

the Catalyst



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**Introducing Our New Chair
Dr. Christine (Christie) McInnis**

HIGHLIGHTS

Introducing Our New Chair	3
Comments From the Chair	4
News Atoms	5
CCN January Meeting	11

ADVANCE NOTICE

FEBRUARY MEETING
Thursday, February 18, 2021
5:00 – 6:00 PM

Join us for the February Philadelphia Local Section ACS Meeting to learn about chemistry outreach efforts from companies in the Local Section.

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://american-chemical-society.zoom.com/meeting/register/tZAtc-qrqz8tGdb-t3h7R-oTfljXBpA4AlpC>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

See the FEBRUARY issue of *the Catalyst* for details,
call the Section Office at (26) 485-1792 or email PhilaACS@gmail.com.

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CONTENTS

February Advance Notice	1
Introducing Our New Chair	3
Comments From the Chair	4
News Atoms	5
January Meeting	6
Calendar of Activities	6
ACS Career Consultants	6
January Board of Directors Meeting	7
Nominations Invited for Section Award	8
Call for Nominations in Pre-College Teaching	9
Call for Nominations in Undergraduate Teaching	10
Chemical Consultants Network Meeting	11
Directory of Services	12

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INTRODUCING OUR NEW CHAIR —Dr. Christine McInnis

Christine (Christie) McInnis is a Principal Investigator for DuPont Nutrition and Biosciences where she studies odor control on home goods and novel ways of preventing bacterial and fungal growth in personal care items. She loves working at the discovery end of the innovation pipeline and has previously led new business development efforts and the R&D Microbial Control Water Platform. Christie has 16 publications and more than 15 patents granted. She also enjoys giving technical talks at conferences and at colleges and universities. Christie has experience as a customer application specialist responsible for technical support and development of biocides in water treatment and metalworking applications at Dow Microbial Control. She looks forward to merging with International Flavors and Fragrances in Q1 2021.

Christie joined Dow Chemical after earning her PhD in organic chemistry from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Prior to that she received a dual BA degree in chemistry and biological sciences from Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. Her research projects at Cornell were in a Crop and Soil Science Lab identifying novel sugars produced by sweet peas and in a Chemistry Lab looking at copper catalyzed sigmatropic rearrangements. At UW Madison, Christie studied the small molecules that enable or inhibit bacterial cross talk in a process called quorum sensing.

Christie enjoys being involved in several ACS committees and organizations. In 2010 Christie started the Local Section Younger Chemist Committee (LSYCC) chapter in the Wisconsin Local Section and hosted an alternative career day. In 2011 Christie joined the national Younger Chemists Committee, becoming the chair of the Local and Regional Affairs (LRA) working group in 2012. LRA has partnered with ACS Webinars and ACS Careers to bring LSYCCs the Program in a Box Events held in February and October of each year. She was excited to lead the YCC track of the Leadership Development Institute in 2015. Christie became the YCC liaison to the Multidisciplinary Program Planning Group (MPPG; chooses the national meeting themes) in 2012, ultimately chairing MPPG in 2020. Upon moving to Philadelphia for a position with Dow, Christie quickly became active with the Philly LSYCC and joined the Local Section board of directors. She is proud to be a Councilor from Philadelphia serving on the Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs and is excited to chair the Philadelphia Local Section in 2021. She is also a Career Consultant for ACS and enjoys talking with people about the possibilities for their careers.

Christie is a native of the greater Boston area and is proud that she grew up in a town with significant Revolutionary War history. She loves the outdoors and is thankful for the many pre-pandemic hiking, camping, and backpacking trips that she has been able to take across America with her two sisters and parents.

Comments From the Chair



Happy New Year! I hope that it is a happy, healthy, and peaceful year for you.

Obviously, 2020 was not the year anyone expected. However, this has given us a wonderful opportunity to think about the things that are important to us and to evaluate if we are on the track that we

hope to be. I would like to share my vision for the Section in 2021 and invite your feedback.

My first goal is to make the ACS Philadelphia Local Section the place to learn about resources for all things chemistry-related in the greater Philadelphia Area. We will be maintaining a calendar of all events in the greater Philadelphia Area on our website:

(<https://phillyacs.org/meetings-and-events/>). Please check there often for interesting events within our Section and partners. If you have an event that you would like posted on the calendar, please email PhilaACS@gmail.com with the relevant information including date, time and registration information. I recommend offering a registration option for all virtual events to prevent “zoom bombers” or participants interested in disrupting the event rather than attending. I encourage all local colleges and universities to post any seminars that are open to the public on our calendar.

My second goal is to create a sense of belonging, empowerment, and ownership in our membership. As many have said before me, this Section is your Section. While we have many amazing volunteers currently, it may not always be clear how to volunteer with the Section or what volunteer positions are vacant. To make the volunteer process more transparent, I am going to be using my Chair’s Column to highlight current committees. It will focus on the mission of the committee, current volunteers, and opportunities to get involved. I am a fan of the philosophy that if you can envision it, you can create it; I promise to work with you to bring new programming and events to the Section as you have a passion for them. I hope that if you are not already a volunteer, you will find some way that excites you to get involved. Please always feel free to email PhilaACS@gmail.com with an interest to get involved. We will be posting our committee meetings on the Section’s calendar on our website. Please feel free to take a look and join any of the meetings that look interesting to you. Note that registration may be required.

I invite you to attend our monthly Section meetings, including the January meeting where you will have an opportunity to meet members of the Section’s leadership and play a game of Jeopardy focusing on trivia from our Philadelphia Local Section.

The Section has done a terrific job of pivoting in the face of the pandemic in 2020, including moving to virtual meetings. While there is hope that we can move back to in person meetings in the foreseeable future, we intend to hold all our meetings virtually until May. In May we are hoping to have an outdoor networking event at a winery.

I would like to end by thanking all of the many existing volunteers for our Section. There are so many things that you do to make our Section a place to learn and grow while making friends and giving back. Thank you!

NEWS ATOMS—*Alan Warren*

Joseph Subotnik, chemistry professor at Penn, was named a Fellow of the American Physical Society.

Christopher B. Murray, professor of chemistry and Materials Science & Engineering at Penn, was selected as a Citation Laureate in 2020. The honor is awarded by Clarivate and recognizes a researcher whose work is among the most highly cited in their field.

DEATHS

Paul J. McGonigal, retired physical chemist, May 16, 2020 at 84. He spent his 40-year career as a senior research associate at DuPont, retiring in 2004.

Arthur S. Brill, retired physics professor, June 2nd at 92. Following work at Cornell, Oxford, and Yale, Brill joined the faculty of the University of Virginia where he served for 30 years.

Robert A. Erb, physical chemist, June 12th at 88. He was employed for 39 years with Franklin Research Center and obtained 20 patents. Erb served as a chemical consultant for over 15 years and was a technical director for SiliClone.

Edward Lee Thomas, retired analytical chemist, October 6th at 77. He was employed by Foote Mineral and then joined Johnson Matthey where he worked for over 30 years.

Richard A. Baxter, research chemist, October 8th at 86. He had a 35-year career with DuPont.

Janet Blake Pepinsky, retired chemist, October 14th at 95. She was employed by the US Department of Agriculture before retiring to raise a family.

Donald J. Skahan, retired research chemist, October 14th at 93. He joined Atlantic Refinery in 1951 as a research chemist and retired as senior vice president of research and development of Arco in 1998. In 1992 Skahan was honored with the company's outstanding lifetime technical award.

Robert Anthony Gill, research chemist, November 17th at 92. He spent his entire research career with Rohm and Haas.

Angelo A. DiGiacomo, retired chemical engineer, November 17th at 88. He held various positions in the petroleum and pharmaceutical fields.

Rocco "Rick" P. Triolo, retired organic chemist, November 27th at 87. In 1958 he joined the foam division of Scott Paper Company rising to director of research and development in 1970. He continued as vice president of Scott Foam, GFI and Foamex. He was inducted into the Polyurethane Foam Association's hall of fame.

William W. Bristowe, retired polymer chemist, November 28th at 80. He was a chemist with DuPont and then joined Atlas Chemical Industries, later ICI, where he eventually managed the Advanced Carbon Fiber Composite Research Division. He worked briefly for American Cyanamid and then consulted for Applied Polymer Systems. He was a 55+ year member of ACS.

JANUARY MEETING

THE PHILADELPHIA SECTION, AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

Zoom Meeting – Registration Required

Thursday, January 21, 2021

7 PM – 8 PM

Join the Philadelphia Local Section of the ACS for an opportunity to meet Local Section Leaders including members of our Board of Directors, Councilors, and Committee Chairs. Stay for a game of Jeopardy led by Paul Kowalczyk based on Local Section Trivia.

Registration Required: https://american-chemical-society.zoom.com/meeting/register/tZYkde-vpzosH9Qnud_TLGIXFkJGUpjzrulO After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

The Section calendar is now on our website at <https://phillyacs.org/meetings-and-events/> listing all things chemical going on in the region. All groups using Section funds are able to list their events in this calendar.

ACS CAREER CONSULTANTS

Would you like to speak to a local ACS Career Consultant? The Philadelphia Section career consultants can provide one-on-one career advice, resume reviews, or mock interviews. Please send an email request to acsphillycareerservices@gmail.com to set up an appointment.



ACS Local Section
Philadelphia

725th ACS Philadelphia Section Board of Directors Meeting

January 7, 2021
Via Teleconference

CODE OF CONDUCT

As members of the Philadelphia Section of the ACS, we shall abide by the Chemists' Code of Conduct which states in part that "Chemical professionals should seek to advance chemical science while striving for the highest standards of scientific integrity. Chemical professionals should treat others with respect and will not engage in discrimination, harassment, bullying, dishonesty, fraud, misrepresentation, coercive manipulation, censorship, or other misconduct. Such actions apply to all professional, research, and learning environments."

AGENDA

(Meeting will convene at **7:00 PM** and end promptly at 8:00 PM.)

- I. Officers' Reports:
 - a. Chair – Christie McInnis
 - i. Reminder to attend January Section Meeting
 - ii. Request for \$250 to support the 2nd Annual Synthesis on Scale Symposium on Jan 15th
website: <http://chemists.princeton.edu/pacs/event/2021-synthesis-on-scale-symposium/>
 - iii. Innovative Program Grant Application
 - b. Chair-Elect – Ivona Sasimovich
 - c. Immediate Past Chair—Joe Martino
 - d. Secretary – Alan Heldon
 - e. Treasurer – Wei Wang
 - f. Immediate Past Treasurer—Dave Cichowicz
 - g. Chair of Council Affairs – Anne DeMasi
 - h. Past Chair – Jim Murray
- II. Committee Reports
 - a. Budget and Finance – Vic Tortorelli
- III. Other Business

For those participating by teleconference: All Officers and Directors should have received a Google Calendar invitation with a Zoom Link. For those who have not received this information as well as for your convenience, please use the following information to access the teleconference:

By Internet:

Meeting Link: <https://bit.ly/3lu18dP> (link connects to the Section's Zoom server)

Meeting number: 869 0224 0314

Password: 321443

By Phone:

Phone Number: 1-877-853-5247 or 1-888-788-0099

Access Code: 869 0224 0314

Password: 321443

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**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
2021 ACS PHILADELPHIA SECTION AWARD**

Notice is hereby given that the ACS Philadelphia Section invites its members as well as Regional and Topical Groups to nominate candidates for the 2021 ACS Philadelphia Section Award.

This Award shall be presented “to one member of the Section, or in exceptional circumstances to two members of the Section jointly, who by conspicuous scientific achievement has made important contributions to the field of chemistry and thereby aided the public appreciate of the profession.” (ACS Philadelphia Section Bylaw X, §1.) Any member of the ACS Philadelphia Section may be nominated. Recent awardees include Donna M. Huryn (University of Pennsylvania), Anthony W. Addison (Drexel University), Marsha I. Lester (University of Pennsylvania), Michelle Francl (Bryn Mawr College) and Dr. Yuri Gogotsi (Drexel University).

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING NOMINATION

Nominators should provide a CV of the nominee showing education; employment and/or academic history; a list of publications, presentations and patents; and a record of other accomplishments pertinent to consideration for this award.

One or two seconding letters (at least one of which should be from a person in an organization other than that of the nominee) should be requested in support of the nomination.

Nominators and seconders should be identified with addresses, e-mail and telephone numbers so that they can be contacted, if necessary, for additional information.

Unsuccessful nominees from previous years may be renominated. In fairness to the nominee, however, renominations must be accompanied by an updating of the nominee’s biographical data and a list of accomplishments in order to make the nomination competitive. Unsuccessful nominees who have been considered three years in a row should not be renominated for the fourth year in succession without prior consultation by the nominator with the Chair of the Awards Committee

Nomination forms are available from the Section Office at:

ACS Philadelphia Local Section
Department of Chemistry
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6323
(267) 485-1792; e-mail PhilaACS@gmail.com

The completed packet of nomination materials may be e-mailed to PhilaACS@gmail.com or mailed by **August 13, 2021** to the Chair of the Awards Committee at the Section Office address above.



**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS EXTENDED
2021 ACS PHILADELPHIA SECTION
AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN PRE-COLLEGE TEACHING**

Notice is hereby given that the ACS Philadelphia Section invites its members to nominate candidates for the 2020 ACS Philadelphia Section Awards for Excellence in Pre-College Teaching.

The Awards honor two outstanding science teachers. One Award will be given to a full-time educator involved in teaching science in grades K-8. The second Award will be given to a full-time educator at the secondary level (grades 9-12) who teaches chemistry. Nominees must teach in the geographic territory of the ACS Philadelphia Section (Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery counties in Pennsylvania, and Burlington and Camden counties in New Jersey).

PLEASE NOTE! Nominations for 2021 will be accepted until March 26, 2021.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING NOMINATIONS

- 1) A **Nominator Recommendation** of not more than 750 words submitted by the nominator according to the guidelines outlined on the Recommendation Form.
- 2) A **current curriculum vitae or resume** that includes a list of the nominee's honors, professional activities, and additional evidence of service to the profession. This must be limited to no more than two pages and the activities listed must have occurred within the past five years.
- 3) A **statement by the nominees** of not more than 500 words that describes the nominee's teaching philosophy or commitment to the profession.
- 4) **At least one, but not more than three, letters of support.** One letter, of no more than 400 words must be from the teacher's current principal or supervisor. Additional letters of support, of no more than 400 words, may be sent by colleagues, members of the ACS who are familiar with the nominee's achievements, or former students and parents of former students.
- 5) **The total nomination package should not exceed 30 pages.**

The nomination package may be e-mailed or sent to:

ACS Philadelphia Local Section
Department of Chemistry
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6323
(267) 485-1792; e-mail PhilaACS@gmail.com

The Award Recipient will be honored at our May 2021 Section meeting with a plaque and an honorarium.



**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS EXTENDED
2021 ACS PHILADELPHIA SECTION
AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING
IN THE CHEMICAL SCIENCES**

Notice is hereby given that the ACS Philadelphia Section invites its members to nominate candidates for the 2021 ACS Philadelphia Section Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching in the Chemical Sciences.

This award will honor an outstanding, full-time educator involved in teaching an undergraduate course in the chemical sciences (i.e.: chemistry, biochemistry). Nominees must teach in an institution that is within the geographical territory of the ACS Philadelphia Section (Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery counties in Pennsylvania, and Burlington and Camden counties in New Jersey).

PLEASE NOTE! Nominations for 2021 will now be accepted until March 26, 2021.

Nominations should consist of the following:

- 1) **A letter of nomination.**
- 2) **The nominee's resume.**
- 3) **Two letters of recommendation.**
- 4) **The total nomination package should not exceed 30 pages.**

The nomination package may be e-mailed or sent to the Chair of the Awards Committee at:

ACS Philadelphia Local Section
Department of Chemistry
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6323
(267) 485-1792; e-mail PhilaACS@gmail.com

The Award Recipient will be honored at our May 2021 Section meeting with a plaque and an honorarium.

Chemical Consultants Network ZOOM MEETING

JANUARY 13, 2021

BEN FRANKLIN TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS- INTRODUCTION AND Q/A

Mark S. Trabbold – Dir. Business Development/Investment, BFTP

DATE & TIME: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 6:30 PM

[Click here to register](#)

Location: Online via Zoom! (registration required, see below)

Abstract: Ben Franklin Technology Partners makes direct investments in promising, technology-oriented companies throughout Pennsylvania to fund critical commercialization activities and growth needs. A BFTP investment often serves as a key endorsement to other funding sources, enabling companies to attract the follow-on investment they need to move beyond start-up and into commercialization. BFTP is also an investor in select seed/early-stage PA venture funds, provides support for angel groups and gives new entrepreneurs the tools they need to get started. BFTP couples its financial commitment with access to a wide range of mentoring, business and technology development services. We provide both early-stage and established companies with a wide range of business and technical assistance. This includes business plan reviews, technical assessments, intellectual property counsel, marketing advice, operations and fund-raising strategies.

Biography: Mark S. Trabbold, Director of Business Development & Investment at BFTP, leads the investment activity for Ben's Physical Sciences sector and is frequently Ben Franklin's first point of contact for many companies and entrepreneurs interested in employing Ben's various resources such as mentoring, technical assistance, and funding. Additionally, Mark runs Ben Franklin's FabNet™ - a program for rapid prototyping and fabrication utilizing advanced manufacturing technologies; and coordinates many of Ben's other new business development and technology commercialization activities. Mark has over 30 years of experience in innovation, engineering, and manufacturing. Previously he was VP, R&D for CertainTeed Corporation, a NA building materials manufacturer, where he was responsible for R/D, and new business integration bringing numerous products to commercial success worth over \$100M, annually. In this role, he also oversaw international new product launches as Global Program Manager for Paris based parent company, Saint-Gobain.

[Click here to register to attend the event.](#) This session is **FREE**.

DIRECTORY OF SERVICES

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Being a part of one of our teams can help you develop organizational and meeting skills as well as help you to network with people from the largest area companies. Public Relations, such as sending out meeting notices and press releases, can help you to develop a network and help you get noticed!

All committees are looking for new members and several are looking for "take charge" chairs. Some, like the Teller's Committee, involve minimal work—one night per year and pizza provided. Others, like positions on Communications or Social Committees, involve one or two hours per month.

Committee details can be found at:

www.membership.acs.org/p/philadelphia

or by calling the Philadelphia Section Office (215) 382-1589.

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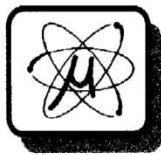
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contact the Section Office at
philaacs@aol.com or
215-382-1589.

Put "Volunteer" in the subject line or leave a message including contact information.



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