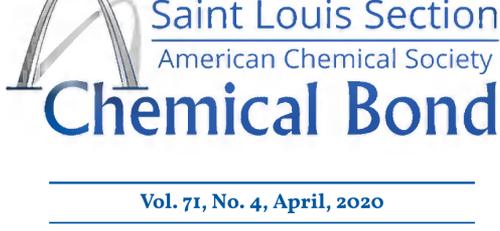


Chemical Bond, April 2020



Vol. 71, No. 4, April, 2020

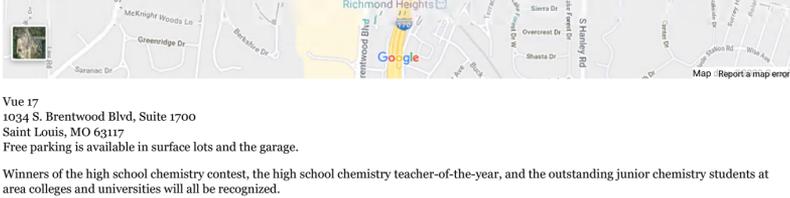
Awards Night 2020: Y'all come!

first published 3 March 2020

Edit (March 12, 2020): if this is the first you're hearing about Awards Night, please be aware that it has been cancelled due to community health concerns raised by the COVID-19 pandemic. We will make arrangements for award winners to receive their awards and appropriate recognition at a later date.

Save the date!

Awards Night will be held this year from 6-9 pm on Tuesday, April 21st. The success of last year's event brings us back to **Vue 17** for our venue, in the University Club Tower across from the Galleria. It is on the 17th floor, thus Vue "17"; sunset views of the city come as a no-cost extra.



Vue 17
1034 S. Brentwood Blvd, Suite 1700
Saint Louis, MO 63117
Free parking is available in surface lots and the garage.

Winners of the high school chemistry contest, the high school chemistry teacher-of-the-year, and the outstanding junior chemistry students at area colleges and universities will all be recognized.

Agenda:

6:00 PM – Reception/social hour

6:30 PM – Dinner

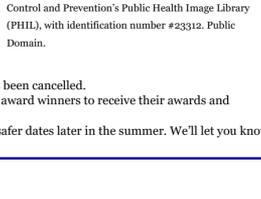
7:15 PM – Awards program

Whether you're coming to applaud a particular honoree or you're an interested bystander, all are welcome. Student winners and high school teachers receive a complimentary dinner; others may attend for \$30 each. Those wishing to attend the award ceremony only may arrive at 7:15. All attendees must RSVP by Wednesday, April 10th, to the Awards Night coordinator, [Elizabeth Bergman](#).

STLACS COVID-19 Response

first published 12 March 2020

As gatherings all over the country and world are being cancelled to safeguard community health, we must sadly announce that several of our most popular events are meeting the same fate.



Coronavirus schematic by CDC/Alissa Eckert, MS; Dan Higgins, MAM, reprinted from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Public Health Image Library (PHIL), with identification number #23312. Public Domain.

- Bowing to social distancing, the **April 9 Board meeting** will be held remotely. **All who are able to join**, please email chair@stlacs.org. You will receive a Zoom link and password by reply. Social "chatting" starting at 6pm. Business beginning at 6:30pm. **All** please submit any agenda items and/or "can't be there" reports by April 2.
- Ditto the **May 14 Board meeting**. The April Zoom conference call went pretty well, all things considered. **So join in! All who are able to join**, please email chair@stlacs.org. You will receive a Zoom link and password by reply. Social "chatting" starting at 6pm. Business beginning at 6:30pm. **All** please submit any agenda items and/or "can't be there" reports by May 7.
- All schools are closed, so the Minority Affairs "**Mentor a Chemistry Class**" event is necessarily on hiatus until fall, including the installment on **April 17**.
- **The High School Chemistry Contest**, scheduled to be administered on **March 13 and 14**, has been cancelled.
- **Coffee/Cocktails with Chemists**: the next event in this series was scheduled for **March 18**. It is cancelled. We'll evaluate conditions next month to determine if we can resume the series. If you've subscribed the the **Meetup group**, you'll know just about as soon as we do.
- **Spring ACS National Meeting in Philadelphia**, scheduled for **March 22-26**, has been cancelled (terminated). "Terminated" is their word for it (strange)! If you have made arrangements to attend, please check out the **FAQ** for actions to be taken.
- **Recognition Night**, scheduled for **March 28**, has been indefinitely postponed. We will evaluate conditions as they develop and reschedule for late spring, summer, or early fall.
- **Washington University Chemistry Tournament (WUCT)**, scheduled for **April 4**, has been cancelled.
- **Awards Night**, scheduled for **April 21**, has been cancelled. We will make arrangements for award winners to receive their awards and recognitions outside the context of a banquet setting.
- **Local Section Picnic**, is pretty far out there, scheduled for **June 21**, but we're looking for safer dates later in the summer. We'll let you know as soon as we have solid information. Stay tuned.

PPE donations urgently needed

first published 25 March 2020

At this time, two of our regional hospitals have put out urgent calls for donations of personal protective equipment (PPE) such as gloves, goggles, lab glasses, face shields, and so on. If your organization wishes to donate such items to meet the current critical medical need, please see below and contact the individuals cited.



If any other regional medical sites contact us later with similar pleas, we will update the information here.

Washington University Medical School



We can only collect unused commercial PPE at this time. If you can donate, please contact:

- PPE donations: please refer to <https://bit.ly/ppedonations>
- Financial donations: wustl.advancementform.com/campaign/washu-crisis-response-funds/give

Saint Louis University Hospital

How did we miss this, Samina?

first published 26 March 2020

You know how we try to keep you in the loop when one of ours gets national attention? (No? Well, we *do* do that!) So it's a bit disappointing when our Chair-Elect, **Samina Azad**, has been cited in *C&E News*, and we blew right by it. [Also, it's a bit embarrassing when someone is a month behind in reading his or her (probably his) *C&E News*.]

We did ask you to **save-the-date**, September 12th, when the national ACS Career Days roadshow comes to Saint Louis. (We're still hoping that will happen.) What we didn't know is that Samina has been active as a presenter at previous Career Days. **This article** from the 24 Feb 2020 *Chemical & Engineering News* not only tells, but also shows, Samina speaking at the Washington, DC, event on the topic of landing an interview.



The photo is not great. That vaguely human-shaped object that's farthest from the camera in a large conference room? That's Samina. Talking. About interviews and negotiation. You can be forgiven for not remembering what a "conference room" is in this time of the plague.

During the event in Washington, DC, ACS Career Pathways facilitator Samina Azad presented tips on how to get an interview and how to negotiate a job offer.

Battle Royale with a hint of pink

first published 28 March 2020

That would be the 2020 Battle of the Burets.

On the 24th of February, 38 students from seven area high schools competed in the "Battle of Burets". Kevin Tucker, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, at SIU Edwardsville, hosted/refereed/mediated the event.

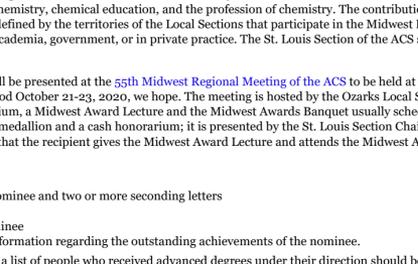


Second-place finishers Mia Duchars and Erin Halligan on their way to "faint pink"

Each team completed six titrations, scored on relative error. The top team averaged less than 5 parts per thousand. Skill levels were amazing this year, with the top six teams all below 1% error. Those top six teams received trophies and a round of applause from the other participants. Students competing using personal protective equipment provided by their schools and considered suitable to the low level of risk present. Teachers are encouraged to, as funds become available, obtain additional personal protective equipment that will allow their students to engage in a wider range of activities.

Congratulations to Mary Institute and Country Day School (MICDS) and teachers Kelly Anderson and Justin Little, who led their students **Bonnie Sneider** and **Poulomi Rudrappa** to a first place finish and **Mia Duchars** and **Erin Halligan** to a second place finish. The Clayton High School team (teacher Nathan Peck) of **Koray Akduman** and **Noah Kennedy** tied for third place with **Keegan Pham** and **Louis Puder** from St. Mary's High School (teacher Kristine Ranciglio). Jan Keller led her team from Parkway West High School of **Robert McKnight** and **Keelyn Legler** to tie for fourth place. Also tying for fourth place were **Rishi Bhattacharya** and **Keeshaan Tibrewala** from MICDS.

Thank you to all of the teachers for encouraging your students to participate, and congratulations to all the participants on a job well done!



The six medalist teams are all smiles

Call for Nominations for the 2020 ACS Midwest Award

first published 24 February 2020

Deadline Postponed to April 30, 2020

The ACS Midwest Award, which originated in St. Louis, is conferred annually on a scientist who has made meritorious contributions to the advancement of pure or applied chemistry, chemical education, and the profession of chemistry. The contributions must have been made during a period of residence in the region defined by the territories of the Local Sections that participate in the Midwest Regional Meeting of the ACS. Nominees can work in industry, academia, government, or in private practice. The St. Louis Section of the ACS sponsors and funds the Midwest Award.

The 2020 ACS Midwest Award will be presented at the **55th Midwest Regional Meeting of the ACS** to be held at the University Plaza Hotel in Springfield Missouri over the period October 21-23, 2020, we hope. The meeting is hosted by the Ozarks Local Section of the ACS. Ceremonies feature a Midwest Award Symposium, a Midwest Award Lecture and the Midwest Awards Banquet usually scheduled on the Thursday of the meeting. The Award consists of a medallion and a cash honorarium; it is presented by the St. Louis Section Chair at the Midwest Awards Banquet. Conditions of this Award include that the recipient gives the Midwest Award Lecture and attends the Midwest Awards Banquet.

Nominations should include:

- a nominating letter for the nominee and two or more seconding letters
- a CV for the nominee
- a brief biography of the nominee
- documented and objective information regarding the outstanding achievements of the nominee.

If the nominee is an academician, a list of people who received advanced degrees under their direction should be provided. Activities by the nominee that support the ACS in the Midwest Region constitute an additional criterion.

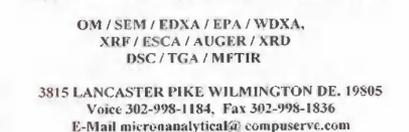
Please submit nominations electronically via a single pdf file to the e-mail address given below. All nominations must be received on or before the new deadline, **Tuesday March 31, Thursday, April 30, 2020 (11:59 pm CST)** (deadline extended due to COVID-19 upheavals). The review panel (made up of chemistry professionals resident in the Midwest Region) also will consider unsuccessful applications for the ACS Midwest Award from the past two years.

Please contact Jim O'Brien at obrienja@umsl.edu or call (314) 757-5717 (cell) with further questions.

Nominations should be directed to:
Dr. Jim O'Brien,
obrienja@umsl.edu
2020 ACS Midwest Award Coordinator
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry
University of Missouri-St. Louis
One University Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63121

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