

the Catalyst



February 2025
Volume 110, No. 2



Meet Our Committees Event

HIGHLIGHTS

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ADVANCE NOTICE

MARCH MEETING

ACS CCC Transformative Natural Polymers Webinar Series

Perspective of Natural Polymers as an Alternative Measure to Address Plastic Pollution

Thursday March 6th, 7:00 PM

Jun Wang, PhD

See the MARCH issue of *the Catalyst* for details, and page 19 of this issue, call the Section Office at (267) 485-1792 or email PhilaACS@gmail.com.

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Advertising: Victor Tortorelli, vtortorelli@ursinus.edu

Comments From the Chair



I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our previous chairs, committee chairs, members, and Board directors for their dedication and the rich activities they have arranged for our section.

January 2025 has been an eventful month both in the US and globally. The American Chemical Society (ACS) announced its new [Strategic Plan 2025-2029](#) on January 1st. This plan captures the dynamic nature of the organization by focusing on supporting a global community. Approved by the ACS Board of Directors in December 2024, the new strategic plan is guided by a commitment to improve lives through the transforming power of chemistry. Its vision of a world built on science, and its mission to advance scientific knowledge, empower a global community, champion scientific integrity, and further define the path forward for the organization. The four core values of ACS are Passion for Science, Inclusion and Belonging, Lifelong Learning, and Sustainability. The four strategic goals are to Elevate the Reputation of Science, Empower Scientists, Enhance Community Engagement, and Deliver Innovative Solutions.

Our Section kicked off 2025 with the "Meet our Committees" event at the Workhorse Brewery in King of Prussia with 30 people attending, despite the cold weather following a winter storm. It was a pleasure to meet committee chairs, especially those meeting in person for the first time. Many great ideas were shared on how to better serve our members and plan new events. Additionally, we welcomed new volunteers to our committees to support the ACS Philly Section.

Another highlight in January was the Retirement Workshop led by former ACS President Bill Carroll. Organized by our Career Service Committee, this workshop was designed for those planning the next phase of their lives. The workshop emphasized reflecting on our core values and strengths and planning to pursue our dreams, whether it be a dream retirement or a dream career through a strategic plan approach.

January 29th marked the Lunar New Year. As a Chinese American, I extend my warmest wishes for a Happy Lunar New Year to all who celebrate it. I wish you and your loved ones a joyous and prosperous year ahead. We invite everyone to join our New Year Party on February 8th co-hosted with the East Chapter of the Chinese American Chemical Society (CACS), which has an official partnership with ACS. Details can be found in the January issue of *the Catalyst*.

Looking ahead to February, we have several calls for award nominations. Please help us recognize our outstanding teachers and volunteers by nominating them for the corresponding ACS Philly and/or Middle Atlantic Region Meeting awards. Putting together a nomination package takes time and effort, and I want to thank our nominators in advance.

In March, we will have our first new technical seminars/webinars jointly with the ACS Convergent Chemistry Community (CCC) on Transformative Natural Polymers for the 21st century materials. This platform will provide opportunities for knowledge exchange, professional growth, and community building. The CCC was established in Q4 2024 through a collaboration of five ACS technical divisions (POLY, PMSE, AGFD, ENVR, and CARB) and the ACS Green

Chemistry Institute (GCI). On March 6th, we will introduce the CCC, and Dr. Jun Wang, the Co-chair of the CCC and the ACS GCI Natural Polymers Consortium, will present the Perspective of Natural Polymers as An Alternative Measure to Address Plastic Pollution.

The ACS Spring National Meeting will be held from March 23-27 in San Diego this year. Some of us will attend the National Meeting in person or virtually, and registration is now open. The abstract submission for the Fall National Meeting (Washington, DC) has been open since January 8th and closes on March 31st. A Natural Polymer CCC-related symposium, "Innovations in Natural Polymer Science for Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security," can be found under POLY and AGFD's programs.

Lastly, we are eager to hear from you. Please reach out to us through email or LinkedIn with your suggestions and questions.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our section. I look forward to a successful and inspiring year ahead.

Sincerely,

Wei Gao

Chair, Philadelphia Local Section
American Chemical Society

NEWS ATOMS—*Alan Warren*

Joseph S. Francisco, professor of earth and environmental science and professor of chemistry at Penn will receive the 2025 Spectroscopy Award from the Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh. The award will be presented at Pittcon in Boston in March.

DEATHS

James L. Smith, retired microbiologist, May 31, 2024 at 94. From 1963 to 1971 he studied the effects of microorganisms on fats at the Agricultural Research Center in Beltsville, MD. He then moved to the Eastern Regional Research Center in Philadelphia where he studied the microbiology of meat fermentations and microbial food safety of meat products. He retired in 1990 and became a USDA collaborator at ERRC, serving as a mentor, and writing review articles and book chapters on food safety subjects. He was an ACS member for over 60 years.

Joseph A. Lannon, chemist and director of research and development, August 16th at 84. He first worked at Frankford Arsenal and in 1972 transferred to Picatinny Arsenal. From 2005 to 2010 he served as director of the armament R&D center (ARDEC) at Picatinny, overseeing a workforce of 3600 people, 64 laboratories, 800 buildings, and a budget of one billion dollars. In 2007 President George W. Bush and Commerce Secretary Carlos Gutierrez announced that ARDEC was

the first federal recipient of the prestigious Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award for organizational excellence.

John Yardley, retired pharmaceutical chemist, October 17th at 89. Born in England, he moved to the USA to complete two post-doc positions. He was engaged by Wyeth-Ayerst and then Pfizer for over 35 years, retiring as associate director of chemistry.

Merrill Lynn, retired R&D chemist, November 3rd at 93. He worked for Dow Chemical, Esso (now Exxon) from 1961 to 1969, and then Corning from 1970 to 1995. He obtained a number of patents and developed new products. Some of his applications were for fiber optic cable, the first troponin test to detect heart attacks, equipment for collecting and testing blood samples, a catalytic converter component, and he helped in the development of Saran Wrap and blister packaging.

Donald John Aberhart, enzyme chemist. No further details available.

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 Choie at: yongsuk.isaac@temple.edu

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

767th ACS Philadelphia Section Board of Directors Meeting

February 13th, 2025
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 – Wei Gao
 - b. Immediate Past Chair – Matt Irwin
 - c. Chair-Elect – Andrew Devany
 - d. Secretary – Anne DeMasi
 - e. Treasurer – Ivona Sasimovich Macor
 - f. Chair of Council Affairs – Deborah Cook
- IV. Committee Reports
 - a. Communication – Lee Hoffman
 - b. Career Services – Jim Murray
 - c. Minority Affairs – Greglynn Gibbs
- 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=STIwTy9paENWSlMyd2ZXQk4wSHVldz09>

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

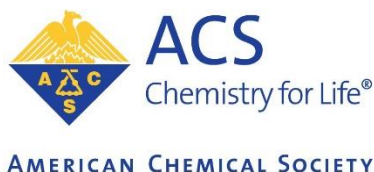
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Cc: Officers & Directors
Councilors & Alternate Councilors
Committee & Group Chairs

American Chemical Society – Philadelphia Section
231 South 34th Street, Office – 5th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6323
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Convergent Chemistry Community On
Transformative Natural Polymers
for the 21st Century Materials

ACS CCC Transformative Natural Polymers Webinar Series

*Perspective of Natural Polymers as an Alternative Measure to Address
Plastic Pollution*

Jun Wang, PhD

Director, Global Packaging, Packaging Innovation, Colgate Palmolive Company
Co-founder and Co-chair, Natural Polymer Consortium (NPC)

DATE & TIME: Thursday March 6th, 7:00 PM

Location: Online via Zoom, click [here](#) or scan the QR code to register

Abstract: Plastic is a fantastic material innovation in the 20th century. Due to its performance advantages, processability and cost-effectiveness, plastic has replaced most of our daily used materials, i.e., metals, glass, paper, etc. since its mass production in the middle of last century and is now ubiquitous, which also causes the waste pollution problem. In this talk, I will share the industrial perspective on the plastic waste pollution problem, the current efforts on the potential solutions and their limitations, as well as several misconceptions in this area. In addition, I'd share the thinking process on how and why we are proposing natural polymers as an alternative solution to complement the current societal efforts on curbing plastic waste pollution.

Biography: Dr. Jun Wang currently works as a Director in Packaging Innovation, Global Design and Packaging group, Colgate-Palmolive Company. Dr. Wang has his PhD in Polymer Chemistry and with over 30 years' experience on polymers. Between 2014-2020, he led the development of the first-of-its-kind recyclable plastic tube, which received recognitions from the recycling industry, including the APR (Association of Plastic Recyclers in NA) and PRE (Plastic Recyclers Europe). Recently, Dr. Wang initiated the consortium on natural polymers (NPC), together with the ACS Green Chemistry Institute, to seek an alternative solution to curb plastic pollution. Dr. Wang serves as co-chair for NPC and ACS CCC on Transformative Natural Polymers.

Co-Hosts:

The Philadelphia Local Section of ACS
ACS technical Divisions of POLY, PMSE, AGFD, ENVR and CARB
ACS GCI Natural Polymer Consortium
Chinese American Chemical Society





**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
2025 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 2025 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 2025 will be accepted until March 1, 2025.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING NOMINATIONS

- 1) **A Nominator Recommendation** of not more than 750 words submitted by the nominator.
- 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 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 April Section meeting with a plaque and an honorarium



**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
2025 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 2025 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 2025 will be accepted until March 1, 2025.

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 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 during the April Section meeting with a plaque
and an honorarium**

PITTCON. PRODUCES. WINNERS.

HERE ARE JUST A FEW.



Pittcon Spectroscopy Award
Joseph S. Francisco, Ph.D.
University of Pennsylvania



Pittcon Analytical Chemistry Award
Daniel W. Armstrong, Ph.D.
University of Texas at Arlington



Pittcon Achievement Award
Long Luo, Ph.D.
University of Utah



Ralph N. Adams Award
Lloyd M. Smith, Ph.D.
University of Wisconsin
- Madison



ACS-Analytical Division
Investigator in Separation
Science Award
Xiao Su, Ph.D.
University of Illinois,
Urbana - Champaign



Chromatography Forum
of Delaware Valley
Dal Nogare Award
Terry A. Berger, Ph.D.
In Memoriam



Coblentz Society
Williams-Wright Award
David W. Schiering, Ph.D.
908 Devices, Inc.



LCGC Lifetime Achievement
in Chromatography Award
Christopher Pohl, Ph.D.
Retired - Thermo Fisher Scientific



LCGC Emerging Leader in
Chromatography Award
Katelynn Perrault Uptmor, Ph.D.
College of William & Mary



SEAC: Charles N. Reilley Award
Susan Lunte, Ph.D.
University of Kansas



SEAC: Royce W. Murray Award
Hang Ren, Ph.D.
University of Texas at Austin

Be a part of the Pittcon Program, submit your abstract:
pittcon.org/conference/technical-program/#submit-poster



Pittcon
Conference and Exposition

Register for Pittcon Today | Boston, Massachusetts, USA | March 1-5, 2025 | pittcon.org/register

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>

Stanley C. Israel Regional Award for Advancing Diversity in the Chemical Sciences

To recognize individuals and/or institutions who have advanced diversity in the chemical sciences and significantly stimulated or fostered activities that promote inclusiveness within the region. The Stanley C. Israel Regional Award consists of a medal and a \$1,000 grant to support and further the activities for which the award was awarded.

Nominees may come from academia, industry, government, or independent entities, and may also be organizations, including ACS Local Sections and Divisions. The nominee must have created and fostered ongoing programs or activities that result in increased numbers of persons from diverse and underrepresented minority groups, persons with disabilities, or women who participate in the chemical enterprise.

Submission deadline is **March 1, 2025**.

See nomination form for further details at [Stanley C. Israel Regional Award for Advancing Diversity in the Chemical Sciences - American Chemical Society](#)





CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

ACS Division of Chemical Education (CHED) Region Award for Excellence in High School Teaching

This award is to recognize, encourage, and stimulate outstanding teachers of high school chemistry in the Middle Atlantic Region. The Region Award consists of a cash award and a plaque.

The nominee must be actively engaged in the teaching of chemistry or a chemical science in a high school (grades 9-12) on at least a half-time basis.

Submission deadline is **March 8, 2025**. See nomination form for further details.

[NOMINATION FORM_2025_CHED Excellence in High School Teaching - Google Docs](#)

Who is Eligible?

The nominee must be actively engaged in the teaching of chemistry or a chemical science in a high school (grades 9-12) on at least a half-time basis. The nomination should clearly demonstrate as many of the following attributes as possible:

- The quality of the nominee's teaching; unusually effective methods of presentation should be emphasized;
- The nominee's ability to challenge and inspire students;
- Extracurricular work in chemistry or a chemical science by the nominee, including science fairs, science clubs, and activities that stimulate the interest of young people in chemistry and related sciences;
- A willingness to keep up-to-date in the field, as evidenced by the pursuit of a higher degree in chemistry or a chemical science, enrollment in refresher courses and summer institutes, regular attendance at scientific meetings, membership in professional organizations, and other means of self-improvement;
- Evidence of leadership and/or active involvement within the profession.





CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

William “Bill” Suits Undergraduate Middle Atlantic Region Award for Outstanding Student Volunteer Service to the American Chemical Society



This award is to recognize an outstanding undergraduate student who has provided exemplary volunteer service in the Mid-Atlantic Region of the ACS.

The MARM Board will recognize Bill Suits by funding a yearly award to an outstanding undergraduate in the MARM area to attend MARM. The “William “Bill” Suits Undergraduate MARM Award will cover travel, registration, two hotel nights, and reasonable meal expenses up to a total of \$1,000.

Submission deadline is **March 8, 2025**.

See nomination form for further details at

[NOMINATION FORM 2025 William “Bill” Suits Undergraduate MARM 2025 Award for Outstanding Student Volunteer](#)



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

E. Ann Nalley Middle Atlantic Region Award for Volunteer Service to the American Chemical Society



This award is to recognize the volunteer efforts of individuals who have served the American Chemical Society, contributing significantly to the goals and objectives of the Society through their Regional Activities. The award consists of a plaque honoring the recipient with an imbedded medallion commemorating Dr. Nalley.

A nominee must be a member of the American Chemical Society residing in the Mid Atlantic Region and have made significant contributions to their Region of the American Chemical Society.

Submission deadline is **March 8, 2025**. See nomination form for further details.

See nomination form for further details at

[NOMINATION FORM 2025_E. Ann Nalley Award for Volunteer Service - Google Docs](#)

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
E. Emmet Reid Award in Chemistry Teaching at Small Colleges
in the ACS Middle Atlantic Region

This award is to recognize, encourage and honor high quality and outstanding achievements in teaching and research at small colleges in Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting (MARM) of the American Chemical Society.

Criteria:

- The candidate need not be a member of the American Chemical Society.
- The Award committee of the MARM will review the candidates and select the nominee.
- The nominee will be presented the Award during the forthcoming MARM. The nominee is expected to deliver a short acceptance speech.
- Unsuccessful candidate's files will be kept active for a period of three years upon receipt of a letter from the nominating section chairman or secretary. Any further updating of the candidates' file will be welcomed at that time but is not mandatory.
- The Award will consist of \$1,000 and a major award plaque.



See nomination form for further details.

[NOMINATION FORM 2025 E. Emmet Reid Award Teaching at Small Colleges](#)

Submission deadline is March 8, 2025 to MARM, but the nomination content must be submitted to ACS Philly local section for review no later than March 5th.

Please note the nominations for the Award are made by the Local Sections of the Middle Atlantic Region. The Chairman or Secretary of the Section must sign and transmit the nomination to the MARM Award Committee Chairman.

762nd ACS Philadelphia Section Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, 09-12-2024

Teleconference Meeting

Present: David J. Cichowicz, Deborah H. Cook, Anne DeMasi, Matthew Irwin, Kathleen Shaginaw, Greglynn Gibbs, Isabella Goodenough, Wei Wang, Victor Tortorelli, James K. Murray, Sharon Haynie, Andres Vazquez-Lopez, Ann Valentine, Graham Dobereiner, Wei Gao, Christine McInnis, Andrew Devany

Excused: Rick Ewing, Ann Rowley, Catherine Bentzley, Ella Davis, Michael Castaldi, Amy Brown, Melissa Cichowicz, Ivona Sasimovich, Judith Currano

The 763rd 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 approval of May's and June's meeting minutes was deferred due to late revisions. Amended minutes will be shared by email for approval.

III. Officers' Reports:

● **Chair** – Matthew Irwin

- 125th Anniversary Gala was a wonderful way to commemorate the 125th year anniversary of the local Philadelphia Section
 - Took place at the Weitzman National Museum on Wednesday, September 4th.
 - Approximately 120 people in attendance, including 8 sponsored tables with fresh and familiar faces from local institutions.
 - Thank you again to the gala committee and to co-chairs Anne Demasi and Deborah Cook for their dedication and work they put into making this happen!
 - Thank you to Matt Irwin for inviting guests, coordinating the event program, and all the tremendous work accomplished to bring the night together!
- The Edgar Fahs Smith Lecture honored Emily Balskus at the University of Pennsylvania on Monday, September 9th.
 - There were between 50 to 60 people in attendance along with 25 on Zoom.
- The Philadelphia Local Section Awards are being hosted at Temple University.
 - A new date is currently being selected to avoid conflict with Rosh Hashanah ending on October 4th. It was suggested that the awards event be held during the week of October 21st.
 - There is also an effort to work with Temple University to help facilitate parking for the event.
- The Undergraduate Student Tour at the Science History Institute will be rescheduled to avoid any conflict with Yom Kippur and Sukkot.
 - The time slot is targeted from 11 AM to 4:30 PM.
 - The event allows undergraduate students to engage and interact with Senior Chemists.

- Events that conflicted with multiple Jewish holidays in October sparked discussion on The Local Section's goal and strategy on being more inclusive going forward.
 - It was mentioned that in planning future events there should be a calendar listed with black out dates to avoid any conflicts with any religious and sacred holidays that should be referenced.
 - The annual calendar on the ACS website will be modified to reflect these dates as well.
- The Ulliyot Lecture will be held on Thursday, November 14th featuring Omar Yaghi, James and Neeltje Tretter Chair Professor of Chemistry at UC Berkeley. Zoom will not be an option.
 - The topic of the lecture is ultra-porous crystals for carbon and water capture
 - Some other Notable Honors are listed below:
 - Pioneer in reticular chemistry-known for developing metal organic framework (MOF) covalent Organic Frameworks (COFs), Zeolitic Imidazolate Frameworks(ZIFs)
 - Yaghi's work has over 270,000 citations and applications in energy storage, carbon capture, and water harvesting.
 - Member of US National Academy of Science, Royal Society of Chemistry Sustainable Water Award, Wolf Prize in Chemistry.
- **Immediate Past Chair** – Graham Dobereiner
 - No Report.
- **Chair-Elect** – Wei Gao
 - No Report.
- **Secretary** - Andrew Devany
 - No Report.
- **Treasurer** – Wei Wang
 - Asked that any outstanding reports for the previous Council and National Meeting be submitted.
 - Approval of Treasurer's Report was approved by Anne De Masi and seconded by Deborah Cook.
- **Chair of Council Affairs** – Anne DeMasi:
 - Gave an update that there was a full slate of councilors who attended the Councilors Meeting in Denver.
 - Highlights from the councilors meeting include:
 - Increasing meeting attendance cost to \$550.
 - The council approved the Petition for Global Representation on Council.

IV. Committee Reports

- **Career Services** – Jim Murray
 - No Report.
- **Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting (MARM)** - Judith Currano
 - No Report
- **Teller's Report** - Steve Fleming
 - Tellers' Committee is progressing on ballot preparation for SurveyMonkey.
 - Request that candidates send missing biographical information.
- **Committee on Minority Affairs (CMA)**- Greglynn Gibbs
 - Mentioned that the committee is focused on aligning with National Inclusivity Guidelines.

- The committee is planning on targeting different months to focus on diversity and build interest about the section.

V. Additional Comments and Updates

- It was mentioned that there should be a committee to reach out to interested individuals to mentor them.
- Bill Carroll offered to come to the Local Section to hold a workshop on retirement for SCC and CCN members.

Next meeting, Thursday, 10-10-2024, 7:00 PM

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 PM.

763rd ACS Philadelphia Section Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, 10-10-2024

Teleconference Meeting

Present: David J. Cichowicz, Deborah H. Cook, Judith Currano, Matthew Irwin, Kathleen Shaginaw, Isabella Goodenough, Wei Wang, Victor Tortorelli, James K. Murray, Sharon Haynie, Ann Valentine, Graham Dobereiner, Wei Gao, Andrew Devany, Steve Fleming, Ann Rowley, Catherine Bentzley, Amy Brown, Melissa Cichowicz, Tony Addison, Tiffany Ngo, Bill Carroll

Excused: Christine McInnis, Anne DeMasi, Ivona Sasimovich, Greglynn Gibbs, Andres Vazquez-Lopez

The 763rd Board Meeting of the Philadelphia Section, ACS, was called to order at 7:00 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 7:00 PM.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The approval of May and June's meeting minutes was approved. Meeting minutes for September are deferred until the next meeting.

III. Officers' Reports:

- **Chair** – Matthew Irwin

■ Upcoming Events:

- Undergraduate Students' Tours of the Science History Institute is being held on Saturday, October 19th from 11 AM to 4:30 PM.
- 2024 Philadelphia Section is presenting the ACS Section Award to Dr. Ronald M. Levy on Wednesday October 30th.
 - Dr. Levy will present a seminar entitled "Joy of Science" at Temple University which will be followed by a dinner.
- 2024 Ulliot Lecture is taking place on November 14th at the Science History Institute from 6 PM to 7 PM followed by a reception.

- Omar Yaghi will discuss advancements in reticular chemistry and its applications in carbon capture, water harvesting, and energy solutions.
- **Immediate Past Chair** – Graham Dobereiner
 - No Report
- **Chair-Elect** – Wei Gao
 - No Report
- **Secretary** - Andrew Devany
 - No Report
- **Treasurer** – Wei Wang
 - No report
- **Chair of Council Affairs** – Anne DeMasi
 - No report

IV. Committee Reports

- **Career Services** – Jim Murray
 - Bill Carroll attended as a guest to discuss a retirement workshop organized through ACS Career Pathways, aimed at motivating recent retirees and those preparing for retirement.
 - The focus of the workshop is on three essential pillars: identity, structure, and purpose.
 - The workshop features three hours of content designed to optimize meetings via Zoom, including some pre-work to help participants prepare. This initiative provides valuable insights for retirement planning, and feedback is needed from the Senior Chemist Committee.
 - The target date for the workshop is for February or March.
- **Teller's committee**- Steve Fleming
 - 180 votes in the current 2025 election.
 - Voting is still ongoing, October 30th is the last day for the voting.

V. Additional Comments and Updates

- The Ulliot committee met and deliberated for suggestions and nominees for the 2025 lecture-ship.
- The Minority Affairs Committee met to discuss future events and involvement.

Next meeting, Thursday, 11-07-2024, 7:00 PM

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 PM.

764th ACS Philadelphia Section Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, 11-07-2024

Teleconference Meeting

Present: David J. Cichowicz, Deborah H. Cook, Judith Currano, Matthew Irwin, Kathleen Shaginaw, Isabella Goodenough, Wei Wang, Victor Tortorelli, James K. Murray, Sharon Haynie, Ann Valentine, Graham Dobereiner, Wei Gao, Andrew Devany, Christine McInnis, Anne DeMasi, Ivona Sasimovich Macor, Steve Fleming, Amy Brown, Melissa Cichowicz, Tony Addison, Andres Vazquez-Lopez

Excused: Ann Rowley, Catherine Bentzley, Greglynn Gibbs, Michael Castaldi, David Salas de la Cruz

The 764th Board Meeting of the Philadelphia Section, ACS, was called to order at 7:00 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 7:00 PM.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The approval of September and October meeting minutes was approved.

III. Officers' Reports:

- **Chair – Matthew Irwin**
 - Many thanks to those who participated in the Undergrad Student Tour of the Science History Museum.
 - The Philadelphia Section Awards honored Dr. Ronald Levy at Temple University. Dr. Levy presented a seminar entitled “The Joy of Science.” Both the talk and reception went well, offering an opportunity to network between the local Philadelphia section and Temple University.
 - Omar Yaghi was awarded the 2024 Ulliot Award and presented on reticular chemistry and its applications in carbon capture, water harvesting, and energy solutions.
 - The end of year volunteer appreciation dinner is targeted for the week of December 16th with a potential date of Thursday, December 19th.
 - 2025 USNCO Participation Overview and Call for Leadership offers a participation opportunity for the Local Section.
- **Immediate Past Chair – Graham Dobereiner**
 - No Report
- **Chair-Elect – Wei Gao**
 - Presented a schedule describing events in each month for the upcoming 2025 year for ease of planning. This sparked discussion on how best to arrange which events in each month and how to coordinate with other universities, events, and venues.
 - Emphasized to give everyone at least 2-month advance notice of event for planning
 - 2024 Goals and Accomplishments of Chair Elect:
 - Social events in January and February were well received and will continue in 2025.
 - Accomplished the Local Section Awards in April and October.
 - The Ulliot and industry awards will be held in November 2025 respectively.

- Worked with current and past chairs on restructuring committees and establish charters for 5 committees in 2024 to pave the way for enhanced communication, industry member engagement, and new mentorship program in 2025.
- **Secretary** - Andrew Devany
 - No Report
- **Treasurer** – Wei Wang
 - Treasurer’s report approved
- **Chair of Council Affairs** – Anne DeMasi
 - No report

IV. Committee Reports

- **Career Services** – Jim Murray
 - No Report
- **Teller’s Committee**- Steve Fleming
 - Approved Andrew Devany as 2025 Chair-Elect.
 - Approved Ivona Macor as 2025 Treasurer.
 - Approved Catherine Bentzley, Melissa Cichowicz, Deborah H. Cook, Isabella Goodenough, and Ann M. Valentine as Directors for 2025- 2027.
 - Approved Anne S. DeMasi, Melissa Cichowicz, and Georgia Arbuckle-Keil as Councilors for 2025-2027
 - Approved Graham Dobereiner, David J. Cichowicz, and James K. Murray as Alternate Councilors for 2025-2027.

V. Additional Comments and Updates

- Liberty Bowl Discussion Inventory and Vendor Update:
 - There are 4 Liberty bowls remaining. The Section is currently looking for a new vendor as the old vendor is out of business.
 - The 2024 Ulliot Lecture Award has been etched and shipped to Science History Institute.
- Next Year budget to be considered, need to reach out to some individuals for contacts. Need a budget request by Friday, November 29th.
- There is a need for a temporary working committee to update the Section by-laws for National.

Next meeting, Thursday, 12-14-2024, 7:00 PM

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

765th ACS Philadelphia Section Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, 12-12-2024

Teleconference Meeting

Present: David J. Cichowicz, Deborah H. Cook, Judith Currano, Matthew Irwin, Kathleen Shaginaw, Isabella Goodenough, Wei Wang, Victor Tortorelli, James K. Murray, Sharon Haynie, Ann Valentine, Graham Dobereiner, Wei Gao, Andrew Devany, Christine McInnis, Anne DeMasi, Ivona Sasimovich, Steve Fleming, Amy Brown, Melissa Cichowicz, Tony Addison, Andres Vazquez-Lopez, Greglynn Gibbs, David Salas de la Cruz

Excused: Ann Rowley, Catherine Bentzley, Michael Castaldi, Sharon Haynie, Wei Wang

The 765th Board Meeting of the Philadelphia Section, ACS, was called to order at 7:00 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 7:00 PM.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The November meeting minutes were approved.

III. Officers' Reports:

- **Chair** – Matthew Irwin
 - End of Year volunteer appreciation dinner at Yards brewing company on December 17th.
 - Website has been updated with links and recordings of 2024 events.
 - 2025 Meetings and Secretary Position
- No available candidates currently
- Anne DeMasi Volunteered and voted in as Secretary.
- Brought up discussion about committee meetings and if there is a general meeting or calendar for committees
 - surrounding the difficulty of assembling people these days and perhaps brainstorming some better ways of engaging with both leaders and members in our section.
- events should be listed in the section calendar if a committee is receiving section funds
- Committee Chair interested in receiving funds please reach out to Vic Tortorelli for 2025 budget
 - 2025 budget has already been proposed but has not been set.
- **Immediate Past Chair** – Graham Dobereiner
 - No Report
- **Chair-Elect** – Wei Gao
 - Will combine the Student and Teaching Awards in April.
 - Networking meeting will be held on Thursday, January 16th.
 - Currently planning Lunar New Year as potential event and might consider holding a joint event with the Chinese American Chemical Society on February 8th.
- **Secretary** - Andrew Devany
 - No Report
- **Treasurer** – Wei Wang

- Treasurer's report was approved.
- **Chair of Council Affairs** – Anne DeMasi
 - The Council Meeting will be held on March 26th in San Diego.

IV. Committee Reports

- **Career Services** – Jim Murray
 - No Report
- **Teller's committee**- Steve Fleming
 - Current list of alternate councilors has been approved and updated.
- **Education and Outreach**
 - The committee had a successful year and executed four annual events including:
 - New Committee Member Event
 - Chemists Celebrate Earth Week
 - Chemagination Event
 - National Chemistry Week
 - For 2025, the committee plans on resuming all 5 annual events. In addition, there will be a focus on leadership transition and growth and expansion into new areas.
- **Budget and Finance** - Vic Tortorelli
 - Shared current 2025 Budget request
 - Multiple reminders were sent out to committee chairs approximately one month prior
 - Changes will be made between now and the January Board meeting
- **MARM** - Tony Addison
 - All general MARM information is at www.marmacs.org, including an archive of past MARMs.
 - The MARM organizational documents (budgets, reports, By-Laws, etc.) are archived at a googledocs website. Contact Dr. Alan Cooper at acooper211@comcast.net for any interests.
 - The current MARM Board Chair is Dr. Brian Gibney, Brooklyn College at bgibney@brooklyn.cuny.edu
 - Current total assets (as of August) ~\$236K
 - The current treasurer is Frank Romano, Agilent Technologies, Inc.
 - List of upcoming MARMs:
 - 2025: 53rd MARM will be held from May 28-31 at Seton Hall University, S. Orange NJ.
 - Contact Information:
 - i. <https://marm2025.com>
 - ii. Dr. Cecilia Marzabadi, cecilia.marzabadi@gmail.com
 - 2026: 54th MARM will be held from June 4-6 or 7-9 at Hershey Lodge, Hershey, PA.
 - Contact Information:
 - Dr. Abu Asaduzzaman, aua1309@psu.edu
 - 2027: 55th MARM will be held by Princeton Section and Princeton University is a possible venue.
 - Contact Information: Dr. Louise Lawter, Princeton Section

Next meeting, Thursday, 01-09-2024, 7:00 PM

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 PM

CHEMICAL CONSULTANTS NETWORK MEETING

FEBRUARY 12, 2025

SOFT SKILLS FOR CONSULTANTS

DATE & TIME: Wednesday, February 12, 2025, 6:30 PM

[Click here to register](#)

Location: Online via Zoom! (Registration required)

Abstract: Creativity is a blend of being able to think scientifically at a very high level and being able to articulate those ideas clearly to others. This blend of skill types is common. The proportions depend on many factors, including the type of work task, the number and types of people involved, being able to speak clearly, being able to listen with an open mind and with focus, and being able to plan and schedule the sequence of tasks in a way that has smooth transition from one task to another and being able to prioritize and adapt as timing, cost, and other factors modify the timing and priorities needed.

Although many clients hire a consultant for his/her high expertise in a specific scientific area that the client knows, often a client has little or no knowledge in the area. A consultant must be a teacher, tutor, and trainer in a way that quickly passes on the knowledge needed. This is especially true for a consultant if the work involves being an expert witness. That work is translating scientific knowledge into opinions in writing and verbally. Attorneys are very different than scientists in how they see and value things.

This presentation will focus on the soft skills of listening, focusing, setting schedules and deadlines, making effective to-do lists, time management and tricks to make it easier, and how to run effective meetings.

Biography: John C. Fetzer has written over fifty published articles on career development for scientists, including many on people and communications skills. He was the editor for the column "Building a Professional Career" that was published in the Springer Verlag journal *Analytical and Bioanalytical Chemistry*. He is the author of the book *Career Management for Chemists*.

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

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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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