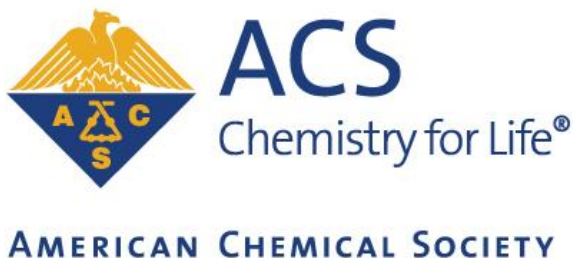




Pittsburgh Section of the American Chemical Society  
Volume CXI, No. 4  
November 2024

### Contents

Renew or Join ACS with a Discount!	1
2024 Distinguished Service Award Winner	2
2024 Pittsburgh Award Winner	3
Pittsburgh ACS 2025 Election Biographies	4 – 9
CERM 2024 – Register today	10 – 11
SACP/SSP November Meeting	12 - 13
SACP/SSP – Faraday Lecture	14 – 16
2025 WCC Merck Research Award	17
Elementary/Middle School Science Olympiad Program Workshop	18
Pittcon Conference and Exposition 2025 – Boston	19
Travel Grant Application	20-22
Business Page	23



## Join the ACS or Renew your Membership with a Discount!

There is an ACS Membership Drive Competition underway now through Friday, November 15th. ACS Local Sections are competing to engage new members or renewed members, and this is a great opportunity to support your Pittsburgh Local Section!

Use promo code **LSGROW24** to get 30% off your membership! The top five Local Sections and International Chapters with the highest percentage of membership growth will have the chance to receive some exciting rewards.

Additionally, you will receive tons of benefits with your ACS membership, including:

- Weekly digital access to C&EN Magazine
- Discounts on ACS meeting registrations
  - Annual periodic table mugs
- Local Section and Divisional Membership
- ACS Link, an online portal to connect with the ACS community

Visit <https://www.acs.org/membership.html> to join the ACS or renew your membership with promo code **LSGROW24**.



## Congratulations to the 2024 Distinguished Service Award Recipient!

The [Distinguished Service Award](#) was established in 2007 by the Pittsburgh Section of 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 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 the Pittsburgh Award are solicited from the membership of the Pittsburgh Section.

**Dr. Kimberly Woznack** earned her B.S. in chemistry from Hartwick College and her Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She served as a postdoctoral research associate at the University of New Hampshire, focused on chemical education research, before beginning her tenure-track position at California University of Pennsylvania (Cal U). She has been at Cal U (now Pennsylvania Western University - California) since 2004, served as the chair of the department, earned promotion to full professor, and serves as the ACS Chemistry Club's faculty advisor.



Kim has made many great contributions to the regional chemistry community through her service with the Pittsburgh Section of the American Chemical Society. She has served on the local section of the Women Chemist's Committee since 2011 and as a Councilor since 2017.

She also served as a Chair of the Pittsburgh section in 2022 and helped guide the committee and its outreach and activities after the COVID pandemic, helping to reestablish its identity and goals. With CERM 2024 coming rapidly, she has been an invaluable participant in organizing the conference as the co-chair to the program, including organizing the technical program and other activities, workshops, and luncheons during the CERM week.

Kim has been a very active contributor to the American Chemical Society at the national level. She has served on the WCC for the past ten years, serving as chair between 2018-20. She has also served as program chair of the National Meetings committee and been an active member to strengthen ACS members through her service in the Leadership Institute at all levels, including her own students at the university. She has also just been nominated and elected to the Council Policy Committee, working directly with the newly elected ACS President.

*Biography provided by Matthew Price*



## Congratulations to the 2024 ACS Pittsburgh Award Recipient!

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, consisting of a plaque, is presented annually at a Section dinner open to the public. 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.

**Dr. Evan Granite** is currently the Program Manager for Carbon Ore Processing and Senior Technical Advisor at the US Department of Energy (DOE) Headquarters. He has demonstrated unparalleled expertise and innovation. He initiated and led the DOE's National Energy Technology Laboratory Research and Innovation Center (NETL R&I) programs on Rare Earth and Critical Metals Detection and Recovery and Emissions Control. His leadership in these areas has been instrumental in addressing some of the most pressing environmental challenges of our time.



Dr. Granite's prolific contributions to scientific literature and patent development further underscore his impact. He is the principal or co-investigator on numerous projects, has authored or co-authored sixty-nine peer-reviewed journal articles, holds nine patents, and has delivered over three hundred conference papers and presentations. His research has been cited extensively, reflecting its profound influence on the scientific community. He was listed among the 2% of scientists worldwide in 2020 and 2022 published studies assessing scientists for both career-long and most recent year citation impacts and was recently interviewed by the American Institute of Physics for their Niels Bohr Oral History Series.

Dr. Granite has received numerous awards and recognitions, including the DOE/NETL Director's (Hugh Guthrie) Award for Innovation in 2009, 2008 and 2005; several R&D 100 Awards (The Oscars of Innovation); the rookie of the year gold medal award from the Federal Executive Board on Excellence in Government in June of 2001; three National Federal Laboratory Consortium Technology Transfer prizes, and many others. He was inducted into the International Activated Carbon Hall of Fame in October 2011 and was nominated for the 2019 and 2020 Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medal for Outstanding Research.

In addition to his technical achievements, Dr. Granite is deeply committed to fostering scientific collaboration and education. He has served on PhD thesis committees at prestigious institutions, organized major conferences, and delivered invited lectures at numerous academic and professional events. His dedication to mentorship and community service, exemplified by his volunteer work with the Pittsburgh Youth Chamber Orchestra, highlights his broader commitment to societal betterment.

*Biography provided by Ronghong Lin*

## 2024 ACS Pittsburgh Local Section Officer Nomination Biographies

All positions are open for nominations until October 1, 2024.

### **Chair-Elect Nominees:**

#### **Ronghong Lin, Ph.D.**

Dr. Ronghong Lin is a senior R&D chemist and group leader in the R&D department of Calgon Carbon Corporation in Pittsburgh, PA. He is responsible for activated carbon modeling, new product development, and technical support. Dr. Lin received his PhD degree in Chemical Engineering from Syracuse University in 2011. He was a postdoctoral research associate at Syracuse University from 2011 to 2014 and an ORISE postdoctoral fellow at DOE's National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) from 2015 to 2018. He later worked as a staff scientist and thermal area lead at Arconic and as an R&D director at Anactisis, LLC, before joining Calgon Carbon in 2021. His current and previous research work includes activated carbon characterization and modeling, adsorption and gas separation, fluid properties modeling, rare earth element separation and recovery, and energy and fuels. He has published one book chapter and more than twenty peer-reviewed journal articles and has delivered numerous presentations at national and international technical conferences. He is a peer reviewer for many prestigious journals. Dr. Lin has been an ACS member since 2012 and currently serves as secretary and director of the ACS Pittsburgh Local Section and chair of the Local Section's environmental group. In addition, he is a member of the Society for Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh (SACP) and the Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh (SSP). He serves as chair of SACP's K-12 Science Innovation Grant Committee and chair of SSP's Continuing Education Committee.

### **Treasurer-Elect Nominees:**

Position available to begin as Treasurer-Elect on January 1, 2025, and Treasurer from January 1, 2026, to December 2027.

Responsibilities: The Treasurer shall have charge of the funds of the Section, keep an accurate record of all receipts and disbursements, receive dues, and make those disbursements approved by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall render an account of all transactions and of the financial condition of the Section to the Executive Committee at times set by the Committee and shall submit such reports as are required by the ACS Governing Documents. In the absence of the Treasurer, the Treasurer-elect shall keep an accurate record of all receipts and disbursements.

### **Secretary-Elect Nominees:**

Position available to begin as Secretary-Elect on January 1, 2025, and Secretary from January 1, 2026, to December 2027.

#### **Amalene Cooper-Morgan, Ph.D.**

Dr. Amalene Cooper-Morgan earned her B.S. from Long Island University in New York in 2001 and completed her Ph.D. at Columbia University in 2008. Subsequently, she conducted postdoctoral research at the University of Massachusetts Medical School (UMMS), where she received an NIH T32 Training grant. Dr. Cooper-Morgan has 12 years of teaching experience. She recently joined Seton Hill University in 2019, where she is an Associate Professor of Chemistry. Her teaching and research pedagogy promotes active learning, problem solving method of learning, in addition to the incorporation of new and emerging biochemical tools and technology into curricular development. She is currently working on ways to make CRISPR, a revolutionary gene editing tool, more accessible to undergraduates, transforming the laboratory experience from an expository to a course undergraduate research experience. Her interest and passion for STEM began with her own experience as a SURF student. She has 14 years of experience in outreach, including working as a SURF program leader, with the Worcester Pipeline Outreach program (UMMS), with Girls Inc., and Eureka program in Massachusetts. Locally, Dr. Cooper-Morgan has participated in the Career Café videos for Westmoreland YWCA Greater Pittsburgh STEM Tube to encourage young girls to pursue careers in STEM. With a long history in outreach, in 2021 Dr. Cooper-Morgan started the Future Scholars Program, a STEM outreach program in partnership with K-12 schools. Notwithstanding, she works on initiatives to recruit and retain students from underserved groups into the STEM fields. Exemplified most notably, by her leadership as a co-PI of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) Scholars Program, a program to increase the number of underrepresented minorities who matriculate and graduate with degrees in STEM, at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Her passion for mentoring is not overlooked. Dr. Cooper-Morgan actively mentors students, of mention is her involvement in an NSF S-STEM grant as a co-PI. The S-STEM was awarded to Seton Hill University in 2023 to bolster lower-income students who wish to major in STEM. Service to her community is of note, Dr. Cooper-Morgan is an Associate Member of ACS' Committee on Public Relations and Communications, as well as being active in her local section. Dr. Cooper-Morgan is the Chair of Pittsburgh's Women Chemists Committee where she actively pursues events and activities to encourage and empower women chemical scientists.

#### **Kristin Nuzzio, Ph.D.**

Kristin Nuzzio has been a member of the American Chemical Society for 17 years and is currently serving as a Pittsburgh Local Section Councilor and Member of the National ACS

Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs. She is the Global Data Stewardship Group Leader for Science & Technology at PPG, where she has worked for nine years in a variety of research and supervisory roles in paints and coatings R&D. Kristin received a Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2015 and a B.S. in Chemistry and B.A. in Spanish from the University of Delaware in 2009. Kristin is passionate about career development and supporting others to identify and achieve their professional goals. She serves as an ACS Career Consultant and is a regular contributor to the ACS Industry Matters Newsletter. Through the Local Section, she is organizing career workshops and a symposium at the upcoming CERM meeting in Pittsburgh this fall. At PPG, Kristin is a global leader in the Abilities First disability inclusion employee network, member of the R&D Diversity Council, and Women's Leadership Mentor Circle facilitator. She is active in university recruiting initiatives and community outreach at PPG as a member and former Chair of the Science Education Council.

#### **Director Nominees:**

##### **Evonne Baldauff, Ph.D.**

Evonne Baldauff is a Professor of Chemistry at Waynesburg University where she also holds several administrative roles (Chair of the Department of Chemistry & Forensic Science, Interim Department Chair for Math, Computer Science, & Physics, and Assistant Provost for Faculty Excellence and Curriculum Development). She received her B.S. in chemistry from Grove City College followed by a Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry from Purdue University. She is currently embarking on a new area of research in exploring how both teaching, and teaching with, an entrepreneurial mindset can impact student learning in undergraduate chemistry courses. Baldauff has advised the Waynesburg University ACS Student Chapter since 2007, during which time the group was recognized fifteen times as an "Outstanding Student Chapter." She has been active in the ACS Pittsburgh Local Section since 2013, serving in various roles (secretary, treasurer, chair, and director). She assumed the role of NCW coordinator for the section in 2019, earning recognition for the "Outstanding Ongoing NCW Event" ChemLuminary Award that same year and again in 2022. At the national level, Baldauff has served on the Undergraduate Student Advisory Board (USAB) since 2020. She has coordinated undergraduate programming at the local and national levels (CERM 2014 and 2024, and the 2021 ACS Spring Meeting). Baldauff was chosen by the local section in 2021 for the Distinguished Service Award, and in 2023 she was selected as the ACS Global Outreach Volunteer of the Year. She feels very honored to have received these recognitions and looks forward to continuing her service to the Pittsburgh ACS Local Section as it works to fulfill its mission to "advance the broader chemical enterprise and its practitioners" in the region.

### **Logan Miller**

Logan Miller received his B.S. in Chemistry with a major in biochemistry and forensic chemistry from Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania (SRU). Logan obtained his M.S. from Duquesne University and is currently working full-time as an Application Scientist with Shimadzu Scientific Instruments. Within the Pittsburgh ACS section he has served as the editor the Pittsburgh Section of the ACS Crucible newsletter and has been an ACS member since 2009. Additional roles within the ACS involve being chair of publicity/marketing committee for Pittsburgh ACS and Vice-Chair of Pittsburgh ACS's Women Chemist's Committee. Since 2018 Logan has served as one of the Pittsburgh section's Directors. Additional committees that Logan has served on have included Long Range Planning, multi-year term as Secretary of the section, Crucible committee, and chair of Professional Relations/Employment committee. Logan has also been awarded the ACS Younger Chemist Committee Younger Chemist Leadership Development Award. Logan alongside his co-chair are the current 2024 Central Regional ACS meeting general chairs, he looks forward to a successful CERM 2024. In addition to ACS, Logan is actively involved (Chair/Co-Chair positions) in numerous committees with both SACP and SSP and has been a member since 2013. In 2018 he was also selected to serve as organizing committee member with the Pittsburgh Conference (PITTCON) and has served on various committees, currently as Chair-Elect for Attendee Experience. He continually champions for the Pittsburgh ACS section and looks forward to the future growth and expansion of the section and continued success of programming.

### **Matthew Price, Ph.D.**

Matthew joined the Chemistry and Physics Department at California University of PA (now PennWest University-California) in the fall of 2005. His main instructional load consists of Organic and Biochemistry courses and also participates in the chemistry programs integrated laboratory and research program. Matthew has participated in the department's ACS accreditation efforts, has served as Chemical Hygiene officer in the department, and as department chair of the Chemistry and Physics Department at CalU (2014-20) and PWU-Chemistry (2022-23) and as Assistant Chair (2023-24). Matthew has also been actively involved in the General Education committee at CalU since 2008, serving as assessment coordinator (2009-15), vice-chair (2012-17), Chair (2017-22) and PWU-GenEd Integration Chair (2021-2).

Matthew received a B.S in Chemistry in 1995 from Adams State College in Alamosa, CO and a PhD. in Organic Chemistry from the University of Utah in 2002 under the direction of Cynthia Burrows in the area of polymeric bioconjugates synthesis toward creating gene transfection agents. While at Utah, Matthew received the NIH Biological Chemistry Training Fellowship. Upon completion of his graduate studies, he conducted proprietary research into polymeric drug formulations at a biotechnology company in downtown Salt Lake City until accepting a position as a visiting assistant professor at Earlham College in 2004-05.



Matthew joined the Society for Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh (SACP) in 2009, and has been an active member serving as an advisor in the student affiliates and on various committees, including National Chemistry Week committee (chaired in 2013-4, 2021-22). He served as SACP secretary in 2019-20, treasurer in 2020-21, chair-elect in 2022-23 and chair in 2023-24. He has served on the Pittcon committee (Short Courses chair 2022, Student Aides 2024, Employment 2025-26). and presented research with undergraduates at PittCon the past eight years. Matthew has also been a member of the American Chemical Society since 1998, serving in the Pittsburgh section as secretary (2015), chair-elect (2019), chair (2020), and treasurer (2022-24). He currently serves as a co-chair of the CERM 2024 committee.

### **Councilor Nominees:**

#### **Niharika Botcha, Ph.D.**

Niharika Krishna Botcha is a Special Lecturer in the Department of Chemistry at Carnegie Mellon university (CMU). She started out with a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from BITS-Pilani Goa Campus in India. After a short stint in Germany, she followed it up with a master's degree in chemistry and a PhD in Materials Science from The University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH). Her research work was focused in the area of Inorganic Chemistry, so she continued with a postdoc in her field at CMU. Realizing her passion for teaching she then transitioned to a special faculty position at CMU.

As a graduate student at UAH, Niharika served as the President and Co-President of the Chemistry Student Committee and the Society of Women Chemists respectively. She was also a mentor for the Army Educational Outreach Program and Research and Engineering Apprenticeship Program for two consecutive years at UAH. As a postdoc, Niharika was the NPA Meetings committee member serving as the vice-chair for both the Plenary/Keynote subcommittee as well as the Workshops/Poster subcommittee.

As the current treasurer of the Pittsburgh local section, she is a volunteer and an officer of the section. She is also currently serving as the treasurer for the Central Regional Meeting (CERM) 2024 which is being hosted and organized by the Pittsburgh local section. Niharika has been an ACS member since 2017 and has been an active volunteer in her local section activities since. Through ACS, Niharika had the opportunity to participate as well as serve in various outreach activities. Currently as a part of the Pittsburgh local section of ACS, she is excited to contribute her time and efforts to better serve her section.

#### **Kristin Nuzzio, Ph.D.**

Kristin Nuzzio has been a member of the American Chemical Society for 17 years and is currently serving as a Pittsburgh Local Section Councilor and Member of the National ACS Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs. She is the Global Data Stewardship Group

Leader for Science & Technology at PPG, where she has worked for nine years in a variety of research and supervisory roles in paints and coatings R&D. Kristin received a Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2015 and a B.S. in Chemistry and B.A. in Spanish from the University of Delaware in 2009. Kristin is passionate about career development and supporting others to identify and achieve their professional goals. She serves as an ACS Career Consultant and is a regular contributor to the ACS Industry Matters Newsletter. Through the Local Section, she is organizing career workshops and a symposium at the upcoming CERM meeting in Pittsburgh this fall. At PPG, Kristin is a global leader in the Abilities First disability inclusion employee network, member of the R&D Diversity Council, and Women's Leadership Mentor Circle facilitator. She is active in university recruiting initiatives and community outreach at PPG as a member and former Chair of the Science Education Council.

### **Edward P. Zovinka, Ph.D.**

Edward is a Professor of Chemistry at Saint Francis University (SFU). AT SFU he has served in a number of administrative roles including service as Chair of the Chemistry, Mathematics, & Physical Sciences, the Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) and he was the Science Center Building Shepherd during planning and construction phases. He earned a BS in chemistry from Roanoke College and his PhD in Chemistry from the University at California – Davis. He completed postdoctoral research at NC State University and also completing sabbatical research at Penn State, Carnegie-Mellon, and Yale Universities.

He is strongly committed to undergraduate research and community service, receiving grants from the National Science Foundation, the Office of Naval Research, the ACS-Petroleum Research Fund, the Palumbo Foundation, FirstEnergy, and the Society for Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh to support the efforts. He has published 38 peer reviewed chemistry manuscripts (21 scholarly publications with SFU undergraduates), 2 books on chemistry, received a patent, and co-author on 60+ presentations at (inter)national conferences. He is strongly committed to improving science education. For 25+ years, he directed the Rural Outreach Chemistry for Kids (R.O.C.K.) program reaching over 75,000 K-12 students in our region in that timespan.

He has served the ACS as Chair ('23) of the Pittsburgh LS and as Chair of the Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh ('23-'24). He is a Committee Member of Pittcon ("The Pittsburgh Conference"), being Pittcon Program Chair (2023, Philadelphia), with responsibility as Attendee Experience Co-Chair (2025, Boston) and Exposition Chair (2026, San Antonio).



## Central Regional Meeting

November 6 – 9 | Pittsburgh, PA

Still Time to Register for CERM 2024!

The 2024 CERM theme is “The Confluence of Chemistry: Past, Present, and Future”. Our beautiful city of Pittsburgh is at the center point of three rivers. The Allegheny river and the Monongahela river join to form the Ohio river. In the same way, chemistry as a whole is built by the chemists of our past, the present-day discoveries, and the outlook of chemistry in the future. Through this theme, we will honor and celebrate the history and future of chemistry with our regional chemistry community in Pittsburgh and beyond.



### Book your stay for CERM 2024

The conference will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Pittsburgh – Green Tree. Book now with the ACS discounted rate by October 13. [Book Now >>](#)



### Program-at-a-Glance

Experience CERM 2024 from Wednesday, November 6 to Saturday, November 9, with a variety of workshops, luncheons, poster sessions, and technical programs. [Learn More >>](#)



### CERM 2024 Awards Dinner

Join us at a dinner and awards ceremony that will celebrate the achievements of ACS members (\$60 per person). [Learn More >>](#)

## **Attending the CERM 2024 offers several compelling benefits:**

**Networking Opportunities:** Connect with fellow chemists, researchers, and industry professionals. This can lead to collaborations, job opportunities, and valuable professional relationships.

**Cutting-Edge Research:** Stay updated on the latest advancements in various fields of chemistry through technical symposia, poster sessions, and plenary lectures.

**Professional Development:** Participate in workshops and courses that can enhance your skills and knowledge, helping you excel in your career.

**Exhibition and Resources:** Explore the exhibition to discover new products, technologies, and services that can aid your research or work.

**Cultural Experience:** The event is held in Pittsburgh, a city known for its rich history and vibrant cultural scene. Enjoy the local attractions and the unique theme of the meeting, "The Confluence of Chemistry: Past, Present, and Future".

**Community Engagement:** Be part of a community that celebrates the history and future of chemistry, honoring the contributions of past chemists while looking forward to future discoveries.

To register, you will need an ACS ID. You can easily [create a free ACS ID](#) if you don't already have one.

**SSP/SACP Joint Meeting  
Wednesday, November 6, 2024  
Duquesne University Power Center**



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

**SSP Technical Program**

**“Chemistry and Impacts of Environmental Interfaces”**

**Vicki H. Grassian, Distinguished Professor and Distinguished Chair in Physical Chemistry, Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry  
University of California at San Diego**



**Biography:**

Vicki H. Grassian is a Distinguished Professor and Distinguished Chair in Physical Chemistry in the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry at UC San Diego. Grassian's group focuses on the chemistry and impacts of environmental interfaces as it relates to atmospheric aerosols, engineered and geochemical nanomaterials and indoor surfaces. She has developed and utilized many different spectroscopic techniques to probe the chemistry and impacts of environmental interfaces throughout her career. She has received many awards for her research including both the American Chemical Society National Awards in Surface Chemistry and Creative Advances in Environmental Science and Technology. She also received the Royal Society of Chemistry John Jeyes Award and

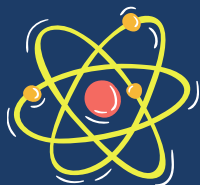
the William H. Nichols Medal Award for her contributions to the chemistry of environmental interfaces. She is an elected member of several societies including the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a Fellow of the American Chemical Society, the Royal Society of Chemistry, the American Physical Society, the American Vacuum Society and the American Institute of Chemists.

**Abstract:**

Environmental interfaces are defined as surfaces in equilibrium with the surrounding environment and include environmental systems where the surface plays an important role. These interfaces impact air quality, water quality and climate and are thus of utmost importance to understand. Given the analytical challenges in measuring surfaces phenomena in general, environmental interfaces are often difficult to study. This talk will focus on some examples of the chemistry and impacts of environmental interfaces, including atmospheric aerosols, geochemical interfaces and indoor surfaces, as well as some of the analytical challenges.

For complete details and to make a dinner reservation, please visit our society's website. Deadline for dinner reservations is Wednesday, October 30, 2024 by noon.

<https://chemistryoutreach.org/events/monthly-meeting/>



# THE 37TH ANNUAL FARADAY LECTURE

# DON'T BLINK!

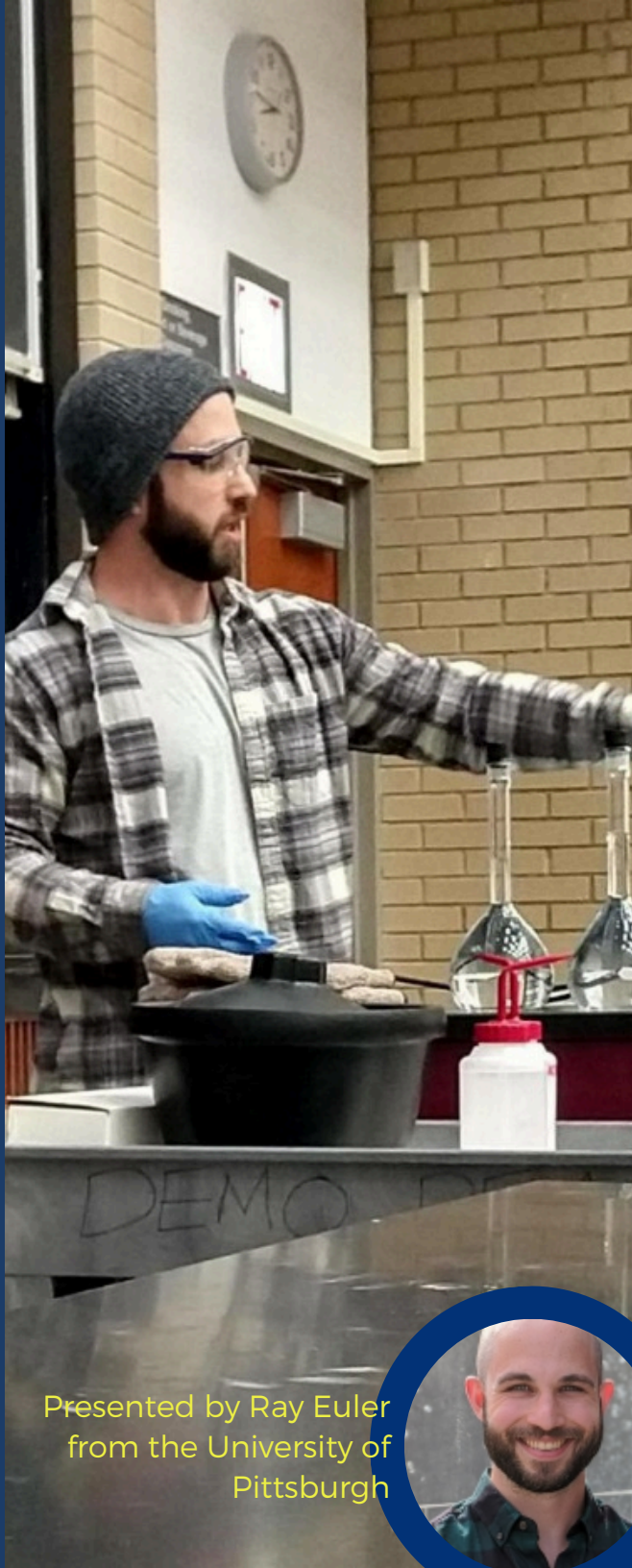


A series of visual demonstrations including color changes, flashes, bangs, and a series of other exciting chemical phenomena!

**WEDNESDAY,  
NOVEMBER 13TH  
10:00 AM  
(DOORS OPEN AT 9AM)  
SOLDIERS AND  
SAILORS  
MEMORIAL HALL**

Find out more info and register at  
[www.faradaylecture.org](http://www.faradaylecture.org)

Sponsored by



Presented by Ray Euler  
from the University of  
Pittsburgh





## 2024 Faraday Lecture

“Water is to me, I confess, a phenomenon which continually awakens new feelings of wonder as often as I view it” - Michael Faraday, 1853

For 37 years the Faraday Science Lecture has greeted the holiday season in Pittsburgh, and it returns this year in all of its grandeur. The demonstrations in chemistry and physics have both amazed and encouraged middle and high school students for generations, and this year promises to provide these eager minds an opportunity to explore, enjoy, and marvel at the phantastic world of science. **This Lecture is free and open to all middle and high schools – however seating availability is *first come – first serve!***

For this year’s event, it is our pleasure to feature Chemistry Demonstrator Ray Euler from the University of Pittsburgh. As the concepts of chemistry and physics are explored through a myriad of experiments, “Don’t Blink!” since the visual journey will be sure to capture the mind. Energy, light, and time will be on full display in a number of demonstrations...did you know that a witch’s brew decides its own journey and elephants have their own toothpaste? In the essence of the lectures given by Michael Faraday, it is hoped that the audience will be intrigued and curious of their surroundings, and that a new generation is inspired to further the study of scientific fields.

**How to attend the Lecture:** The free event will be held at Soldier’s & Sailor’s Memorial Hall in Oakland, 4141 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213. There will be a single lecture on Wednesday November 13, 2024, with doors opening at 9:00 am and the demonstration being conducted from 10:00 till 11:30 am. For schools that are outside the local area – to include international parties – that have an interest in gaining access to the on-demand video, please email Cally Shouse at [shousec@pittcon.org](mailto:shousec@pittcon.org)

Event registration can be found at <https://pittcon.org/faraday/>

Questions can be directed to Cally Shouse: [shousec@pittcon.org](mailto:shousec@pittcon.org)



## About Michael Faraday



The namesake for the Faraday Lecture is Michael Faraday, a British scientist who lived in the early to mid-1800's. Although he had little formal education, Mr. Faraday was one of the most influential scientists in history. Even today he is recognized as a top scientist.

As a physicist he discovered the principles of electromagnetic induction, electro-magnetic rotations, the magneto-optical effect, diamagnetism and field theory. As a chemist he discovered benzene and an early form of the Bunsen burner as well as several other accomplishments.

During the time of Faraday there was very little organized education for young people. In 1825 Faraday started Christmas lectures at the Royal Institution of Great Britain. Faraday and other prominent people gave lectures on different scientific topics. The lectures in his namesake continue to this day, across the United States and throughout the world.

### Faraday Lecture Sponsors

The Faraday Lecture is sponsored by the Society of Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh (SACP) and the Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh (SSP). Funding for the Faraday Lecture comes from Pittcon, a yearly conference and exposition serving the broad field of laboratory science. The SACP/SSP is dedicated to furthering science education in Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, New York, New Jersey, and Maryland. Please visit [www.ChemistryOutreach.org](http://www.ChemistryOutreach.org) for more information and to view other educational programs, teacher and student awards, and a wide variety of grant programs.

# 2025 WCC MERCK RESEARCH AWARD

**Application Deadline:  
Friday, November 15, 2024**



## **2025 WCC Merck Research Award – Application Deadline, November 15**

The WCC Merck Research Award recognizes eight individuals\* who will present their research at a Women Chemists Committee (WCC)/Merck half-day symposium during the ACS Fall 2025 Meeting and be recognized at the Awards Symposium Luncheon and the WCC Luncheon. Individuals\* in their third and fourth year of graduate school with a research focus in one or more of the following – Organic, Medicinal, Analytical, Chemical Biology, Computational or Structural Chemistry, and related disciplines are eligible. This award is open to U.S. citizens (studying anywhere) and non-U.S. citizens attending a graduate program in the U.S. or Canada. The deadline for applications is **November 15, 2024**. Apply today!

[https://fs7.formsite.com/acsdiversity/Merck\\_Research\\_Award/index.html](https://fs7.formsite.com/acsdiversity/Merck_Research_Award/index.html)

\*This includes women (both cis and trans) and persons assigned female at birth (AFAB).



**ACS**  
Chemistry for Life®



# CALLING ALL TEACHERS!

Join us for breakfast and learn about organizing a  
Science Olympiad at your school!



A Science Olympiad is a hands-on extravaganza designed to excite, inspire and challenge students of all abilities about science.

**Grant money up to \$2,500 is available for interested schools.**

The program is designed for students grades 4-6, but can be adapted to include lower grade levels. Visit [www.info@chemistryoutreach.org/grants/emssop](http://www.info@chemistryoutreach.org/grants/emssop) for more information.

**Each teacher in attendance will receive a Science Olympiad starter kit and Manual at the conclusion of the presentation!**

## Elementary/Middle School Science Olympiad Program Workshop



November 15, 2024 7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Hampton Community Center  
Great Room A  
3101 McCully Road Allison Park, PA 15101  
**Space is limited! Click [HERE](#) to RSVP now!**

Questions about the workshop? Please email  
[info@chemistryoutreach.org](mailto:info@chemistryoutreach.org)

Presenters:

Megan Melucci, SSP - EMSSOP program

Janet McCann, St. Monica Catholic Academy - Beaver County

David McCutcheon, Central Elementary School - Hampton Township School District



# HAS REMOTE WORK DEPLETED YOUR TEAM MOJO METER?

**Pittcon can help.**  
**Connect. Cultivate. Collaborate.**

**Pittconnections** last a lifetime.  
Registration opens October 29.  
Bring your team. Replenish your mojo.

**Pittcon**<sup>®</sup>  
Conference and Exposition

Boston, Massachusetts, USA  
March 1-5, 2025 | [Pittcon.org](http://Pittcon.org)



**Register Today**  
[pittcon.org/register](http://pittcon.org/register)



## American Chemical Society Pittsburgh Section

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

---

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.

Editor: Sarah Scrivener, [crucible@pittsburghacs.org](mailto:crucible@pittsburghacs.org)

## 2024 Pittsburgh Section Officers

<b>Chair</b>	Alysia Mandato <a href="mailto:atm75@pitt.edu">atm75@pitt.edu</a>
<b>Chair-Elect</b>	Samuel Leung <a href="mailto:samuel.leung@braskem.com">samuel.leung@braskem.com</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Ronghong Lin <a href="mailto:dr.ronghong.lin@gmail.com">dr.ronghong.lin@gmail.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>	Heather Juzwa Evonne Baldauff Logan Miller Toby Chapman Ronghong Lin
<b>Councilors</b>	Kim Woznack Rich Danchik Haitao Liu Kristin Nuzzio

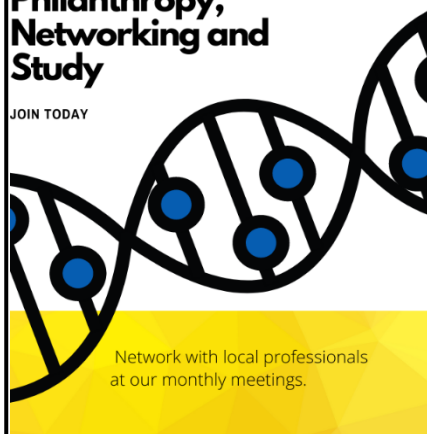
### Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh



[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 2024 issue must be to the editor by January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

## ACS Regional Awards – Apply Today!

More information can be found [here](#)