



ACS Pittsburgh Section Welcomes 2024 Chair, Alysia Mandato

Hello everyone,

As the incoming Chair of the Pittsburgh Local Section of the American Chemical Society (ACS), I want to wish you a happy 2024. I am honored to serve as the Pittsburgh ACS Chair this year after serving in different roles since 2019. I am thankful for the support of the greater Local Section and for the special support of Former Chairs Matt Price, Kevin Noonan, Kim Woznack, and Ed Zovinka.

For those who I haven't had the opportunity to meet yet, I am currently a Ph.D. candidate in chemistry at the University of Pittsburgh. I have been involved with the Pittsburgh ACS since I began graduate school in 2019, serving as *The Crucible* newsletter editor, secretary, Chemists Celebrate Earth Week coordinator, and Chair-Elect. The Pittsburgh ACS is an outstanding organization dedicated to serving our members and general community, and I am very grateful to have been a part of it during my graduate school career.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to new officers and committee members who are serving the Local Section this year. This year, we have reinvigorated our social media committee with the help of some talented undergraduate chemistry students. Additionally, we are working to increase our outreach activities by creating a new committee dedicated to outreach. One of my goals as Chair is to implement regularly scheduled outreach at local institutions around the Pittsburgh region. While we currently have exceptional National Chemistry Week and Chemists Celebrate Earth Week programs, I plan to hold more events throughout the year to share chemistry knowledge with the general community. If anyone is interested in being a part of this effort, please feel free to reach out to me.

Notably for 2024, the Pittsburgh Section is hosting the Central Regional Meeting (CERM) of the ACS in early November with the theme "The Confluence of Chemistry: Past, Present, and Future". The committee is working diligently to plan each detail of the meeting, so please be on the lookout for updates in *The Crucible* monthly newsletter, on the Pittsburgh ACS website at pittsburghacs.org, and on the CERM website at acscerm2024.org.

Finally, we are always looking for new volunteers! If you are a member of the local section and you have ideas or want to become more involved, please reach out and let me know. We would love to include you in our plans for 2024.

Thank you, and best wishes for 2024!

Alysia Mandato (atm75@pitt.edu)

American Chemical Society Pittsburgh Local Section

Engage and inspire members to unite the diverse chemistry community and share knowledge to benefit our region and its people.

www.pittsburghacs.org