



The Bulletin
of the
Virginia Section
AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

DECEMBER 2017 BULLETIN

ANNUAL AWARDS MEETING
FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2018
CONSOLIDATED LABORATORY SERVICES
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE
AWARD**



MR. KENNETH CHAPMAN
Principal Partner
Cardinal Workforce
Development, LLC

**DISTINGUISHED RESEARCH
AWARD**



DR. MARYANNE COLLINSON
John B. Fenn Professor of Chemistry
Virginia Commonwealth University

Look for full information on the Awards Meeting in the January issue
of the Virginia Section *Bulletin* or on the Section website:

<http://www.virginia.sites.acs.org/>



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Executive Committee of the Virginia Section will meet at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, **January 20, 2018** in Room 3309 of the Temple Building at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia. More details will be provided in the January issue of the *Bulletin*. All members of the section are invited to attend.

For questions regarding the agenda and meeting, contact the 2018 Chair of the Virginia Section, **Ms. Kathleen Spangler**, at (804) 370-8097, kms2uu@virginia.edu. Officers and committee chairs should prepare reports for posting on the Section website and for distribution at the meeting.

2018 MEETINGS OF THE VIRGINIA SECTION

January 19 - Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services, Commonwealth of Virginia, Richmond - **Awards Meeting**

February 23 - University of Richmond - **Professor John Goodenough**, University of Texas (**Powell Lectureship**)

March 9 - Randolph-Macon College, Ashland - **Chemical Jeopardy**

April 13 - University of Virginia, Charlottesville - **Dr. Shana Cyr**, Finnegan; **Undergraduate Research Poster Session**

THE CHAIR'S CORNER



Season's greetings to all members of the Virginia Section. I hope you join me in congratulating this year's recipient of the Distinguished Service Award, **Mr. Kenneth Chapman**, as well as **Dr. Maryanne Collinson**, who will receive the Distinguished Research Award. These worthy persons will receive their awards at the Awards Meeting on January 19.

Mr. Kenneth Chapman is currently the chair of the Entertainment Committee for the Virginia Section and anyone who has attended any of the section meetings will remember his smiling face while collecting those name tags at the end of the meetings. Kenneth has a long record of service to the ACS. He has served in a variety of roles including secretary and section chair for our section and, at the national level, he was on the staff at the ACS Education Division in Washington for 31 years. Since his retirement, from the ACS, Ken has taught high school in our Section at the Carmel School in Ruther Glen where he mentored several young people. He has recently retired from this assignment and continues to run a consulting company.

Dr. Maryanne Collinson has the prestigious designation of John B. Fenn Professor of Chemistry at VCU. She is a NSF CAREER Award recipient (1996) and was the VCU College of Humanities and Sciences Distinguished Scholar awardee in 2010. She runs a highly productive research lab at VCU where her focus is described as spanning the traditional disciplines of analytical, inorganic, and materials chemistry and incorporating various aspects of nanoscience and nanotechnology. Her research record is impressive with publications in a wide breadth of ACS journals such as *Langmuir*, the *Journal of Physical Chemistry* and *Analytical Chemistry*. I have personally benefitted from Dr. Collinson's published studies, having been inspired by her early work in sol-gel chemistry when I was selecting a graduate school research advisor. Her multiple review chapters on sol-gel chemistry are testament to the high regard to which her expertise is held by her peers.

Please join the section members for the Awards Meeting in January to honor this year's recipients.

...**Colleen Taylor**, 2017 Section Chair - ChairVAsectionACS@gmail.com

2018 ELECTION RESULTS

Dr. Denise Walters, Chair of the Nominating Committee, has reported these results of the balloting for 2018 officer positions:

Chair - **Ms. Kathleen Spangler**
Chair Elect - **Dr. Joseph Pompano**
Vice Chair - **Dr. Samy El-Shall**
Secretary - **Dr. Sarah E. G. Porter**
Treasurer - **Dr. Rob Davidson**
Councilor - **Dr. Linette Watkins** (three-year term)
Alternate Councilor - **Dr. Joseph Crockett** (three-year term)
Trustee - **Dr. James Demas** (three-year term)

REPORT ON THE NOVEMBER MEETING OF THE VIRGINIA SECTION

The November 10, 2017 meeting of the Virginia Section was hosted by the Department of Chemistry at the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg. The Social Hour and Dinner were held at the Home Team Grill with the program in the Digital Auditorium of the Hurley Convergence Center on the UMW campus. **Ms. Kathleen Spangler**, Chair Elect of the Section, presided. **Dr. Janet Asper** from the Chemistry Department at UMW welcomed the guests.

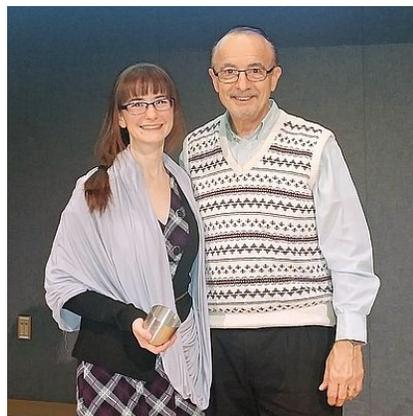


The speaker was introduced by **Ms. Chloe Morton**, a chemistry major at the University of Mary Washington. **Dr. Rebecca R. Pompano** from the University of Virginia, described the latest bioanalytical methods that are being used to study the human immune system. She discussed her research on the use of microfluidic strategies to study the movement of bioactive proteins through live lymph node tissue. At the conclusion of the talk, Ms. Spangler, presented Dr. Pompano with the traditional engraved Jefferson Cup.

Thanks to Dr. Asper at UMW and to her colleagues and students for arranging this meeting.



Chair Elect Kathleen Spangler presenting the Jefferson Cup to Dr. Rebecca Pompano



Dr. Pompano with her father, Dr. Joseph Pompano, who is Vice Chair of the Section



Rebecca Pompano, Kathleen Spangler, Ken Chapman

YCC SPONSORS TOUR OF EVONIK



On November 14, 2017, the Virginia Younger Chemists Committee (YCC), in collaboration with Evonik, hosted a tour of the Evonik Research and Development site in Chesterfield. Evonik is a global company based in Germany that manufactures specialty chemicals used in many industries including: cosmetics, agriculture, printing, and petroleum. This event was well-attended with about 30 persons, including industry professionals and students from local universities.

Evonik was very accommodating to all attendees, providing food and refreshments upon our arrival and an engaging evening for everyone involved. Once all the guests had arrived, we were given a company overview by Human Resources Lead Tom Baker. Then Craig Poffenberger, a retired Evonik colleague, led a brief safety discussion and introduced himself along with three other tour guides. Groups were then organized to explore the four different sectors of the Research and Development laboratory. During this time, attendees learned specifics about the work performed and the corporate culture specific to this site. Overall this was a great opportunity for attendees to learn more about a segment of the chemistry industry in Richmond, Virginia.



[information provided by **Heather Lourenco**, Chair of the YCC for the Virginia Section]

YCC PROGRAM IN A BOX

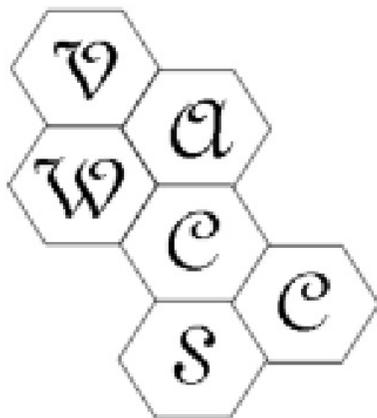
On October 24th, 2017, the Virginia Younger Chemists Committee (YCC) hosted a “Program-in-a-Box” event in collaboration with Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU). Program-in-a-Box is a program funded by the National ACS. These programs are targeted towards student affiliate and YCC chapters throughout the nation as a means to host stress-free programs for these groups at no cost. These events are very simple to put together and everything is provided to the group in order to host a successful and fun event. The process to host one of these events is very simple. Once a group decides to host an event, they register for the event through the website, specifying the anticipated number of expected attendees. Once the

group involvement is confirmed via email communication, they are all set to receive a box a week before their event is scheduled to take place. The box provides everything needed to host a successful program including: ACS resources, ACS SWAG, raffles, and surveys. This requires the host to provide only the venue, food, and refreshments for all attendees. There are generally two broadcasts a year, one in the spring and another in the fall which cover a diverse array of chemistry topics. The focus of this Program-in-a-Box was "Chemistry Rocks" which aligned with the theme of National Chemistry Week. Both VCU students and industry professionals were in attendance, ten total attendees. During this broadcast, information was shared on research and work performed by geochemists throughout the nation and how their work contributes to the betterment of the environment and society. The audience was engaged throughout the broadcast by trivia and group activities that reinforced networking among attendees. Overall, this event was a success and will be held again in the future as a way to engage YCC members and have them tune in with the broader ACS community.

[information provided by **Heather Lourenco**, YCC Chair]



WOMEN CHEMISTS COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES



Dr. Stephanie Mabry has provided this report of past and future activities of the Women Chemists Committee (WCC).

The Women Chemists Committee of the Virginia Section held a networking lunch on Friday, December 1 at the Chili's restaurant on the VCU campus. A review of the past year's events and plans for next year were discussed.

The annual career panel held at Virginia Union University was a success and we were happy to see many questions to the panelists from the students in attendance. The WCC will look at holding this event in 2018 at the University of Virginia. Thanks again to **Dorothy Eseonu** for hosting this event.

Four networking lunches were held in 2017 which brought out new members to the WCC. It was decided to survey members on preferred times and work to publish the schedule for the year in advance in the *Bulletin*. We would also like to resume having a discussion theme for each lunch, and are asking members to suggest topics. Past topics have included managing pregnancy in the lab and financial planning for women.

The summer tour of the state laboratory at DCLS was very well received. Thanks to Kathryn **Deibler** in planning the tour and the networking lunches in 2017.

2018 marks the 10th anniversary of the starting the Virginia Section WCC. A celebration event will be held in early June, and the WCC is looking for members to serve on the planning committee for the event. One suggestion was holding a half-day seminar on career development topics followed by a meal/social event. Other suggestions included an event at a winery or a formal dinner with a speaker.

A REPORT FROM THE CHAIR ON 2017 ACTIVITIES

The year 2017 was a successful one for the Virginia Section of the ACS and although it is impossible to represent all the achievements of the section, I will mention a few here. Several of our members received honors/appointments of note including: **Dr. Denise Walters**, Virginia Section immediate Past Chair, who was appointed by Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe to the Board of the Science Museum of Virginia; **Dr. Lynette Watkins**, Section Councilor, who was elected a Councilor-at-Large for the national ACS; and **Dr. John Gupton**, Professor of Chemistry at the University of Richmond, who was selected as an ACS Fellow.

Events of note in the section for Earth Day included a collaborative ACS Alpha Sigma Chi event where students and faculty from the University of Richmond, Longwood University, and Virginia State University worked on the design and assembly of a giant periodic table that was displayed at the John Tyler Community College *Fool for the Arts Festival*. For National Chemistry Week, the ACS "Chemistry Rocks" theme was well presented at the Science Museum of Virginia by **Dr. Kristine Smetana** on behalf of the Community Affairs Committee.

The Virginia Section has expanded the reach of the Executive Committee and the various standing committees to include Longwood University, Evonik, and Dupont as new contributing members. The Younger Chemists Committee (YCC) and Women's Chemist Committee (WCC) hosted wonderful career events at Evonik and at Virginia Union University, respectively. The YCC has taken charge of full administration of the mentoring program, successfully matching five students with Industry mentors in the region. The Minority Affairs Committee (MAC), now under the leadership of **Dr. Charlene Crawley**, has shown a great increase in the visibility and effectiveness of that committee with the ACS/NOBCCChE student summit and the Dr. Christine Darden lecture. The Student Affiliates Chair, **Dr. LaChelle Waller**, and the current section Chair have expanded the section's reach with a collaborative event at the Math and Science Innovation Center for the Girls in Math event which will provide an annual venue in which the section can contribute more with MSIC. The Public Relations Committee Chair **Krista Weissbart** has made sure that the events of the section receive notice with coverage and publicity for the Section by Channel 6 news. I am sure that I share the sentiments of the section officers in looking forward to the continuation and expansion of the reach and impact of the Virginia Section ACS. The membership should be very proud.

...**Colleen Taylor**, 2017 Section Chair
ChairVAsectionACS@gmail.com



STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR THE VIRGINIA SECTION

On December 2, 2017, **Denise Walters**, Immediate Past Chair of the Virginia Section, hosted a Strategic Planning Meeting at Pfizer Consumer Healthcare in Richmond Virginia. Fifteen ACS members, representing a cross section of the executive committee members, committee chairs, and involved members, reviewed the Strategic Plan progress and provided suggestions for future objectives. Minutes and slides from the meeting will be posted on the website. Eight of the twelve objectives have been completed. The remainder will be re-scoped and presented for consideration as part of the Strategic Plan Update and proposed 2018 objectives at the 20 January 2018 Executive Committee Meeting. Coffee Mugs with the Virginia Section ACS logo were presented to the following Champions and their committee members: **Kathryn Deibler, Heather Lourenco, Stephanie Mabry, Joe Pompano, Sarah Porter, Ann Sullivan, Linette Watkins**. The remainder will be presented at the January Executive Committee meeting. More information on the Strategic Plan and on the December 2 meeting can be found on the Section website: <http://virginia.sites.acs.org/strategicplan.htm>.

VSU STUDENT AFFILIATES ASSIST HIGH SCHOOL



On November 30, three ACS student affiliate members from Virginia State University—**Brandi Ford, Justin Long** and **Shernese Jackson**—conducted an experiment with students at Richmond Community High School. The project was part of a service learning component of an inorganic chemistry lab where students contribute their knowledge to the community while learning project management skills. The experiment was designed by the students to demonstrate aspects of the standards of learning (pH indicators) while teaching the students about sol-gel science. **Ms. Dise**, the teacher at Richmond Community High, was very accommodating in helping Justin Long, a former student at the school, return to serve the community.



[article provided by **Dr. Colleen Taylor**]

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