



Pittsburgh Section of the American Chemical Society  
Volume CX, No. 1  
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## Get to Know A Member – Kristin Nuzzio, Ph.D.



### 1. What is your work and ACS (if applicable) title?

ACS: Councilor, ACS Pittsburgh Local Section; Associate, ACS National Committee on Economics and Professional Affairs

Work: Global S&T LIMS Product Owner, PPG

### 2. How many years have you been in the ACS?

15

### 3. What is the biggest benefit of ACS Membership?

Connecting with a community of other scientists that are passionate about the field and volunteer service. ACS offers so many wonderful opportunities for professional, leadership, and personal development throughout your career.

### 4. What did you want to be when you were a child?

Graphic Designer

### 5. What made you fall in love with Chemistry?

My dad first inspired my interest in chemistry and always included me in experiments he was working on. In school, I found that I loved being in the lab performing experiments, documenting my observations, and the creativity that chemistry allowed. I was also able to participate in a week-long oceanic expedition in high school that really solidified my interest in pursuing chemistry in college.

### 6. What is your favorite part of your career or job?

Do you want to be our featured member? Please email [hljuzwa@shimadzu.com](mailto:hljuzwa@shimadzu.com) to get onto the schedule!

My favorite part of my current role is collaborating with global team members across different functions, like technical and IT, to further advance PPG's data strategy and digitalization initiatives.

**7. Which chemist, past or present, would you like to meet and why?**

Marie Curie and Irene Joliot-Curie. When I was younger, one of my favorite books was about Marie Curie, and it would be fascinating to talk to her and her daughter, Irene, about their experiences in the lab at that time.

## **Congratulations to Pittsburgh ACS Member Michael Mautino, 2024 Recipient of the ACS Award for Volunteer Service!**

The following article is an ACS News Release from July 7, 2023. Congratulations, Mike!

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### **American Chemical Society honors V. Michael Mautino with 2024 Award for Volunteer Service**



WASHINGTON, July 7, 2023 — The American Chemical Society (ACS) is pleased to announce V. Michael Mautino as the 2024 recipient of the [Award for Volunteer Service to the American Chemical Society](#). Mautino will deliver his award address at the ChemLuminary Ceremony at the ACS Fall 2024 meeting in Denver.

The award is presented annually to recognize the volunteer efforts of individuals who have served ACS and contributed significantly to the goals and objectives of the Society.

Mautino receives the award for “his outstanding volunteerism and mentorship at all levels of the American Chemical Society.” Over his 26 years of ACS membership,

Mautino has been a consistent leader of the ACS Pittsburgh Local Section. He has also served on numerous ACS national committees, chairing two, as well as having chaired the ACS Division of Chemical Technicians in the early 2000s.;

Among his many volunteer leadership accomplishments, Mautino played an integral role in creating Chemists Celebrate Earth Day in 2003. Because of the popularity and success of this program, ACS expanded it into [Chemists Celebrate Earth Week](#), which unites ACS local sections, student communities, technical divisions, businesses, schools and individuals in communicating the positive role that chemistry plays in the world.

His leadership, commitment to diversity and inclusion, and mentorship have benefited all ACS members he has interacted with, inspiring dozens to seek volunteer leadership positions within ACS and in their workplaces.

A 32-year employee of Covestro LLC, Mautino held several positions of increasing responsibility, including Product Line Manager and Regional Channel Manager in the Polyurethanes NAFTA Regional Channel Management Group.

“Michael’s passion for chemistry and people makes him the perfect vessel to fulfill the objectives of the ACS,” says Michelle Ward, a lecturer and undergraduate analytical laboratory director in the department of chemistry at the University of Pittsburgh.

Nominations are open for the 2025 Award for Volunteer Service to the American Chemical Society through Nov. 1, 2023. To nominate a colleague, visit the [ACS National Awards page](#).



## Call for Nominations

### **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.

### **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.

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Nominations for both awards are solicited from the membership of the Pittsburgh Section. Nomination packets and more information about the awards, including information on past winners, can be found on the Pittsburgh ACS website: <https://pittsburghacs.org/awards/>

Please send all nominations (or questions about nomination process) to Pittsburgh Section Chair-Elect, Alysia Mandato, [atm75@pitt.edu](mailto:atm75@pitt.edu). Nominations are due no later than **Tuesday, August 15, 2023**.



## **Pittsburgh Local Section CCEW Poetry Contest Winners**

As part of [Chemists Celebrate Earth Week](#) (CCEW) 2023, which took place April 16-22, students from grades K-12 were invited to share their interpretation of this year's theme, "**The Curious Chemistry of Amazing Algae**", in the form of illustrated poems.

Each first-place winning entry received a check for \$50, and their winning poem was entered into the national contest. A total of 123 entries were submitted to the Pittsburgh Local Section.

### **The winners of the Pittsburgh Section contest are:**

K-2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	Thomas S. (2 <sup>nd</sup> grade), Penn Hills School District
3 <sup>rd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Ella P. (5 <sup>th</sup> grade), North Star Middle School
6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Aaron S. (6 <sup>th</sup> grade), Butler Intermediate High School
9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Nadya W. (10 <sup>th</sup> grade), Taylor Allderdice High School

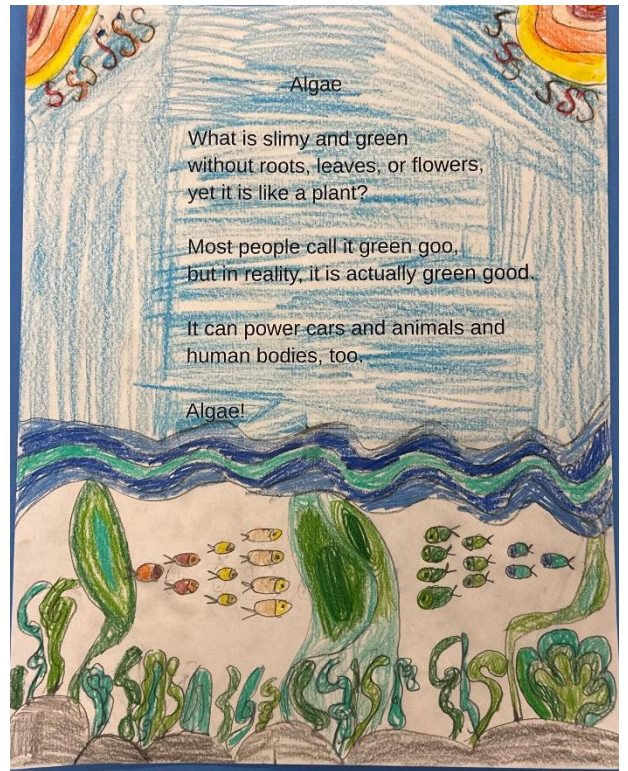
See their winning entries below - congrats to all!





I have some little seaweed.  
 Fish swim around it all day long.  
 And when he gets hungry,  
 he chomps on some seaweed,  
 plays with friends and sings songs.  
 His bedtime is 11:30,  
 but he gets tired from swimming all day.

Thomas S., 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, Penn Hills School District



Algae

What is slimy and green  
 without roots, leaves, or flowers,  
 yet it is like a plant?

Most people call it green goo,  
 but in reality, it is actually green good.

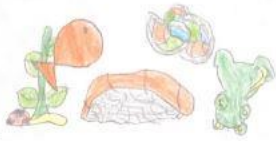
It can power cars and animals and  
 human bodies, too.

Algae!

Ella P., 5<sup>th</sup> Grade, North Star Middle School

### Food For Us

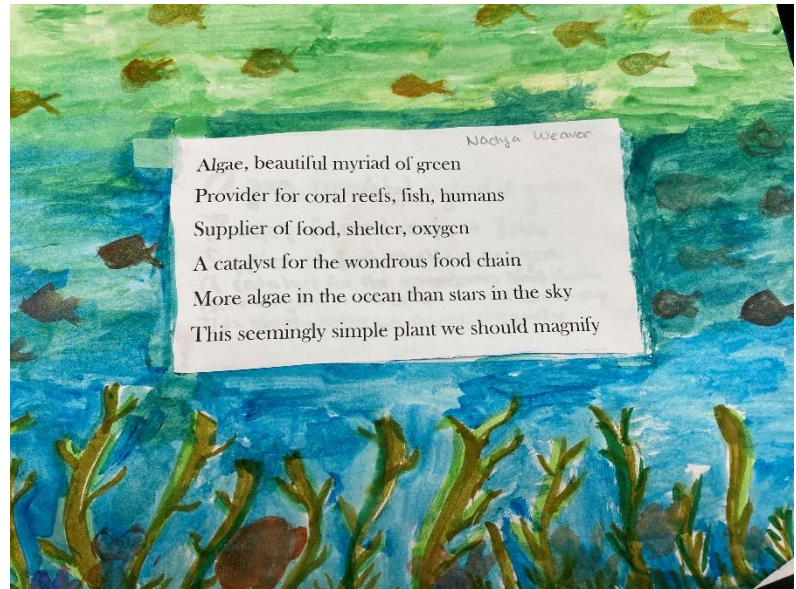
Algae is food for us  
 Seaweed is one type  
 They glow in the dark  
 In order to bring light



Underwater is where they're found  
 Eaten by both fish and people  
 Algae's in gummies and sushi  
 It is food for everyone



Aaron S., 6<sup>th</sup> grade, Butler Intermediate High School

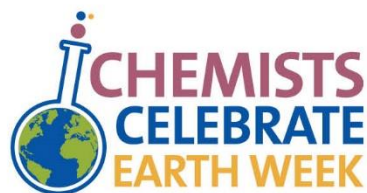


Nadya Weaver

Algae, beautiful myriad of green  
 Provider for coral reefs, fish, humans  
 Supplier of food, shelter, oxygen  
 A catalyst for the wondrous food chain  
 More algae in the ocean than stars in the sky  
 This seemingly simple plant we should magnify

Nadya W., 10<sup>th</sup> grade, Taylor Allderdice High School





# The Curious Chemistry of **AMAZING ALGAE**

April 16-22, 2023

We celebrated Earth Week from April 16-22 by holding our annual Illustrated Poetry Contest, and we added a new activity this year!

We assembled experiment kits for 100 students and sent materials to local schools and homes. The experiment was “Know by the Glow”, a study on bioluminescence!

It was a successful event, and we couldn't have done it without the help of the University of Pittsburgh ACS Student Affiliates and advisor George Bandik who worked to create the kits. Special thanks to our coordinator, Alysia Mandato, for organizing this outreach event!

See the next page for some photos of the kits, assembly, and students performing the experiments!



Discovering the glow of algae was a good learning experience. We didn't know chlorophyll fluoresces under UV light. The world of bioluminescence is awe-striking. From that lesson, we explored other creatures that emit light.



Studying algae opened our eyes to new possibilities.



Perhaps, one day, we will be the physiologists who help discover or refine algae's uses.





## Congratulations to our 50, 60, and 70-Year ACS Members

We celebrated with a luncheon at Lucca Ristorante in Oakland on June 29. We had a lovely afternoon with laughter, stories, and celebration. Those who could not attend were sent certificates from ACS National.



Left to Right: Rich Danchik, Ed Conrad, Richard Hayden, Rita Windisch, Sandy Hayden

Not pictured: Ed Zovinka, Alysia Mandato, Ron Taylor, Janet Taylor

Congratulations to all those recognized for 2023!

### 50-Year Members

Terry Beckwith, Edward Conrad, Thomas Conti, Mitchell Fedak, Andrew Goudy, Richard Hayden, Norman Holcombe, John Janusz, Michael Lancet, Ronald Taylor

### 60-Year Members

Carolyn Connelly, Thomas Crumm, Jane Eldridge, Richard Kolaczowski, Hubert MacDonald, Jr., Richard Ode, Diana Wakefield, Rita Windisch

### 70-Year Members

Kenneth Dishart, Donald Wyman

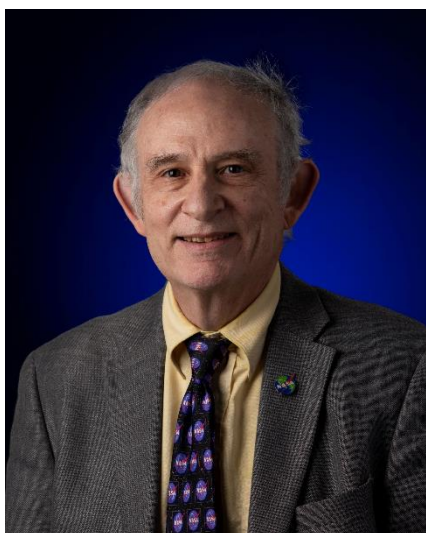
**SSP/SACP Joint Meeting  
Wednesday, September 6, 2023  
Duquesne University Power Center**



5:00 PM – Social Hour  
6:00 PM – Dinner  
6:45 PM – Business Meeting  
7:15 PM – Technical Program

**SACP Technical Program**

**“How Chemistry Helps Us View and Understand Our Home Planet and Its Future”  
Dr. Jack Kaye, NASA, Associate Director for Research  
Earth Science Division, Science Mission Directorate**



**Biography:**

Jack Kaye currently serves as associate director for research of the Earth Science Division (ESD) within NASA’s Science Mission Directorate (SMD). As associate director for research, Kaye is responsible for the research and data analysis programs for Earth System Science, covering the broad spectrum of scientific disciplines that constitute it. Earlier positions in his more than 39-year career at NASA include being a space scientist at the Goddard Space Flight Center and manager of the Atmospheric Chemistry Modeling and Analysis Program at NASA Headquarters.

Kaye represents NASA in many interagency and international activities and has been an active participant in the U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP), in which he has served for many years as NASA principal of the Subcommittee on Global Change Research. He also serves as NASA’s representative to the Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology, as well as vice chair of the Expert Team on Satellite Systems and Utilization for the World Meteorological Organization. He serves as NASA’s lead for the Coordination Group on Meteorological Satellites and is NASA co-chair of the joint NASA-ESA Joint Program Planning Group subgroup on Calibration and Validation.

He has received numerous NASA awards – most recently, the Distinguished Service Medal in 2022 – and he was recognized as a Meritorious Executive in the Senior Executive Service in 2004, 2010, and 2021. He was named as a Fellow by the American Meteorological Society (AMS) in 2010 and by the American Association of the Advancement of Science (AAAS) in 2014. He was also named an honorary member of the Asia Oceania Geoscience Society in 2015 and was recognized with the Order of Merit Award from the International Coordination Group for Laser Atmospheric Studies in 2017.

Kaye’s academic training is in chemistry (B.S. Adelphi University, 1976; Ph.D., California Institute of Technology, 1982). He also held a post-doctoral research associateship at the US Naval Research Laboratory.

**Abstract:**

The tools and techniques of chemistry provide a rigorous approach to study our home planet, the naturally-occurring and human-induced forcing that act upon it, and how it responds to them. In particular, remote sensing, which is really an applied form of spectroscopy, provides a way to look at large areas of Earth, especially when based on satellites or aircraft. In addition, in situ measurement techniques can provide information on the detailed chemical composition of the Earth system and its components. In this talk, the way the tools and techniques of chemistry are applied by NASA and others to study the Earth and its evolution will be shared.

**Learn about:**

The tools and techniques of chemistry let us learn a LOT about the Earth. By basing the instruments on satellites and aircraft we can study large areas of the planet, frequently inaccessible to in situ measurements.

The knowledge gained from these studies can inform our considerations of how the Earth will change in the future and the relationship between human activities and Earth's future.




For complete details and to make a dinner reservation, please visit our society's website. Deadline for dinner reservations is Wednesday, August 30, 2023 by noon.

<https://chemistryoutreach.org/meeting/>



## SACP/SSP 2023–2024 MONTHLY MEETING CALENDAR

5:00 – 6:00 Social Hour  
 6:00 – 6:45 Dinner  
 6:45 – 7:15 Business Meeting  
 7:15 – 8:15 Technical Program

Date	Speaker/Institution/Topic	Host
Wednesday September 6, 2023	Dr. Jack Kaye, NASA, Associate Director for Research Earth Science Division, Science Mission Directorate <b>“How Chemistry Helps Us View and Understand Our Home Planet and Its Future”</b>	SACP
Tuesday October 10, 2023	TBD	SSP
Monday November 13, 2023	Olexandr Isayev, Associate Professor of Chemistry Carnegie Mellon University <b>“How Chemistry is Affected by AI”</b> (May be held 11/13 or 3/11 – exact date TBD)	SACP
December 2023	 No meeting Happy Holidays! 	
Wednesday January 17, 2024	Dr. James P. Grinias, Rowan University <b>“Diverse Applications of Compact Capillary LC”</b>	SSP
February 24-28, 2024	 Pittcon® Leading in the Lab	Melinda Stephens, President
Monday March 11, 2024	TBD	SACP
Wednesday April 24, 2024	Dr. Brooke Kamrath, University of New Haven	SSP
Wednesday May 22, 2024	<b>Awards Banquet</b> Duquesne University Union Ballroom*	SACP, SSP & ACS

\*All monthly meetings will be held in the Duquesne University Power Center, unless otherwise noted.



## American Chemical Society Pittsburgh Section

[www.pittsburghacs.org](http://www.pittsburghacs.org)

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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](mailto:hljuzwa@shimadzu.com) or [heather\\_sapko@hotmail.com](mailto: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](http://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

[www.pittsburghacs.org](http://www.pittsburghacs.org)

Application Deadline	Travel Completion Date
December 1	June 30 (subsequent year)
June 1	December 31 (same year)

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 [hljuzwa@shimadzu.com](mailto:hljuzwa@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 [hljuzwa@shimadzu.com](mailto:hljuzwa@shimadzu.com) and [heather\\_sapko@hotmail.com](mailto:heather_sapko@hotmail.com). Be sure to place "Pittsburgh Section ACS Travel Grants" in the subject line.



## The Crucible

*The Crucible* is published monthly, August through May. All statements and opinions expressed herein are those of the editors or contributors and do not necessarily reflect the position of the Pittsburgh Section.

Editors: Alysia Mandato and Niharika Botcha, [crucible@pittsburghacs.org](mailto:crucible@pittsburghacs.org)

## 2023 Pittsburgh Section Officers

<b>Chair</b>	Ed Zovinka <a href="mailto:ezovinka@francis.edu">ezovinka@francis.edu</a>
<b>Chair-Elect</b>	Alysia Mandato <a href="mailto:atm75@pitt.edu">atm75@pitt.edu</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Samuel Leung <a href="mailto:samuel.leung@braskem.com">samuel.leung@braskem.com</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Matt Price <a href="mailto:price@pennwest.edu">price@pennwest.edu</a>
<b>Treasurer-Elect</b>	Niharika Botcha <a href="mailto:nbotcha@andrew.cmu.edu">nbotcha@andrew.cmu.edu</a>
<b>Directors</b>	David Waldeck Heather Juzwa Evonne Baldauff Logan Miller Toby Chapman Ronghong Lin
<b>Councilors</b>	Kim Woznack Rich Danchik Haitao Liu Kristin Nuzzio

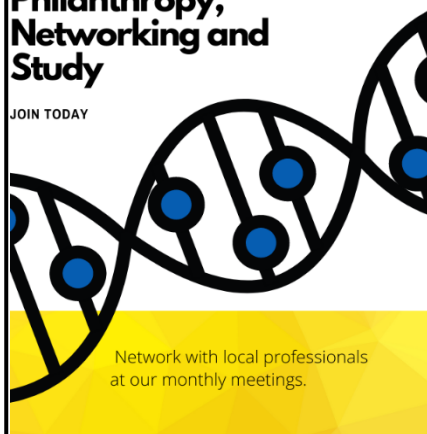
### Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh



[chemistryoutreach.org](http://chemistryoutreach.org)

**Science Outreach through Philanthropy, Networking and Study**

JOIN TODAY



Network with local professionals at our monthly meetings.

Society for Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh  
[chemistryoutreach.org](http://chemistryoutreach.org)



**Advancing Analytical Chemistry through Science Education**

JOIN TODAY



Network with local professionals at our monthly meetings.

## Advertise in The Crucible

	1X	3X	6X	10X
Full Page	\$120	\$115	\$100	\$75
Half Page	\$75	\$70	\$60	\$45
3.5" x 2"	\$50	\$45	\$25	\$20

## Volunteer with Us!

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

## The Crucible Deadline

The deadline for items submitted to The Crucible is the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication. For example, all items for the February 2023 issue must be to the editor by January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

## ACS Regional Awards – Apply Today!

More information can be found [here](#)