
THE Central Arkansas



CHEMIST

The Newsletter of the Central Arkansas Local Section of the American Chemical Society

November 2007

General Meeting

Tuesday, November 13

Location: Arkansas Department of Health
Public Health Laboratory
Little Rock, AR

5:30 pm Dinner, The Oyster Bar
Restaurant

7:00 p.m. NOTE TIME CHANGE
Program
Cheryl Lichti, Ph.D.
"Chemical Terrorism
Preparedness in Arkansas"

*To obtain driving directions, visit
membership.acs.org/c/centralarkansas*

basketball). After working for 10 months as a Postdoctoral Research Associate in the laboratory of Dr. Gary Molander at the University of Colorado, Cheryl started her academic career in 1994 at Lyon College. She is currently a Special Scientific Project Manager for the Arkansas Department of Health and works in the Chemical Terrorism Laboratory. Cheryl is a past President (2004) of the ACS Central Arkansas Section and is currently serving as the section's Secretary. She is also serving as Program Chair for the 2008 Southwest Regional Meeting.

Looking Ahead

Ever at a loss as to what's going on in the section? Simply visit the section's website:

<http://membership.acs.org/c/centralarkansas>

You'll find the section's meeting schedule, announcements, and information about services provided by the section, along with other useful links.

Abstract

As a Level 2 member of the Laboratory Response Network, the Arkansas Public Health Laboratory is prepared to analyze samples to test for human exposure to a variety of chemical agents. Instruments employed in these methods include ICP-MS, GC-MS, and LC-MS/MS. An overview of the laboratory's methods and projects will be presented.

Speaker's Biographical Sketch

Dr. Cheryl Lichti holds a B.A. in Chemistry from Hendrix College and a Ph.D. from Duke University, Durham, NC, majoring in Organic Chemistry (and

National News

ACS Launches Social News and Bookmarking Site

In June 2007, the American Chemical Society launched a new social news and bookmarking site called chemistry.org/exchange. The site allows

members and those interested in science news and research to share articles with a larger community.

Registered users can vote on submitted, previously-published articles which will promote the articles to the site's front page. They can also save articles to their favorites; this may be especially useful to those who want to create their own library of published articles or of articles that may further their research. Users can find other community members with similar interests through "tags": metadata one applies to one's own profile.

The site enables two-way communication between registered users via an internal messaging system. It also allows the community to add comments to the submitted articles.

Since its launch in June 2007, chemistry.org/exchange has averaged nearly 1,700 visitors each month.

The ACS Strategic Plan for 2008 and Beyond

Significant progress was made in developing a new ACS Strategic Plan during the ACS National Meeting in Boston. The Board of Directors, along with other governance, discussed the plan's revision from the broad strategic directions released for 2007 (at www.chemistry.org/strategicplan) to a more focused strategic plan to carry the Society into 2008 and beyond. This plan supports the ACS Vision of "improving people's lives through the transforming power of chemistry" and the ACS Mission "to advance the broader chemistry enterprise and its practitioners for the benefit of Earth and its people".

A web-based version of the strategic plan will be launched at the end of the year on the new ACS Website. The 2008 Strategic Plan will retain the interactive features of the current strategic directions, such as the "Join the Discussion" section which enables members, stakeholders and other interested parties to provide vital input on the plan. It will focus on key goals to advance the Society in a rapidly evolving environment. Questions or comments regarding the strategic plan should be directed to strategicplan@acs.org.

ACS Podcasting Science for Members & Public

ACS members now have the opportunity to share exciting, cutting-edge scientific discoveries with their children, local science teachers, museums, libraries, and other venues through a new podcast launched this summer by the ACS Office of Communications (OC). The science podcast, unveiled in July, reports on the latest studies published in the ACS journals to a broad public audience at no charge.

The podcast, Science Elements, is available on iTunes at https://portal.acs.org/portal/acs/corg/memberapp?_nfpb=true&_pageLabel=PP_ARTICLEMAIN&node_id=1355&use_sec=false. It describes research reported in ACS's prestigious suite of 36 peer-reviewed scientific journals and Chemical & Engineering News, ACS's weekly news magazine. Those journals, published by the world's largest scientific society, contain about 30,000 scientific reports from scientists around the world each year. The reports include discoveries in medicine, health, nutrition, energy, the environment and other fields that span science's horizons from astronomy to zoology.

Those discoveries improve peoples' lives, and Science Elements will make that information more widely available. The podcast draws on an Office of Communications product, PressPac, which initially was developed to assist science journalists in researching and reporting news.

The podcaster for Science Elements is Steve Showalter, a chemist at the U. S. Department of Energy's Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, N.M. Showalter's work at Sandia focuses on the design and development of new batteries. "As an active member of the ACS since 1987, I view these podcasts as part of a broader commitment to improving public understanding of chemistry," Showalter said. He also works toward that goal as a member of the ACS Committee on Public Relations and Communications and as a councilor for the Central NM Section, ACS.

Podcasting is an increasingly popular way of accessing news, information, and entertainment content from the Internet. The term was derived from Apple's "iPod," a portable digital audio and video player, and "broadcasting." Podcasts allow

users to subscribe to a “feed” and receive new files automatically whenever posted to the Internet. New installments of Science Elements will be posted weekly and available without charge.

For more information, contact the ACS Office of Communications at newsroom@acs.org.

COMPUTER AND ELECTRONIC DISCOUNTS FOR ACS MEMBERS

The American Chemical Society and Dell have come together to provide you with great technology solutions at excellent prices!

Get discounts on desktop and notebook computers and a complete range of reliable and affordable software and peripherals like printers, projectors and TV's.

To take advantage of this ACS member benefit, call your dedicated sales team at 1-888-506-3355. Mention “Dell is my technology partner” to receive \$20 off your next order over \$500.

For more information, please visit www.dell.com/assn.

The December 31, 2007 deadline is getting closer!

You have just weeks left to recruit for the 2007 Member-Get-A-Member Campaign. Every Member of the American Chemical Society that recruits one new paid member will receive a 2007 Periodic Table of the Elements Throw.

At the end of the 2007 campaign the ACS member who has recruited the most new paid members will win a trip in 2008 to an American Chemical Society National Meeting of their choice -- New Orleans, LA (April) or Philadelphia, PA (August).

For MGM guidelines and to download an official MGM application, please go to www.acs.org/membership and click on MGM.

And thank you for your continued support to the American Chemical Society!

Local Section YCC Starter Grants

The Younger Chemists Committee (YCC) funds starter grants to help Local Section Younger

Chemists Committees (LSYCCs) sponsor their first big event or launch a new program.

Recipients receive:

- \$250 to start a LSYCC
- Reports and share the program ideas with other LSYCCs
- Opportunities to network with scientists in their area while engaging in fun activities with other chemists

Be creative and apply today! Applications are reviewed year round. For more information contact:

Alvin Collins, Ph.D.

1155 Sixteenth Street, NW

Washington, D.C. 20036

202 872-8724

202 776-8003 FAX

a_collins@acs.org

Recognize Chemical Technology in Your Local Section

Involve student technicians and recognize their presence in your local section activities to build future ACS membership. A continuing award for students is the ACS Chemical Technology Student Recognition Award. This award recognizes students who demonstrate performance excellence while preparing to become professional chemical technicians. Consider making these awards at a local section.

Students who win this award meet the following criteria:

- A high level of integrity and reliability.
- A high level of performance in laboratory work. Performance should include safety, literature searching, equipment setup and use, experimental setup and design, teamwork, and problem solving, as well as interpreting experimental results.
- Strong oral and written communication skills.

- A high level of academic performance across all courses (consistently in the upper 25% of most classes).

- Completion of at least 75% of the chemical technology courses required for the certificate or degree program by the end of the term when nominated.

Students will receive a certificate from ACS recognizing their achievement and an invitation to join ACS. Additionally, a press release with the names of the students and the programs will be submitted to the local press, unless otherwise requested. (See program flier.) The award is sponsored by The Committee on Technician Affairs, the leader in the recognition of the chemical and process technician field as a profession. The award helps winners demonstrate their value to future employers; presentation of the award has also inspired students to work to their full potential.

Please contact Blake Aronson for further information: American Chemical Society, 1155 Sixteenth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036, cta@acs.org, 1-800-227-5558, ext. 6108

Attention Chemists Interested in Becoming Chemistry Teachers:

Have you ever considered becoming a chemistry teacher but did not know how to financially make it happen?

The Hach Scientific Foundation, a private foundation out of Fort Collins, Colorado dedicated solely to chemistry education, would like to help! For folks with chemistry degrees and chemistry work experience become enrolled in any teachers' certification/ Master's in education program across the country are welcome to apply for the Second Career Chemistry Teacher Scholarship. The scholarship is \$6000 for full-time students and \$3000 for part-time students & is annually renewable through graduation. Applications for the scholarship are available on the Hach Scientific Foundation website:

www.hachscientificfoundation.org by clicking the "Second Career Chemistry Teachers" page. Applications are due January 31st, 2008. Anyone with questions about this scholarship should contact Bryce Hach at brycehach@hachscientificfoundation.org.

The Hach Scientific Foundation would like to help any chemist fulfill their dreams of giving back to society and their science by becoming a teacher!

YCC Announces New Features on Website

The Younger Chemists Committee (YCC) has added new features on their website. The networking features enable younger chemists to have on-line discussions and get involved in ACS, and packaged presentations have been posted to make local and regional younger chemist programs easy to host.

Discussion Board – Questions about whether graduate school is right for you? Interviewing tips? Navigating your career? Post them here!

Volunteer Form – Want to get involved but don't know how? Sign up with the Younger Chemists Network!

Prepared Programs – Interested in putting on a local program? We have prepared programs posted for you to use. On the website now are "Effective Presentations", "Mentoring", and "Making an Impact"

Check it out at www.acs.org/ycc, and click on YC Networks (Discussion Board and YCN) or Local Sections (Prepared Programs)

Volunteer Opportunities

SWRM 2008

ACS Central Arkansas Section will be hosting the Southwest Regional Meeting, which will be held Oct. 1-4, 2008, at the Peabody Hotel in Little Rock. If you would be interested in assisting in this meeting, please contact our Organizing Committee Chair, Dr. Marty Perry (perrym@obu.edu). We have several great opportunities for interested volunteers, including:

Programming: The program for our meeting will include general sessions in each of the traditional areas of chemistry, plus several special symposia. We are also discussing the possibility of having plenary roundtable discussions on topics such as nanotechnology and biofuels. If you are interested

in serving on the Programming Committee please contact Dr. Cheryl Lichti (Cheryl.Lichti@arkansas.gov).

Great Hall of the Clinton Presidential Library. If you are interested in serving on the planning committee for this event, please contact Dr. Marty Perry (perrym@obu.edu).

Awards Banquet: An awards banquet is traditionally held as a part of the regional meeting. We are excited to announce that the awards banquet for the 2008 Regional Meeting will be held in the

If you have an article or job posting that you would like to have considered for publication in our newsletter, send it to Cheryl.Lichti@arkansas.gov for review.

The *Central Arkansas Chemist* is published as needed by the Central Arkansas Local Section of the American Chemical Society. Section Chair, Howard Hendrickson, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences #611, 501-603-1547. Chair-Elect, Robin Lasey, Arkansas Tech University Russellville, AR 72801-2222. Address all correspondence to the Section Secretary, Cheryl Lichti, Cheryl.Lichti@arkansas.gov. Newsletter contributions should be sent directly to the Section Secretary in electronic form. The Central Arkansas Local Section Web site is <http://membership.acs.org/c/centralarkansas>.
