

Save the Date: the 2019 STL ACS Section Picnic is Coming!

Just published 28 February 2019

Join us for the 2019 Summer Picnic! Chemists like a party as well as the next science nerd. We've been doing this summer picnic thing since 2005... and we hope this year will be great!



Date: Sunday June 9, 2019
Time: 1-5 PM
Location: Tilles Park – Windegger Shelter
Address: 9551 Litzsinger Rd., St. Louis, MO 63124

RSVP Here: <https://go.ajl.com/ajl/7W7r9CQZ2afz>

If you have any questions, please contact Immediate Past Chair, **Ben Barth**. Bring a lawn game, your friends and family, and enjoy some BBQ and good company!

BoB reports in, lately

first published 13 April 2019

Thirty-eight students from seven area high schools competed in the "Battle of the Burets" on February 25th, 2019. Kevin Tucker, Assistant Professor of Chemistry at SIU-Edwardsville, hosted the event. Professor Tucker's account of the proceedings narrowly missed the March issue of the Chemical Bond, and somehow didn't appear in April, either. Now, May ... is a different story. This one:



Teams titrating during the Battle of the Burets

Each team completed six titrations scored based on relative error. The top team averaged less than 2% error. The top six teams received trophies and a round of applause from the other participants. Congratulations to Mary Institute and Country Day School (MICS) and teacher Kelly Anderson, who led her students Meredith Goldberg and Trisha Bhattacharya to a first place finish. Clayton High School's team (teacher Nathan Peck) of Myles McCarthy and Emilia Roas-Linhard took second place. Clayton High School also had teams for tie for third and fourth place. In third place was Richard Cheng and Erik Tomasson and in fourth place was David Corbo and Hongkai Jiang. Sharing third place were Robert McKnight and Keelyn Legler from Parkway West High School with coach Jan Keller. Tying for fourth place were Jude Sorkin and Alex Migala of MICS.

Thank you to all of the teachers for encouraging your students to participate and congratulations to all the participants on a job well done! If you know a high school teacher that would be interested in participating in this event in the future, please email Dr. Tucker (kettuck@siue.edu) referencing Battle of the Burets and asking to be added to the distribution list for the event.

Results summary:



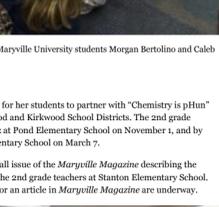
Winning titrators sport lab duds, smiles, and trophies

Place	Contestants	School	Teacher
1st	Meredith Goldberg Trisha Bhattacharya	Mary Institute and Country Day School	Kelly Anderson
2nd	Myles McCarthy Emilia Roas-Linhard	Clayton High School	Nathan Peck
3rd (tie)	Richard Cheng Erik Tomasson	Clayton High School	Nathan Peck
	Robert McKnight Keelyn Legler	Parkway West High School	Jan Keller
4th (tie)	David Corbo Hongkai Jiang	Clayton High School	Nathan Peck
	Jude Sorkin Alex Migala	Mary Institute and Country Day School	Kelly Anderson

Year in review for "Chemistry is pHun"

first published 25 April 2019

Our program year is the school year, so by now, we have mostly wound up and wound down. During this past program year, "Chemistry is pHun" outreach activities benefited from the involvement of many excellent volunteers. The efforts of these volunteers made it possible to present 27 programs that reached 1,083 school children at 14 different schools or organizations in the Rockwood and Kirkwood School Districts.



Dr. Anuradha Vummenthala advises students on the titration of fruit juices to determine total relative acid content during workshop "Acids, Bases and the Scientific Method".



"Chemistry is pHun" presentation at Stanton Elementary School. Will Ridley from the St. Louis Section-ACS with Maryville University students Morgan Bertolino and Caleb Holaway. ©Photo by Jerry Naunheim Jr.

New partnership

On March 12 at Saint Louis University, "Chemistry is pHun" presented a workshop titled, "Acids, Bases and the Scientific Method" at the *Expanding Your Horizons* Conference sponsored by the Mathematics-Science Network of Greater St. Louis. The conference is offered each year in the spring to encourage young women in grades 7-10 to consider a career in science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM).

St. Louis Section members Dr. Amy Kerkenmeyer, Rhonda Woernle, Andrea Roma and Anuradha Vummenthala presented the workshop in three sessions of 20 students each. The presenters described their careers and then worked with the students to conduct an experiment and test their hypotheses for the most acidic juice by titrations of lemon, orange, and grapefruit juice using red cabbage indicator, sodium hydroxide, and citric acid standard.

New venues

Ridge Meadows Elementary School in the Rockwood School District and Tillman Cub Scout Pack 457 in the Kirkwood School District received "States of Matter" presentations for the first time. New volunteers, Andrew Grattendick and Sean Whittemore, graciously donated time for school presentations and helping with supplies procurement, respectively. In addition, Sensient Company through Sean Whittemore generously donated food coloring dyes to be used to color Elmer's glue for Glue(p) preparation in "States of Matter".

For more information on volunteer opportunities with "Chemistry is pHun" please contact Will Ridley, email ridleywp@att.net or phone 314-920-1507.

Note added by Editorial Staff

Wow! Just ... WOW!



Guest author: Will Ridley
 Coordinator, "Chemistry is pHun"

William Ridley, coordinator of the Chemistry is pHun program

Wrightonpalooza!

first published 29 April 2019

Submitted by Natalie Lafranzo

What happens when chemists retire? We make bad chemistry jokes because all the good ones Argon!

Jokes aside, the when Chancellor Mark Wrighton announced his retirement from Washington University in St. Louis, alumni and students of WashU and the Local Section of the American Chemical Society wanted to do something to honor the legacy that he leaves. As an academic chemist, Mark Wrighton has an impressive research resume, and as an academic leader his impact will be felt for many years to come, throughout the St. Louis region and beyond. Without question, the profession of chemistry has risen in stature due to Dr. Wrighton's contributions.

Working closely with the leadership team at Washington University, members of the STL ACS YCC and WashU faculty, staff and alumni helped integrate some chemistry fun into Dr. Wrighton's retirement celebration. The event, coined Wrightonpalooza, was an afternoon of music, food, and fun.

With the generous fundraising efforts of many of our members, we were able to serve hundreds of scoops of liquid nitrogen ice cream in collaboration with *Icez Plain and Fancy*, St. Louis' Nitro Ice Cream Parlor and Catering:



Jana and Victoria of the STL ACS YCC show off the special flavors offered at the event – featuring "Battling Bory" Cherry Cordial and Chancellor Wrighton's NaCl Caramel.



We also prepared a giant "Periodic Table of Elemental Gratitudes" where attendees could write personalized notes to Dr. Wrighton and place them on their favorite element.



Here's a photo of STL ACS Past Chair and Current Treasurer, Jeff Cornelius with Mark Wrighton in front of the Periodic Table of Well Wishes!



The WashU Bear even got in on the fun, leaving his beary-spread to be a chemist!



The celebration was epic, and we're grateful to have been a part of this special day honoring a chemist who's made a big impact in the St. Louis Community.

Do you know another local chemist who deserves to be recognized? Consider nominating them for one of our awards (like the **St. Louis Award**), or reaching out to us directly to see how we can help champion chemists in our local community!

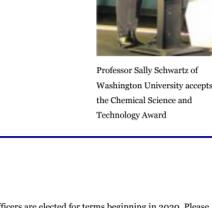
More photos of the event may be found [here](#).

More of Wrighton's awards, recognitions, and accomplishments can be found [here](#).

YCC leverages social media

first published 30 April 2019

The local section Younger Chemists Committee spring event featured a workshop on leveraging social media to build your network and help you successfully navigate your job search.



Held on April 17, 2019, in conjunction with the Graduate Professional Council of Washington University, facilitators **Michelle Reppice** and **Thi Nguyen** revealed some LinkedIn and Twitter tips and tricks for professional networking and job hunting. The presentation was filled with fun examples and take-home messages. Interactive Q&A added depth and detail by directly targeting the needs of the audience.

Dinner – provided by the YCC and GPC – preceded the workshop and informal networking followed. It was a great evening of learning and networking for our 15 YCCs!

Awards Night 2019

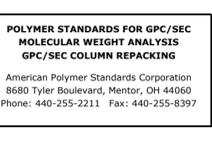
first published 30 April 2019

Submitted by Sophia Hayes

Awards Night was a particularly special evening this year, with honors for many, dinner and conversation amongst chemical scientists (current- and future-) from across the region, and celebration of achievements. Organized expertly by Leah O'Brien (SIUE), the event was held at Vicer7 in Clayton that gave us exceptional 180-degree vistas of the St. Louis skyline and a colorful ACS-themed display. Honors were presented to both high school students who had competed in the 2019 High School Chemistry Contest and their teachers, with citations given by Myron Reese. We also recognized outstanding college juniors on their quests to become chemists across the region, presented by Dr. Michael Hauser, Chair of College Student Awards. Arthur Wilde of Bayless High School was given an award as our 2019 **STLACS Teacher-of-the-Year** and Prof. Sally Schwartz, Prof. of Radiology and co-director of the Cyclotron Facility at WUSM, was cited for her scientific contributions as the 2019 **Chemical Science and Technology Award**. Both gave inspiring and heartfelt presentations in front of a large audience, including a number of high school students and knowledgeable individuals who must be thinking about the wide range of chemical science career paths shown by these awardees.

An engaging and laughter-filled after-dinner presentation was given by Prof. Rich Loomis (WashU), who brought out copies of his 8th grade notebook from classes, if only to let the high school students know they aren't alone in their head-scratching moments over the vagaries of quantum mechanics, which Prof. Loomis confesses to be slightly. (Remember, everyone: waves, waves, waves.)

A delightful evening was had by all. We hope you'll all join us next year, for the terrific views, wonderful conversation, laughter and companionship, all in the name of celebrating chemistry!



Professor Rich Loomis of Washington University delivers his after-dinner presentation.



Professor Sally Schwartz of Washington University accepts the Chemical Science and Technology Award

Nominations for 2020 officers incoming soon

first published 30 April 2019

In the next few weeks, you will receive a SurveyMonkey link about nominations for the 2019 election in which officers are elected for terms beginning in 2020. Please consider nominating one or several of your talented colleagues to participate in the governance of the local section and contribute to the building excitement in the local chemistry community. Sharp-eyed members will notice that we are not seeking nominations for Councilor or Alternate Councilor this year. This is due to Councilor reallocations set by the national ACS at the last national meeting.

If you would prefer not to use an online service, you can send this pdf to the section secretary by email (rohrs@west.ledu) or you can print the ballot and mail it (Henry Rohrs, 440 South Grove Avenue, Webster Groves, MO 63191).

Please keep in mind that you should only one method to nominate people: the SurveyMonkey link, e-mailing the PDF to Henry, or mailing Henry.

Meeting & Seminars

Board of Directors	Stay in touch with STLACS	Search this website
St. Louis Section-ACS Board of Directors meets the second Thursday of each month, usually at the Glen Echo Country Club (map and driving directions). Meetings are open to all members, and all are encouraged to attend. Elected officers and chairs of major committees vote on questions put to the Board; others in attendance have voice but no vote.		<input type="text"/>
If you want to attend for dinner, please contact the section Chair at least a week in advance. The usual cost of the dinner is \$20 (\$10 for post-docs and unemployed members). Bar service and dessert are optional extras. Members wishing to become active in section activities are welcomed for their first dinner as guests of the section.	<input type="text"/> Join our email list	Is your email address up to date? Please log in at the national ACS website, then under your name in the banner, click "Manage account" to make sure your email address is accurate. Thanks!
Date: May 9 Social hour / cash bar: 6:00 pm Call to order: 6:30 pm (Board Meeting suspended during dinner service) Future meetings: Sep 12, Oct 10		
Maryville University Seminars are approximately once a month on Thursdays, 4-5 pm. Details are available on the university's seminar page . All seminars are free and open to the public. Contact Jason Telford for more information.		
Saint Louis University Seminars are generally on Fridays at 12 noon in Carlo Auditorium, Tegeler Hall, unless noted otherwise. Refreshments follow. For the most up-to-date information, refer to the department's seminar page or contact Brent Znosko, znoskob@slu.edu .		
University of Missouri–St. Louis Mondays at 4 pm in 451 Benton Hall, unless otherwise specified. Refreshments 15 minutes prior to seminar time. For timely information on visiting seminar speakers, contact the Chemistry Department, 315-156.5311, or visit the seminar schedule . The department has additional seminar series which are also accessible from this page.		
Washington University Seminars are in McMillen 311 at 4 pm unless otherwise noted. For information, consult the departmental events page . Related seminars, including endowed seminar series and the WU med school biochemistry series, are linked here as well.		

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Experienced Organic Radiochemist
 Ideal candidate should have 5-10 years experience in radioisotopes using carbon-14 and tritium. Candidates with experience using carbon-13 and deuterium will also be considered. Applicants must have extensive experience in multi-step, small-scale organic radiochemistry, as well as vacuum line techniques for handle, purify, and transfer small amounts of volatile chemicals under vacuum. Ph.D. required.

Biochemist
 Ideal candidate should have experience with enzyme extraction, biochemical synthesis, gel electrophoresis; purifications by EP, TLC, and paper chromatography. Ph.D. required.

Analytical/Preparative HPLC Chemist
 Applicant must have experience with analytical and preparative HPLC techniques for radioactive chemicals. B.S. in related field required, M.S. or Ph.D. preferred.