3 Technologies, Inc., Brashear division, located in RIDC Park outside Pittsburgh. He has authored or contributed to more than 75 papers and technical articles.



<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

If no, please list conferences at which you have presented: _____

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. Photos are welcomed and encouraged.

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 hljuzwa@shimadzu.com and heather_sapko@hotmail.com. Be sure to place "Pittsburgh Section ACS Travel Grants" in the subject line.



AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

Pittsburgh Section

NOMINATIONS FOR 2018 OFFICER POSITIONS

CHAIR-ELECT:

Bradley Davis

Michelle Morgan

David Yaron

SECRETARY:

Matt Baker

Aswin Garimalla

SECRETARY-ELECT:

Haitao Liu

DIRECTOR (3):

Toby Chapman

Heather Juzwa

Logan Miller

COUNCILOR (1 REGULAR, 2 ALTERNATE):

Michael Mautino

Ali Sezer

Edward Zovinka

BIOS FOR 2018 OFFICER POSITIONS

CHAIR-ELECT:

Bradley Davis earned his B.S. in Forensic Chemistry at Waynesburg University in 2009 followed by his Ph.D. in Chemistry from Penn State in 2014, which focused on bioanalytical research. He currently is an Assistant Professor of Chemistry at Waynesburg University where his central courses include Analytical, Instrumental, and Environmental Chemistry. During his time as both an undergraduate and graduate student, Brad focused heavily on science outreach as an active member of Waynesburg's ACS student chapter as well as through Penn State's Materials Research Science and Engineering Center (MRSEC). This dedication to local service continues as he is currently an active member in the Society for Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh (SACP) and Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh (SSP). Brad participates on various committees including serving as this year's Chair of the SACP Student Affiliates and Co-Chair of the committee responsible for conducting outreach at the Carnegie Science Center for National Chemistry Week. He also enjoys volunteering yearly to serve as a judge for the Pennsylvania Regional Science & Engineering Fair (PRSEF). Brad and his wife, Erin, currently reside in the Canonsburg area with their dog, Molly.

Michelle Morgan is currently an instructor in the Chemistry Department at the University of Pittsburgh. Prior to lecturing at Pitt, she was an instructor at Montana State University and a Pharma Services analyst at Almac in Craigavon, Northern Ireland. She completed her B.S. at the University of Pittsburgh where she held several officer positions with the ACS-SA, her M.S. at Colorado State University, and her Ph.D. at Queen's University Belfast.

David Yaron is a Professor in the Department of Chemistry at Carnegie Mellon University. He received a B.S. in Chemistry from Wilkes College and a Ph.D. in Chemical Physics from Harvard University. He does research in both computational chemistry and chemical education. In his computational work, he uses electronic structure theory to model organic materials and, more recently, is finding ways to use machine learning to improve semiempirical models. In his education work, he is the founder of the ChemCollective, a free digital library of virtual labs, tutorials, and scenario-based learning activities for introductory chemistry. He also recently co-chaired the College Board Committee that undertook a major redesign of the Advanced Placement (AP) Chemistry course and exam. His latest hobby is riding a tandem mountain bike with his partner, although so far, the mountains have been limited to hills on the GAP trail and the MS 150 bike ride in the middle of PA.

SECRETARY:

Matt Baker received his B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Pittsburgh in 2013, where he studied peptide and peptoid synthesis under Dr. W. Seth Horne. He is currently in the fifth year of his PhD in Chemistry under Dr. Kevin Noonan at Carnegie Mellon University, where he is studying phosphine chemistry, conjugated polymer reaction kinetics, and nickel catalysis for applications in Catalyst Transfer Polycondensation. He has served the Pittsburgh ACS as the chair of the Younger Chemists Committee for the past four years, and was the vice president of Pitt's ACS Student association for the senior year of his undergraduate studies. He is currently interested in pursuing a career in science policy.

Aswin Garimalla earned his PhD in Synthetic Organic Chemistry from University of Missouri-Columbia, and have worked in multiple post-doctoral positions at Las Cruces, New Mexico, Chicago, and in New York City. Aswin is involved in community service and volunteering. He was a Scientist-Volunteer for the "Magic of Chemistry" Workshop (2006, 2007, and 2008). (Program has received national recognition by the White House, National Science Foundation, American Chemical Society and Girl Scouts of the USA). He has been an American chemical society (ACS) member since 2006. He has participated in several ACS national meetings to present his work. During his stay in Chicago, he has actively participated in the meetings of Chicago ACS local section. He has volunteered to edit and organize the Wikipedia pages of Willard Gibbs Award recipients hosted by the Chicago ACS section. He is grateful to ACS for providing a platform to network with chemists, help during unemployment, and for the career guidance.

SECRETARY-ELECT:

Haitao Liu received his B.S in Chemistry from the University of Science and Technology of China (2001) and his Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley (2007). From 2007 to 2010, he was a postdoctoral scientist at Columbia University. He joined the chemistry department of the University of Pittsburgh as an assistant professor in 2010 and was promoted to associate professor with tenure in 2016. At Pitt, his research has focused on DNA nanotechnology and surface properties of carbon materials. He has published over 50

peer reviewed journal papers. He has been an ACS member since 2005 and regularly attends and presents at ACS national and regional meetings. In addition, he also organized symposiums for the 2014 ACS National meeting and the 2014 ACS CERM meeting. In his spare time he enjoys target shooting and building electronic circuits.

DIRECTOR (2):

Toby Chapman (no bio submitted)

Heather Juzwa is a Senior Field Sales Engineer at Shimadzu Scientific Instruments and has been since October of 2006. She graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in 2000 with an honors bachelors' degree in Chemistry. While performing undergraduate research with Dr. Paul Rasmussen, she created alternative experiments for the undergraduate Instrumental Analysis laboratory. Having a passion for instrumentation, she was hired by Hitachi Instruments upon graduation. Heather has also held a position at Digilab, a division of Bio-Rad, which was subsequently purchased by Varian. Heather's service to the field of chemistry began as an undergraduate and has continued throughout her career. She served as the Secretary of the American Chemical Society – Student Affiliates while a senior at the University of Pittsburgh and has remained in the ACS since then. In 2008, she was Treasurer of the newly formed Younger Chemists Committee. She served as Chair of the Pittsburgh Section in 2011 and currently serves as Webmaster for the Pittsburgh Section website. As webmaster, Heather worked with the Executive Committee to implement more uniform reporting for ACS National, paving the way for the section to tout their hard work and thus receive an esteemed ChemLuminary for being an Outstanding Large Local Section for 2012. It was by Heather's efforts that The Crucible newsletter was made electronic, saving the section thousands of dollars in printing costs. Heather also served as Chair of the Society for Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh in 2013-2014. For many years, she has happily served on and chaired many committees of the Society for Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh, the Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh, and the Pittcon committee and looks forward to playing key roles in these organizations for years to come. These committees include including the Mass Spec Discussion Group, Technology Forum, Technical Program, Membership and Directory, Student Affiliates, Employment, Continuing Education, Tripartite Symposium, Carnegie Science Fair, Marketing, Short Courses and Faraday Lecture Series. Heather and her team won an ACS ChemLuminary Award for the best regional meeting for CERM 2014 hosted in Pittsburgh. She also received both the Pittsburgh Local Section Distinguished Service Award in 2014 and the 2015 E. Ann Nalley Regional Award for Volunteer Service to the American Chemical Society for the Central Region. Heather Juzwa is interested in continuing her service to the section as a Director of the ACS to continue and expand her service to the field of chemistry and to foster a collegial community for Pittsburgh's scientists.

Logan Miller received his B.S. in Chemistry with a major in biochemistry and forensic chemistry from Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania (SRU). While at SRU Logan conducted a multi-year, independent research project focusing on intracellular protein analysis for apoptotic response in human myelogenous leukemia cells. In addition, he attended two academic meetings at *Experimental Biology* as a first author presenter. Logan also successfully wrote and received three independent grants to fund his research while at SRU. Currently, he is a sixth year chemistry Ph.D. student at Duquesne University. He is working in Dr. H.M. "Skip" Kingston's research group, which focuses on analytical techniques for the betterment of environmental human health measurements. His research interests range from developing separation methods for the quantification of human biomarkers using LC/MS/MS technology to dried blood spot analysis for forensics and clinical markers. He has attended and presented oral and poster presentations at both *PittCon* as well as *American Society for Mass Spectrometry* conferences. Logan is actively involved (Chair/Co-Chair positions) in numerous committees with both SACP and SSP and has been a member since 2013. In addition, he is currently the Immediate Former President for Duquesne University's Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry Phi Lambda Upsilon chemistry honor society. Logan is a founding member of Duquesne University's graduate student mass spectrometry committee that helps in overseeing operation of the mass spectrometry facility. In addition to the mass spectrometry committee he is also a founding member of the chemistry department's safety committee. He is currently serving as the editor of the Pittsburgh Section of the ACS Crucible newsletter and has been an ACS member since 2009. Additional roles within the ACS involve being chair of publicity/marketing committee for Pittsburgh ACS and Vice-Chair of Pittsburgh ACS's Women Chemist's Committee. Logan has also been awarded the ACS Younger Chemist Committee Younger Chemist Leadership Development Award in 2016. In 2017 Logan was awarded the Graduate Student Leader of the Year award from Duquesne University as well as a Bayer Research Fellowship for the fall academic semester. He currently serves as an associate member on the national ACS Younger Chemist Committee as well as on the Graduate Education Advisory Board (GEAB). Additional responsibilities include Fundraising Co-Chair for the 2018 Fall ACS National Meeting Graduate Student Symposium entitled, "Frontiers in Computation Chemistry: Bridging the Gap Between Theory and Experiment," a symposium

in memory of the late Dr. Jeffry D. Madura. He champions for the Pittsburgh ACS section and looks forward to the future growth and expansion of the section and continued success of programming.

COUNCILOR (1 REGULAR, 2 ALTERNATE):

Michael Mautino has worked for Covestro LLC (formerly Bayer MaterialScience, Bayer, Miles, and originally Mobay!) for the past twenty seven years. He began his career as a chemical laboratory technician, later progressing to a chemist position, formulating polyurethane foam systems for a variety of applications. He developed a number of polyurethane systems that have been successfully commercialized and currently holds two patents in the area of polyurethane rigid foam insulation. After obtaining a Bachelor of Science in Business Management from the University of Phoenix in 2004, Michael became a Marketing Representative at Covestro, and for the past five years has been a Product Line Manager in Covestro's Polyurethanes Regional Product Management Group. Michael is an active member of the ACS at both the local and national levels. For the past 19 years he has developed and managed the Pittsburgh ACS's community outreach activities into national ACS award winning programming, recognized for reaching out to the public to promote education and careers in the STEM areas. Under Michael's guidance the Pittsburgh ACS has won sixteen national ACS ChemLuminary awards for its National Chemistry Week (NCW) and Chemists Celebrate Earth Day (CCED) programs. Michael has served as a Pittsburgh ACS Councilor since 2003. In 2014 Michael was named the Pittsburgh ACS's "Outreach Volunteer of the Year" and in 2011 the Pittsburgh ACS presented Michael with the Section's "Distinguished Service Award." Nationally, Michael is a recognized leader in ACS community outreach initiatives and promoting the applied chemical technology profession. He was chair of the ACS's Division of Chemical Technicians (2001-02), chair of the Committee on Community Activities (2004-06), chair of the Committee on Technician Affairs (2007-09), served as an elected member of the ACS's Committee on Committees (2011-16), and is currently serving as a member of the Local Section Activities Committee. He is proud of the ACS's Chemists Celebrate Earth Day program, which celebrated its 14th anniversary in 2017...a program that was developed under his leadership as chair of the oversight committee. Due to his community outreach efforts and promotion of the applied chemical technology profession on a national level, Michael was named an ACS Fellow in 2010.

Ali O. Sezer born and educated through college in Turkey, is a professor of physical chemistry at California University of Pennsylvania. After graduating from Yildiz Technical University in Istanbul, Turkey, Sezer went to the U.S. to pursue an advanced degree in chemical and materials engineering. In 2002, he received a Ph.D. degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He worked as a visiting professor at Bucknell University and Haverford College, and as a postdoctoral scholar at Seton Hall University before moving to California University of Pennsylvania, where he currently teaches. Dr. Sezer's research interests are in the area of conducting polymers; particularly nano composites of these polymers with transition metal oxides for electronics, optical, medical, bio-sensing, and corrosion protection applications. He is committed to undergraduate chemistry education, especially to involving students in cutting edge research activities. Dr. Sezer supervises undergraduates in research activities and provides opportunities for them to present at national and international meetings and conferences. Dr. Sezer is also involved in text book preparations in general and physical chemistry. He has team-published "Know It All Chemistry: The 50 Most Elemental Concepts in Chemistry, Each Explained in Under a Minute" book in June 2017. The book, edited by Niva Tro, provides the public with a unique opportunity to learn about chemistry. The European edition of the book comes out in September 2017. Dr. Sezer is involved in activities promoting student and faculty diversity at the local, regional, and national level. He enjoys deep-water diving in his free times.

Edward Zovinka graduated from Roanoke College with a BS in chemistry in 1987 and earned a PhD in Chemistry from the University at California – Davis in 1992. After postdoctoral research at NC State University, he joined the chemistry department at Saint Francis University (SFU). He has been a member of ACS for 30 years with membership in local sections and Divisions of Chemical Education and Inorganic Chemistry. He regularly brings students to the regional and national ACS meetings while also volunteering for the ACS Exams Institute. Edward has advised the SFU Chemistry club to "Outstanding" and "Commendable" awards from the ACS for 15 straight years. His research focuses on bioinorganic and environmental chemistry, publishing on a range of projects including the breakdown of red blood cells, the use of vanadium in biological systems, β -Lactamase resistance, the expansion of green chemistry in the inorganic laboratory, to studying water quality in Central Pennsylvania. Since coming to SFU in 1994, he has advised over 35 undergraduate students leading to over 40 presentations at local, regional, and national scientific meetings. Edward and his students have authored 31 publications spanning journals from the *Journal of the American Chemical Society* to *The Chemical Educator*. Many of his students have gone on to earn their Ph.D., M.D., Pharm.D., D.O., O.D., as well as careers in industry and education. During his career at Saint Francis University, he has been the Principal Investigator (PI) or co-PI on successful proposals to NSF, ACS, SSP, and the PA Department of Education for research, equipment, and community outreach program grants. Edward also served as the "Building

Shepherd” during the construction of the 70,000+ sq. ft science facility, coordinating with the architects, contractors, advancement office, students, & faculty to bring the building to completion on schedule and under budget. He is strongly committed to improving science education. For over 22 years, he has directed the Rural Outreach Chemistry for Kids (R.O.C.K.) program that annually reaches over 5,000 K-12 students in the Central/Western PA region through over 230+ different events. In cooperation with teachers and student leaders, a hands-on event is planned from a menu of activities. During an event, SFU R.O.C.K. leaders with the help of SFU students lead the K-12 students through an activity designed to enhance the scientific method of discovery. As a member of the Hollidaysburg “Save the Planetarium” committee, he helped raise \$94,000 solely through community events to ensure the long term viability of the Hollidaysburg Planetarium. Edward’s awards include being named a *Pennsylvania Professor the Year* by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, and the J. Kevin Scanlon Award for the Promotion of Science by the Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh. He was honored by the Carnegie Science Center Awards for Excellence in the University/Post-secondary Educator category, awarded the Saint Francis University Student Government Association Outstanding Educator Award from SFU students and SFU Swatsworth Award winner by the faculty. He has been an active member of SSP serving as chair of numerous committees, serves on the Hollidaysburg Area School District Parent Leadership Committee, and is the Troop Committee Chairman for BSA Troop 3032.

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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 hljuzwa@shimadzu.com!

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 November 2017 issue must be to the editor by October 15, 2017.

The Crucible

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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

Monday, October 2

Society for Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh

“Gins of the Fathers: Can Alcoholism be Epigenetically Inherited”

Gregg E. Homanics, Ph.D., Professor of Anesthesiology, Neurobiology, and Pharmacology and Chemical Biology, University of Pittsburgh

Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

Wednesday, October 11

The Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh with the AAAP (Amateur Astronomers Association of Pittsburgh)

Technology Forum

4H Robotic Team

Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

Technical Program

“From John Brashear to 21st Century Optics and Telescopes”

Dr. Blaise Canzian, Systems Engineer Group Manager, L3 Technologies, Inc., Brashear Division

Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

Friday and Saturday, October 27 & 28

National Chemistry Week

Chemistry Rocks!

Carnegie Science Center, Pittsburgh, PA

Monday, November 6

Society for Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh

“Native MS in Structural Biology”

Vicki Hopper Wysocki, Ph.D., Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Ohio State University

Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

Tuesday, November 14

30th Annual Faraday Lecture

“Ordinary Chemistry, Extraordinary Demos”

Bob Becker

Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall, 4141 Fifth Ave. in Oakland, PA