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Congratulations to Kim Woznack on Being Named a 2022 ACS Fellow

The 2022 ACS Fellows were announced in C&EN on August 4, 2022. “The purpose of the ACS Fellows Program is to recognize and honor members of the American Chemical Society for their outstanding achievements in and contributions to the science and the profession and for their equally exemplary service to the Society.” Dr. Kimberly Woznack, the current Chair of the Pittsburgh Section of the ACS, was named as a 2022 ACS Fellow.

Dr. Kimberly Woznack obtained her Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2002, studying the use of Synchrotron-based Photoelectron Spectroscopy to study metal to semiconductor contacts. She then completed her postdoctoral studies at the University of New Hampshire, implementing changes in the General Chemistry curriculum and performing educational research. In 2004, she joined the faculty at California University of Pennsylvania (now known as Pennsylvania Western University, California) in the Department of Chemistry and Physics. Dr. Woznack was promoted to Chair of the Department in 2011 and held the position for three years. She has been a full professor since 2016, teaching both General Chemistry and upper-level inorganic chemistry courses and supervising undergraduate research projects. At Pennsylvania Western University, California, Kim is an advisor of the Chemistry Club, which includes student affiliate members of the ACS and the SACP.

Kim has been involved in the American Chemical Society for over a decade. She was a member of the Women Chemists Committee (WCC) from 2011-2020 and served as Chair of the WCC for the last three years. She is currently a member of the Local Section Activities Committee, serving on the Grants and Awards Subcommittee. Kim has been serving as Chair of the Pittsburgh Section of the ACS for the past year.

Congratulations on this well deserved honor, Kim!
Call for Nominations

Pittsburgh Section of the ACS Pittsburgh Award

The Pittsburgh Award was established in 1932 by the Pittsburgh Section of ACS to recognize outstanding leadership in chemical affairs in the local and larger professional community. This Award symbolizes the honor and appreciation accorded to those who have rendered distinguished service to the field of chemistry. The Award consists of a plaque presented annually at a section dinner. Members of the Pittsburgh Section, or in exceptional cases, nonmembers, who have done work worthy of recognition toward increasing chemical knowledge, promoting the chemical industry, benefiting humanity, or advancing the Pittsburgh Section, are eligible for consideration.


The Distinguished Service Award

The Distinguished Service Award was established in 2007 by the Pittsburgh Section of the ACS to expand and replace the predecessor Chairman’s Award of the section. Both recognize outstanding volunteer service to the Section. The Award, consisting of a plaque, is presented annually at a Section dinner, which is open to the public. Members of the Pittsburgh Section, past or present, who have provided outstanding service in advancing the Pittsburgh Section, are eligible for consideration.


Nominations for both awards are solicited from the membership of the Pittsburgh Section. Please include your contact information, the nominee’s contact information, any supporting letters, and the nominee’s CV. More information about the awards, including information on past winners can be found on the ACS website:

https://pittsburghacs.org/awards/

Please send all nominations (or questions about nomination process) to Pittsburgh Section Chair-Elect, Edward P. Zovinka, ezovinka@francis.edu. Nominations are due no later than Tuesday, September 6, 2022.
SSP Technical Program

“Infrared Chemical Imaging for Biomedical Microscopy”

Rohit Bhargava, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
2022 SSP Pittsburgh Spectroscopy Award Recipient

Biography:
Rohit Bhargava is Founder Professor of Engineering and serves as the Director of the Cancer Center at Illinois of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Rohit graduated with a dual-degree B.Tech. (1996) from the Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi and received a doctoral degree from Case Western Reserve University (2000). After a stint at the National Institutes of Health, he has been at Illinois as Assistant (2005-2011), Associate (2011-2012) and Full (2012-) Professor. Rohit is widely recognized for his research on chemical imaging and advances in theory, instrumentation, and applications in cancer pathology. Current work in chemical imaging in his laboratory focuses on theoretical modeling that can push the limits of speed and quality of infrared spectroscopic imaging as well as its application in several novel areas. In particular, Rohit’s group aims to recognize and subtype cancer by its underlying molecular characteristics, by advanced chemical imaging and application of modern machine learning, ultimately allowing for better treatment of patients. He proposed and has served for more than 10 years to develop the Cancer Center at Illinois - a research center at the convergence of technology, engineering and oncology.

Abstract:
Stains, visible colors and human examination of morphology are used to Inform many research, forensic, materials and clinical decisions. An alternative is emerging in which the intrinsic chemical content of tissue is used to provide contrast in images. This approach utilizes infrared spectroscopy to record the chemical data and computational methods to visualize information within. This knowledge can be parsed by artificial intelligence (AI) methods - making the approach entirely digital and with extensive contrast in a single imaging measurement. We first describe the current state of the technology and its capabilities. Using AI for knowledge extraction, a very powerful modality emerges in which a single recording of data from unperturbed samples can be related to a variety of pathophysiologic states. This opens new opportunities for insight into disease progression that considers the entire tissue as an integrated system. We show how instrumentation, numerical methods, samples and statistics all play inter-related roles in the quality of information obtained and can be optimized for new imaging capabilities. We present case studies of rapid analysis of samples for cancer pathology, in which practical technologies that can be useful for clinical diagnoses and research are becoming apparent.

For complete details and to make a dinner reservation, please visit our society’s website. Deadline for dinner reservations Tuesday, September 6, 2022 by noon.

https://chemistryoutreach.org/meeting/
Congratulations to the Pittsburgh Local Section of the ACS for winning a 2022 ChemLuminary Award!

(Left to Right): Representative from the Committee on Community Activities, Councilor Kim Woznack, Councilor Rich Danchik, President-elect Judy Giordan.

The Pittsburgh Local Section won the 2022 ChemLuminary award for Outstanding Ongoing National Chemistry Week (NCW) Event given out by the Committee on Community Activities (CCA). Pittsburgh triumphed over the other finalists, the Chicago and Dallas-Fort Worth Local Sections. A huge congratulations to Dr. Evonne Baldauff, the Pittsburgh NCW Coordinator! Great Job! Since this award is for an Ongoing NCW event, we also send a HUGE thank you to Dr. Mike Mautino who led the Pittsburgh local section in the NCW Coordinator role for 20 years! Dedicated leaders like the two of you make this great work possible!

Pittsburgh was also a finalist for the ChemLuminary for the Outstanding Performance by a Local Section in the Medium-Large size category given by the Local Section Activities Committee (LSAC). This year the award went to the Cincinnati Local Section. Pittsburgh had won this award in 2021.

For more information about the ChemLuminary Awards, please see the website: https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/funding/awards/chemluminary.html

The full video of the 2022 ChemLuminary Award Ceremony can be found there. Look for us at the 1 hour 31-minute mark!
Four of ACS Pittsburgh Section Councilors participated in the Hybrid Council Meeting on August 24th, 2022 (Chicago).

The meeting attracted approximately 11,619 registrations (9,355 in-person and 2,264 virtual).


By electronic ballot, the Council elected William F. Carroll, Jr., Ella L. Davis, Carmen Gauthier, Thomas H. Lane, and Jason E. Ritchie for a three-year term (2023-2025) on the Committee on Committees (ConC).

By electronic ballot, the Council elected Michelle V. Buchanan, Alan B. Cooper, Kelly M. Elkins, Ellene Tratras Contis, and Kathryn E. Uhrich for a three-year term (2023-2025) on the Committee on Nominations and Elections (N&E).

On the recommendation of the Committee on Divisional Activities (DAC), and with the concurrence of the Council Policy Committee, Council approved the Petition to Amend the Duties of the Committee on Divisional Activities, providing greater authority to step in and assist Divisions who have inactive Executive Committees.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Local Section Activities (LSAC), and with the concurrence of the Council Policy Committee, Council approved the Petition for a change in Section Name from the Northeast Tennessee Section to the Tennessee-Virginia Highlands Local Section. Additionally, LSAC described how generally declining membership in local sections was creating an uneven number of local sections of various sizes. They announced that they would be using different size ranges to define which local sections would be eligible for each Best Overall Local Section performance ChemLuminary Award.

President Wilson introduced and led a special discussion on “ACS for the Future.” She sought Councilor input on positive initiatives, programs or events that would greatly benefit ACS members or ACS at large.

Three specific questions were posed to Councilors for their input and suggestions:

1) What can be accomplished to enhance the ACS experience?
2) Why (or how) do you think it would make a difference?
3) Who would be tasked with leading this effort (e.g. a section, committee, division, or other)?
The Council passed several resolutions:

1) In memory of deceased Councilors: N. Bhushan Mandava, Carol Mosher, and Paul V. Smith
2) Congratulating Thomas Connelly for his leadership as Chief Executive Officer of the American Chemical Society for the past eight years
3) Expressing thanks to the officers and members of the Chicago Local Section as well as to the divisional program chairs and symposium organizers responsible for the outstanding technical sessions
4) Acknowledging Angela Wilson’s service as ACS President and presiding officer of Council

CEO Thomas Connelly announced his retirement in May and the Board discussed the search for the next CEO. Executive search firm Korn Ferry International is assisting with the search. They are reaching out to an extensive network of organizations and individuals to solicit recommendations and applications from diverse, highly qualified individuals. The search is now underway with the goal of identifying candidates, interviewing them, and selecting our next CEO with a targeted start date of January 1, 2023.

On Tuesday, August 23rd, during the ChemLuminary Awards the Pittsburgh Local Section were the winners of the Award for Best Ongoing NCW Event from the Committee on Community Activities (CCA). We should all be proud for the involvement, commitment, and outstanding work that the members of the Pittsburgh Section exhibit! Thanks to all for your great work.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard S. Danchik
Pittsburgh Section
Kim Woznack (author)
Councilors
Haitao Liu
Kristin Nuzzio
Each year, the Pittsburgh local section features an “On the Road” event, which has the Mildred E. Perry Memorial Lecture. This is a great opportunity for local section chemists to visit your site or campus. The organizers choose the speaker and program details. Past organizers would be happy to share our experiences and websites if the host location is interested. In 2021, this event was hosted by Saint Francis University and featured Dr. Lan Deng from PPG. The event was virtual, and we encourage virtual events during these uncertain times. If your institution is located in the Pittsburgh Local Section and you would like to host the 2022 ACS “On the Road” event, please contact ACS Chair, Kim Woznack (woznack@calu.edu).
Dear Academic ACS Pittsburgh Section Members,

The Pittsburgh Section of the American Chemical Society has budgeted funds to help encourage undergraduate/graduate student participation in national and regional ACS meetings. The awards are intended to help defray meeting registration and travel-related expenses (lodging, transportation, per diem) for eligible students. Awards will be made based on the scientific merit of the paper/poster to be presented, financial need, and preference will be given to ACS members.

To apply for the funds, applicants should complete the attached application and return it by the relevant deadline. The deadlines for receipt of applications are as follows:

- 06/01 (for travel to be completed by 12/31)
- 12/01 (for travel to be completed by 06/30)

As noted on the application, students should include an abstract and confirmation (if received) of the paper/poster being accepted for the Meeting. In addition to the application form, applicants should include a recommendation letter from the PI of the project being presented and/or a recommendation letter from another and a personal statement as to the anticipated benefits of meeting attendance.

Applications can be made electronically (preferred) by emailing the application to Heather Juzwa (hljuzwa@shimadzu.com or heather_sapko@hotmail.com) or by mailing a hard-copy application (Pittsburgh Section ACS Travel Grants / Heather Juzwa / Center / 321 Winners Circle / Canonsburg, PA 15317).

Since 2013, the Pittsburgh Section of the ACS has awarded up to four $500 grants each year to aid our undergraduate/graduate student members in presenting papers or posters at ACS Meetings. This is an ongoing program in our Section, and details will be updated on our website (www.pittsburghACS.org) as necessary.

Applicants will be notified via email that their application was received. All efforts will be made to announce awards within two weeks of the application deadline, and all applicants will be notified of the final committee decisions. Our Section is looking forward to helping increase the participation of local students in ACS conferences. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Heather Juzwa, ACS Pittsburgh Section Student Travel Grants, Chair
Senior Field Sales Engineer, Shimadzu Scientific Instruments, Inc
American Chemical Society
Pittsburgh Section

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Name of Applicant: ____________________________________________

Name of Institution: __________________________________________

___________ Undergraduate Student / Year

___________ Graduate Student / Year

Mailing Address to Receive Payment if Awarded:
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Email: ____________________________  Phone: ____________________________

PI: __________________________________________

ACS Membership No.*: ____________________________

*If you do not know your ACS number, please email hjuzwa@shimadzu.com to receive it by email.

Meeting Location: ____________________________  Meeting Date: ____________

Project Title: __________________________________________

_____ Paper Presentation  _____ Poster Presentation

*Please attach a copy of your project abstract to the application.

Has your project been accepted?  Yes  No

*Attach documentation regarding acceptance if received at point of application.

Will this be your first presentation at an ACS national or regional meeting?  Yes  No

If no, please list conferences at which you have presented: ____________________________
Purpose of grant: ____________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

Other funding sources (if any): ____________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

Personal Statement of anticipated benefits of meeting attendance: ____________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

Has the applicant received a travel grant from the ACS Pittsburgh Section in the past? Yes No

If your application was selected, the Pittsburgh Section of the ACS would like you to write a short (one page) description of your activity upon completion of the conference for publication in our monthly newsletter, The Crucible, and on our website. The description is due within 30 days of the meeting attended. Photos are welcomed and encouraged.

I am willing to complete this report: Yes No

Signature: ____________________________

Date: ____________________________

Send completed hard-copy applications and supporting documentation to:

   Pittsburgh Section ACS Travel Grants
   Heather Juzwa, 321 Winners Circle, Canonsburg, PA 15317

Electronic copies of completed applications should be sent to hjuzwa@shimadzu.com and heather_sapko@hotmail.com. Be sure to place “Pittsburgh Section ACS Travel Grants” in the subject line.
2022 Pittsburgh Section Officers

Chair: Kim Woznack  
woznack@calu.edu  
Chair-Elect: Ed Zovinka  
zovinka@pittcon.org  
Secretary: Alysia Mandato  
atm75@pitt.edu  
Treasurer: Matt Price  
price@calu.edu  
Treasurer - Elect: Matt Price  
price@calu.edu  

Directors:  
- Michael Mautino  
- Toby Chapman  
- Dave Waldeck  
- Heather Juzwa  
- Evonne Baldauff  
- Logan Miller  

Councilors:  
- Kim Woznack  
- Rich Danchik  
- Haitao Liu  
- Kristin Nuzzio  

Volunteer with Us!  
We are always looking for new people to join the Pittsburgh Section Executive Committee. Email our Chair to inquire about opportunities.

Advertise in The Crucible

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The Crucible Deadline

The deadline for items submitted to The Crucible is the 25th of the month prior to publication. For example, all items for the September 2022 issue must be to the editor by August 25th, 2022.

ACS Regional Awards – Apply Today!

More information can be found here.