

THE OCTAGON



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Lehigh Valley Section of the American Chemical Society

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April Meeting Announcement:
803rd LVACS Meeting:
Moravian College
Student Awards Night &
Undergraduate Poster Session
Speaker - Madeline Jacobs !

Date: Tuesday, April 22

Location: Moravian College - North Campus

Reception and Poster Session: 5:00 – 6:15 pm, Lobby Collier Hall of Science

Dinner: 6:15 pm – UBC Room, Hauptert Union Building
Meeting and Lecture: Meeting and Student Awards Presentation: 7:30 pm Dana Lecture Hall, Collier Hall of Science

Menu: Buffet featuring Baked Chicken Breast with Pineapple/Orange Sauce and Pasta Primavera

Cost: members \$20, students & retirees \$10

Contact: LouAnn Vlahovic by Noon, Thursday, April 17th. Please include your name, affiliation, and for students whether they are an awardee, poster presenter or both. Registration can be made by phone (610-861-1300) or by email melnv01@moravian.edu (the last two digits are numbers). Please put LVACS Registration in the subject line. (Note: email registrations will be confirmed by a return email.)

Directions: Directions to Moravian can be found on the web at <http://www.moravian.edu/admission/directions.htm>. Suggested parking is in Lots M, N, & O, along Locust Street. A campus map is available at <http://www.moravian.edu/campusMaps/north.htm>.

Speaker: Madeline Jacobs, Executive Director & Chief Executive Officer ACS
Madeleine Jacobs is Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of the American Chemical Society (ACS). As Executive Director and CEO, Jacobs has worked closely with the ACS Board of Directors, ACS volunteers and members, and the Society's nearly 2,000 employees to help reinvent ACS and prepare it to serve its members and the chemical profession during a time of radical change in the chemical enterprise. She is working closely with other organizations around the world to enhance ACS collaboration in the chemical sciences.



Jacobs received a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry at George Washington University (with honors and distinction) in 1968. She completed course work for a Master's Degree in organic chemistry at the University of Maryland in 1969. Jacobs received an honorary Doctor of Science from George Washington University in 2003.

Prior to her selection by the ACS Board of Directors as Executive Director and CEO, Jacobs served for eight

and a half years as Editor-in-Chief of Chemical & Engineering News magazine, the weekly newsmagazine of the chemical world published by ACS, and two years as Managing Editor. She has held other senior management positions in a wide variety of scientific and educational organizations including the National Institutes of Health, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and the Smithsonian Institution, where she served as the director of Public Affairs at the world's largest museum complex.

Major honors include the Smithsonian Institution Secretary's Gold Medal (1993), the New York Academy of Sciences Women History Month Award (2001), the 75th Canadian Society for Chemistry Conference Lecturer (2002), the ACS Award for Encouraging Women into Careers in the Chemical Sciences (2003), and the American Crystallographic Association Public Service Award (2004). A much-honored science journalist, she has also received more than three dozen awards for outstanding science writing from national organizations. She is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a member of the ACS Board of Directors, and a founding member of the Board of the Rosalind Franklin Society, dedicated to promoting women in the sciences. She is also a member of the Board of Governors of the New York Academy of Sciences.

Jacobs' professional interests include trends in the chemical industry, the public image of chemistry, employment trends, minority representation, and gender equality of scientists. She has given speeches on these topics for more than 35 years and is a sought-after speaker.

Talk: *"Improving people's lives through the transforming power of chemistry."*

Abstract: Chemistry remains the unifying and enabling science to help solve the world's most pressing problems: ensuring sufficient energy, clean water, health care, security, and food, while achieving a sustainable planet. As long as these challenges exist, chemists will be essential to providing solutions. The American Chemical Society is dedicated to providing chemists of all ages with the lifelong learning tools, programs, and services that will ensure a rewarding career while fulfilling the ACS vision,

"Improving people's lives through the transforming power of chemistry."

***May Meeting Announcement:
804th LVACS Meeting:
East Stroudsburg University at
Barley Creek Brewing Co
2nd Annual Pub Night - Year End
Celebration!
Spouse's Night!***

Date: Tuesday, May 13th

Social: 6:00-7:30 PM - Barley Creek Back Deck- Open Bar - Complimentary beer and house wines 6:00-8:00 PM (other alcoholic beverages available as cash bar). Jalapeno Pockets, Bruschetta, Crake Cake Bites, Cheese and Crackers, Wings. Shuffle board, darts, chess and other games available. Come have fun and let off some steam!



Beer Tasting: 7:00 PM - The Brewmaster of Barley Creek Brewing Company will lead us in sampling the fine beers the brewery has to offer. Discussion of brewing ingredients and techniques will make this worth the drive!

Brewery Tours: Throughout the evening with the BCB Brewmaster

Dinner: 7:30 PM - Newly remodeled Barley Creek Back Deck

Menu: House salad, Choice of: 8 oz top sirloin topped with sautéed mushrooms, served with mashed potatoes and seasonal vegetables, Chicken Parmigiana served over linguini Penne Ala Vodka served with Garlic Bread, Dessert - Stout Cheesecake or Apple Pie



Meeting: Business meeting during dinner

Cost: \$28, spouses, students and retirees \$18

Contact: Michelle Jones-Wilson by 4PM, Tuesday May 6. Please provide choice of entree and affiliation. mjwilson@po-box.esu.edu or 570-422-3703 - email

contact preferred.

Directions: Directions: Barley Creek Brewing Company, Sullivan Trail & Camelback Road, Tannersville, PA http://www.barleycreek.com/find_us/index.shtml

About The Barley Creek Brewing Co:



Located in Tannersville, right off route 80's exit 299 in between the Crossings Outlet Stores and Camelback Ski area (Camelbeach Water Park, Barley Creek is the Pocono Mountains' Original Brewpub and Restaurant, where you can always find great food, freshly brewed beer, a comfortable atmosphere, friendly people, and a unique place to kick back, relax and have a great time. Bring your friends, bring your family, bring your friends' families. Cheers!

March Meeting Minutes:

The 802nd meeting of the Leigh Valley ACS was called to order at 7:30 on Friday March 28th by chair Julie Ealy. The meeting was held in the recently renovated Alumni Hall at Lafayette College. This was high school teacher's night and two teachers were present. The total attendance was forty-seven. The meeting was jointly sponsored by the Chemistry and Chemical Engineering sections of the valley. After the approval of the minutes from February, the chair made several announcements to remind the attendees of the next month's meeting at Moravian college where Madeline Jacobs executive director of the national ACS will be the speaker, and that Abstracts for the student poster session are due by April 15th.

The speaker for the evening was John Chen professor emeritus of Engineering at Leigh University who spoke about the world's energy and environmental challenges. The world is currently consuming 16 terrawatts of energy a year and is projected to reach 30 terrawatts by the year 2050. Asia will be the largest consumer at 16 terrawatts while the US will stay at about its current level of 4 terrawatts. The rise in energy use will be

fueled by a large rise in population estimated to reach nine billion by 2050. Professor Chen then stated that the US currently leads the world in oil consumption at 25 bbl/yr./person. The US actually reached its peak oil production in 1970 and this has been diminishing ever since. Professor Chen then outlined how even if the world were to maximize its conservation measures and production capacities we would only be able to maintain the current world oil production for an additional 20 years. He was not encouraging about the possibility of using renewable energy sources to offset the loss of oil production in the future. He made the convincing argument that the total net biomass energy form the entire landmass of the US would only be equal to the current US energy use. Professor Chen then turned his attention to the CO₂ generation from the use of carbon sources of energy. The concentration of CO₂ in the atmosphere has risen to about 400 PPM over the last thousand years with most of that occurring during the last hundred, and is projected to double by 2050. Electrical generation produces 38% of the CO₂ emitted followed by transportation at 32%. Residential activities only produce 6%, showing that the average citizen can only have a small influence on CO₂ reduction initiatives. Professor Chen was unsure whether there was a direct relationship between global warming and rising atmospheric CO₂ concentrations and referred questions to experts in that area. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15.

Respectfully Submitted,
Paul Bouis, Secretary LVACS

Chem Shorts for Kids -

Reprinted with permission from Dr. Kathleen A. Carrado, Chicago Local Section. An archive of all previously published ChemShorts is available online at <http://membership.acs.org/C/Chicago/home.html>.

The Elementary Education Committee of the ACS Chicago Section presents this column. They hope that it will reach young children and help increase their science literacy. Please share with children and local teachers.

Please note: All chemicals and experiments can entail an element of risk, and no experiments should be performed without proper adult supervision.

Glow-in-the-Dark Geode

Kids, how can you make a geode glow in the dark? It's very easy in this experiment. The 'rock' is a natural mineral (in this case an eggshell). You can use one of several common household chemicals to grow the crystals. And the glow comes from paint that you can get from a craft store.

To Prepare the "Rock":

1. There are two ways to crack eggs. Carefully crack the top of the egg by tapping it on a countertop to make a deep geode with a smaller opening. Alternatively, crack the equator of the egg or have an adult partner carefully cut it with a knife. This will make a geode you can open and put back together.

2. Discard the egg (or save for scrambled eggs).

3. Rinse out the inside of the eggshell with water. Peel away the interior membrane to leave only the shell.

4. Allow the egg to air dry or carefully blot it dry with a paper towel or napkin.

5. Use a paintbrush or swab to coat the inside of the eggshell with glow-in-the-dark paint (such as GlowAway™ washable glowing paint).

6. Set the painted egg aside while making the crystal-growing solution.

To make the Crystal Solution:

1. Have an adult partner pour hot water (such as from a coffeemaker) into a cup.

2. Stir borax or another crystal salt (alum, epsom salts, sugar, or table salt) into the water until it stops dissolving and you see some solid at the bottom of the cup.

3. Add food coloring, if desired. Food coloring does not get incorporated into all crystals (e.g., borax crystals will be clear), but it will stain the eggshell behind the crystals, giving the geode some color. Neon green coloring looks great.

To Grow the Crystals:

1. Support the shell so that it won't tip over (for example, a nest can be made with a crumpled napkin set inside a cereal bowl).

2. Pour the crystal solution into the shell so that it is as full as possible. Don't pour the undissolved solid into the eggshell, just the saturated liquid.

3. Set the shell somewhere where it won't get knocked over. Allow crystals to grow for several hours (overnight is better) or as long as you like.

4. When you are satisfied with the crystal growth, pour out the solution and allow the geode to dry.

5. Phosphorescent paint is activated by exposing it to bright light; black light (ultraviolet) also produces a very bright glow. The duration of the glow depends on the paint (seconds to minutes).

Note: Take appropriate safety cautions when handling the crystal solutions.

"Geode" in room light

Geode in room light

"Geode" under ultraviolet (black) light Geode

Reference:

Dr. Anne Marie Helmenstine at <http://chemistry.about.com/b/2007/12/09/glow-in-the-dark-geode.htm>

REVISED ANNOUNCEMENT!

LVACS Scholarship Opportunities Organic Chemistry Scholarship

The Lehigh Valley Section of the American Chemical Society's Scholarship for Organic Chemistry Competition takes place on **Saturday April 26**, (please note date change from previous announcement) at Moravian College Bethlehem, PA, Collier Hall of Science Dana Lecture Hall (<http://www.moravian.edu/campusMaps/northBuildings/collier.htm>). 9:00AM-10:30AM. The competition entails taking the ACS Organic Chemistry Examination (50%), a letter of recommendation from the student's organic chemistry professor (10%), and an essay on a topic in organic chemistry (40%). The value of the scholarship is \$1000. Additionally the top essay will receive \$100. Details for the letter and the essay follow below. The student should be below the junior level currently enrolled in organic chemistry attending

college at an institution in the section. The student also must be a chemistry biochemistry or chemical engineering major. Students should indicate their interest in the scholarship in advance to John Freeman at 522 Raub St Easton PA 18042 , jcf2@rcn.com

Letters of Recommendation: When writing a letter of recommendation on behalf of a student who is applying for Lehigh Valley ACS Scholarship, please speak to the student's skills in lecture and laboratory from Organic Chemistry I and Organic Chemistry II. In addition to performance on written exams and a course grade for Organic Chemistry I, it would be helpful to comment on the student's proficiency in organic lab and his or her participation in recitations. We would also like, if possible, the letter to address the students' quantitative skills by commenting on their performance in quantitative analysis or its local equivalent. Please place your letter of recommendation in a sealed plain envelope and place your signature over the seal. The student will be required to bring the sealed letter to the ACS Organic Chemistry Standardized Exam on April 26, 2008.

Essays:

The student should choose a molecule, a group of molecules or a process in organic chemistry including its synthesis or structural elucidation for a molecule or a representative molecule of a group or a number of examples and mechanism for a process. Judicious use of structures is expected. The essay should address the impact of the molecule or process on society, and the student's personal interest in the process or molecule. The essay should run approximately 3 pages \pm a quarter page of text not including figures in times new roman 12 point font or equivalent with 1 inch margins on all sides. The students name a brief title and page number should appear in the header of each page. An additional page with references should be included. References should be presented as end notes according to the style of the *Journal of Biological Chemistry* (See <http://www.jbc.org/misc/ifora.shtml>).

The essay will be rated on:

! 20% - Ease of reading, including grammar, spelling, and logical flow of the material.

! 40% - Appropriate depth of coverage on the development of the molecule. We expect to see writing at the level of Chemical and Engineering news or Chemical Reviews.

! 30% - Appropriate depth of coverage on the impact on society and student's interest.

! 10% - Appropriate use of references.

! 5% - Adherence to the formatting rules provided.

This Month in Chemical History -

Harold Goldwhite, California State University, Los Angeles - hgoldwh@calstatela.edu

I have on the desk before me two books that, in a sense, share a subject matter. Both of them have to do with the forms of atoms. In this column and the next I will describe their very different approaches to this topic.

The first book bears the interesting title of "Occult Chemistry". The copy I own has the subtitle "A Series of Clairvoyant Observations on the Chemical Elements". The authors are Annie Besant, P.T.S., and Charles W. Leadbeater. The book is described as being reprinted from "The Theosophist" and was published by the Theosophical Publishing Society, London and Benares City in 1908.

Annie Besant was a quite remarkable woman. An early supporter of birth control, throughout her life she was a prominent feminist and social reformer. She became a socialist, was a close friend of George Bernard Shaw, and supported and wrote on the doctrines of Karl Marx. After reviewing a book by Blavatsky she met the author and was converted to theosophy, a mystical and occult philosophy which included the use of clairvoyance as a way to truth and the understanding of the physical world. After Blavatsky's death in 1891 Besant became the leading figure in the movement. She met her co-author of "Occult Chemistry", the clairvoyant Charles W. Leadbeater in 1897, and together they embarked on a wide ranging set of clairvoyant experiences including those that led to this book. Incidentally my copy was once in the library of the Los Angeles Lodge of the Theosophical Society, which still has a building in this city.

"Occult Chemistry" is fully illustrated with diagrams of the 57 elemental atoms examined by clairvoyance.

The two “observers” were the authors. The samples included common salts and minerals. The authors acknowledge some assistance from Sir William Crookes who was a distinguished scientist and discoverer of the element thallium, and a believer in spiritualism. His assistance was confined to a loan of his three dimensional spiral periodic table.

The periodic table in “Occult Chemistry” has some interesting features. The atoms of the elements are composed of “sub-atoms” there being 18 of these in hydrogen and 3546 in gold. There are a number of “elements” not yet recognized by conventional chemistry. Occultum, with an atomic mass of 3, is found between hydrogen and helium. The noble gases have a secondary form, labeled as meta. Thus meta-neon has a larger atomic mass (22.33) than neon (20). All atoms exist as one of two fundamental types: positive or male, from which force comes out; and negative or female, into which force disappears.

I first encountered this amazing book, in a much later edition, in the library of the Chemistry Department of Cambridge University. I believe that the Theosophical Society of Great Britain distributed copies to each University’s chemistry library in the country, perhaps in the hope of influencing the direction of future research on the structure of the atom. So far that influence has been minimal.

The work further considered in this column is “Atomic Form with Special Reference to the Configuration of the Carbon Atom” by Edward E. Price. My copy is the second edition, published by Longmans, Green & Co. Ltd. In London in 1926. Unlike “Occult Chemistry”, the subject of my last column, this is a serious work of chemical science.

It is, however, a curious book considering its publication date. The first edition, published in 1922, comments that the author had first considered his theory of atomic form more than 20 years before, that is around 1900. And the text, as published (in a second edition!) in 1926 has the flavor of a late 19th. Century work.

I haven’t been able to find out much about Edward E. Price. He gives his address as The Have, Dorman’s Park, Surrey; there is no school or university affiliation suggested. He was elected a Fellow of the Chemical Society in February 1923, suggesting a sound chemistry background, and died in July 1931. His book focuses on his concept of the shape of the carbon atom, as an irregular tetrahedron, and he shows some knowledge of recent results on atomic structure, following the Rutherford and Bohr model of the nuclear atom plus electrons. But he has serious reservations. “We have before us a large specimen of a quartz crystal blasted from the rock that forms the earth’s crust, where it has lain absolutely unchanged for untold ages... If we accept the modern view of Atomic structure we are to believe that notwithstanding its extraordinary stability and geometric form, it really consists of an aggregate of spherical or ellipsoid bodies in each of which a system of rapidly revolving electrons is eternally maintained.”

A review of the first edition of Price’s book by H.E. Cox in the Proceedings of the Chemical Society is scathing. “One cannot but be surprised that an author in 1922 should put forward a theory such as is propounded in this book....in view of the fact that it absolutely disregards not only current physical theories, but well-ascertained fact ... it is not likely to be favourably received or seriously considered by chemists generally.” And yet it went to a second edition four years later.

It seems to me that Price is following up van’t Hoff’s view of the tetrahedral carbon atom disregarding, as Cox says, developments in atomic theory post-1900. The merits of the book, such as they are, include its elegant diagrams showing how to construct models of the geometric implications of the various ways in which carbon, in particular, can bond. The text vigorously endorses the proposition that chemical structure and reactivity must be considered in three-dimensional space. However Price’s views on the nature of multiple bonds and rings are sadly out-of-date even for 1922 or 1926. The history of chemistry is replete with byways and deviations that cannot be ignored in a complete story. For example,

in a different class, and much more noteworthy, is Wilhelm Ostwald's refusal to accept the real existence of atoms until Einstein's treatment of Brownian motion convinced him. But that's a subject for another day.

News From National ACS

ACS Directory of Graduate Research for 2007 Now Available

The ACS Committee on Professional Training is pleased to announce the release of the ACS Directory of Graduate Research 2007 and DGRweb 2007. The Directory provides graduate-school-bound chemistry and chemical engineering majors with information that will facilitate each student's selection of a graduate program appropriate to his or her particular interests and talents.

As in the previous edition, DGRweb, the searchable, online version of the DGR, continues to be available free of charge at www.acs.org/dgrweb. With DGRweb 2007 one may search for both faculty and institutions. DGRweb 2007 also includes access to the complete 1999, 2001, 2003, and 2005 databases.

If you or your students wish to order copies of the printed edition, please call 1-800-227-5558, or go to the ACS online store, which can be accessed from www.acs.org. The purchase price is \$95 per copy. For more information about the DGR or DGRweb, please contact Marta Gmurczyk at m_gmurczyk@acs.org

Be a part of the American Chemical Society 2008 Member-Get-A-Member Campaign!

For each new paid member that you recruit for ACS, you will receive a 2008 Periodic Table of the Elements Throw. For all the details and to download an official MGM application, go to www.acs.org/memberGetmember. If you have any questions concerning the MGM campaign or would like to send us a picture of how you display your throw please write to MGM@acs.org.

Influence the Chemistry Field Today and Tomorrow

Remember who inspired you to work in the chemistry field? Honor that person by giving to Project SEED, a program that gives economically disadvantaged high school students the rare opportunity to work in the lab for eight to ten weeks in the summer. Use our new online donation form at www.acs.org/giving to make a gift in honor or in memory of your favorite chemistry mentor.

LVACS Officers - 2008

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T. Michelle Jones-Wilson (see above)

You've given your part by making a gift to ACS. Learn how to double or possibly triple your gift with no extra cost. See if you qualify at <http://www.matchinggifts.com/chemistry/>.

Are you confused about how to calculate your income tax deduction for making a charitable gift? Not sure of the difference between a CRAT and a CRUT? Do you wonder how new laws in Congress will affect your distributions from your individual retirement account? Find the answers to these questions and more by visiting the American Chemical Society's new website.

Registration is now open for the San Francisco, CA ACS Short Course Circuit - Early Registration Discount Available

Registration has opened for the ACS Short Course Circuit to be held in San Francisco, CA, May 18-22, 2008. Register before April 21 to receive a \$100 discount on your registration fee.

Visit www.acs.org/shortcourses to find out what courses are being offered in San Francisco and throughout 2008.

Multi-registration and academic member discounts are available. For more information, please visit us at acs.org/shortcourses or call 202-872-4508.

AEI Poster Session
ACS National Meeting
Philadelphia, PA
Monday, August 18
8:00 to 10:00 pm
Sci-Mix

Will your department be hiring new faculty this year?

If so, plan to attend the Academic Employment Initiative (AEI) to meet with potential new faculty candidates at the Sci-Mix poster session held at the ACS National Meeting, Monday evening, August 18, from 8-10 PM.

At the Fall 2008 ACS meeting in Philadelphia, candidates seeking faculty positions will use the AEI Poster Session at Sci-Mix to present posters about their current research, which will expand on their research interests, teaching philosophy, and experience. Faculty recruiters are invited to take

advantage of this opportunity to meet as many candidates as possible.

Further information can be found by writing to GradEd@acs.org or visit the website.

MARM 2008 OPENS MAY 17TH

Queensborough Community College, Bayside, NY, is the site of this year's Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting. Saturday, May 17th is the opening day that begins with a full day of poster sessions by students, as the 56th NY-ACS Undergraduate Research Symposium (URS).

Technical sessions open Sunday, May 18, and many are planned around the meeting theme of Chemistry and Health, reflecting the importance and impact of the health sciences in the New York metropolitan area. The meeting will also feature exciting plenary lectures by Ronald Breslow of Columbia University, The Invention of SAHA, an Approved Anticancer Medicine with a Novel Mechanism of Action, and Roald Hoffmann of Cornell University, The Chemical Imagination at Work in Very Tight Places.

Chemagination and Project SEED poster sessions, as well as activities planned by the Student Affiliates chapter of St. John's University, are planned for the opening weekend. Programming for chemical educators is scheduled both Saturday and Sunday the free POGIL workshop, the NY Section Nichols Teacher forum, probeware workshops, and chemical demonstrations.

Visit their website at <http://marmacs.org/2008> for details on the technical and nontechnical programs, awards, and hotels.

CERM HOSTS REGIONAL MEETING IN COLUMBUS, OH

CERMACS 2008 will convene at the Hyatt Regency, Downtown Columbus, next to the Columbus Convention Center, and will be hosted by the ACS Columbus Section. The venue is conveniently located in the restored section of Downtown Columbus, with easy access to the Arena District and the Short North areas, which feature a variety of unique restaurants and shops. The Hyatt Regency location also offers easy access to sites of interest, including The Ohio

State University, The Columbus Museum of Art, and easy walking to The Ohio Theatre, parks, and weekend street festivals.

The ACS Central Region Local Sections are in for a real treat at this year's Central Regional Meeting. The meeting will open Tuesday evening, June 10, with a reception at COSI, the Science Center. It will be open for attendees only to tour. CERM has scheduled a poster session and a plenary talk on environmental issues as well. Tickets are only \$10.00.

The technical sessions begin Wednesday morning and continue into Saturday, June 14. Precollege educators and undergraduates will find programs of interest to them on Thursday and Friday.

Visit their website at <http://www.cermacs2008.org> for details on the technical and nontechnical programs, awards, and hotels.

NORTHWEST AND ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONS HOLD JOINT MEETING JUNE 15 – 18

NORM/NERM 2008 will be held at the Park City Marriott in Park City, UT, and they have a dynamic technical program planned. Topics include biofuels and bioproducts, atmospheric and environmental chemistry, inhomogeneous electrolytes, supramolecular and macrocyclic chemistry and more. The online abstract submittal will be open until May 10, and advance registration is open now as well.

Several workshops are being offered: POGIL, graduate school and ACS Career Services, and the new ACS Leadership training workshop. NORM/RMRM will open with a welcome mixer and has plans for a women chemists luncheon, an undergraduate dinner, an awards banquet, and a college recruiters' breakfast.

Register online and make a hotel reservation at their website, <http://www.chem.byu.edu/acs>.

NERM 2008 SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 29 – JULY 2 IN BURLINGTON, VT

NERM 2008, the Northeast Regional Meeting, will be held in the Sheraton Conference Center in scenic Burlington, Vermont, June 29 to July 2. The technical program will feature symposia on topics of particular current or regional interest.

The technical program will be complemented with a day focused on continuing education for K-12 chemistry teachers, technical and career development workshops, and social and networking events. Our Chemistry Enthusiasts program will provide entertaining and thought-provoking lectures and discussions aimed at those who have an interest in chemistry but are not full-time researchers.

Symposia topics run the gamut: green and environmental chemistry, 21st century energy, nanotechnology, particles and composites, chemistry of foods, chemistry and Canada, and much, much more.

Visit their website at <http://www.nerm2008.org> to register, to reserve a room at the discount meeting rate, and to participate in an exciting, dynamic meeting. Abstract submittal ends May 11.

New Legislative Action Network Homepage

ACS Office of Legislative and Government Affairs (OLGA) is proud to announce the development of a new Legislative Action Network homepage called act4chemistry.org.

Act4chemistry.org offers American Chemical Society members:

- * Current news and commentary through the Act 4 Chemistry blog,

- * Daily links to news articles of interest to scientists, and

- * Access to an improved legislative action center, where ACS members can send letters to policymakers.

Register: <http://www.act4chemistry.org/register>

Only registered participants will receive notices of key decisions being made affecting chemistry. ACS members are encouraged to register so that they can comment on blogs and send letters to their policymakers.

Act4chemistry.org is a free program of the OLGA designed to bridge the gap between policymakers and chemistry. If you have any questions please contact Brad Smith.

Undergraduate Research Poster Session

Sponsored by

The Lehigh Valley Section of The American Chemical Society

April 22, 2008

Moravian College

5:00-6:15 PM

Preceding the 803rd meeting of the Lehigh Valley Section of the ACS
(Meeting details will be published in the April Octagon)

Who may participate?

Undergraduates attending a college or university within the Lehigh Valley section of the ACS. Research may have been done at the student's home institution with a chemistry or chemical engineering faculty member or during a summer research experience elsewhere.

To participate

Submit an abstract by **April 14, 2008**, as a Microsoft Word attachment to an email to cblibby@cs.moravian.edu. Please indicate "LVACS Poster Session" in the subject line of your email header. Early submission is encouraged.

Abstract format

Times font

TITLE (all capitals)

Authors' names, authors' institutions and addresses

Abstract of research, 150 words maximum

Travel Award

One poster session participant will be chosen to receive a \$250 award to support travel to present research at a national or regional ACS or AIChE meeting.

Other requirements and information

An exciting guest will be attending the poster session and giving the after dinner address: Madeline Jacobs, Executive Director of the American Chemical Society.

Poster presenters must provide their own pins and poster board. Easels will be provided for displaying the posters.

Abstracts will be acknowledged by an email message that will include details about meeting room, set-up time, and the travel award.