

the Catalyst



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June 2023
Volume 108, No. 6



2023 Scholastic Achievement Awardees in attendance on April 20. *Top row, left to right:* Ben Jefferis, St. Joseph's University; Kara Moulton, St. Joseph's University; Morgan Robinette, Eastern University; Juliana T. Hetzel, West Chester University; Siena Wanders, Temple University; and Lauren Marie Hoopes, Arcadia University. *Bottom row, left to right:* Rory R. Schmidt, Swarthmore College; Samuel Hsiao, Rutgers University-Camden; Zachary Boyer, Villanova University; and Sarah R. Reed, La Salle University. (©Joel Perlish Photography)

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ADVANCE NOTICE

JULY COOKOUT
Saturday, July 22, 2023
FDR Park

Hot dogs, burgers and outdoor games!
More on this event will be sent separately by email to the Section

the Catalyst

ACS Philadelphia Section

Founded April 15, 1899

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Comments From the Chair



Summer is nearly here, and so too the summer break for *the Catalyst*. Thank you to all the volunteers who make our Local Section's activities so vibrant and thank you to the Executive Committee for all your help in planning and executing this year's events.

Graham Dobereiner

There are two events I want to mention. First is our 50-, 60- and 70-year member luncheon on June 22nd (see the June Meeting Announcement later in this issue for details.) I am delighted that Albert Horvath, CEO of the ACS, will be in attendance to congratulate members on their achievement.

In July we will have a family-friendly Cookout in FDR park in Philadelphia on July 22nd, with hot dogs, burgers, and outdoor games. More on this event will be sent separately by email to the Section. Thanks to Ivona Sasimovich for planning this event.

Looking forward to seeing you around – and as always, please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any ideas or suggestions!

Photos from the 2023 Scholastic Achievement Awards on April 20, 2023 (©Joel Perlsh Photography):



Our 2023 teaching awardees: for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, **Dr. Elisabetta Fasella** (*left*), St. Joseph's University; for Excellence in Pre-College Teaching, **Bryan Hennessy** (*center*), Simon Gratz Mastery Charter, and **Heather Zajdel** (*right*), Philadelphia Juvenile Justice Services Center School.



Attendees at our event April 20th. Our sincere thanks to Prof. Linda Mascavage, Heather Sherman, and Arcadia University for generously hosting an extraordinary evening in the opulent Grey Towers Castle.

NEWS ATOMS—*Alan Warren*

Dirk Trauner, professor of chemistry and pharmacology at Penn, was named Honorary Skou Professor at Aarhus University in Denmark. He was one of a group of special adjunct professors who introduced new perspectives to teaching and strengthened relations with leading research units abroad.

Daeyeon Lee, professor in the chemical and biomolecular engineering department at Penn, received the ACS 2022 outstanding achievement award in nanoscience.

Shu Yang, professor in the department of materials science & engineering and chemical & biomolecular engineering at Penn, was awarded a Langmuir Lectureship of the ACS's division of colloid & surface chemistry.

DEATHS

Herman J. Hinitz, scientist and educator, June 2020. He taught chemistry, physics, biology, electrical engineering, computer technology, and earth science in the New York and Philadelphia public secondary school systems. He was an adjunct faculty member of Trenton State College and St. John's University, and a 50-year + member of ACS.

William J. Hurley, chemical industry executive, March 1, 2023 at 82. He joined DuPont's photo products department at its Experimental Station and later held several other positions at locations in Parlin, NJ, Rochester, NY and in the Netherlands. He was then named technical manager of DuPont's magnetic products division, and in 1993 was appointed director, alternate energy initiative in corporate planning. He

retired in 1999 and became a business fellow in Villanova's School of Business where he taught strategic management and entrepreneurship courses.

Donald W. McPhail, retired chemical engineer, April 8th at 97. He was employed in the petroleum industry and retired in 1986 as vice president of manufacturing at Atlantic Richfield after a 37-year career. He was involved with several cultural institutions in Philadelphia, serving as president of the Print Center, general manager of the Pennsylvania Ballet, vice president of finance and administration of the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, and emeritus trustee of the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

James Alan Wall, retired chemical engineer, April 20th at 79. He was employed by Union Carbide, BASF, Oxirane, and Atlantic Richfield. After retiring he taught chemistry in the West Chester area school district.

Carol Jean Bruner, retired research chemist, May 23rd at 77. She began as a research biochemist for Eastern Pennsylvania Psychiatric Institute and then started a family. She then joined Esschem as a research chemist and moved to quality control, regulatory affairs, and then health, safety and environment. She was active in the Philadelphia Section on the Social Committee and was a 56-year member of ACS.

Carol Jean was also active with the Delaware Valley Science Council, the Local Emergency Planning Committees for Pennsylvania and Delaware, and the Messiah Lutheran Church.

OPPORTUNITIES TO VOLUNTEER

Younger Chemists Committee Program and Event Planning Volunteers: The Younger Chemists Committee (YCC) is a committee of the Philadelphia Local Section focusing on the needs of undergraduate, graduate, postdoc, and early career chemists under 35 years old. The committee is looking for volunteers to help with program planning for the annual poster session to be held this Fall. Many hands make light work, so several volunteers are needed in this capacity! This is an excellent opportunity for students and early career chemists to assume leadership roles and network with likeminded scientists within the ACS community. The estimated time commitment would be less than 1 hour per week.

Contact Isabella Goodenough for more details at: igoodenough.acs@gmail.com



ACS Local Section
Philadelphia

June 2023 Meeting

Luncheon Honoring
50-, 60- and 70-year Members
With **Albert G. Horvath**
CEO of the American Chemical Society

Jun 22, 2023 | 11:00 AM EDT

William Penn Inn

1017 Dekalb Pike
Gwynedd, PA 19436



Awardee and One Guest are
Complimentary

Cost per Member is \$55

Additional Guest is \$55

Cost per Student is \$35

URL for registration (or use QR code above):

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2023-acsluncheon-honoring-50-60-and-70-year-members-tickets-636759774627>



ACS Local Section
Philadelphia

751st ACS Philadelphia Section Board of Directors Meeting

Call for Agenda

The 751st Meeting of the Board of Directors of the ACS Philadelphia Section will be held from **7:00 PM to 8:00 PM on Thursday, June 8, 2023** by teleconference.

- Those interested in being added to the agenda are kindly asked to send a request to the Chair (dob@temple.edu) by **Wednesday, June 7, 2023** for inclusion in the agenda.
- All Officers will be included on the agenda to verbally report by default.
- **Please Note:** If a written report or notice of a verbal report is not submitted to the Chair by the specified deadline, then all such reports will be relegated for discussion as "Other Business." Please note that the Chair cannot guarantee sufficient time for discussion in these cases.
- **All Board of Directors meetings will be open to the public.** Public access information for this teleconference will be released through the Section's website and by the Section's email blast.

Tentative Agenda

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Meeting Minutes
- III. Officers' Reports
- IV. Committee Reports
- V. 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: register by following this link:

<https://american-chemical-society.zoom.com/meeting/register/tZEkce6urTgqGdwsNlaLSUOwH5YoR2ovE8JI>

Zoom Meeting ID: 859 6763 3038

By Phone:

Phone Number: +1 646 558 8656 or +1 301 715 8592

Access Code: 859 6763 3038

Graham Dobereiner
Chair
dob@temple.edu

Sister Rose B. Mulligan
Secretary
rmulligan@immaculata.edu

Section Office
PhilaACS@gmail.com

Cc: Officers & Directors
Councilors & Alternate Councilors
Committee & Group Chairs

American Chemical Society – Philadelphia Section
231 South 34th Street, Office – 5th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6323
phillyacs.org

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
2023 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 2023 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 Joseph S. Francisco (University of Pennsylvania), Kurt W. Kolasinski (West Chester University), Marsha I. Lester (University of Pennsylvania), Michelle M. Franci (Bryn Mawr College), Yury Gogotsi (Drexel University), and David W. Christianson (University of Pennsylvania).

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING A 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 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 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 1, 2023 to the Chair of the Awards Committee at the Section Office address above.



The annual Chemagination competition, sponsored by the Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting (MARM), invited teams of high school students to imagine that they are living 25 years in the future and to write an article for *ChemMatters* magazine, describing a “recent” breakthrough or innovation in chemistry. In addition to the article, students are asked to design a cover for the magazine. The Philadelphia Local Section received eight entries across three categories.

Members of the Education & Outreach Committee judged the entries and selected three winners. Members of each team receive a \$50 award from the local section and a certificate. Additionally, the winning teams are invited to present their article at MARM on June 10 at St. John’s University.



Environment Winner
“Caterpillar Heroes”

Aubrey Revak, Sarah Giordano, & Olivia Slamm (Gwynedd Mercy Academy HS)



Medicine/Healthcare Winner
“A Lifesaving Headband” Lucia Weid & Lily Garwood (Gwynedd Mercy Academy HS)



New Materials Winner "Sustainable Clothing" Lucy Ke & Calliope Beatty
(Gwynedd Mercy Academy HS)



Chemagination 2023
Submitted by Tom Umile, Education & Outreach Chair



CHEMISTS CELEBRATE EARTH WEEK AT THE PLEASE TOUCH MUSEUM

The Section's Education & Outreach Committee joined forces with the Villanova Chemical Society to staff a table at the Please Touch Museum's "Big Ideas" Festival in Philadelphia on April 1 from 11am to 3pm. Volunteers from Villanova University celebrated Earth Week (a little early) and carried out safe and age-appropriate hands-on demonstrations with over 400 children visitors. Participants investigated Earth Week-themed topics such as how carbon dioxide pollution can cause ocean acidification and why oil spills are so dangerous and difficult to clean up. Participants each received a copy of the ACS's Earth Week-themed *Celebrating Chemistry* magazine.

On-site volunteers included Ashley Peterson, Daniel White, Hannah Melkonich, Sarah Flenner, Kathryn Hamel, Sophie Malik, Kristi Pham, and Tom Umile. Special thanks to the Please Touch Museum's Jenn Scarborough (Manager of Educational Programming) and Reid Bowen (Makerspace Coordinator) for helping make this event happen!

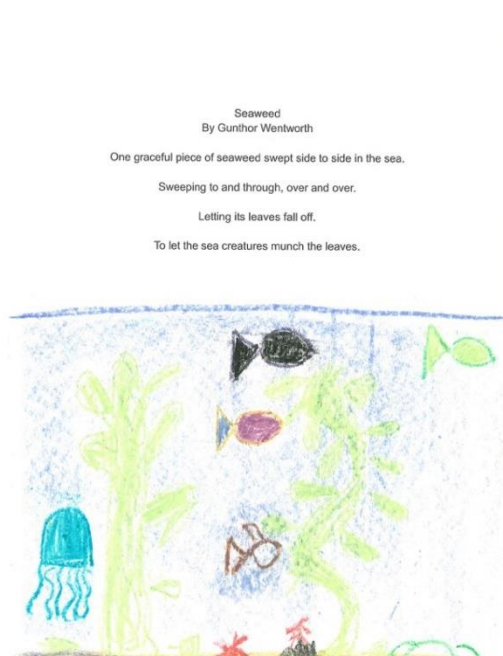


CCEW 2023 Outreach
Submitted by Tom Umile, Education & Outreach Chair

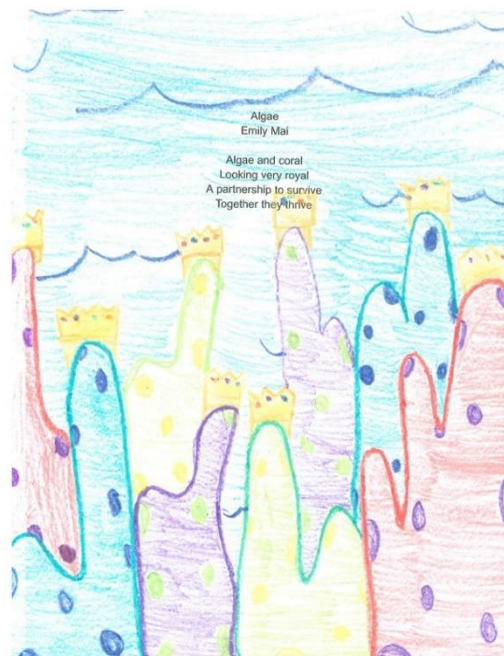


**CHEMISTS CELEBRATE EARTH WEEK
ILLUSTRATED POEM CONTEST**

The Philadelphia section once again hosted an illustrated poem contest for K – 12 grade students, receiving 59 entries! Submissions were judged by members of the Education & Outreach Committee, and winners were awarded in three grade categories. Winners each receive a \$50 prize and advance to ACS National's CCEW Illustrated Poem Contest. All participants also receive a certificate of participation. Special thanks to the grade school educators who encouraged their students to participate in this event!



K – 2 Winner
Gunthor Wentworth
Coebourn Elementary



3 – 5 Winner
Emily Mai
Pennell Elementary

*CCEW 2023 Illustrated Poem Contest
Submitted by Tom Umile, Education & Outreach Chair*



ACS
Chemistry for Life®



The Curious Chemistry of

AMAZING ALGAE

April 16-22, 2023

#CCEW



9 – 12 Winner

Katelyn Wang

Conestoga High School

CCEW 2023 Illustrated Poem Contest
Submitted by Tom Umile, Education & Outreach Chair

749th ACS Philadelphia Section Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, April 13, 2023

Teleconference Meeting

Present: Catherine Bentzley, Amy Brown, David J. Cichowicz, Melissa Cichowicz, Deborah H. Cook, Judith Cur-rano, Anne DeMasi, Graham Dobereiner, Wei Gao, Isabella Goodenough, Sharon Haynie, Matthew Irwin, Christine McInnis, James K. Murray, Ann Rowley, Ivona Sasimovich, Kathleen Shaginaw, Victor Tortorelli, Ann Valentine

Excused: Rick Ewing, Sr. Rose Mulligan, David Salas-de la Cruz, Wei Wang

The 749th Board Meeting of the Philadelphia Section, ACS, was called to order at 7:00 PM and Graham read the ACS Code of Conduct.

I. Roll Call

Roll was taken, a quorum was present, and the meeting began.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The March 9, 2023, 748th BoD meeting minutes were approved with amendments. Two abstentions were noted.

III. Officers' Reports:

a. **Chair** – Graham Dobereiner

- March Section Meeting
 - 87th Edgar Fahs Smith Memorial Lecture – well received.
 - Took place Thursday, March 16, 2023, 6:00 PM
 - University of Penn. Carolyn Hoff Lynch Lecture Hall, Dept. of Chemistry, 34th and Spruce Sts. Phila.
 - Dr. Squire J. Booker, gave a great talk: *A Radical Solution for C(sp³)-C(sp³) Bond Formation during the Biosynthesis of Macrocyclic Membrane Lipids*
 - 63 people attended in person, 10 people attended via Zoom.
- June Meeting
 - 50-, 60-, and 70-Year Member Luncheon
 - ACS CEO Al Horvath will attend
 - Survey will be emailed to eligible members to see who will attend. Those with no email will be contacted by regular mail.
 - Graham talked with Michael Castaldi of Senior Chemist Committee.
 - Pictures and brief biographies will be sent to *the Catalyst* for June or possibly September editions.
 - Event was at William Penn Inn in 2022. Discussion of other options ensued.

b. Immediate Past Chair—Ivona Sasimovich

- May Section Event – May 22nd.
 - Community Volunteering, 5:00 – 8:00 PM
 - Helping to prepare meals.
 - Manna, 420 N. 20th St., Phila, PA 19130
 - Sign up through Eventbrite and will be published in *the Catalyst*.
- July Meeting – TBD, networking event
 - possibly in a park – a cookout?
- MARM - Ivona attended the meeting and things are progressing.
- An election slate is being put together.

c. Chair-Elect - Matthew Irwin

- Teaching and Scholastic Achievement Awards, April 20th, Arcadia University.
- About 35 expected to attend.
- Some others from the Section will attend. Registration closes tomorrow.

d. Secretary – Jim Murray in Sr. Rose's absence.

- No report.

e. Treasurer – Wei Wang

- No report
- Expenses for the EFS lecture ran very high.
- There are expensive events coming up.
- About \$650 in revenue brought in
- Spent ~\$1,000. Overall, in the red for the event.
- Had financial help from Penn but need to consider other revenue sources.
- The motion to approve the treasurer's report was unanimously accepted.

f. Chair of Council Affairs – Anne DeMasi

- Talking points from Indianapolis ACS National Meeting available
- ACS president had 2 talking points
- District III Director – vote in October
- Director-at-Large on Fall ballot.
- Committee Reports
 - CPC divisor for the number of Councilors.
 - LSAC ACS speaker directory
 - Special discussion topic – what should national meetings look like going forward.

IV. Committee Reports

a. Career Services – Jim Murray

- No report

V. Other Business -

- a. Melissa getting membership back up. Community associates pay no dues. Exploring a push to have people join at no cost to them.

- b. YCC – Isabella Goodenough
 - Reported that YCC got a boost, poster session for Fall will happen.
 - Need younger chemists from industry for judges or general help.
- c. Industrial Relations Committee - seeking a new committee chair
- d. Catherine Bentzley reported that Chem Wars will be held on April 23rd. There is a need for volunteers and teams.
- e. WCC – Kathy Shaginaw
 - f. April 1, PAGES™ Session had 35 girls from 12 schools and 35 volunteers. Dr. Aimee Egler of Villanova was keynote speaker. Event went well.
 - g. Kathy has passed the leadership role to Allyson Marianelli and Gwenny Go.
 - h. Discussion of program longevity.

Next meeting, Thursday, May 11, 2023

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 PM.

James K. Murray
Sister Rose B. Mulligan, IHM

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.

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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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