



JANUARY MEETING NOTICE

JANUARY 2017

VIRGINIA UNION UNIVERSITY
Richmond, Virginia

Friday, January 20, 2017

S M T W T F S

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
<i>RESERVATIONS</i>			<i>MEETING</i>			
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

SOCIAL HOUR: **6:00 p.m.**
Living and Learning
Center, VUU

DINNER: **6:30 p.m.**
Living and Learning
Center

PROGRAM: **7:30 p.m.**
Living and Learning Center

MENU: Mixed Field Greens, Braised Chicken Breast with Onions and Peppers, Fried Chicken, Herb Roasted Potatoes, Vegetable Medley, Rolls and Butter, Chocolate Cake, Apple Pie, Iced Tea and Coffee
Note: a vegetarian option is available – request with your reservation

PRICE: ACS Members and Guests - \$19.00
High School Students, College Students, High School Teachers - \$10.00
Retired ACS Members & Spouses, Retired Teachers & Spouses - \$14.00

DINNER RESERVATIONS: Please make reservations for the dinner by **NOON on Tuesday, January 17** by calling (804) 257-5615 or by email to dneseonu@vuu.edu

HOST: Dr. Dorothy Eseonu, (804) 257-5615; dneseonu@vuu.edu

PROGRAM: **Distinguished Service Award - Dr. Thomas C. DeVore**
Distinguished Research Award - Dr. Scott Gronert
R. Gerald Bass Award for Exceptional Service -
Dr. James D. Beck

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

DR. THOMAS C. DEVORE



Thomas C. DeVore has been on the chemistry faculty at James Madison University since 1977. Professor DeVore has been an active member of the Executive Committee of the Virginia Section of the ACS for over 30 years. For much of this time, he has served as the Chair of the Student Affiliates Committee. He also did the officer rotation serving as the Section Chair in 1999 and served on the SERMACS committee and the chair of the poster section. Professor DeVore has also been an officer in the Chemistry Section of the Virginia Academy of Science for nearly 20 years. He is currently serving as the secretary of the VAS chemistry section and the chemistry editor of the Journal of the VAS. As an advocate for

science education, he is a member of the Virginia State Science Fair committee, director of the Virginia Junior Science and Humanities Symposium, director of the Shenandoah Valley Regional Science Fair, and regularly judges at the annual Virginia Junior Academy of Sciences meeting. A self-described lab rat whose hobby is chemistry, he has worked with over 100 undergraduate research students during his tenure at JMU leading to over 80 published research papers and over 200 presentations at regional and national meetings. His current research interests are in the areas of thermal decomposition of simple systems and solar energy storage. He was elected as a fellow of the VAS in 2015.

“CHASING SUNBEAMS”

Enough sunlight strikes the Earth in one hour to meet the global energy needs for one year. The technology for turning sunlight into useful energy has developed to the point where electro-chemical solar cells are widely available commercially. In addition to cost, a weakness of this technology is that it only works when the sun shines. If solar energy is to become a major energy source, a way to store the energy produced when the sun shines for use when it doesn't must be developed. One approach that is being investigated at JMU is to store solar energy using a reversible chemical reaction. In this process, the heat generated by the sun is used to drive an endothermic dehydration of a metal salt. By removing the water, the energy used is “stored” in the solid products produced. Adding water to the products generates heat as the hydrate forms. Results obtained for selected Tutton salts will be presented.

DISTINGUISHED RESEARCH AWARD

DR. SCOTT GRONERT



Dr. Scott Gronert is a Professor of Chemistry and also the Associate Dean of Research in the College of Humanities and Sciences at Virginia Commonwealth University. He holds a B.S. degree from California State University at Long Beach and a Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley. He did postdoctoral research at the University of Colorado. He began his academic career at San Francisco State University in 1990 and rose to the rank of Professor in 1997. In 2007 he joined the faculty at VCU and served as Chair from 2009-2015. In 2016, he was a Fulbright Scholar and spent 8 months

at the University of Lille (France). Dr. Gronert has also been a Wilsmore Fellow at the University of Melbourne. He has published over 135 peer-reviewed articles as well as several book chapters. His research focuses on developing mass spectrometric tools for the investigation of problems in organic and biological chemistry. Current studies in Dr. Gronert's lab involve reactive intermediates in organometallic reactions and novel analyses of oxidative stress in biological systems.

“ION TRAP REACTORS TO THE RESCUE: A TOOL TO SOLVE PROBLEMS IN ORGANIC AND ORGANOMETALLIC CHEMISTRY”

Ion trap mass spectrometers are versatile instruments that can be modified to act as ionic reactors and used to study bimolecular reactions in the gas phase. Within these instruments, it is possible to isolate and probe the chemistry of highly reactive intermediates that have proven difficult to characterize in solution. These studies give deep insights into reaction mechanisms and can validate or discount proposed intermediates in reaction cycles. Results from several studies of important organic and organometallic systems will be presented. We have also developed other modified instrumentation including a variable-temperature ion trap and a hybrid ion/ion – ion/molecule reactor. Applications of these instruments will be presented.

THE R. GERALD BASS AWARD FOR EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE

DR. JAMES D. BECK



Jim was born near the Susquehanna River in York County, Pennsylvania and graduated from Wrightsville High School. He enrolled at Kutztown State Teachers College (now Kutztown State University) where the most important event of his life took place—he met Gale Kramer, the love of his life. They both graduated from Kutztown in 1962 and were married the same year.

After teaching high school in Piscataway, New Jersey for two years, Jim went to graduate school at the University of Delaware where he earned a Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry. He joined the faculty at Virginia State College (now Virginia State University) in Petersburg and taught chemistry there for 32 years, retiring as Professor Emeritus in 2001.

The ACS has been an important part of Jim's life for over 51 years. He joined the Virginia Section in 1968 and has been a member of the Executive Committee for 43 years. He served as Treasurer, Secretary, Vice Chair, Chair Elect, and Chair and has worked on numerous committees and task forces within the Section. In 1991, he received the Distinguished Service Award. Next year will mark the 25th year of his tenure as editor of the Virginia Section *Bulletin*.

DIRECTIONS

Virginia Union University is at 1500 N. Lombardy Street in Richmond. The main entrance to the campus is on W. Graham Road, just off of Brook Road. Check the VUU website for a detailed map: www.vuu.edu.

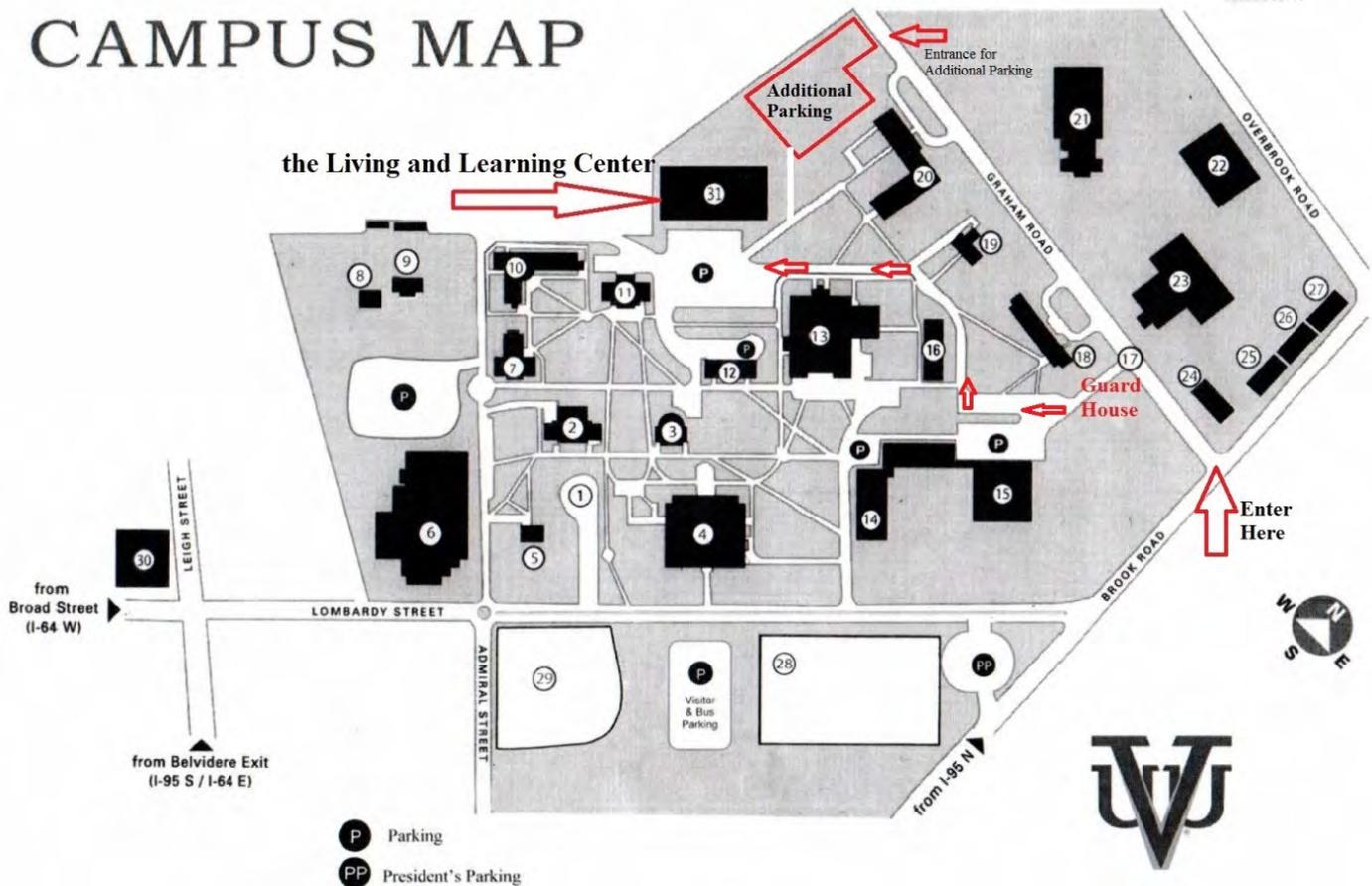
From the North via I-95: Take Exit #76B for Belvidere Street. Turn right off the exit ramp to Leigh Street. Go to the third stoplight and turn right onto Lombardy Street. Travel on Lombardy Street to the main campus (1/4 mile). Turn left on Brook Road, then take the next left on to W. Graham Road. Immediately turn left again at the Main Entrance. Bear right, then left, around the buildings to the parking lot across from the Living and Learning Center.

From the South via I-95: Take Exit #76A. Turn right off the exit ramp onto Chamberlayne Avenue. When the road splits, bear left and go under the underpass on Brook Road. When you arrive at the VUU campus, make a left on W. Graham Road, then immediately turn left again at the Main Entrance. Bear right, then left, around the buildings to the parking lot across from the Living and Learning Center.

Virginia Union University

Updated 5/2/14

CAMPUS MAP



Please Do Not Park in Reserved Spaces. Towing is Enforced.



**THE LIVING AND LEARNING
CENTER AT
VIRGINIA UNION UNIVERSITY**

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT
OF VIRGINIA UNION UNIVERSITY**



I am pleased to welcome The Virginia Section of the American Chemical Society back to the historic campus of Virginia Union University (VUU) for its January 20, 2017 meeting. Virginia Union University's faculty, staff, and students are pleased to partner with your organization as you promote public awareness of chemistry through community outreach programs and working with STEM programs to enhance scientific awareness.

For several years, our Department of Natural Sciences has been working with a National Science Foundation grant called Coaching for Academic and Professional Success (CAPS) in STEM. The funding has allowed us to hire coaches who assist our students as they focus on their career paths in the sciences. The coaches also work with high school students to increase their interest in STEM careers. We expect to see a significant increase in recruitment and retention in STEM disciplines in coming years because of this program.

We invite you to visit our website at www.vuu.edu and plan to join us for upcoming special events, including our Annual Founders Day Celebration on February 3, 2017 and our Annual Scholarship Gala and Masquerade Ball on April 7, 2017.

Please enjoy your stay with us.

With Warm Regards,

Joseph F. Johnson, Ed.D.
Acting President

***** VIRGINIA SECTION NEWS *******EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

The **Executive Committee** of the Virginia Section will meet at 9:00 a.m. on **Saturday, January 14, 2017** in Room 150 of the Hunter-McDaniel Building at Virginia State University in Petersburg (Ettrick), Virginia. All members of the section are invited to attend.

For questions regarding the agenda and meeting, contact the 2017 Chair of the Virginia Section, **Dr. Colleen Taylor**, at (804) 524-5481; cmtaylor@vsu.edu. Officers and committee chairs should prepare reports for posting on the Section website and for distribution at the meeting.

VIRGINIA SECTION OFFICERS FOR 2017

CHAIR:	Dr. Colleen M. Taylor Department of Chemistry and Physics Virginia State University Petersburg, VA 23806	(804) 524-5481 cmtaylor@vsu.edu
CHAIR ELECT:	Dr. Kathleen Sink Altria Client Services 601 E. Jackson Street Richmond, VA 23219	(804) 370-8097 kms2uu@virginia.edu
VICE CHAIR:	Dr. Joseph M. Pompano Eurofins Lancaster Labs 601 E. Jackson Street Richmond, VA 23219	(804) 852-6896 joepompano@comcast.net
SECRETARY:	Dr. Christine Farthing Pfizer Consumer Healthcare P.O. Box 26609 Richmond, VA 23261	(804) 257-2385 christine.farthing@pfizer.com
TREASURER:	Dr. Thaddaeus S. (Thad) Hannel Altria Client Services 601 E. Jackson Street Richmond, VA 23219	(804) 335-2552 Thaddaeus.Hannel@altria.com

THE CHAIR'S CORNER



Greetings from the Chair on this auspicious occasion of the New Year. We are in a position to accomplish much this year and hopefully we will look back upon 2017 and reflect on the changes in the section as positive ones. One of the goals of the section is to continue our outreach efforts through mentorship. It is no secret that this is one of my passions and it is also the theme of many activities of three of our strong committees-- Minority Affairs, Women Chemists, and Young Chemists. Each of these committees has consistently offered events that center around providing professional modeling for undergraduate students. Upon reflection, we have realized the need to provide more professional development for our established and young professionals in the section. Efforts are underway to provide mentor training and other profession development workshops for our members. This outreach is a great development that provides great value for members of the Virginia Section.

Another welcome development is outreach to middle and high school students. In examining the multitude of statistics on retention in chemistry, one finds that most students entering a chemistry program in college do so to enter a health science related field. Many then leave the chemical sciences when they realize that they are not going to make the cut for this competitive field. Imagine if we could provide more modeling to middle and high school students on the many career options with social impact in chemistry. Imagine if chemistry departments would begin to reverse their percentages of persons majoring in chemistry who want to actually become chemists. Some of the excitement around chemistry has been revived with television shows modeling forensics and with "Breaking Bad." Let us provide some realistic and exciting models for chemists that go beyond popular media. I invite chemists to view the Proctor and Gamble spot in the recent "Program in a Box" video and think of how each industry in the Virginia Section can provide models like Mridula in R&D.

<https://youtu.be/Rx4i3e5Rn2A?list=PLXfC308Wx8Hu2hrHAY6oymAz53ILWAb3o>

Let's work together collaboratively to make professional modeling a major value added this year, by supporting future and established chemists as effectively as we continue to do for chemistry undergraduates.

...**Colleen M. Taylor**, Section Chair for 2017
cmtaylor@vsu.edu

2017

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

2017 MEETINGS OF THE VIRGINIA SECTION

January 20 - Virginia Union University, Richmond - **Awards Meeting**

February 17 - University of Richmond - **Dr. Robert Grubbs** (Powell Lectureship)

March 16 - Altria Center for Research and Technology, Richmond - **Dr. Willie McKinney**

April 14 - University of Virginia, Charlottesville - **Dr. Joseph Chipuk, Undergraduate Research Poster Session**

September - Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond - **Teacher Awards**

October - Mary Baldwin College, Staunton

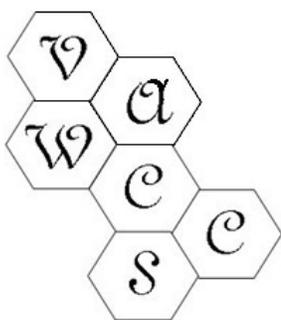
November - University of Mary Washington, Fredericksburg

FEBRUARY MEETING OF THE VIRGINIA SECTION

DATE: February 17, 2017
 LOCATION: University of Richmond
 Richmond, Virginia
 HOST: Dr. Raymond Dominey
 PHONE: (804) 289-8761
 EMAIL: rdominey@richmond.edu
 SPEAKER: **Dr. Robert Grubbs**
 California Institute of Technology
 TOPIC: "Recent Advances in Olefin Metathesis"
The W. Allan Powell Lectureship



REPORT OF THE WOMEN CHEMISTS COMMITTEE



The Women Chemists Committee (WCC) held a networking lunch on Friday, December 2, 2016 at the Chili's restaurant on the VCU campus in Richmond. Seven members attended to review the past year's events and start planning for 2017.

The annual WCC career discussion event will be hosted by Dorothy Eseonu at Virginia Union University in the Fall of 2017 (date TBD). Past experience has shown that fall is the preferred timing for the career panel despite conflicts with YCC and other section activities. Speaker suggestions are requested.

The WCC received a request to organize a seminar for new supervisors on people management. No consensus on hosting an event was reached, but possible speakers were discussed and whether this could be combined with the Section's mentoring program.

The October event for middle school students in October 2016 had to be cancelled, but the feedback is that the problem was not lack of interest, but with timing too close to the beginning of the school year. Maria Szajda-Lam volunteered to research what would be a better month, and a new location for the event is needed. Suggestions and volunteers are welcomed to organize this or other events.

...**Stephanie Mabry**, Chair, Women Chemists Committee

REPORT FROM THE PAST-CHAIR



It has been a pleasure to serve as the Chair of the Virginia Section of the American Chemical Society! We have accomplished so much together this year that time and space do not allow for a full retelling of our story, so I will simply attempt to hit the highlights of some of our activities which focused on our section's goals of engagement, collaboration, vision, and strategy.

The section leadership worked collaboratively to build a stronger governance plan for the long-term strength of the section. The Executive Committee held four meetings in 2016, the section approved new bylaws, the role of Government Affairs Chair was filled, and the section now has proposed Vision and Mission Statements, goals and objectives that will be voted on at the January 2017 meeting of the Executive Committee.

This year, our section hosted seven Section Meetings with fantastic speakers on topics related to chemistry in drug discovery, medical research, agriculture, art, and responsible conduct. Meetings were held at both industrial and university locations and one was broadcast as a live stream.

Our committees have been incredibly active in 2016, and many have worked collaboratively across sections and with other organizations. The Younger Chemists Committee was on fire, driving towards our goal of greater inclusion of young chemists. They hosted three networking socials, a talk on flavor chemistry, a career development program in a box, and a successful cross-section Career Development Workshop. Community Activities hosted multiple, wildly successful events including Chemists Celebrate Earth Day, NCW Spooky Science, and a multi-location, section-wide Great Periodic Pumpkin Event as a collaboration with NOBCChE. Minority affairs and NOBCChE hosted a tour, the Safety Committee presented tips in the *Bulletin* on avoiding accidents during flame demonstrations, and the Women's Chemist Committee hosted several networking/planning meetings, a glass blowing demonstration, and a successful career panel. Our Government Affairs Chair reminded everyone of the importance of voting both in ACS elections and in local and national political elections, and conducted a member survey to help establish the direction for that committee. The History Committee has nearly completed the updated section history and will soon post a copy to the section website.

The Awards and Olympiad committees helped the Virginia Section continue to support and recognize teachers and students by holding the annual student poster session and by presenting awards to outstanding chemistry graduates, elementary, middle and high school teachers, and to Olympiad winners. The Student Mentoring Program brought students together with current mentors in academia and industry. The students left knowing more about potential careers, and they now have one-on-one contacts. The year 2016 saw increased engagement with student affiliates and greater attendance of student members at monthly meetings, student affiliate organized activities, and community events. There also was a huge student turnout at the YCC Virginia Science Career Development Workshop.

The *Bulletin* continued its strong role as a key communication tool, bringing us together as a chemistry family by notifying members about opportunities and celebrating our successes. The *Bulletin* reported on local section events, advertised lectures at local universities, highlighted award winning members, shared personal interest stories on section members, offered tributes to members who had passed on, reported on section history, and shared segments from the 100th Year Anniversary Gala held in the fall of 2015.

The ACS acknowledged our 2015 contributions by making us the first recipient of the new Partners for Progress and Prosperity Award and by presenting us with a ChemLuminary Award for our longstanding Chemists Celebrate Earth Day program. Likewise, with guidance from the Awards Committee, the Virginia Section recognized members for service, research, and volunteerism. ACS members volunteered in the community giving lectures, judging local science fairs, and developing new strategies for teaching and mentoring students and younger scientists.

Our successes are due to the efforts of many members throughout the state. While the stories of every member may not have been told here, all contributions are significant and appreciated. To everyone who participated in any planning activity or event this year, I say a heartfelt thank you. Thank you Virginia ACS for an amazing 2016!

...**Denise Walters**, 2016 Chair of the Virginia Section

YOUNGER CHEMISTS COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 2016



I, Heather Lourenco, was elected chair of the Younger Chemists Committee (YCC) in January 2016. My goal this year was to continue to rebuild the Central Virginia Section YCC by engaging members building off the momentum from the work Kathleen Sink did the previous year. I realized that this would be a huge feat alone; therefore, I decided to form an executive committee to aid in planning and executing events throughout the year. The executive committee included the following officers: Chair: **Heather Lourenco**, Co-Chair: **Rhonda Butts**, Secretary: **Margaret Roszel**, Treasurer: **Ben Hay**.

A survey was sent out through Survey Monkey to gain insight about activities that were of interest to members. After the survey was reviewed, we held our first business meeting on January 27, 2016, where we had six members in attendance. During this meeting we discussed tentative events, introduced/elected executive committee members, and discussed member interests. In order to engage current and future YCC members and promote fellowship we planned to hold events on a monthly basis when possible.

Our first social event of the year was a happy hour at **Boulevard Burger and Brew** in Richmond on February 17th, 2016. The event was well attended by college students and young professionals from a variety of local industry locations. There were eleven people in attendance, including one guest. The happy hour was a good opportunity to network, promote upcoming events, and to discuss better ways to communicate with younger chemists in the section.

On March 25, 2016, the YCC held its first "Dinner and Talk" event at **Blue Bee Cidery**. This event launched a new series of events aimed towards the younger chemist population in the Virginia Section of the ACS. The aim of these events is to allow YCC members to gain exposure to different fields of chemistry while networking with other chemists in the section. While at the event, members enjoyed refreshments and a featured speaker, **Kathryn Deibler**, who gave a talk titled "A Career in Flavor Chemistry." Kathryn talked about the science behind flavor chemistry and her journey in flavor chemistry. Her talk concluded with an interactive demonstration of the effects of the Miraclefruit and

how it can change the way your taste buds perceive taste. There were eleven YCC members and five guests in attendance. The YCC is looking forward to having future events like this and is actively looking for volunteer speakers who are willing to participate.

On April 27, 2016 another happy hour was held at **Ardent Craft Ales**. There were six members in attendance and four guests. This event allowed networking among members and guests from other industries.

On September 8, the YCC held a happy hour event at **Citizen Burger Bar**. There were four members in attendance and six guests. This was a fun event that enabled members and guests from different industries and backgrounds to interact and talk about their work.

On Saturday, October 1, 2016, the Hampton Roads section of the American Chemical Society and Virginia Younger Chemists Committee held its 1st Annual **Virginia Science Career Development Workshop** at The College of William and Mary, located in Williamsburg. William and Mary's Chemistry Club hosted this collaborative event which featured several professionals from academia, industry and government who highlighted a diverse array of career paths that are available to students and young professionals. The workshop featured a networking lunch, keynote speaker, breakout sessions, raffles, and a career panel Q&A session. Our keynote speaker was **Aaron Pawlyk**, Ph.D., from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases at the National Institutes of Health. His speech, entitled "Musings on my Career Path" was an educational and, at times entertaining, summary of his career to date, including his learnings and advice on choosing an appropriate career path. The breakout sessions covered a variety of topics such as graduate school, resume writing, and careers in industry and policymaking. The panel session that followed was very successful and touched on areas corresponding to how to get exposure to different career options, pros and cons of BS, MS and Ph.D. degrees, and the importance of mentoring. The event closed with recognition, in which certificates of appreciation were given to each of our panelists. The Jefferson Cup was presented to our keynote speaker for his special contribution to this workshop. The Virginia Science Career Development Workshop was well attended with over 60 people in attendance including students, young professionals, volunteers, participants, and planning committee members.

On October 11, the YCC held an ACS *Program in a Box* session entitled, "The Chemists Code for Success: 3 Essential Skill Sets for Your Career". The event ran from 6:30-8pm at Pfizer Consumer Healthcare, with pizza and drinks provided. This webinar was specifically focused on abilities that go beyond the laboratory skill set, including professional etiquette, time management and handling failure. The session also included hands-on activities that encouraged interaction and dialogue between the attendees. There were five members and four guests in attendance with both Hampden-Sydney College and Virginia Commonwealth University being represented.

Our final event of the year was an ice cream social at **Stop Light Gelato** on November 17. There were seven members and one guest in attendance. Attendees enjoyed delicious and unique flavors of gelato and were also treated to an extremely interesting talk on gelato and how it's made. A discussion of the YCC and its achievements to date followed, including future plans for the coming year.

...**Heather Lourenco**, YCC Chair for 2016

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WORDS OF WISDOM FOR JANUARY: **"IT IS MORE DIFFICULT TO STAY ON TOP THAN TO GET THERE"**



CHEMISTRY SEMINARS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

January 20 - Professor **Paul Wagenknecht**, Furman University

January 27 - Professor **Sally Pusede**, Environmental Sciences, University of Virginia

February 3 - Professor **George Shields**, Furman University, "Research with Undergraduates: A Fabulous Career"

February 17 - Professor **Ben Garcia**, University of Pennsylvania, "Quantitative Proteomics for Understanding Modified Proteins and Proteomes"

February 24 - Professor **Professor Marilyne Stains**, University of Nebraska, "Capturing Instructional Practices in the Chemistry Classrooms and Laboratories: New Research-based Tools to Address both Instructors' and Researchers' Needs"

March 17 - Professor **Younan Xia**, Georgia Institute of Technology

March 31 - Professor **Norah Barba-Behrens**, Quimica Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, "Coordination Compounds with Biological Relevant Ligands. Structural, Electronic, Magnetic, and Chiral Versatility"

April 7 - Professor **Chris Jaroniec**, Ohio State University

April 14 - Professor **Daniel Chiu**, University of Washington

April 21 - **Dr. John Kozarich**, ActivX Biosciences (Hecht Lecture)

April 28 - Professor **Claudio Turro**, Ohio State University

May 3 - Professor **David Allis**, Rockefeller University (Jefferson Lecture)

All seminars, except for April 15, are scheduled at 4:00 p.m. in Room 304 of the Chemistry Building.

The full schedule of seminars is at <http://chem.virginia.edu/events-seminars/>.

THANK YOU LETTERS TO CHEMISTRY TEACHERS

Two letters from students to their high school teachers were included in the December, 2016 issue of the *Bulletin*. This was in response to a suggestion from Dr. Joseph Crockett that encouraged college students to write short thank you notes to their high school chemistry teachers. The letters will be passed on to the teachers and the high school principals. Letters are still being solicited. The student should give his or her

name, the teacher's name, and the high school and its location. Send letters to Dr. Joseph M. Crockett, Department of Chemistry, Bridgewater College, Bridgewater, VA 22812 or to Dr. Colleen Taylor, Department of Chemistry and Physics, Virginia State University, Petersburg, VA 23806. Joe can be reached at (540) 828-5431; jcrocket@bridgewater.edu.

2017 CHEMISTRY OLYMPIAD

The Virginia Section will host the 2017 Chemistry Olympiad for all high school chemistry teachers and students who are interested in participating (both first- and second-year exams will be given). The Local Section competition will be held in February and March, 2017 (**registration deadline is February 20**). The students who do well in the local competition will be nominated to compete in the national competition; that examination will be given on April 22 at James Madison University in Harrisonburg. Twenty students from across the U.S. will be honored with medals and plaques. For more information and the application forms, go to the Virginia Section website at <http://www.virginia.sites.acs.org/>.

The Virginia Section recognizes students, teachers, and schools with certificates, pins, plaques, and gift certificates. **Dr. Ann Sullivan** is the coordinator for the Chemistry Olympiad in the Virginia Section: asullivan@reynolds.edu; (804) 943-2591 or (804) 523-5777.

THE INTERNATIONAL CHEMISTRY OLYMPIAD

The International Chemistry Olympiad (IChO) is an annual competition for the world's most talented chemistry students at the secondary school level. Nations around the world send a team of four students, who are tested on their chemistry knowledge and skills in a five-hour laboratory practical and five-hour written theoretical examination.

IChO began in 1968 with participants from Czechoslovakia, Poland, and Hungary. Other Eastern European countries joined the program soon after. Western European nations entered in 1974. The United States sent its first team in 1984 and hosted the event in 1992 and 2012.

The IChO helps develop and enhance friendly relations among young people around the world. It also promotes international contacts in chemistry and encourages international cooperation and understanding.

U.S. teams are selected from 20 students with top scores on the National Exam. The students attend a comprehensive two-week study camp each June at the U.S. Air Force Academy and based on performance, four students are chosen to represent the United States at the International Chemistry Olympiad.

Mentors accompany the international competitors, translate the test, inspect laboratories and arbitrate the scoring of the exams. In addition to the competition, students and mentors have opportunities to interact with one another and to experience the host country's culture through planned educational and social events.

The 48th International Olympiad was held in Tbilisi, Georgia in the summer of 2016 with teams from 67 countries participating. China was the overall team winner with four gold medals. The best score was by a Romanian student. The U.S. team earned a one gold, two silver, and a bronze medal. The U.S. team included Joyce Tian from the Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in Alexandria, Virginia who earned a silver medal. **Dr. Kelli Slunt**, Professor of Chemistry at the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, was the head mentor for the 2016 U.S. team.

The 2017 Olympiad will be held July 6-15 in Nakhon Pathom, Thailand. In July, 2018, the 50th International Chemistry Olympiad will be in Prague, Czech Republic and Bratislava, Slovakia.

ACS WEBINARS

ACS Webinars® is a free, weekly online event connecting ACS members with subject matter experts and global leaders in chemical sciences, management, and business. Each webinar is about 60 minutes in length, comprising a short presentation followed by a question and answer session. The live webinars are scheduled on Thursdays at 2 p.m. Recordings of past webinars are available online. For a schedule of upcoming events and more information on ACS Webinars, go to <http://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/acs-webinars.html>. Here are a few upcoming webinars:



Jan. 19 - **Kitchen Chemistry: We've Got a Lot to Learn from Professional and Recreational Cooks**

Jan. 26 - **Fighting Cancer: Targeting CNS Malignancy with Kinase Inhibitors**

Feb. 9 - **How to Make Chocolate for Your Special Valentine: Flowers Bloom, Chocolate Shouldn't**

Mar. 2 - **TERA-print: From Academic Discovery to a Commercial Desktop Fab**

Mar. 9 - **Professional Development that Makes a Difference: Communication Skills, Networking, and Time Management**

CURRENT CONTACT INFORMATION

Does the ACS have your correct contact information? If you have had a change in address, phone number, or e-mail address, contact ACS to update your information. Please include both the old and new contact information and your membership ID (the 8-digit number in the upper left hand corner of the C&E News address label). Telephone (800) 333-9511 or e-mail service@acs.org.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE VIRGINIA SECTION

Ram Bhagat

The Richmond Peace Education Center named Dr. Ram Bhagat as the 2016 **Peacemaker of the Year**. Dr. Bhagat is an educator and co-founder and artistic director of *Drums No Guns*, a world percussion ensemble. He taught chemistry and other science subjects in Richmond Public Schools for 27 years. In 2006, he received the Distinguished High School Chemistry Teacher award from the Virginia Section. He is now the TLI Science Department Chair at Ballow Senior High School in Washington, D.C. and serves as the president of *The Conciliation Project*.



Donald Hunt

Dr. Donald F. Hunt, Professor of Chemistry and Pathology at the University of Virginia, has been named the recipient of the 2017 **ACS Award in Analytical Chemistry**. The award recognizes his work in developing new methods and instrumentation for the structural characterization of proteins. In 2010, he received the UVA Distinguished Scientist Award. He spoke to the Virginia Section in January, 1973 on "Chemical Ionization Mass Spectrometry."



Carol Parish

Dr. Carol A. Parish, Professor of Chemistry at the University of Richmond, has been awarded the 2016 **Goldwater Scholars Faculty Mentor Award** to recognize her achievements as a mentor, scholar, and educator. The award is presented by the Council on Undergraduate Research and The Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation. It recognizes Dr. Parish's research and her ability to involve undergraduates in her research work. In 2015, Dr. Parish was named an ACS Fellow.

**Samy E-Shall**

Dr. Samy El-Shall, Professor and Chair of the Department of Chemistry at Virginia Commonwealth University, has been awarded VCU's **University Award of Excellence**. In 2009, Dr. El-Shall received the Distinguished Research Award from the Virginia Section. He has addressed the Virginia Section twice, in 2009 and in October, 2011 as part of the *SERMACS 2011* program. His *SERMACS* talk was titled "Chemistry Makes Strong International Bonds."

**Brooks Pate**

Dr. Brooks H. Pate, Professor of Chemistry at the University of Virginia, is the recipient of the 2016 **Charles Holmes Herty Medal**. The Herty Medal is given annually by the Georgia Section of the ACS to recognize the work and service of outstanding chemists. Dr. Pate is being recognized for his work in molecular rotational spectroscopy and its applications in astrochemistry and analytical chemistry.

**Kelling Donald**

Dr. Kelling J. Donald, Associate Professor of Chemistry at the University of Richmond, has been named a **Henry Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar** by the Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation of New York. The Dreyfus awards support the research and teaching careers of talented faculty in the chemical sciences at undergraduate institutions. It includes a \$60,000 grant. Dr. Donald's research involves computational investigations into the nature of chemical bonding, structure prediction, and weak interactions in molecules and clusters.



QUESTIONS FROM THE PAST

This question was asked back in the April, 2016 *Bulletin*: The Virginia Section has had a Vice Chair position since its inception in 1915 (the position was then known as "Vice-President" and later as "Vice-Chairman"). For one year, the Section had a Vice-Chairman and four Regional Vice-Chairmen, responsible for the areas of Charlottesville, Elkton, Hopewell, and Waynesboro. The regional officers helped with meetings in the different localities. The rationale for this arrangement, which lasted only one year, had to do with limiting the travel distances to meetings. **In what year did the Section have four Regional Vice-Chairmen?**

The time was 1944-45 (the Section did not operate on a calendar year basis then). Gasoline rationing was in effect. The Regional Vice-Chairman were Robert E. Lutz (Charlottesville), E.J. Nolan (Elkton), Peter Van Wyck (Hopewell), and Clifford M. Smith (Waynesboro). W.W. Owen was the overall Vice-Chairman.

A new question. **Dr. Barbara Reisner**, Professor of Chemistry at James Madison University, was named an ACS Fellow in 2016. She is the eighth Fellow from the Virginia Section. The other Fellows were named in 2009 (1), 2011 (2), 2013 (1), 2014 (1), and 2015 (2). **How many of the seven can you name?**