

the Catalyst



ACS
Chemistry for Life™

November 2024
Volume 109, No.9



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2024 Ulliot Lecture and Award

Featuring Professor Omar Yaghi

Thursday, November 14, 2024 | 6 PM to 8 PM

Science History Institute

ADVANCE NOTICE

JANUARY MEETING

Speaker and Place TBD

For details, see the January issue of *the Catalyst*,
visit the section website phillyacs.org or email PhilaACS@gmail.com

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**Comments
From
the
Chair**



Dear Members and Friends of the Philadelphia Local Section,

As we approach the end of 2024, I want to remind you of our final event, the Ullyot Lecture, featuring Professor Omar Yaghi on Thursday, November 14th at the Science History Institute. Professor

Yaghi, a pioneer in reticular chemistry, will share his groundbreaking research on carbon capture and water harvesting, topics crucial to building a sustainable future. If you haven't reserved your complimentary tickets yet, I encourage you to do so soon by following this link: <https://bit.ly/3ZSVhWt>. Additional information about this event can be found later in this issue.

This year has been particularly special as we celebrated our 125th anniversary—a significant milestone in the rich history of our Section. From our Anniversary Gala to the Philadelphia Section Awards and other key events, this year has been a testament to the strength and legacy of our community.

As I write my final letter as Chair, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to the leadership team and all of you who contributed to making this milestone year so memorable. Your enthusiasm and support have driven the success of our events and strengthened our sense of community.

It's with great excitement that I pass the role of Chair to Dr. Wei Gao, an R&D Fellow at Dow, who will lead us into 2025. I'm confident that her leadership will bring new opportunities for growth and innovation.

Thank you for being part of this historic year, and I look forward to seeing you at the Ullyot Lecture!

Warm regards,

Dr. Matthew Irwin

Chair, ACS Philadelphia Local Section

Philadelphia Section Women Chemists Committee

The Philadelphia Section Women Chemists Committee (WCC) is seeking a highly motivated chemist or pair of chemists to serve as its chair(s). The main activities of the WCC have been the semi-annual Philadelphia Area Girls Enjoying Science (PAGESTM) programs, which have had only one session since the pandemic. The chair will work with PAGESTM's point of contact, Gwenny Go, to rebuild the program. We anticipate making a comeback in Fall 2025. Other activities to engage local WCC members are most welcome. For those who are interested, please contact Kathy Shaginaw at katshaginaw@gmail.com or Gwenny Go at gwenny.go@gmail.com.

NEWS ATOMS—*Alan Warren*

Eric Schelter, chemistry professor at the University of Pennsylvania, was 1 of 11 researchers to receive the Cottrell SEED (Singular Exceptional Endeavors of Discovery) award of the Research Corporation for Science Advancement. The award honors high-impact research activities. Schelter's research fields focus on synthetic inorganic and organometallic chemistry for metals separations, developing new materials with quantum properties, and understanding the roles of f-elements in biology.

DEATHS

Michael Stewart Lanham, Sr., industrial chemist, September 18, 2024 at 85. He served in the US Navy as a flight instructor and later joined DuPont where he worked as a new product development manager, retiring after 24 years.

MARM 2025

The 53rd Middle Atlantic Regional ACS Meeting

Will be held on May 28-31, 2025
at Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ.

Further details at <https://marm2025.com>

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

764th ACS Philadelphia Section Board of Directors Meeting

November 7, 2024
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. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Meeting Minutes
- III. Officers' Reports:
 - a. Chair – Matt Irwin
 - b. Immediate Past Chair – Graham Dobereiner
 - c. Chair-Elect – Wei Gao
 - d. Secretary – Andrew Devany
 - e. Treasurer – Wei Wang
 - f. Chair of Council Affairs – Anne DeMasi
- IV. Committee Reports
 - a. Budget & Finance – Vic Tortorelli
 - b. Career Services – Jim Murray
- 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/j/86436282837?pwd=STIwTy9paENWS1Myd2ZXQk4wSIIVidz09>

Zoom Meeting ID: 864 3628 2837

Password: 568816

By Phone:

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

Access Code: 864 3628 2837

Password: 568816

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Councilors & Alternate Councilors
Committee & Group Chairs

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phillyacs.org

2024 Ulliot Lecture and Award: Omar Yaghi

Thursday, November 14, 2024 | 6 PM to 8 PM

Science History Institute

315 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106

Join us for an inspiring lecture by Omar Yaghi, a pioneer in reticular chemistry and the James and Neeltje Tretter Chair Professor of Chemistry at the University of California, Berkeley. Dr. Yaghi's groundbreaking work in the field of metal-organic frameworks (MOFs), covalent organic frameworks (COFs), and zeolitic imidazolate frameworks (ZIFs) is paving the way for innovative solutions in carbon capture, water harvesting, and energy transformation.

Prof. Yaghi will highlight how 30 years of establishing the basic science of reticular materials has led to advancements in carbon capture from air and flue gas, and harvesting water from air to produce drinking water in various parts of the world. He will discuss efforts in taking this technology from the laboratory to the field, including the design and engineering of prototypes. These advancements are crucial in addressing clean air, clean energy, and clean water challenges, which are essential for building a sustainable future.

Key details:

- 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM | Lecture
- 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM | Reception
- Admission is free, but space is limited
 - Please reserve a ticket online: <http://bit.ly/3ZSVhWt>

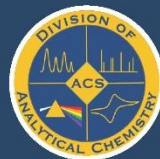
About the Ulliot Lecture:

Endowed in 1990 by chemist Glenn Edgar Ulliot, this lecture highlights the positive impact of chemical sciences and is presented with partners at the University of Pennsylvania, St. Joseph's University, and the Philadelphia and Delaware local ACS sections.

Scan to RSVP:



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Liangliang Sun, Ph.D.
Michigan State University



Jessica Rouge, Ph.D.
University of Connecticut



Shanlin Pan, Ph.D.
University of
Alabama

Featured ACS Award Symposium:

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760th ACS Philadelphia Section Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, 05-09-2024

Teleconference Meeting

Present: David J. Cichowicz, Melissa Cichowicz, Deborah H. Cook, Judith Currano, Anne DeMasi, Steve Fleming, Matthew Irwin, David Salas-de la Cruz, Ivona Sasimovich, Kathleen Shaginaw, Greglynn Gibbs, Andrew Devany, Isabella Goodenough, Wei Wang, Victor Tortorelli, Catherine Bentzley, Ella Davis, James K. Murray, Michael Castaldi, Sharon Haynie, JP Northrop, Abhipsa Srimani, Andres Vazquez-Lopez

Excused: Amy Brown, Graham Dobereiner, Ann Valentine, Rick Ewing, Wei Gao, Ann Rowley, Christine McInnis

The 759th Board Meeting of the Philadelphia Section, ACS, was called to order at 7:03 PM and Matthew Irwin read the ACS Code of Conduct.

I. Roll Call

Roll was taken, a quorum was present, and the meeting began at 7:03 PM.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The 758th BoD meeting minutes were approved with amendments.

Abstain - Sharon Haynie, Michael Castaldi, Catherine Bentzley, Isabella Goodenough

III. Officers' Reports:

● **Chair** – Matthew Irwin

- On May 1st 71 awardees and guests attended the Teaching and Students Awards at Arcadia University.
 - Tom Kwiatkowski of West Chester University gave a talk entitled “Chemistry of Beer” explaining the science behind brewing.
 - Overall, the night was very well received and everyone enjoyed celebrating both the awarded students and teachers.
 - There was a concern raised on how to better organize the event. From previous years, the award ceremony was split into two nights: one night for education awards and one night for student awards.
 - There was also a comment to provide more time to invite people and potentially ask the aid of the admin at the University of Pennsylvania to send out invitations and get responses.
 - Another issue arose from the management of the pages and there was agreement for future ceremonies to have an individual delegated for this task.
- The Edgar Fahs Smith Lecture may be pushed to Fall 2024 at the University of Pennsylvania.
- On June 1st and 2nd the Philadelphia Local Section is volunteering at the Devon Horse Show and Country Fair to support Bryn Mawr Hospital. Please email Melissa Cichowicz if interested in volunteering.
- On June 10th the 50-, 60-, and 70-year Member Luncheon Anniversary is being held from 11 A.M. to 2 P.M. at Wyndham Alumnae House in Bryn Mawr.
 - This event features guest speaker Dr. Michelle Francl, the Frank B. Mallory Professor of Chemistry from Bryn Mawr College. The tickets which will be on sale soon are currently priced around \$50.

- There is an inquiry to ask if Dr. Franci would be willing to sign books and speak about the writing process and inspiration for her recent book *Steeped: The Chemistry of Tea*.
- There is a request from each award recipient to give a brief bio for the June or September Catalyst.
- From Wednesday June 5th to Saturday June 8th the Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting (MARM) is being held at Pennsylvania State University Main Campus.
 - There will be some members from the Philadelphia Local Section attending. This sparked discussion about the potential sponsoring of a symposium, which could cost \$500. A tentative proposal will be shared with the Board of Directors in sponsoring a symposium or a table.
 - An action will be taken to validate which future years the Philadelphia Local Section is required to organize a symposium. An updated list will be made containing the current liaisons for future MARMs.
 - MARM 2025 will be held in New Jersey at Seton Hall University. This will be the North Jersey Local Section's anniversary.
- On June 6th Zhenzhen Dong, Chair of the Delaware American Chemical Society, is hosting a "Green Chemistry Symposium" at Pharmablock from 8:30 A.M. to 2 P.M.. The event is being held at 800 N 5 Points Rd, West Chester, PA.
 - If interested in attending, please contact Zhenzhen directly at Zhenzhen_dong@pharmablock.com.
- **Immediate Past Chair—Graham Dobereiner**
 - No Report.
 - If interested in running for office, please contact Graham directly.
- **Chair-Elect – Wei Gao**
 - No Report.
- **Secretary – Andrew Devany**
 - No report.
- **Treasurer – Wei Wang**
 - No report.
 - A verbal update was given regarding the IPG fund for the Philadelphia Local Section's 125th Anniversary. The Section has received \$3500 in funding.
 - If any councilors had attended the American Chemical Society Spring Meeting in New Orleans, please submit a report.
 - The financial report of the 2023 year was approved.
- **Chair of Council Affairs – Anne DeMasi**
 - No Report.
 - Will reach out to councilors who will be attending The American Chemical Society Meeting in Denver.

IV. Committee Reports

- **Career Services** – Jim Murray
 - No Report.
- **Philadelphia Area Chemistry Competition, PACC** - Catherine Bentzley
 - No Report.
- **MARM** - Judith Currano
 - No Report.
- **Budget** – Victor Tortorelli
 - No Report.

V. Additional Comments and Updates

- It was mentioned that there must be better organization of managing awards ceremonies. While the Awards Committee handles the process of education awards well, the committee does not handle the organization of all other awards regarding topics such as Salutes to Excellence, fellows, industry, etc.
 - There was a proposal to expand the Awards Committee or set up a companion committee to help assist.
 - Please contact Matthew Irwin if interested.
- The topical group Delaware Valley Enzymology Club has returned and recently held a poster session and dinner.

Next meeting, Thursday, 06-13-2024, 7:00 PM

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 PM.

Andrew Devany, Secretary

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, post doc, and early career chemists under 35 years old. The committee is looking for volunteers to help with program planning this year! 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.

All interested individuals can reach out to Isaac Choi at:

yongsuk.isaac@temple.edu

761st ACS Philadelphia Section Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, 06-13-2024
Teleconference Meeting

Present: David J. Cichowicz, Melissa Cichowicz, Deborah H. Cook, Judith Currano, Anne DeMasi, Steve Fleming, Matthew Irwin, Kathleen Shaginaw, Greglynn Gibbs, Isabella Goodenough, Wei Wang, Victor Tortorelli, James K. Murray, Michael Castaldi, Sharon Haynie, JP Northrop, Abhipsa Srimani, Andres Vazquez-Lopez, Graham Dobereiner, Amy Brown, Phillip Rakita, David Salas-de la Cruz, Ivona Sasimovich, Christine McInnis, Wei Gao

Excused: Ann Valentine, Rick Ewing, Ann Rowley, Andrew Devany, Catherine Bentzley, Ella Davis

The 761st Board Meeting of the Philadelphia Section, ACS, was called to order at 7:03 PM and Matthew Irwin read the ACS Code of Conduct.

I. Roll Call

Roll was taken, a quorum was present, and the meeting began at 7:03 PM. Matt Irwin noted at the beginning of the meeting that he would be utilizing AI and the meeting recording to take the minutes in the absence of Secretary Andrew Devany. The ACS Code of Conduct was read aloud by Matthew Irwin.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The approval of May's meeting minutes was deferred due to late revisions. Amended minutes will be shared by email for approval.

III. Officers' Reports:

• **Chair – Matthew Irwin**

■ **Recent Events:**

- Volunteering at Devon Horse Show: Held during the first weekend of June. Special thanks were extended to Melissa for coordinating volunteers and to all participants for their efforts. 50-, 60-, and 70-Year Member Appreciation Luncheon: Held on Monday, June 10, from 11 AM to 2 PM, featuring Professor Michelle Francl, Frank B. Mallory Professor of Chemistry at Bryn Mawr College, who delivered a well-received talk on the science of tea. The event had 28 attendees, including 7 honorees and 11 general members.
- Upcoming Events:
 - **Edgar Fahs Smith Lecture:** Rescheduled to be held at the University of Pennsylvania in the fall. The exact date is still to be determined.
 - **Philly Section Awards:** Nominations are needed with a deadline set for August 1, 2024.

• **Immediate Past Chair – Graham Dobereiner:**

- Continues working on the slate for the fall election, focusing on identifying suitable chair-elect candidates. Encouraged members to consider nominating themselves or others.

• **Chair-Elect – Wei Gao:**

- Expressed gratitude to Deborah Cook for her guidance on organizing the section awards. Mentioned challenges in accessing Google Drive while traveling in China.
- Outlined plans to reach out to potential award nominees and coordinate with the Awards Committee.

• **Treasurer – Wei Wang:**

■ No additional information was presented. The treasurer's report was accepted without comment.

- **Chair of Council Affairs – Anne DeMasi:**

■ Reported that 8 out of 10 counselors have committed to attend the national meeting in Denver. Awaiting confirmation from the remaining 2 and plans to follow up within the week.

IV. Committee Reports

- **Career Services – Jim Murray**

■ Noted increased activity in the Career Services email account and ongoing efforts to connect members with career support. Announced a potential joint event with the Committee on Minority Affairs (CMA).

- **125th Anniversary Committee – Anne DeMasi and Deborah H. Cook:**

■ 125th Anniversary Gala Details:

- Date & Venue: September 4th, 2024, at the Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History.
- Keynote Speaker: Dr. Joe DeSimone.
 - Al Horvath will also be in attendance.
- Budget Overview:
 - Estimated Total Cost: \$25,000
 - Funds Secured: \$11,000
 - Additional Funding Requested: Initially, a motion was made to approve an additional \$10,000 in funding to cover event costs.
- Budget Discussion:
 - Graham Dobereiner raised concerns that the initial \$10,000 might not be sufficient to cover all anticipated expenses, including potential additional costs such as photography support, marketing, AV services, decorations, floral arrangements, printed programs, and advertising to maximize event attendance. Deborah Cook highlighted various additional considerations, including AV costs (estimated around \$1,500 but potentially higher), floral arrangements, printed programs, and marketing efforts required to promote the event effectively, especially since *the Catalyst* publication would not be active over the summer.
- Revised Funding Request:
 - After thorough discussion and consideration of potential additional expenses to ensure the event's success, the committee decided to increase the funding request.
 - Final Authorization: The committee moved to authorize an additional \$20,000 in funding instead of the initially requested \$10,000.
 - Motion and Vote: Matt Irwin presented the motion to approve the additional \$20,000 in funding. David Cichowicz seconded the motion. The motion was put to a vote and passed unanimously, thereby authorizing \$20,000 to cover the remaining costs of the 125th Anniversary Gala.
 - MARM - Judith Currano
 - No Report
 - Next MARM is at Seton Hall University in 2025.

V. Additional Comments and Updates

- None

Next meeting, Thursday, 09-12-2024, 7:00 PM

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Chemical Consultants Network ZOOM MEETING

NOVEMBER 13, 2024

A SHORT DISCUSSION ABOUT CCN 2025-2026

Youwen Xu – CCN Chair 2025-2026

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

[Click here to register](#)

Location: Online via Zoom! (registration open on November 1st, see below)

Abstract: Chemical Consultants Network (CCN) is a non-profit organization of over consultants - chemists, chemical engineers, life scientists and other interested scientists and engineers of other chemical-allied disciplines. Our mission is to help start, practice and enhance consulting opportunities to interesting parties/individuals who are interested in consulting business.

Even though we have tried to resume our life to normalcy, it is undeniable that technology which thrived during the COVID-19 pandemic has changed many aspects of our daily personal interaction and business conduct. Like many other small groups/organizations, it seems we are losing our steam. How to regain our vitality is the question I want to discuss, and my perspectives about some critical issues concerning the healthy operation and future development of CCN.

The bi-annual official election for the term of 2025-2026 is underway. Vacant official positions are waiting to be filled. I would also like to collect recommendations or volunteers for serving our organization as officials or as a subcommittee members.

Biography: Youwen Xu, a radio chemist, worked in the field of radiopharmaceutical R&D and molecular imaging in DOE laboratories and large pharmaceutical company for about 18 years. Youwen formally joined the CCN in 2018 and started to practice as an independent consultant/contractor in radiopharmaceutical development and validation in 2020. Youwen is serving as the Publicity Chair (2021-2024) and the Chair Elect (2023-2024) of CCN, and is going to Chair the organization for the coming two years (2025-2026).

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

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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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