THE CHEMIST

ACS Spring National Meeting

The Puget Sound Chemist

Volume 82 No. 4 - April 2021

Virtual Wine Tasting Happy Hour

April 15, 2021

ACS Chemistry for Life®

Newsletter of the Puget Sound Section of the American Chemical Society

FROM THE EDITOR

THE PUGET SOUND CHEMIST

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Newsletter of the
Puget Sound Section
of the
American Chemical Society

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American Chemical Society Website

https://www.acs.org

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Puget Sound Section Website

https://www.acs.org/pugetsound

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Send us a Message:

Contact Form

April 2021

The Spring ACS National Meeting is happening this month. Check out the details on the ACS website.

Closer to home, the Virtual Wine Tasting Happy Hour is planned for April 15, 2021. Check out the details on page 10.

Submissions for the CCEW Poetry Contest are due this month. See the details on page 14. Learn more: ACS PSS Illustrated Poetry Contest Information and ACS CCEW Illustrated Poem Contest

Mark your calendar for May 10, 2021 for the All Puget Sound Membership Dinner and for May 13, 2021 for the Membership Committee meeting.

NORM2021 PEAK CHALLENGES, OCEANS OF OPPORTUNITY WWU, BELLINGHAM, WA | MAY 9 – 11

Mark Your Calendar! The 2021 Northwest Regional Meeting is planned as a three day, virtual event hosted by Western Washington University from May 9-11, 2021. The website for NORM 2021 is (http://norm2021.org). Read more about the Undergraduate Research Poster Session on page 16, Awards on page 24 and Mark Your Calendar info on page 27.

Looking to gain volunteer experience? Reach out to us through the Contact Form. There are opportunities to get involved with the Puget Sound Section. Read more on page 19.

Jonathan Clark

Newsletter Editor

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ACS Chemistry for Life®

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APR 1

DIR Seminar: Professor Munira Khalil

Theme: Measuring and Decoding Spectra to Study Ultrafast Chemical Processes
Time / Location: 7:00pm - 8:00pm | Virtual Event

APR 5 - APR 16

ACS National Meeting - Spring 2021

Theme: Macromolecular Chemistry: The Second Century
Location: Virtual Only

APR 12

ACS Puget Sound Section Executive Committee Meeting

Time: 7:00pm
Location: Virtual Video Conference Only

APR 13

Diversity Book Discussion Group

Time: 7:00pm
Location: Virtual Video Conference Only

APR 15

Virtual Wine Tasting Happy Hour

Theme: Virtual Chemistry of Wine Tasting
Time / Location: 7:00pm - 8:00pm | Virtual Event

APR 22

Zoom Webinar Series on Diversity, Inclusion and Respect (Panel #4)

Time: 7:00pm
Location: Virtual Event

MAY 9 - MAY 11

NORM 2021 - Northwest Regional Meeting

Theme: Peak Challenges, Oceans of Opportunity
Location: Online Event Only

MAY 10

All Puget Sound Membership Dinner & Executive Committee Meeting

Time: 6:00pm
Location: Virtual Event

MAY 13

Membership Committee Meeting

Time: 6:30pm - 7:30pm
Location: Virtual Event

AUG 22 - AUG 26

ACS National Meeting - Fall 2021

Theme: Resilience of Chemistry
Location: Atlanta, Georgia and Online

PUGET SOUND SECTION

Comments From Our Puget Sound ACS Chair

Natalie A. Merrill | ACS Puget Sound Section Executive Committee Chair

Hello, Members, Friends, Colleagues, Volunteers and Arm-Chair Viewers; join us in 2021,

I hope this note finds you well and warm, and carefully looking forward to making this year the best it can be, under the circumstances! Please join us remotely for our meeting Monday, May 10th, which is an upcoming second Monday of the month, in May; more information later in this note. Please also consider joining in, supporting, or participating in your virtual regional NORM meeting and our National Spring meeting of the ACS.

This month a team from our Executive Committee has completed a draft of our new Bylaws and begun to work on annual goals, staff our new committees and plan for a Membership Meeting in May, in which all Puget Sound Section members are welcomed and encouraged to join us for an informal (ZOOM, remote) dinner before the May monthly meeting of the ACS Puget Sound Section. Our meetings are always posted in your newsletter, the Puget Sound Chemist, and are generally held on the second Monday of each month, beginning at 7:00PM. Meetings follow a Roberts Rules of Order format with an agenda, minutes, and old and new business. Anything that comes to a vote is voted on by a quorum of your elected officials which include Officers, Councilors and Alternate Councilors of the Puget Sound Local Section.

All Puget Sound Membership Dinner

May 10th, 6:00 – 7:00 Remote ZOOM Dinner + Committee Opportunities. Join in!
7:00 – 8:15 ACS PSS Executive Committee Board Meeting (ALL welcome to observe)
8:15- 9:00 Q&A with select Officers and Volunteers of the ACS PSS

Register at the link provided, to receive the ZOOM link & agenda for May 10th:

Register Here: https://forms.gle/vFJQHN9a5iPPo7tw6

Please join us May 10th at 6:00 PM for the first All Membership dinner since approximately 1949! (that's the most recent one I'm aware of, so please, do send in your comments and memories of all the other dinners that I may have missed, this is a long-lived and productive section, there is a lot of history to share!) Send history and comments to our Contact Form or to my personal email: namerrill@gmail.com

[*continued on next page…*]

Comments From Our Puget Sound ACS Chair [*continued*]

Natalie A. Merrill | ACS Puget Sound Section Executive Committee Chair

Puget Sound Section Goals for 2021

1) **Grow our local section membership by 25%.** This may sound like a stretch goal, but due to the virtual nature of our meetings, it is easier now than ever to get to a meeting, so perhaps on that basis we might expect to grow. Also, due to isolation during the pandemic, perhaps the multifaceted interactions that we have may be the best way to meet people safely and enjoy a network of colleagues with similar interests.

2) **Complete the Bylaws update, and then create and complete the Membership Handbook; both in 2021.** We are at a point where these must be done and it is not just one person, it is definitely a team effort with momentum coming from last year and earlier; this year the Bylaws revision committee started working in earnest as we are now doing all meetings and voting electronically. This is a "must-do" as ACS National has asked all Local Sections to update Bylaws. The old bylaws do not recognize the new virtual reality! However, to capture definitions, roles, events, and traditions, we may put information into a Membership Handbook. Adding a Membership Handbook is optional but may provide continuity and better understanding of expectations, definitions (for example, of expected roles of officers or councilors), and traditions.

3) **Effectively utilize alternate means to host events that would have otherwise been cancelled.** This means, when we look at cancellations in 2020, this year our goal is to find ways to potentially still have an event, or a modified version of it, yet doing it remotely, and looking for engaging and fun ways that the virtual event is effective.

Our task of appointing committee chairs for 2021 continued with the **Employment Committee Chair** being appointed to Mark Frishberg, an eminently qualified person who also volunteers as a National ACS Career Counselor, who has proposed a series of informative events to support the topic. Please reply with your interests, questions or suggestions for the new committee at namerrill@gmail.com, and I will forward to Mark. For any follow up or deeper information, on any of the widespread and ambitious activities of your Puget Sound Local Section of the American Chemical Society, please read your April Newsletter and reach out by email with any questions.

[*continued on next page…*]

Comments From Our Puget Sound ACS Chair [*continued*]

Natalie A. Merrill | ACS Puget Sound Section Executive Committee Chair

Other extra-special initiatives have been undertaken and completed this month to nominate a worthy individual for each of the three Regional awards featured at our annual Northwest Regional ACS Meeting, (NORM). All our nominations have been submitted and received on-time by the appropriate National and Regional Award Committees, with confirmation upon receipt, where the first award is judged Nationally and the other two, regionally.

- Three Executive Committee Members signed a Puget Sound Nomination Letter to suggest Dr. Tam'Ra-Kay Francis for the **Stanley C. Israel Regional Award for Advancing Diversity in the Chemical Sciences** (Dr. Francis was suggested by the UW Awards Committee. A nominee must have a supporting letter from the local section according to the award requirements). Letter-writing, editing and signatures were provided by your Chair as well as the Co-Chairs of our Diversity, Inclusion and Respect PSS Committee for this award which recognizes individuals and/or institutions who have advanced diversity in the chemical sciences and significantly stimulated or fostered activities that promote inclusiveness within the region. We sincerely hope our nomination will support a winning selection for the award and await the awards event in the second week of May.

- We have submitted a complete nomination for the **ACS Division of Chemical Education Glenn and Jane Crosby Northwest Region Award for Excellence in High School Teaching** which is an award that recognizes, encourages, and stimulates outstanding teachers of high school chemistry in the Northwest Region. The form, teaching philosophy, principal and assistant principal letter, one supporting letter and the full nomination letter (which came out at exactly the 750-word limit) were completed for the region's extended deadline of March 10th. This regionally active high school teacher in the Peninsula School District in our Puget Sound Region has also been suggested as a candidate for our local section Education Awards within the PSS Education Committee chaired by Jennie Mayer.

- Importantly, one of our exceptional volunteers was selected and secretly nominated for the prestigious **E. Ann Nalley Northwest Regional Award for Volunteer Service to the American Chemical Society**. This annual award recognizes the volunteer efforts of individuals who have served the American Chemical Society, contributing significantly to the goals and objectives of the Society through their regional activities. For several of us who worked all night to complete this nomination on time without sacrificing quality or content of the nomination biography, nomination letter or supporting letters & form, we are quite hopeful that it may be selected as a winner at the upcoming NORM Awards!

NORM 2021 will be held virtually on May 9 through May 11, 2021. Organizers at Western Washington University will host online technical symposia, poster sessions, and a vibrant exposition. Thanks to our generous sponsors, student registration for NORM 2021 will be FREE and only a nominal registration fee will be charged for other attendees. *NORM 2021 has been organized by Western Washington University in Bellingham, WA and hosted by ACS Puget Sound Section.* See the Awards descriptions online, attend the awards ceremony!

[*continued on next page…*]

Comments From Our Puget Sound ACS Chair [*continued*]

Natalie A. Merrill | ACS Puget Sound Section Executive Committee Chair

Insights

Vaccines: Washington State eligibility requirements for the COVID-19 vaccine to be expanded 'effective April 15, [to] all Washingtonians over the age of 16'.
Check your vaccination eligibility here: https://vaccinelocator.doh.wa.gov/

ACS Member Support (COVID-19): Did you know that there are many cost reductions and new opportunities within your ACS brought about by the pandemic? Recently we learned that your ACS membership 2021 can be renewed under pandemic funding, so if you have not yet renewed your annual membership which was due in December, please contact ACS National now at 1-800-333-9511. We have one affiliate who is now a full member of ACS, restoring continuity to 13 years of ACS membership which had lapsed during the pandemic and was updated with pandemic funding. If you would like to try Affiliate membership 2021, that is $10 and is available immediately, through your Puget Sound Section Treasurer, Sheri Tonn.

https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/covid-19/member-support.html

DIR Seminar: Professor Munira Khalil

April 1, 2021 | 7:00pm - 8:00pm | Virtual Only

View flyer here

ACS Local Section
Puget Sound

The Diversity, Inclusion and Respect Committee of the
ACS Puget Sound Section presents:

Professor Munira Khalil

Leon C. Johnson Professor of Chemistry and
Department Chair, University of Washington

Measuring and Decoding Spectra to Study Ultrafast Chemical Processes

(My Adventures in Optimizing the Signal-to-Noise Ratio in the Laboratory and in Life)

April 1, 2021, 7-8 pm PT, Zoom Webinar

Register via Zoom to attend and to submit questions

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_2SA2VpxdTn6AM-fTLEGwrA

For information, please contact leonardjandrews@gmail.com

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ACS Local Section
Puget Sound

Abstract

In this talk I will describe how my research group at the University of Washington uses femtosecond spectroscopy to understand chemical processes. Why should we think about chemistry on the timescale of a femtosecond (one millionth of one billionth of a second)? The absorption of light by chemical and biochemical reagents results in a complex dance among the electrons and atoms of the system under study. Seeing and predicting the motions of atoms and molecules following photoexcitation is key to comprehending the elementary steps in photosynthesis, DNA photodamage, and artificial light harvesting technologies. I will discuss examples from my group's research where we have developed new techniques and used femtosecond light pulses from the infrared to X-ray wavelengths to capture ultrafast chemical processes. The talk will emphasize the joys and challenges of optimizing the signal-to-noise ratio in life inside and outside the laboratory.

Prof. Munira Khalil Biography

Professor Munira Khalil is a physical chemist whose research focuses on developing a microscopic understanding of how coupled electronic, vibrational, and solvent degrees of freedom optimize charge and energy transfer pathways in molecular photochemistry.

Munira received a B.A. in Chemistry and English from Colgate University before pursuing a Ph.D. at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She completed postdoctoral research as a Miller Research Fellow at the University of California, Berkeley and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory before joining the University of Washington in September 2007.

Munira's research has been recognized by the Dreyfus New Faculty Award (2007), Packard Fellowship in Science and Engineering (2008), CAREER Award from the National Science Foundation (2009), Sloan Research Fellowship (2012), Camille-Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar Award (2013) and the Journal of Physical Chemistry Lectureship (2014). She was named a Kavli Frontiers of Science Fellow in 2011 and the Fellow of the American Physical Society in 2017.

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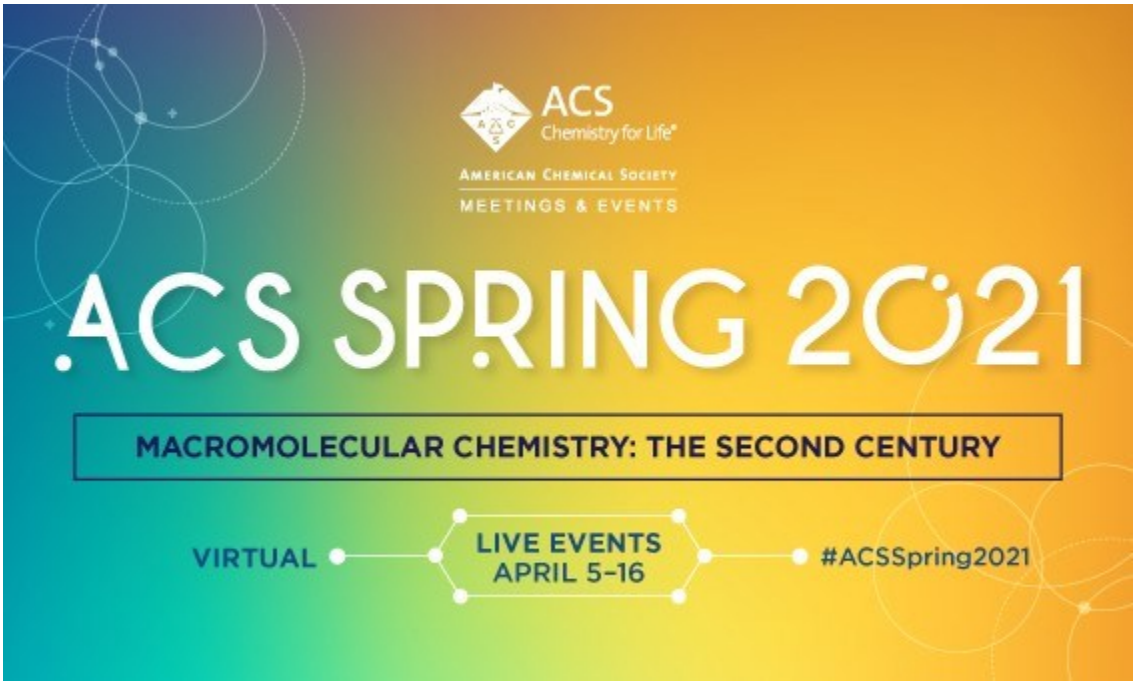
ACS National Meeting | Spring 2021

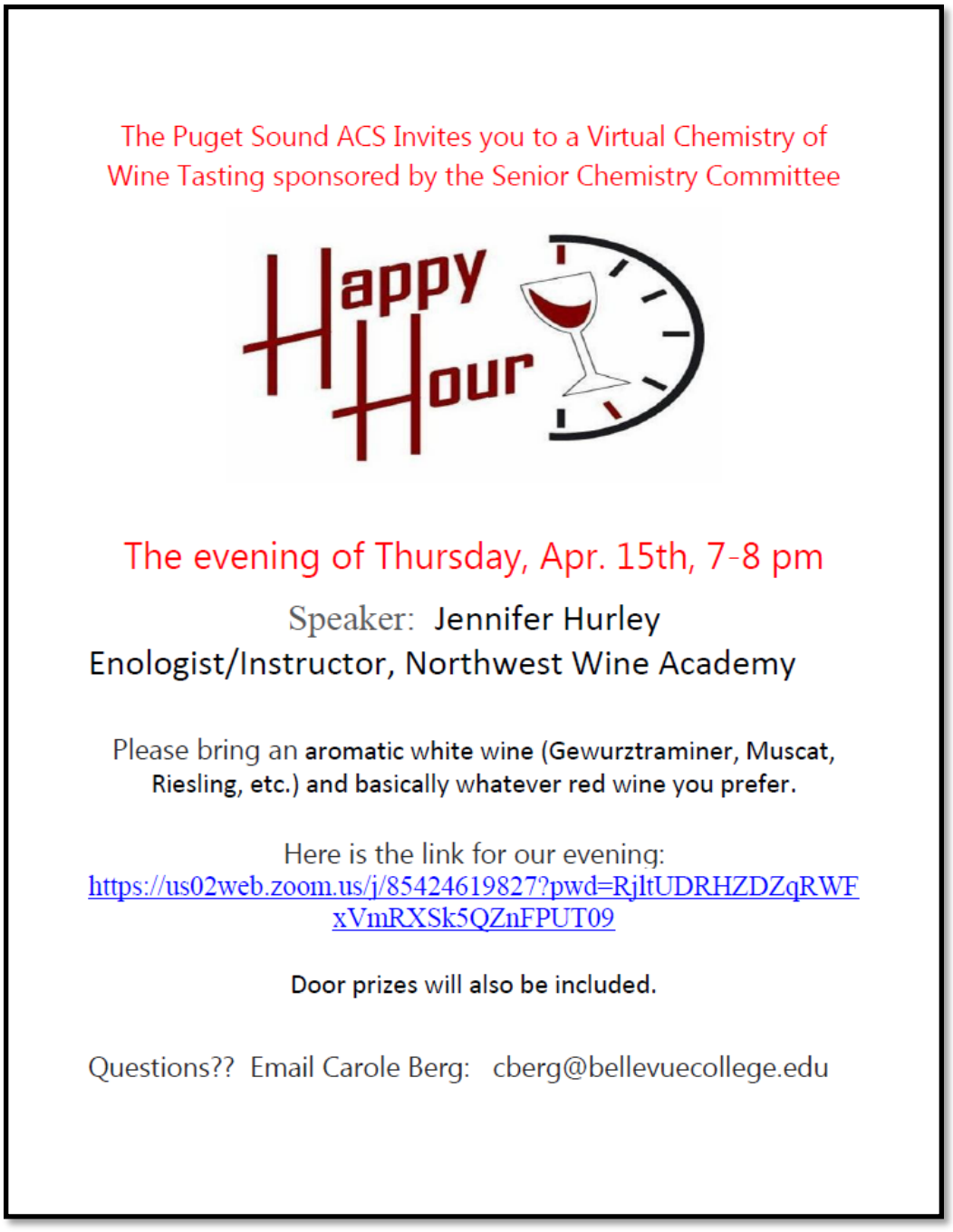
April 5-16, 2021 | Virtual Only



Virtual Wine Tasting Happy Hour

April 15, 2021 | 7:00pm-8:00pm | Virtual Event

Event Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85424619827?pwd=RjltUDRHZDZqRWFxVmRXSk5QZnFPUT09



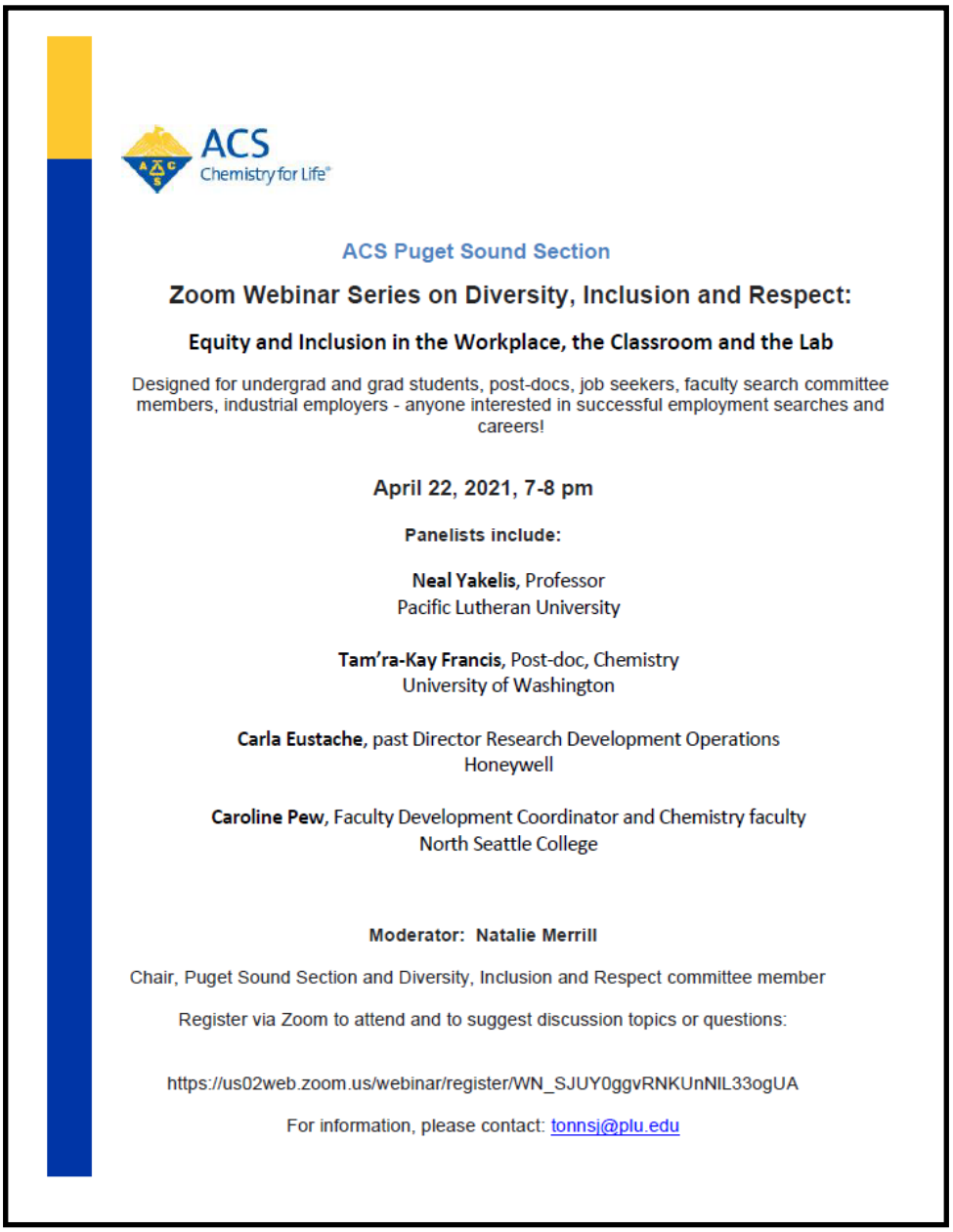
Diversity Book Discussion Group

April 13, 2021 | 7:00pm

Book Discussion (The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot.)

DIR Zoom Webinar Series (Panel #4)

April 22, 2021 | 7:00pm



Safety Committee

ACS Puget Sound Section | April 2021

Register: ACS Spring National Meeting is April 5-30th, Support ACS with your registration!

https://www.xpressreg.net/register/acsa0321/start.asp (VIRTUAL)

High School Educators and Students only pay $29! $99 for Members!

ACS Spring 2021 Registration fee includes:

- Exclusive access to the live and broadcast content from April 5 - 16.
- Access to all meeting On Demand content from April 17 - 30.
- Interactive networking through chat and video, & Online access to meeting materials.

Links:

- Read the updated guidance for Working Safely with Nanomaterials.
- Learn more about the ACS Committee on Chemical Safety (CCS).
- Chemical Health & Safety (CHAS)
  The Division of Chemical Health and Safety works to improve people's lives through best chemical health and safety culture practices and by providing authoritative technical resources and mentorship in chemical health and safety.

Events:

Spring 2021 ACS meeting CHAS Symposia include:

Chemical Safety Film Festival, Designing safety into an undergraduate laboratory curriculum, beyond safety rules, Safety Across the Scientific Disciplines: Where are the successes, and what needs improvements

Our Puget Sound Safety Committee is modeled after our National ACS Committee on Chemical Safety, to promote safety through education and best practices in academia and industry. We tailor the activities of our Puget Sound Safety Committee to the needs of our members, so please don't hesitate to reach out with your input or needs, by emailing the chair at the contact email given below. Wishing everyone a safe month!

ACS Puget Sound Section Safety Committee - since 2018

Safety is everybody's business: Be safe. Be informed.

Chair: Natalie Merrill
namerrill@gmail.com

Sustainability Committee

ACS Puget Sound Section | April 2021

- Here comes our Spring Celebration, Chemists Celebrate Earth Week, with Earth Day April 22nd!
- **Puget Sound Student's Illustrated Poetry Contest for K-12 open to April 25th 8:59PM!**
- See more details within our newsletter, Facebook page, website and email.
- Encourage your kids, schools, teachers and clubs to join our **PSS Illustrated Poetry Contest**.
- Celebrate CCEW 2021 **April 18–24** with the theme, "**Reducing Our Footprint with Chemistry.**"

For years, chemists have been promoting a better world through recyclable plastics, cleaner-burning fuels, phosphate-free detergents, environmental monitoring, and green chemistry initiatives. To promote the positive role that chemistry plays in the world, ACS established the **Chemists Celebrate Earth Week** (CCEW) public awareness campaign. During CCEW, ACS members and chemistry enthusiasts celebrate by coordinating events and communicating the importance of chemistry.

Read more about CCEW.

Sustainability in C&EN: please see the article link below for a look ahead at the 2021 issues affecting and connecting chemists and chemistry across the globe. https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/sustainability.html ACS Chemistry and Sustainability.

C&EN's World Chemical Outlook 2021 article can be found here: https://cen.acs.org/business/CENs-World-Chemical-Outlook-2021/99/i2

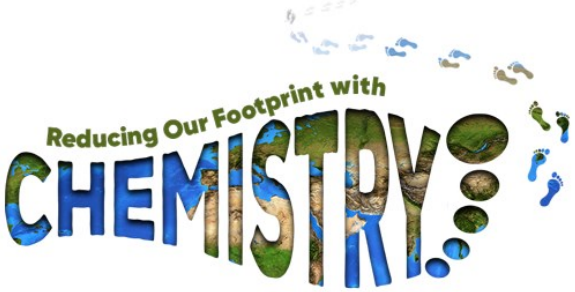
ACS is committed to supporting our members and working with partners to address global sustainability challenges. Here in the Puget Sound we are committed to tailoring that approach to local challenges. Please bring opportunities to the attention of your local section Sustainability committee.

Your comments and participation are welcomed. Please email namerrill@gmail.com

Chair: Natalie Merrill, Sustainability Committee, ACS PSS

2021 Earth Day Poetry Contest

Chemists Celebrate Earth Week (CCEW) 2021



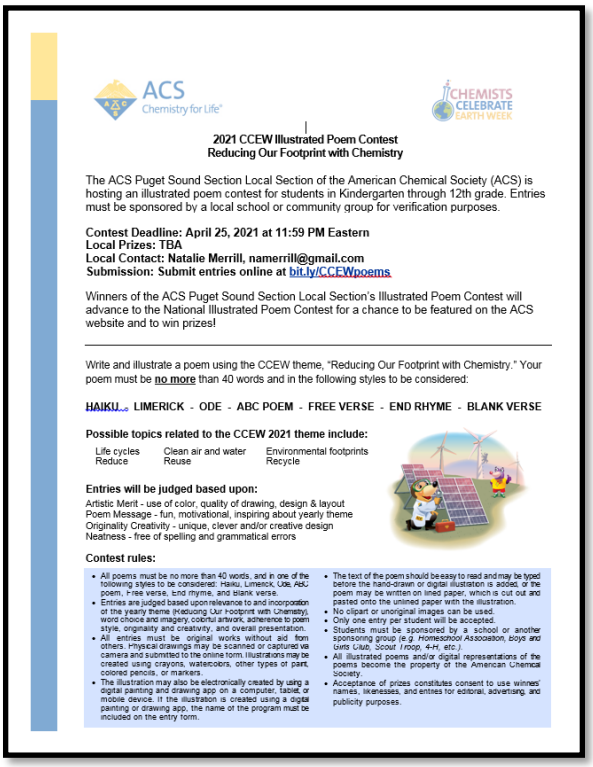
Earth Week 2021 is April 18–24 with the theme, "Reducing Our Footprint with Chemistry." In honor of Earth Week, ACS sponsors an illustrated poem contest for K-12 students. Please submit your poem submissions using the link in the flyer. Entries will be judged locally and the local first-place winners will be submitted to the national contest. For questions about the contest, please contact ACS Puget Sound Section local section Earth Week coordinators: Sailaja Arungundram (asailaja@hotmail.com) and Natalie Merrill (namerrill@gmail.com). Please select "Puget Sound" as your local section from the drop-down menu while submitting your entry.

Contest Deadline: April 25, 2021 at 11:59 PM Eastern.

For more information on poem themes and an online submission link, please see the flyer below.

ACS Puget Sound Illustrated Poetry Contest Information

American Chemical Society Chemists Celebrate Earth Week Illustrated Poem Contest.



ACS Chemistry for Life

CHEMISTS CELEBRATE EARTH WEEK

2021 CCEW Illustrated Poem Contest
Reducing Our Footprint with Chemistry

The ACS Puget Sound Section Local Section of the American Chemical Society (ACS) is hosting an illustrated poem contest for students in Kindergarten through 12th grade. Entries must be sponsored by a local school or community group for verification purposes.

Contest Deadline: April 25, 2021 at 11:59 PM Eastern
Local Prizes: TBA
Local Contact: Natalie Merrill, namerrill@gmail.com
Submission: Submit entries online at bit.ly/CCEWpoems

Winners of the ACS Puget Sound Section Local Section's Illustrated Poem Contest will advance to the National Illustrated Poem Contest for a chance to be featured on the ACS website and to win prizes!

Write and illustrate a poem using the CCEW theme, "Reducing Our Footprint with Chemistry." Your poem must be no more than 40 words and in the following styles to be considered:

HAIKU - LIMERICK - ODE - ABC POEM - FREE VERSE - END RHYME - BLANK VERSE

Possible topics related to the CCEW 2021 theme include:

Life cycles	Clean air and water	Environmental footprints
Reduce	Reuse	Recycle

Entries will be judged based upon:
Artistic Merit - use of color, quality of drawing, design & layout
Poem Message - fun, motivational, inspiring about yearly theme
Originality Creativity - unique, clever and/or creative design
Neatness - free of spelling and grammatical errors

Contest rules:

- All poems must be no more than 40 words, and in one of the following styles to be considered: Haiku, Limerick, Ode, ABC poem, Free verse, End rhyme, and Blank verse.
- Entries are judged based upon relevance to and incorporation of the yearly theme (Reducing Our Footprint with Chemistry), word choice and imagery, colorful artwork, adherence to poem style, originality and creativity, and overall presentation.
- All entries must be original works without aid from others. Physical drawings may be scanned or captured via camera and submitted to the online form. Illustrations may be created using crayons, watercolors, other types of paint, colored pencils, or markers.
- The illustration may also be electronically created by using a digital painting and drawing app on a computer, tablet, or mobile device. If the illustration is created using a digital painting or drawing app, the name of the program must be included on the entry form.
- The text of the poem should be easy to read and may be typed before the hand-drawn or digital illustration is added, or the poem may be written on lined paper, which is cut out and pasted onto the unlined paper with the illustration.
- No clipart or unoriginal images can be used.
- Only one entry per student will be accepted.
- Students must be sponsored by a school or another sponsoring group (e.g. Homeschool Association, boys and Girls Club, Scout Troop, 4-H, etc.)
- All illustrated poems and/or digital representations of the poems become the property of the American Chemical Society.
- Acceptance of prizes constitutes consent to use winners' names, likenesses, and entries for editorial, advertising, and publicity purposes.

Northwest Regional Meeting

NORM 2021 | Peak Challenges, Oceans of Opportunity

NORM 2021, Peak Challenges, Oceans of Opportunity, will be a three-day ONLINE event hosted by Western Washington University. The meeting will take place virtually Sunday, May 9 through Tuesday, May 11, 2021.

Details, including names and contact information for program and session chairs, can be found on the meeting website at https://norm2021.org/. The final program summary will be published in C&EN in the Spring; the online program is available on the website at https://norm2021.org/program/

The meeting will highlight peak challenges and opportunities in the Pacific Northwest and beyond. In addition to technical symposia and poster sessions, the symposium will feature two plenary lectures, an eminent scientist lecture, and a vibrant exposition.

The symposium sessions include “Inorganic: Catalysts, Compounds, and Reactions”; “Cottrell Scholars from the Pacific NW and Beyond”; “Natural Products Chemistry in the Northwest”; “Cannabis Chemistry; Oceans of Scientific Opportunity”; “Organic Chemistry”; “Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SOTL) at Community Colleges”; “Physical Chemistry: Computational to Experimental”; “Analytical Chemistry”; “Chemistry of Energy”; “Materials Chemistry: Chemistry and Applications of Bulk to Quantum Confined Materials”; “Polymer and Macromolecular Chemistry”; “Undergraduate Research Symposium”; “Emergent Applications and Results in Structural and Chemical Biology”, and “PNW Rising Stars” a celebration of early and mid-career women in the NW region, as well as a general poster session comprising these topics.

ACS's Meeting Abstracts Programming System (MAPS) is closed for NORM abstract submission.
Abstracts were due 02/08/2021.

Undergraduate Research Poster Session (NORM)

NORM 2021 | Peak Challenges, Oceans of Opportunity

We are inviting undergraduate students in the ACS Puget Sound Section to present their research projects at this year's online virtual Northwest Regional Meeting (NORM) of the American Chemical Society. The undergraduate poster session will be included in the meeting's general poster session. Only poster presentations can be submitted at this time.

Online Submission Link

Submission Deadline: April 15th, 2021

Poster Session Information

Date: May 9th, 2021
Time: 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Virtual Poster Presentation

Registration will open *in April* and it is FREE for students. Check the NORM 2021 webpage for registration information.

Please encourage students who are not presenting to attend this event. It is a great learning experience for students at all levels!

NORM 2021 Program Information

https://norm2021.org/program/

NORM2021
PEAK CHALLENGES, OCEANS OF OPPORTUNITY
WWU, BELLINGHAM, WA | MAY 9 – 11

2021 Nominating Committee

2021 ACS Puget Sound Section Nominating Committee

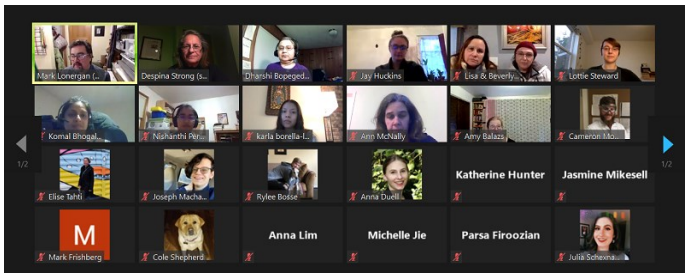
Nominating Committee

Jennifer Marsalla (Nominating Committee Chair)
Carole Berg
Jonathan Clark
John Macklin
Gary Christian

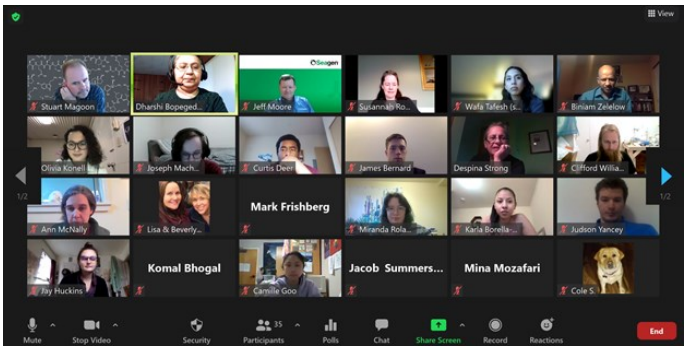
Report on the Career Events, 2021

By Dr. Dharshi Bopegedera

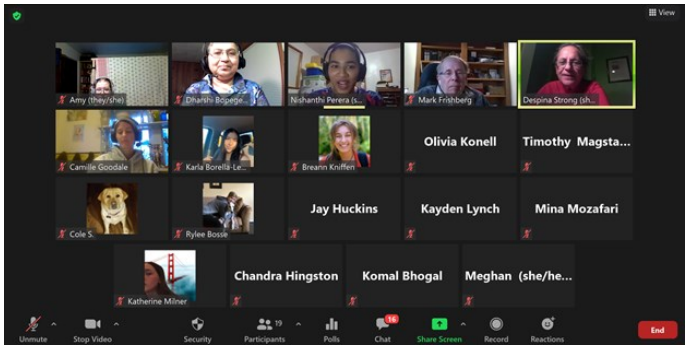
The Career Events for the ACS Puget Sound Section for the 2021 year were successfully completed during the last few weeks. Participants from about 23 institutions representing community colleges, four-year colleges, and research universities from Washington, Oregon, and British Columbia, Canada registered and participated in the three events. We even had a couple of participants from East Asia joining in.



The first event focused on how to be successful in graduate school applications, the second on various career options in the public and private sectors, and the third on how to write winning cover letters and resumes, developing interview skills as well as using LinkedIn effectively for job searching.



We are grateful to our presenters Dr. Mark Lonergan (Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Oregon), Stuart Magoon (City of Tacoma, Center for Urban Waters), Susannah Rowles, (King County Environmental Lab), Biniam Zelelow (King County Industrial Waste Program), Wafa Tafesh (King County Water & Land Resources Division), Jeff Moore (Seattle Genetics), and Nishanthi Perera (Washington State Department of Transportation) for volunteering their time to inform our students about careers in the sciences and for staying after the events to answer their many questions. The enthusiasm and dedication of these presenters were appreciated by the students.

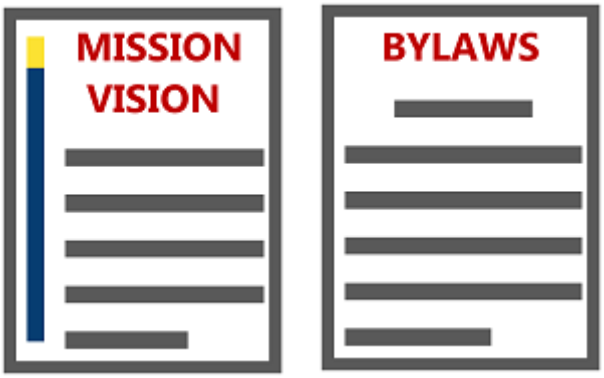


We thank the faculty for encouraging their students to attend the Career Events. This was the first time we hosted virtual career events. We learned many lessons in the process and some virtual events may be offered in the future with the hope of drawing students who have difficulty attending in person.

Volunteer Opportunities

ACS Puget Sound Section | 2021 Invite Message

Despite the lack of in-person events, there are opportunities to get involved with the Puget Sound Section in a volunteer capacity. There are roles that are easy and there are roles that involve greater responsibility and scope. Volunteering offers opportunities to add things to your resume, exposes you to networking opportunities and gives you opportunities to develop soft skills. If you have had an extensive career in chemistry, you can 'pay-it-forward' by becoming a mentor for younger chemists. Volunteering can be a richly rewarding activity.



If you are interested, please reach out to us! There are many ways to get in contact with us, but one easy way is through the Contact Form. Learn more about the Puget Sound Section by reading our Mission/Vision Statement. You can get a sense of how things operate by reading the 'Bylaws of the Puget Sound Section of the American Chemical Society'*. Member involvement is an important aspect of the continued success of the Puget Sound Section.

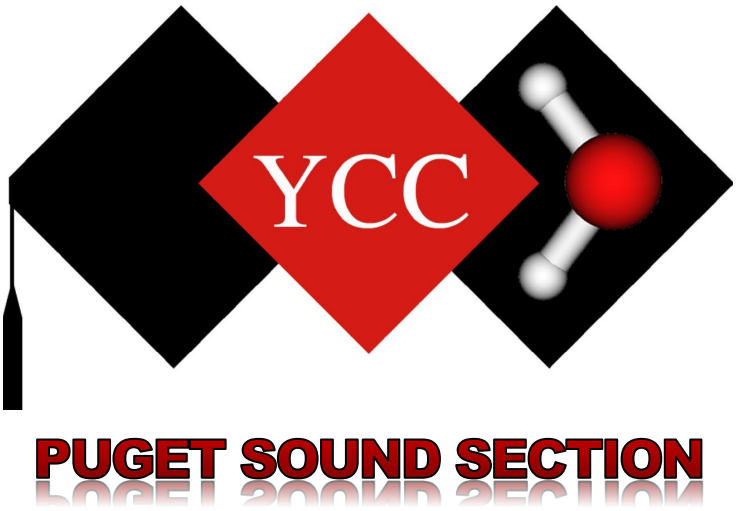
*Note: The committee dedicated to reviewing and proposing revisions to the bylaws this calendar year has completed the first major step in the process. Please get in contact with us with any suggestions and comments. Feel free to use the Contact Form for this.

Younger Chemists Committee

Puget Sound Section YCC Meetings

The YCC advocates for and provides resources to early-career chemists and professionals in the chemical sciences and related fields. If you may not be an 'early-career professional', the YCC still welcomes you to help ignite the curiosity and success of young minds.

We would love to have you join us every month and learn how you can get involved with your local ACS section! Anybody is welcome to attend these meetings so please feel free to invite your friends/colleagues.



2021 Chemistry Olympiad (USNCO)

Annual, Multi-tiered Competition for High School Students

The U.S. Chemistry Olympiad (USNCO) is an annual, multi-tiered competition for high school students. The Puget Sound Section proctors the Local Examination in March followed by the National Examination in April. Winners of the National Examination move on to compete at the international level in the International Chemistry Olympiad (IChO) in July.

The Local Examination is used to select the finalists that will move on to the national level of the Chemistry Olympiad (i.e the National Examination). The Puget Sound Section of the ACS is allowed a maximum of 13 finalists to move on to the national level. There is a limit of 2 finalists per school.

Sadly, we could not hold a local exam last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, this year the USNCO set up a nationwide exam platform that enabled local sections to meet for exam proctoring via video conference and complete the exam through a proctored learning platform.

This year 37 students took the local section preliminary exam from 12 local high schools: Bear Creek, Bellevue, Garfield, Henry Foss, Interlake, Issaquah, Mercer Island, Newport, Redmond, Sammamish, Skyline, and Tesla STEM.

Please congratulate the finalists who will be moving on to take the two part National Exam on April 17 and 24:

Finalists

Pravir Chugh, Issaquah HS	Yuchen Li, Tesla STEM HS
Rose Clark, Garfield HS	Daniel Sun, Interlake HS
Rishi Hazra, Skyline HS	Subha Vadlamannati, Mercer Island HS
Krish Jain, Redmond HS	Yuxin Wang, Bellevue HS
Ronak Jaisalmeria, Redmond HS	Lucas Wu, Interlake HS
Joshua Jung, Sammamish HS	Jingyi Zhao, Bear Creek School
Sebastian Kumar, Tesla STEM HS	

Please contact Dr. Clarita Bhat (cbhat@shoreline.edu) with any questions.
More information about the local and national exams can be found at:
https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/education/students/highschool/olympiad.html

Science Cafés

Grassroots Speaker Events Open to the Public

Science Cafés are gatherings open to the public held in pubs, restaurants, or bookstores where non-scientists can meet and talk with scientists about the latest issues in an informal atmosphere. There is no central organization for these grassroots Science Cafes which reflect their focus on local communities. You can learn more at: http://www.sciencecafes.org/

Science in the City

Lectures by the Pacific Science Center

The Pacific Science Center organizes an excellent Science Lecture series. The lectures are free and open to the public. They are held at the Pacific Science Center in Seattle, WA.

Website: https://www.pacificsciencecenter.org/science-in-the-city/

Science on Tap

Seattle Science Café

Science on Tap events are free and open to the public.

Website: http://www.scienceontap.org/

Olympia Science Café

Science Café in Olympia, WA

Puget Sound Section | Awards and Scholarships

The ACS PSS Education Committee offers the following awards and scholarships:

K-12 Educator Grants

For Supplies, Books, Courses, Symposia and Continued Education
Up to $500

Grant applications are accepted at any time during the year. Click on the application link for details.

K-12 Grant Application Form

Applications are accepted year round.

William J Wasserman Memorial Scholarship

2-year College Student Scholarship
$1500

Application Form: (Word) (PDF)
Resources: (Article) (Puget Sound Colleges List)

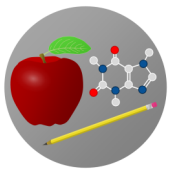
Application Deadline: March 1, 2021

Julia Ann Rutherford Memorial Scholarship

4-year College Student Scholarship
$1500

Application Form: (Word) (PDF)
Resources: (Article) (Puget Sound Colleges List)

Application Deadline: March 1, 2021



High School Teacher of the Year Award

$250 Cash Award and
$750 for Chemistry Lab Supplies

The Education Committee accepts nominations all year round and selects one teacher for this award per year.

HS Teacher of the Year Award Application Form

Awarded: January 1 each year

ACS Student Affiliate Chapter Grants

For Activities and/or Travel
Up to $500

A request must be submitted to the Education Committee with details well in advance of the need.

ACS Student Affiliate Chapter Grant Application Form

Applications are accepted year round.

The committee welcomes new members! Please contact us if you are interested in joining.

Our current committee members are: Leonard Andrews, Sailaja Arungundram, Clarita Bhat, Gwen Gross, Jennie Mayer (Chair), David Munch, Alyssia Snow, Despina Strong, Lauren Wugalter, Amar Yahiaoui

Please send us a message or email Jennie Mayer (Education Committee Chair; jmayer@bellevuecollege.edu) with any questions.

NORM 2021 Awards | Nominations Closed

The nomination window for the NORM 2021 Awards is now closed

The awards webpage for NORM 2021 is http://norm2021.org/awards. Send all questions and comments to the Awards Chairman: Dr. Serge Smirnov (Sergey.Smirnov@wwu.edu)

Stanley C. Israel Regional Award for Advancing Diversity in the Chemical Sciences

Recognizes individuals and/or institutions who have advanced diversity in the chemical sciences and significantly stimulated or fostered activities that promote inclusiveness within the region. (Apply through the ACS website)

Nomination Deadline: March 1, 2021

Glenn and Jane Crosby Northwest Region Award for Excellence in High School Teaching

Recognizes, encourages, and stimulates outstanding teachers of high school chemistry in the Northwest Region. (Application Form)

Nomination Deadline: ~~March 1, 2021~~ (Extended to March 10, 2021)

E. Ann Nalley Northwest Regional Award for Volunteer Service to the ACS

Recognizes the volunteer efforts of individuals who have served the American Chemical Society, contributing significantly to the goals and objectives of the Society through their regional activities. (Application Form)

Nomination Deadline: ~~March 1, 2021~~ (Extended to March 10, 2021)

NORM2021
PEAK CHALLENGES, OCEANS OF OPPORTUNITY
WWU, BELLINGHAM, WA | MAY 9 – 11

Heros in Chemistry Award

National American Chemical Society Award

Heroes of Chemistry is an annual award sponsored by the American Chemical Society that recognizes talented industrial chemical scientists whose work has led to the development of successful commercialized products ingrained with chemistry for the benefit of humankind.

The nomination period for the 2021 Heroes of Chemistry Award opened November 1, 2020 and closed on February 1, 2021.

For more information on the application process, please visit the Nominations Procedures page. You can also email chemhero@acs.org.

ACS-HACH Professional Development Grants

Professional Development Grants for High School Teachers

The application period for the ACS-Hach Professional Development Grant is currently open. With this grant, high school chemistry teachers can request up to $1,500 to pursue opportunities that advance their professional development and enhance the teaching and learning of chemistry. Applications are accepted between October 15-January 4 annually.

The Pauling Award

Linus Pauling Medal Award

The Linus Pauling Medal Award is jointly sponsored by the Puget Sound, Portland and Oregon Local Sections. It is presented in recognition of outstanding achievement in chemistry.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2021 ACS Northwest Regional Meeting

NORM 2021 | Peak Challenges, Oceans of Opportunity | May 9-11, 2021

The 2021 Northwest Regional Meeting will be hosted by Western Washington University. The meeting will be fully online and will include technical symposia, poster sessions, and a vibrant exposition. Thanks to generous sponsors, student registration for NORM 2021 will be FREE and only a nominal registration fee will charged for other attendees.

Find more info on the NORM 2021 website and the NORM 2021 Facebook page.

NORM2021

PEAK CHALLENGES, OCEANS OF OPPORTUNITY

WWU, BELLINGHAM, WA | MAY 9 – 11

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

NORM Event: Senior Breakfast

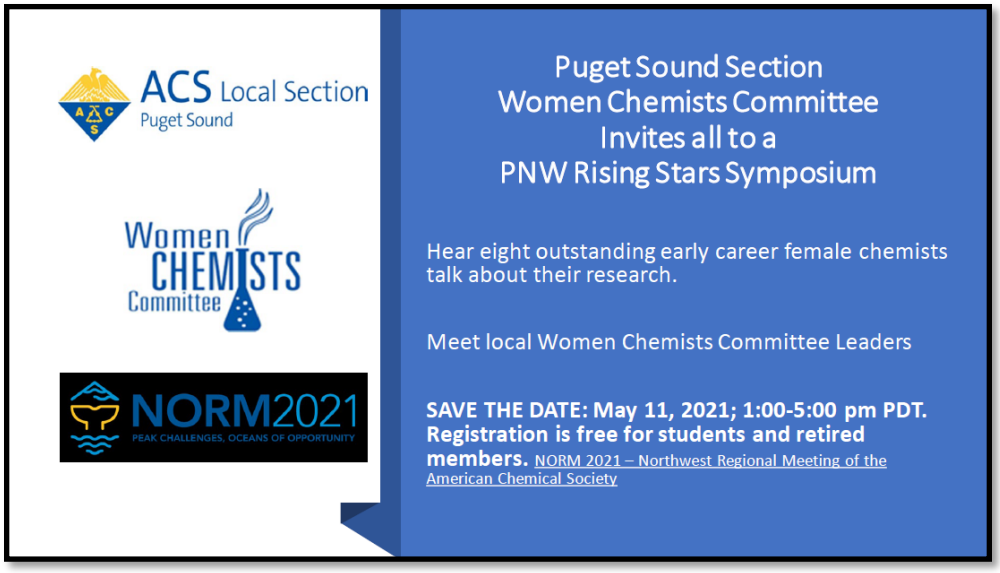
May 10, 2021 | 8:00am

Chair of the National ACS, Speakers, Chemistry Quiz and prizes. Sponsored by the Puget Sound Section, Senior Chemists Committee. Registration to NORM required

NORM Event: PNW Rising Stars Symposium

May 11, 2021 | 1:00pm

Featuring early career women from the region. Sponsored by the Puget Sound Section Women Chemists Committee. Registration to NORM required.



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NORM Event: PNW Rising Stars Symposium [*continued*]

May 11, 2021 | 1:00pm

ACS Local Section Puget Sound

Women CHEMISTS Committee

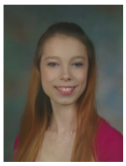
NORM2021 PEAK CHALLENGES, OCEANS OF OPPORTUNITY

Amanda Cook: Assistant Professor, University of Oregon

Dr. Cook received her B.S. from California State University Fullerton (2010) and her Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in 2015. Between 2015-2018, she was a Postdoctoral Fellow at ETH Zürich, Christophe Copéret. Dr. Cook joined the University of Oregon Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, in 2018. Her research focuses on the design and development of new homogeneous and heterogeneous catalysts. The Cook lab targets catalytic reactions that have diverse applications, ranging from selective functionalization of complex organic compounds to conversion of small molecules like hydrogen and carbon dioxide. A key thread running through all the research in the Cook lab is an emphasis on mechanism elucidation and establishing structure-activity relationships between our catalysts and their behavior.

ACS Local Section Puget Sound

Women CHEMISTS Committee



NORM2021 PEAK CHALLENGES, OCEANS OF OPPORTUNITY

Liane Moreau: Assistant Professor, Washington State University

Dr. Moreau joined the Chemistry faculty at Washington State University in July 2020 after completing postdoctoral research at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory under the direction of Dr. Corwin Booth in the heavy element chemistry group. Prior to that, she completed her PhD at Northwestern University as an NDSEG fellow, researching under Drs. Chad Mirkin and Michael Bedzyk, and BS degree at Cornell University researching under Dr. Richard Robinson. In all cases, Dr. Moreau's research has been dedicated to using advanced X-ray characterization methods paired with synthetic developments in nanochemistry to explore structural transformations in nanomaterials. Dr. Moreau is very happy to be at WSU, where she is joining ongoing efforts towards understanding the properties of radioactive materials.

[*continued on next page…*]

NORM Event: PNW Rising Stars Symposium [*continued*]

May 11, 2021 | 1:00pm

ACS Local Section Puget Sound

Women CHEMISTS Committee

NORM2021 PEAK CHALLENGES, OCEANS OF OPPORTUNITY

Jessica Ray: Assistant Professor, University of Washington

Dr. Ray is currently an assistant professor in the Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering at the University of Washington. Ray received her B.S. degree in Chemical Engineering from Washington University in St. Louis in 2009. Upon graduation, Ray remained at Washington University in St. Louis to obtain a M.S. degree and a Ph.D. in Energy, Environmental Engineering & Chemical Engineering During her Ph.D., Ray employed surface chemistry techniques to investigate interfacial reactions of nanomaterials in water. Ray then moved to California as a Miller Institute Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of California, Berkeley in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. As a postdoc, Ray developed low-cost polymer-clay composites to treat urban stormwater. At the University of Washington, Ray is continuing to develop and characterize new composite materials for selective contaminant removal in water, for enhanced degradation of persistent contaminants, and for recovery of valuable species in waste streams. In recognition of her novel, interdisciplinary research addressing urban water supply and sustainability, Chemical & Engineering News named Ray one of the "Talented 12" honorees for 2020.

ACS Local Section Puget Sound

Women CHEMISTS Committee

NORM2021 PEAK CHALLENGES, OCEANS OF OPPORTUNITY

Maegan Weltzin: Assistant Professor, University of Alaska Fairbanks

Dr. Weltzin received her B.S. in Chemistry with emphasis in Biochemistry (2006) and her Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (2011) both from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Between 2012-2016, Dr. Weltzin was a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Barrow Neurological Institute at St. Joseph's Hospital in Phoenix from 2012 - 2016. Dr. Weltzin's research focuses on understanding the role of neuronal nicotinic acetylcholine receptors (nAChRs) in neurological disorders and infectious disease. nAChRs are ligand gated ion channels that are highly expressed in the central nervous system and periphery. They are involved in many diseases such as Alzheimer's disease, nicotine addiction, epilepsy and rabies infection. She is particularly interested in characterizing nicotinic receptor behavior in both non-diseased and diseased states (initially studying Nocturnal Frontal Lobe Epilepsy (NFLE). Recently her work is focused on nicotinic receptor modulation by endogenous proteins and viral glycoproteins.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

All Puget Sound Membership Dinner

May 10, 2021 | 6:00pm | Virtual Social Dinner and Executive Committee Meeting

Come socialize and sit in for the May 2021 ACS PSS Executive Committee meeting!

Agenda

5:30pm - Early Bird Chat Session (ALL)
6:00pm - Social Dinner (ALL)
7:00pm - ACS Puget Sound Section Executive Committee Meeting (OBSERVE / OPTIONAL)
8:15pm - Open Q&A (ALL)

Register Here

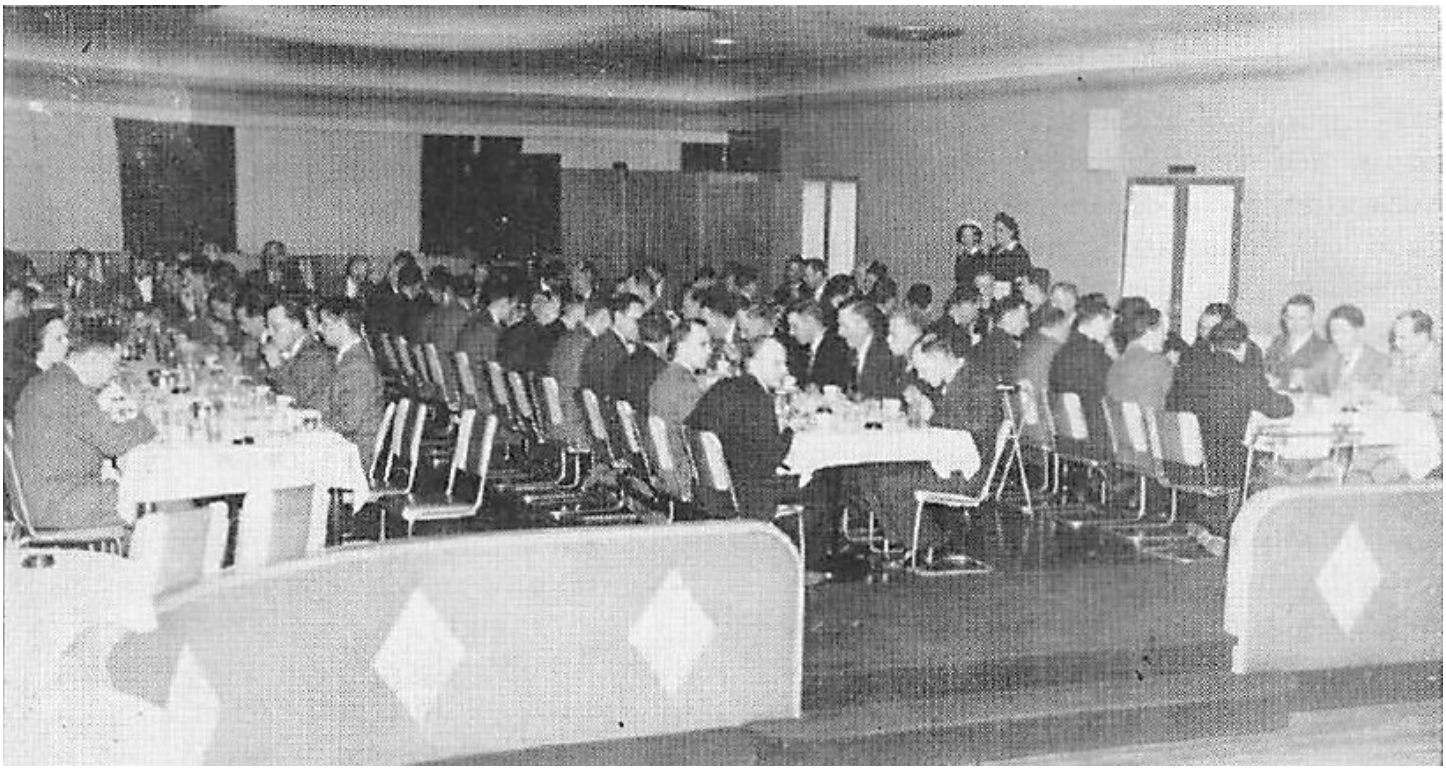


Image of the April Meeting Dinner from 1949.
Sourced from the May 1949 Edition of The Puget Sound Chemist newsletter.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Angela Wilson ZOOM Event

May 11, 2021 | 5:00pm | Virtual Event

Register Here

ACS Local Section California | ACS Local Section Portland | ACS Local Section Puget Sound

Embracing and advancing inclusion and equity across the American Chemical Society with ACS President-Elect Angela Wilson

Tuesday – May 11, 2021 – 5:00 to 6:00 PM (PDT)
Online Zoom Event

Please join the California, Portland, and Puget Sound local sections as we build community along the West Coast by coming together for a virtual meeting. We are delighted to host Professor Angela Wilson who will speak about issues that bridge the Local and National levels of the ACS. Dr. Wilson will also focus on how science advocacy can be strengthened through diversity and inclusion. The presentation will be followed by a Q&A.

RSVP here!
Zoom link to be shared with attendees the day of the event.

Our Distinguished Speaker:

Professor Angela K. Wilson, PhD
John A. Hannah Distinguished Professor in the
Department of Chemistry
Michigan State University
President-Elect of the American Chemical Society

The event is FREE and open to the community. More information at: calacs.org or email aliciaataylor@gmail.com or abaggett@linfield.edu

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Membership Committee Meeting

May 13, 2021 | 6:30pm - 7:30pm | Virtual Event

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

ACS National Meeting | Fall 2021

August 22-26, 2021 | Atlanta, GA | Resilience of Chemistry

Pacifichem 2021: A Creative Vision for the Future

December 16-21, 2021 | Honolulu, Hawaii

Pacifichem is a conference that is organized by seven host societies, including the American Chemical Society. Learn more on the Pacifichem website: https://pacifichem.org/

ACS Career Resources

Powerful Career Advancement Tools

Many opportunities and career resources are available on the ACS website for ACS members! Check them out!

ACS Career Resources

ACS Career Consulting

ACS National Job Postings (C&EN)

ACS Puget Sound Section Career Event

Annual Event Focused on Chemistry Careers

The Puget Sound Section hosts a Career Event each year (usually held in February) at a local business or governmental facility. These events present great opportunities to see the scope of the activities of the hosting organizations. The event is recommended for all undergraduate science students. Admission is free. The event is open to all, however, space is usually limited and registration is required. Keep an eye out for future announcements and details regarding the next event.

JOB POSTINGS

Example Job Position Title

Job Posting Key

Company or Organization Name | City, State | ACS PSS Posting Date: mm/dd/yyyy

Short description of the job position.

The company or organization's name will include a hyperlink to their website.

The job position title will include a hyperlink to any pertinent web posting for the position, if available.

Chemistry Professor - Tenure Track

Tacoma Community College | Tacoma, WA | ACS PSS Posting Date: 01/24/2021

Tacoma Community College is pleased to announce a full-time, tenure-track position in Chemistry beginning fall term 2021. The position entails teaching a variety of courses within the chemistry curriculum, with an emphasis on those for pre-allied health students, such as introductory general, organic, and biochemistry. TCC is situated in the metropolitan Puget Sound region and attracts students from diverse backgrounds, both locally and internationally. Applications should be submitted directly through the College (https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/tacomacc/jobs/2921480/chemistry-professor-tenure-track) and will be reviewed starting January 15th.

JOB POSTINGS

Post Your Job Here!

Advertise With Us | Puget Sound Region, WA

Job postings are free of charge, highly customizable and are open to companies, academic institutions and governmental organizations. The newsletter is sent out once a month, usually on the first day of the month, to a large number of people in the Puget Sound region. The monthly deadline to submit content varies from month to month, but is often based around the second to last Friday of the month.

Typical job post content includes the position title, a link to the job description, the organization's name, a link to the organization's website, the city/state where the position is based and a short description. You can also include other customization such as a company logo.

Note: Job postings should be related in some manner to chemistry, but this is interpreted fairly broadly. Job postings for positions that are in chemical engineering, pharma, biochemistry, materials science, etc. are definitely welcome. Non-chemistry positions in companies that are actively engaged in the chemical sciences (*e.g. management positions in a chemicals company*) are accepted as well.

-

Contact Jonathan Clark, the Newsletter Editor, for details regarding advertising in the newsletter. Sending a general message through the Contact Form is an excellent first step.

INDUSTRY

ACADEMIA

GOVERNMENT

POST YOUR JOB HERE!

MEMBER BENEFITS

Join the American Chemical Society!

The American Chemical Society (ACS) was founded in 1876

"With more than 150,000 members, the American Chemical Society (ACS) is the world's largest scientific society and one of the world's leading sources of authoritative scientific information." (ACS Fast Facts)

Watch a video about the American Chemical Society here. Read about the history of ACS here.

American Chemical Society Website

Membership Categories and Dues/Application Process

Member Benefits

ACS National Strategic Plan

Join ACS

American Chemical Society Resources

Helpful Information, Services and Resources

ACS Local Section Information
ACS Technical Division Information
ACS Publications (High Quality Publications)
Chemical & Engineering News (C&EN) and C&EN Webinars
ACS Webinars (Webinars on Chemistry Themed Topics)
ACS Pressroom
ACS Orbitals: Chemistry Podcasts
ACS Network (Collaborate and connect with members of the chemical community)
ACS National and Regional Meetings
ACS Leadership Institute
ACS Public Policy Fellowships
ACS Project SEED Program (Summer Experiences for the Economically Disadvantaged)
National Chemistry Olympiads
ACS Scholars Program
ACS Get Experience
ACS Student Chapters (Chemistry Clubs)
Sustainability Resources
The Yellowbook

ACS Puget Sound Section

Founded in 1909, the Puget Sound Section has a rich history

The Puget Sound Section (PSS) is one of many ACS Local Sections. The PSS has a little more than 1,900 members in a region stretching from the mouth of the Columbia River in the southwest corner of Washington State up into British Columbia and eastward to the Columbia past Ellensburg. One out of five members lives in Canada. The Puget Sound Section was chartered in 1909.

ACS Local Section Map

ACS Local Section
Puget Sound

Website: https://www.acs.org/pugetsound

Website (full URL): https://communities.acs.org/t5/Puget-Sound-Local-Section/gh-p/puget-sound

Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/AmericanChemicalSocietyPugetSoundSection

LinkedIn Group: https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12010252/

Note: In July 2019, the ACS Puget Sound Section website was moved to its new home on the ACS Network. The ACS Network moved to a new platform in late 2020. That move disrupted things a bit. Stay tuned for updates!

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ROSTER

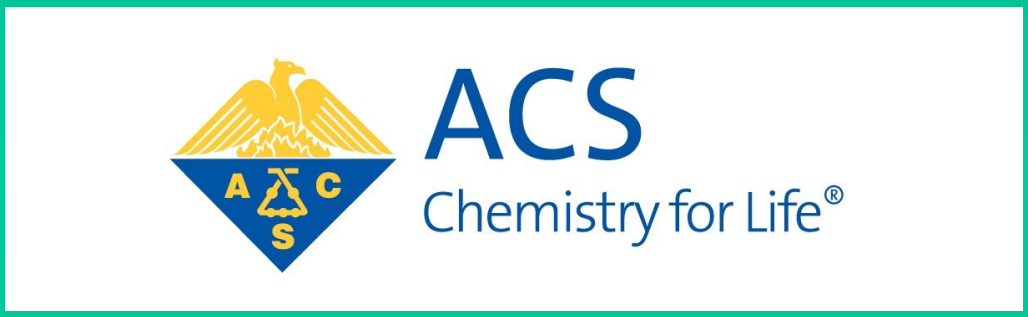
Position	Election Year	Name
Chair	N/A	Natalie Merrill
Chair-Elect	Annually	Curtis Deer
Past Chair	N/A	Jennifer Marsalla
Secretary	Annually	Michael Meechan
Treasurer	Annually	Sheri Tonn
Newsletter Editor	N/A	Jonathan Clark
Councilor Position 1	2023	David Patrick
Alternate Councilor Position 1	2023	Charity Lovitt
Councilor Position 2	2021	Gary Christian
Alternate Councilor Position 2	2021	John Macklin
Councilor Position 3	2022	Craig Fryhle
Alternate Councilor Position 3	2022	Carole Berg
Councilor Position 4	2023	Dharshi Bopegedera
Alternate Councilor Position 4	2023	Grady Blacken
Councilor Position 5	2021	Despina Strong
Alternate Councilor Position 5	2021	Natalie Merrill

Contact Information
Contact Form

OTHER OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS

Position	Name
Awards Committee* Chair	Carole Berg
Bylaws Revision Committee Co-Chairs	Michael Meechan and Jonathan Clark
Career Event Committee Chair	Dharshi Bopegedera
Chemistry Olympiad (UNSCO) Coordinator	Clarita Bhat
Communications Committee Chair	Jonathan Clark
Diversity, Inclusion and Respect Committee Co-Chairs	Sheri Tonn and Leonard J. Andrews
Earth Day Committee Chair	Sailaja Arungundram
Education Committee* Chair	Jennie Mayer
Employment Committee* Chair	Vacant
Finance Committee* Chair	David Munch
Hospitality Committee* Chair	Carole Berg
2020 Pauling Medal Symposium Committee Chair	Gojko Lalic
Long-Range Planning Committee* Chair	David Munch
Membership Committee* Chair	Jennifer Marsalla
National Chemistry Week Committee Chair	Lauren Wugalter
Nominating Committee Chair	Jennifer Marsalla
Professional Relations & Status Committee* Chair	Vacant
Program Committee* Chair	Curtis Deer
Public Affairs Committee* Chair	Vacant
Public Relations Committee* Chair	Craig Fryhle
Regional Activities Committee* Chair	Vacant
Safety Committee Chair	Natalie Merrill
Senior Chemists Committee Chair	Despina Strong
Sustainability Committee Chair	Natalie Merrill
Undergraduate Research Symposium Committee Chair	Neal Yakelis
Webmaster	Jonathan Clark
Women Chemists Committee Chair	Despina Strong
Younger Chemists Committee Chair	Michael Meechan

*Standing Committee (per the bylaws)


ACS
Chemistry for Life®