



THE OCTAGON

840th LVACS Meeting:
Tuesday April, 16th - Cedar Crest College



**Student Awards Night
Undergraduate Student Poster Session**

In This Issue:

April Meeting	1
Poster Session	2
Chairs Message	3-5
Earth Day	5
GA Committee	6
Organic Scholarship	7-8
Nanotech Workshop	8-9
Spring Meetings	9
2013 Officers	10
LVACS PR	10

MEETING DETAILS:

Poster Session: 5-6 p.m. Oberkotter Center Lounge
(Building 18 on Campus Map)

Dinner Time: 6-7 p.m. Harmon Hall of Peace, Miller Building

Meeting Time: 7-8:30 p.m. Oberkotter Center 1

Menus:

Social Hour: Vegetable and cheese platters.

Dinner: Buffet of Chicken Chardonnay, Stuffed Peppers with Couscous (vegetarian), Roasted Red Skin Potatoes, Seasonal Mixed Vegetables, Mixed Green Salad, and Angel Food Cake with Berries.

Cost: \$25 LVACS members and faculty, \$15 students and retirees and unemployed members

RSVP: by April 10, 2013 to Sheila Heller, syheller@cedarcrest.edu; 610-606-4666 ext. 3542

Note: Poster Abstract Deadline April 5

Directions: <http://www.cedarcrest.edu/ca/admissions/bycar.shtm>

Campus Map: <http://www.cedarcrest.edu/ca/campusmap.shtm>

Parking: Campus parking lot directly across from Oberkotter Center

Theme: *Career Panel*

A panel of various chemists who took different career paths. This will be an excellent opportunity for you to learn more about a variety of careers and what qualities, skills, and experience different career path might require. Topics to be covered include: how they came to their current position; what they would recommend current students do now to be prepared for their career goal; and how a liberal arts education impacts their career.



***Undergraduate
Research Poster Session***

Sponsored by
The Lehigh Valley Section of The
American Chemical Society

**Tuesday April 16, 2013 5:00-6:00 PM
Cedar Crest College**

Preceding the April meeting of the
Lehigh Valley Section of the ACS

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:

Students wishing to present their work must themselves submit an abstract by **April 5, 2013**, as a Microsoft Word attachment to an email, to syheller@cedarcrest.edu.

Please indicate "**LVACS Poster Session**" in the subject line of your email header. Early submission is encouraged.

Incorrectly formatted submissions will not be accepted!

Abstract format -

Times New Roman font

TITLE (all capitals)

Authors' names, authors' institutions and addresses included in that order.

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

The poster session is held before the dinner meeting and our annual student awards night.

Poster presenters will be provided 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.

If you do not get a response within two days of abstract submission, or have other questions please contact Jeanne Berk at jrberk@cedarcrest.edu, 610-606-4666 Ext 3507.

Cedar Crest College encourages persons with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation, have any questions regarding physical accessibility or would like more information, contact Jeanne Berk.



A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Greetings LVACS
Colleagues,

I hope this finds everyone doing well. I am composing this while watching the most recent (and most likely last of the season) snow melt from my terrace and

cherished seats, from Shea Stadium I acquired while Citi Field was being built (my beloved Mets).

As promised, I have outlined, directly from National's Local Section Administration Letter, the Local Section Committees. Included are the descriptions, current Chairs, those retiring/moving on, and notes on where we are in search of YOU to help us fill vacancies. Please note that we, the LVACS, can tailor/combine committees as our section deems appropriate. I am a firm advocate of complete inclusion of all members, and strongly encourage committees that do not focus on one group at the exclusion of others. Every member of this section has a great opportunity to contribute, learn, teach, and support colleagues. Co-Chairs are welcomed! For those committees that have current, active Chairs, recruit members! LVACS colleagues join a committee and participate. Do what you can. If we have a committee of 10 people that can do two hours of work/activity per week, think of the fantastic possibilities for that committee! Many of our members do so much more, and we wish for every member to participate in any way possible. Ask me how. We'll work together.

1. Awards. Administers all awards activities, such as nominations for local, regional, and national ACS awards and special section

awards. Jeanne Berk, now as Chair-Elect, will need a successor.

2. Chemistry Olympiad. Coordinates the U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad, a national competition for talented high school students, sponsored by the ACS. Elaine Gannon is the current Chair. Contact Elaine if you wish to participate.

3. Education. Plans and implements activities to assist area precollege and college teachers, students, and student affiliate chapters, including scholarship programs, competitive examinations, science fairs, teacher/student nights, and journal subscriptions. Also host special activities such as short courses and satellite courses, for the benefit of section members. Al Martin is retiring - congratulations on your retirement, Al!!! LVACS Colleagues, step in; I will reach out as needed, but I enthusiastically encourage you to contact me!

4. Employment/Career Assistance. Plans and implements activities to provide members with access to career assistance, direct contact with employers, and information on employment data, trends, and issues to aid in career decision-making. We are in need of a Chair. Please contact me if interested.

5. Long-Range Planning. Considers and proposes long-range goals and objectives and suggests programs and activities to other section committees for future realization. Nigel Sanders is the current Chair. Contact Nigel if you wish to participate.

6. Membership/Member Retention. Recruits new ACS members and submits applications for membership to national ACS. Plans activities to increase member retention. Katie Amaral is the current Chair. Contact



Chair's Message continued from page 3

7. Mentoring. Develops programs and activities to increase the participation of woman and underrepresented minorities in local section activities. We are in need of a Chair. Please contact me if interested.

8. Minority Affairs. Develops programs and activities that encourage and support minority participation in the chemical sciences. We are in need of a Chair. Please contact me if interested.

9. National Chemistry Week. Plans activities and arrange events to highlight the importance of chemistry to the general public during National Chemistry Week. Lorena Tribe is the current Chair. Contact Lorena if you wish to participate.

10. Newsletter/Publications/Website. Oversees editorial and financial policies of the section's regular newsletter, website, and/or other publications. Michelle Jones-Wilson is our Octagon editor; Kelly Cafflin & Jeanne Berk are Facebook Administrators; Danielle Ringhoff and I are LinkedIn Administrators. The entire Executive Committee participate in these outreach venues. Contact any one of us if you wish to participate.

11. Nominations. Identifies and recruits candidates for section officers and conducts local elections. Lorena Tribe is the current Chair. Contact Lorena if you wish to participate.

12. Professional Relations. Plans and implements activities related to the members' employer/employee relationships, such as job-seeking assistance and layoff investigations. We are in need of a Chair. Please contact me if interested.

13. Program. Handles arrangements pertaining to the planning and execution of local section meeting programs, including the selection of speakers. Jeanne Berk is the current Chair. Contact Jeanne if you wish to participate.

14. Project SEED. Designs local activities to aid disadvantaged students. We are in need of a Chair. Please contact me if interested.

15. Public Affairs. Develops assurances for scientific and technical input into local public policy considerations involving chemistry, including matters related to the environment, energy, health, education, and research funding. Greglynn Gibbs is the current Chair. Contact Greglynn if you wish to participate.

16. Public Relations. Develops and implements a program using local media contacts and members to publicize section programs and activities and to enhance the visibility and the public image of the section, Society, and profession. The LVACS is combining the GAC (Government Action Committee) with Public Relations. Chris Spedalieri is the current Chair. Contact Chris if you wish to participate.

17. Retired Chemists. Survey retired chemists to determine how they, as a group, can provide special services to the section such as judging science fairs, hosting tour speakers, volunteering for weekday events during National Chemistry Week, mentoring younger chemists. We are in need of a Chair. Please contact me if interested.

18. Safety. Promotes safe laboratory practices through the presentation of safety symposia for teachers and students and provides advice to local officials on safety-related issues. Lee Silverberg is the current Chair. Please contact Lee if you wish to participate.



Chair's Message continued from page 4

19. Women Chemists. Develops a stronger network for women, benefitting individual women chemists as well as the local community and chemical profession, making the local section more effective in serving its members. We are in need of a Chair. Please contact me if interested.

20. Younger Chemists. Identifies the needs and concerns of younger chemists and develop programs responsive to their needs; facilitates professional networking among younger chemists. We are in need of a Chair. Please contact me if interested.

So, you see there are a plethora of awesome opportunities to make a difference in LVACS. I will be contacting members and asking for your participation in addition to working with

those of you who have contacted me with interest. Please, I cannot stress enough, CONTACT ME.

We can learn and grow from one another. Think about what you want from this section, and how it can happen. Let's plan and do it!

As always, your Executive Committee are here for you, and we will listen to your thoughts, ideas, and action plans for our section.

I look forward to hearing from you. Blessings and Be Well.

Cheers,

Tara S. Baney, PhD, Chair LVACS

Email: tsbaney@gmail.com



Earlier this month I dropped off the invitation to participate in the Earth Day Illustrated Poem Competition at the front desk of my local middle school. Now there is a growing stack of unique, colorful, and creative submissions on my desk! Have you taken a moment to pass on the message, and give the wonderful students of your local school district the opportunity to participate? Thank you so much if you have! There still are a few days left and all K-12 students are eligible. Our local deadline to receive entries is March 15. Details about the contest and the entry form are available at <http://www.lvacs.net/committees/educationcom.html>. Please call me at 610 396 6187 or email me at lut1@psu.edu if you have any questions. Winners in the **Lehigh Valley Section** will advance to the ACS National Illustrated Poem Contest!

Lorena Tribe - Chemists Celebrate Earth Day Coordinator (2013)



From the Government Affairs Committee:



Greetings LVACS Colleagues:

Do you enjoy keeping up with current events? Do you have an interest in Government Affairs and Public Policy? If so, then you will be excited to hear that the Lehigh Valley Section of the ACS is forming a Government Affairs Committee (GAC)! An ACS government affairs committee is a non-partisan committee whose purpose is to advocate issues that are important to ACS members. Advocating for chemistry is important in today's political and economic environment. Most legislators are not scientists yet they still have to make decisions about scientific issues. The goal of forming a GAC is for the Lehigh Valley Section of the ACS to become a local, unbiased scientific knowledge resource for our local, state, and federal representatives and to aid them in making informed decisions based on science. The core public policy issues that ACS promotes are very important and affect students, educators, and professionals in both academia and industry. The four core focus areas that the ACS promotes are as follows: Foster innovation, Science Education and Workforce, Scientific Openness, and Science and Sustainability if Public Policy.

Fostering innovation can be accomplished by promoting federal investments in R&D, speeding up development and commercialization of new technologies, and to promote incentives and reduce economic, regulatory, and intellectual property barriers to the development of new technologies.

The ACS also seeks to improve the scientific understanding of all citizens through promoting scientific education at all levels. This includes improving the quality of teaching through increased partnership and support of pre- and in-service training of educators from the kindergarten through the graduate school levels. We also seek to encourage the best and brightest to pursue scientific careers and to strengthen professional opportunities for scientists and engineers.

Scientific Openness is critical for the advancement of scientific knowledge and innovation. ACS seeks to promote a strong, non-governmental, scientific publishing enterprise that assures access to information and exchange of scientific ideas and information among all parties with legitimate uses while appropriately protecting security-related information. It is also important to assure the most open interactions possible among scientists, engineers, and students from across the globe.

Finally, science and sustainability are crucial to the future of our nation. It is important to encourage environmental decisions that promote sustainable resource usage and waste prevention in an economically viable chemical enterprise.

All of these issues are important to the ACS members of the Lehigh Valley section and the breadth of knowledge and experience available in the section will be invaluable to our legislators. Interested members are encouraged to participate and become involved with the activities of the GAC. Any suggestions and/or comments are welcome and more information about becoming involved can be acquired by emailing me at chris.spedaliere@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Chris Spedaliere

Chair LVACS Government Affairs Committee



LV-ACS Scholarship for Organic Chemistry

The Lehigh Valley Section of the American Chemical Society will award its annual Scholarship for Organic Chemistry this May. To be eligible, students should be below the junior level, currently enrolled in organic chemistry at an institution in the section, and a chemistry, biochemistry, or chemical engineering major. The competition entails taking the ACS Organic Chemistry Examination (45%), a letter of recommendation from the student's organic chemistry professor (10%), and an essay on a topic in organic chemistry (45%). The value of the scholarship is \$1000. Additionally, the top essay will receive \$100. Details about the exam, letter, and essay follow below. Students should indicate their interest in the scholarship in advance of 4 May 2013 to Dr John Freeman, jfreeman@po-box.esu.edu.

ACS Organic Chemistry Examination: The exam will be administered on Saturday, 4 May 2013, at Moravian College, Bethlehem, PA from 9:00-11:00 AM. Students should report to the entry foyer of the Priscilla Payne Hurd Academic Complex (PPHAC), which is on the Main Street Campus. For driving directions and campus map see <http://www.moravian.edu/default.aspx?pageid=17>. Juice and bagels will be available at 8:45 AM.

Letter of Recommendation: Professors writing a letter of recommendation on behalf of a student who is applying for the Lehigh Valley ACS Scholarship should speak to the student's skills in lecture and laboratory in Organic Chemistry I and Organic Chemistry II. Please provide the course grade for Organic Chemistry I and



comment on performance on written exams, proficiency in organic lab, and participation in recitations, problem sessions or course-related group work. If possible, address the student's quantitative skills by commenting on her or his performance in quantitative analysis or its local equivalent. The letter of recommendation must be submitted in a sealed

plain envelope and signed by the professor over the seal. The student will be required to bring the sealed letter to the ACS Organic Chemistry Exam at Moravian College on 4 May 2013

Essays: The student should choose a molecule, a group of molecules, or a process in organic chemistry to write about. The essay should be written at a level to interest and educate a general chemist who has completed sophomore-level organic chemistry. Synthesis, mechanism and structural elucidation should be covered for the chosen molecule (or representative examples of a chosen group). If a process is chosen, the physical and chemical basis for its success should be explained. 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 it. The essay should run from 1600 to no more than 1800 words in Times New Roman 12 point font with one-inch margins on all sides. Each page should have a header with the student's last name, brief essay title and page number. An additional page with references must be included. References should follow the style of The Journal of the American Chemical Society (an article from a recent issue can serve as a model). The winning essay will be published on the section website with a link in the Octagon.

continued on page 8



Organic Scholarship continued from page 7

The essay will be rated on:

- 30% - Appropriate depth of coverage of the molecule(s) or process.
- 30% - Appropriate depth of coverage on the impact on society and student's interest.
- 20% - Ease of reading, including grammar, spelling, and logical flow of the material.
- 10% - Appropriate use of structures and figures.
- 10% - Appropriate use of references.
- 5% - Penalty for failure to adhere to the formatting rules provided.

The student should bring the essay to the ACS Organic Chemistry Exam at Moravian College on 4 May 2013

Moravian College encourages persons with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation regarding physical accessibility, please contact Dr. Dan Libby, Department of Chemistry, at 610-861-1436 or rdlibby@chem.moravian.edu.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY College of Engineering
Center for Nanotechnology Education and Utilization
Pennsylvania's Nanotechnology Innovator!

Nanotech Workshop

A Hands on Introduction to Nanotechnology Workshop for Educators which will be held at the Center for Nanotechnology Education and Utilization (CNEU) at Penn State University. The workshop will be offered twice in 2013: May 7 - 9 and again November 12 - 14. This three day workshop utilizes Penn State facilities to teach nanotechnology at an introductory level and also enables the participant to understand how nanotechnology is and will continue to be integral to STEM curriculum and careers.

Financial support to attend the workshop is available for a limited number of qualifying secondary faculty, post secondary faculty and administrators. The support covers the registration fee, travel expenses, and lodging. The form to apply for financial support is attached along with the workshop application and sample agenda.

We've had some great feedback on the workshop from past participants. Below is a sampling of attendee feedback from their recent workshop experiences:

"Excellent! Great explanations and on our level"

"Impressive to learn about the partnerships and educational opportunities that are available"

"Really cool! It was nice to actually run the equipment."
"I could easily use this in my classroom"

"The enthusiasm of the presenters was amazing!"

"The excellent interaction of the instructors with the students. They were informative and professional. The explanations coupled with the extensive hands-on aspect."

continued on page 9



Workshop continued from page 8

"The "industry" point of view reiterated important points and gave practical applications - very important and interesting"

"Hands-on fascinating, knowledgeable instructors."

"Great - impressive program"

"Labs were awesome! I love hands-on learning."

"This was one of the best if not the best workshop I ever attended. Thank you"

"All handout materials are excellent! You packed a lot of detailed "science" into nanotechnology while making it easy to understand and retain while we did the hands-on activities. Phenomenal!!!"

"The overall experience gave me an appreciation for the interdisciplinary nature of nanotechnology and its applications"

"Real science!! It has been quite a few years since I learned new scientific techniques. I feel so much more knowledgeable and up to date."

For more detailed information about this workshop, refer to our website at:

[http:// nano4me.org/educators.php](http://nano4me.org/educators.php).

From this page you will also be able to access information about our other remaining 2013 workshop offerings as well as webinars, remote access to equipment, and ready for classroom resources.



We hope that you'll consider joining us. Registration closes on March 29, 2013 for the May introductory workshop. The Workshop application attached is in pdf form for your convenience (a word version is available at <http://nano4me.org/workshops.php>)

If you have an interest in attending, please apply as soon as possible. Spaces fill quickly.

Robert K. Ehrmann

Managing Director
Center for Nanotechnology Education & Utilization (CNEU)
Pennsylvania Nanofabrication Manufacturing Technology (NMT) Partnership
NSF National Center for Nanotechnology Applications and Career Knowledge (NACK) Network
Pennsylvania State University
101 Innovation Boulevard, Suite 112
University Park, PA 16802
rke2@psu.edu



Spring 2013 LVACS Meeting Schedule

Plans for the May meeting are still in the works. Check the website and the next issue of the Octagon for more information!



2013 LVACS OFFICERS

Chair: Tara Baney

Novartis Pharmaceuticals
Oncology Translational
Medicine
One Health Plaza, Building
335, Office 2111D
East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080
tsbaney@gmail.com

Immediate Past Chair:

Lorena Tribe

218 Luerssen Building, Penn
State - Berks
Tulpehocken Road,
P.O. Box 7009 Reading, PA
19610 lut1@psu.edu

Chair Elect: Jeanne Berk

Dept. of Chemical and
Physical Sciences
Cedar Crest College
Allentown, PA 18104
610-606-4666 ext 3507
jrberk@cedarcrest.edu

Treasurer: Carol Stein

Copperhead Chemical Co.
120 River Rd
Tamaqua, PA 18252
(570) 386-6104

Secretary: Lindsey Welch

Dept. of Chemical and
Physical Sciences
Cedar Crest College
Allentown, PA 18104
610-606-4666 ext 3615
lawelch@cedarcrest.edu

Councilor: Carol Baker Libby

Moravian College,
Bethlehem, PA 18018
(610) 861-1629
cblibby@cs.moravian.edu

Councilor: Pamela D. Kistler

Cedar Crest College,
Allentown, PA 18104
pdkistle@cedarcrest.edu
(610) 437-4471 x 3508

Alternate Councilor:

John Freeman
East Stroudsburg University
East Stroudsburg, PA 18301
(570) 422-3446
jfreeman@po-box.esu.edu

**Octagon Editor &
Webmaster:**

T. Michelle Jones-Wilson East
Stroudsburg University
East Stroudsburg, PA 18301
(570) 422-3703
mjwilson@po-box.esu.edu

Get the Word Out!

Are you volunteering
in your community?
Do you have any
upcoming chemistry
or science events
planned?



Help is available to help get yourself, your
volunteers and your event spotlighted at
your college and/or in the local and
regional news. Contact the LVACS Public
Relations Chair, Greglynn Gibbs,
gdw104@psu.edu.

Nothing says "Thank You" like well
deserved recognition!



LVACS Officers meet with 2013 ACS President
Marinda Li Wu