

Outstanding Local Section Younger Chemists Committee: This award is given by the Younger Chemists Committee and recognizes local section YCCs (LSYCC) that demonstrate organizational stability, solid membership and participation, involvement with their ACS local section, and an overall balance of activities (career development, social, public outreach, etc.).

Summary:

In 2012, the St. Louis LSYCC built upon our existing infrastructure which is focused on the highly successful “Career Management Seminar” series. As well, we continued our annual “Chemistry Career Night”, and executed a social event during the summer which connected young chemists from many institutions. In 2012, we also expanded our support of undergraduates by establishing the “Young Researcher Award”. Taken together, our very active LSYCC organized events that appealed to chemists at all stages of their career, in particular students and young professionals. Our section also successfully established a partnership within industry, which has provided support for our events. Finally, at the end of 2012, our LSYCC was awarded a Global Innovation Grant through the Office of International Activities to establish the first *International Chemical Safety Forum* (www.ycclabsafetystl.org) aimed at promoting laboratory safety amongst young scientists. We look forward to providing a report on the reach and outcomes of this global project in 2013.

Career Development:

Career Management Seminars

Our Career Management Seminar series is aimed at helping chemists manage their professional lives. In particular, these events address the career needs of those just beginning in chemistry, those actively employed, and chemists in transition by providing training in many of the “soft skills” that are not taught in the classroom or workplace. Due to the overwhelming success of this program in the past, we expanded our series in 2012. This year’s topics included: an introduction to leadership training tools available through the ACS, applying to and securing external funding for graduate school, choosing a career path, securing an interview and resume preparation, practicing the interview, and communicating effectively in a professional setting. The events were held at various locations in the St. Louis area, and attracted **over 150** attendees from undergraduates to seasoned chemistry professionals. Each event featured Q&A sessions and time for networking with attendees, speakers, and organizers.

On February 23, 2012, Lisa Balbes, a Career Consultant with the American Chemical Society (and our section’s Career Services Coordinator), spoke on *What You Don’t Know About Leadership - and the ACS Can Teach You!*. This was followed by Adam Myers, Assistant Director at BASi Pharm Analysis Services and National YCC member, who spoke on *Chemical Career Strategies: Maximizing*

Your Toolbox. Both speakers provided advice and direction on how to proactively direct your career path.

On March 22, 2012 the seminar topic was *Maximizing Your Graduate Career*. Dana Baum, Assistant Professor at St. Louis University, spoke about *Navigating the Path to Graduate Studies: Tips for Choosing & Applying to Graduate Schools*, where she discussed about the ins and outs of deciding on a school and a research group. Then Nancy Pope, Associate Dean of the Graduate School, Washington University, talked about sources of *External Funding for Graduate Study*. Dr. Pope provided a wealth of information and sources for funding to help the graduate student fund some of their education and research.

On April 19, 2012, Sean Dingman, New Business Development Manager at Sigma-Aldrich, began the seminar with his presentation titled, *Midcareer in Business: Reflections and Trajectory*, which described his planned vs actual career path, and the versatility a career chemist needs to be successful. Following this, Keith Hampton, Sr Account Recruiter, and Keith Tope, Sr Leader, at Lab Support, spoke on *Interview Skills*. Keith Hampton presented his keys to a good interview. Keith Tope summarized some of the skills needed to find a job in today's market.

On October 9, 2012, David Feldman, US Recruiting Operations Lead at Monsanto presented, *Professional Interviews – A Simple Science*. David spoke extensively on how he as a recruiter evaluates candidates. His vantage point comes from how the Monsanto hiring process proceeds, but the information was broadly relevant across industrial interviews. This was followed by Arlene Taich, Graduate Career Strategist at Washington University, who offered additional advice on interviewing with the presentation titled *Power Interviewing – Strategies to Secure the Interviews and Offers You Want*. Arlene also gave advice and handouts on networking.

On November 15, 2012 our event built upon the information presented in the October seminar. Dr. Lisa Balbes, Career Consultant with the American Chemical Society (and our section's Career Services Coordinator), facilitated a Behavioral Based Interviewing Workshop. The group was highly interactive, and we began the event with everyone giving their "60 Second Elevator Speech" to practice "selling" themselves. Lisa provided a brief introduction to Behavioral Based Interviewing including information on why employers use it, how they evaluate the information they receive, and best practices. Those in attendance had education levels ranging from B.S. chemists, Ph.D. chemists, and current B.S. and Ph.D. students. There were also a number of St. Louis Community College members in attendance, in particular, a group who are starting their own Chemistry Club on the campus. Additionally, some non-traditional students and individuals who plan to make a career change in the near future were in attendance.

On December 4, 2012, our seminar was focused on Business Etiquette and Communication. Elizabeth Petre, Lecturer at Washington University Olin Business School presented *Using Conscious Communication in the Workplace*. Dr. Petre provided an overview on what is considered "conscious

communication” according to Goodall, Goodall, & Schiefelbein (2010) and initiated some interactive exercises with the attendees. This was followed by Dennis Harney, Partner at SNR-Denton, who presented *Using Effective Professional Workplace Communication*. Dr. Harney built upon some of the topics that Dr. Petre introduced and gave “real world” examples of situations where it is important to consider your audience and how you present yourself.

Chemistry Career Night

Our LSYCC annual Chemistry Career Night was held on September 20, 2012 at the St. Louis College of Pharmacy. The event featured speakers who have taken many different career paths using their chemistry degree. From the Washington University School of Medicine, Dr. Samuel Achilefu spoke about his path from industry into academia, and how the lessons he learned in industry directly affected his success in academia. Andrew Thomas from the United States Department of Agriculture Research Laboratory in Peoria, IL spoke about how he utilizes his chemistry degree in the laboratory, but finds it difficult to advance in his role due to lack of a graduate degree. Dr. Gale Starkey spoke about his path from graduate school into Patent Law at Global Patent Group where he serves as a Scientific Advisor and Patent Agent. Dr. Zach Stacy spoke about how his knowledge of organic chemistry is immensely useful in both his role as Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice at St. Louis College of Pharmacy and when he works in a clinical setting. Each of the speakers spent significant time networking and offering advice to students following the presentations and Q&A session. Students from Washington University, UMSL, St. Louis Community College, Principia, SLU, and Missouri Baptist were in attendance along with attendees from academia and industry. In total, over 40 people were in attendance at this event.

Public Outreach:

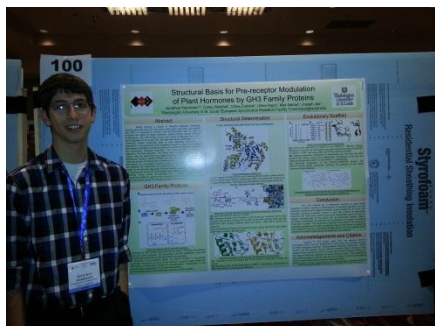
Support of Undergraduate Constituency

Learning to present and discuss scientific research is a valuable skill for chemists, and students who perform research at their institution, through an REU/research program, or industrial internship benefit from the opportunity to present their work. The St. Louis LSYCC recognized that while support was available for undergraduate students to attend the ACS National Meetings through the ACS Student Chapter National Meeting Travel Grant, no support was available to assist undergraduates in attending the Midwest Regional Meeting. In 2012, the St. Louis LSYCC developed and solicited applications for our inaugural “Young Researcher Award” which provided reimbursement of travel expenses up to \$250 for two students to attend the 47th Midwest Regional Meeting in Omaha, Nebraska. We selected students based on:

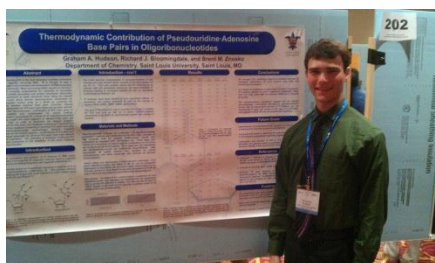
- (a) Enthusiasm/passion for research (as described by mentor)
- (b) Benefit of attendance for the student (career goals)
- (c) Academic success (Coursework/Grades, Letter of Recommendation)

- (d) Financial need (If student would likely be unable to travel to the meeting without our support this will be taken into account)

A student from Washington University in St. Louis and a student from St. Louis University were selected as recipients. Excerpts from the student's testimonials about the value of the award include:



"Receiving one of the "Outstanding Undergraduate Poster" awards at the meeting was a great honor and strengthened my resolve to pursue a graduate degree and eventually a career in the field of chemistry. Once again, thank you for helping undergraduate students to achieve their goals in chemistry." – Jonathan Herrmann



"..attending the various poster sessions and talks at the conference made current trends in research more accessible to me... listening to and interacting with presenters at the conference gave me a much clearer understanding of where current research is occurring in all areas of chemistry beyond the current trends in biochemistry." – Graham Hudson

Social Networking

The St. Louis LSYCC recognizes that social media is an important means of communicating with our constituency. We maintain an active Facebook page, which includes event postings for each of our events. Our current weekly "total reach" is over 250 users. We also maintain an active LinkedIn Group, and have utilized Google Forms and QR codes for easy event RSVPs. Information about our officers, events, and goals are also found on the Local Section website. Furthermore, we utilize our social media networks to connect with other groups, such as the local Association for Women in Science, and St. Louis Plant & Life Science Network, to expand our reach and recruit new members.

Social Events

In July 2012, the St. Louis LSYCC planned a summer outing to supplement the career events we host throughout the year. The event's goal was to encourage member participation in a fun, social activity and the opportunity to recruit and meet other young chemists. A hike in a local State Park, followed by lunch was a successful way to relax and get to know each other better. Along with members of the organizing committee, local students also attended and were able to learn more about our group.

Stability:

Our LSYCC has retained an active, stable organizing committee through succession planning and recruitment of new members. At our monthly planning meetings, we average between 8-10 members who brainstorm and organize events. With three named executive members, including a Chair, Treasurer, Media Coordinator, and three general executive committee members, we have a solid backbone of members to share and balance the workload. Our committee is composed of graduate students, BS chemists in industry, and Ph.D. chemists in the chemical industry, academia, and non-traditional careers (patent agent, technology transfer trainee). This provides a well-rounded and balanced committee. Members on the executive committee have all been part of our LSYCC for greater than one year, but we also have active new members that join regularly and become active, valuable contributors.



2012 St. Louis LSYCC Organizing Committee

Involvement with ACS Local Section:

The LSYCC works closely with our Local Section, which generously provides a budget to support the events described above. As well, we have received funding from the intellectual property law firm, SNR-Denton, an employer of local scientific patent agents, to supplement this budget. The LSYCC Chair attends monthly Local Section Board Meetings, providing reports and receiving feedback and suggestions from senior LS members. Often, the LSYCC utilizes our immense wealth of knowledge within our Local Section, by inviting members to speak during applicable Career Seminars. Further collaborations include 3 members of the LSYCC who are on the organizing committee for the new “Leadership Development Forum” initiated by the St. Louis LS in 2012. Members of the LSYCC also volunteer in other events hosted by the LS, including science outreach.

Attachments - Advertising:

February 2012 CMS:

Resources for Career Management for Chemists in a Challenging Market X- Career Training and Tools


Washington University Danforth Campus
McMillen Laboratory Sciences 311, February 23, 6:30 P.M.

**“What You Don’t Know About Leadership -
And The ACS Can Teach You!”**



- Dr. Lisa Balbes - Career Consultant, American Chemical Society
“Chemical Career Strategies: Maximizing Your Toolbox”

- Dr. Adam Myers - Assistant Director,
BASi Pharm Analysis Services

- 6:30 P.M.: Networking / Pizza and Soda
- 7:00 P.M.: Lisa Balbes
- 7:30 P.M.: Adam Myers
- 8:00 P.M.: Q & A and Networking

 * \$3 (exact change, please)
* RSVP to ycc@stlacs.org by Feb 22

Presented by St. Louis Local Section of American Chemical Society
Younger Chemists Committee (YCC) www.stlacs.org/ycc and
www.facebook.com/ACS.STL.YCC
Chair: Eric Bruton eric.bruton@gmail.com



March 2012 CMS:

Resources for Career Management for Chemists in a Challenging Market XI- Maximizing Your Graduate Career

Washington University Danforth Campus
McMillen Laboratory Sciences 311, March 22, 6:30 P.M.

**“Navigating the Path to Graduate Studies: Tips for Choosing &
Applying to Graduate Schools”**

**Dr. Dana Baum - Assistant Professor of Chemistry,
Saint Louis University**

“External Funding for Graduate Study”

**Dr. Nancy Pope - Associate Dean of the Graduate School,
Washington University**

- 6:30 P.M.: Networking / Food and Soda
- 7:00 P.M.: Dana Baum
- 7:30 P.M.: Nancy Pope
- 8:00 P.M.: Q & A and Networking

 * \$3 (exact change, please)
* RSVP to ycc@stlacs.org by Mar. 21

Presented by St. Louis Local Section of American Chemical Society
Younger Chemists Committee (YCC) www.stlacs.org/ycc and
www.facebook.com/ACS.STL.YCC
Chair: Eric Bruton eric.bruton@gmail.com



Young Researcher Award Solicitation:

Coming Soon!

STL ACS YCC Young Researcher Travel Award

\$250

The Younger Chemists Committee of the St. Louis Section American Chemical Society will be soliciting applications for a new award to be offered in Fall 2012 to Undergraduate Students!

Two award winners will be provided \$250 for travel to the Midwest Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society in Omaha, NE held October 24-27, 2012

Please begin advertising this to your students, and encourage them to participate in summer research!

More information will follow in early summer—applications will be due by August 1st

For more information, email : ycc@stlacs.org



July 2012 Summer Outing:



**2012 YCC
SUMMER
OUTING!**

Come hike, swim, and enjoy the outdoors with fellow chemists and friends!

When: Saturday July 14, 2012

Where: Cuiver River State Park (meet at Dierberg's in Brentwood at 8am to carpool)

What to bring: water, snacks, sunscreen, etc. The YCC will provide sandwiches for lunch.

CONTACT: NA.AFRAN@WUSTL.EDU WITH QUESTIONS
RSVP AT: <http://bit.ly/YCCHike7-14>



Chemistry Career Night – September 2012

THE YOUNGER CHEMIST COMMITTEE
OF THE ACS ST. LOUIS SECTION PRESENTS



Chemistry Career Night

Expert Panel

Samuel Achilefu, Ph.D.: *Professor of Radiology,
Washington Univ. School of Medicine*

Andrew Thomas, B.S.: *Chemical Engineering Technician,
USDA-Agricultural Research Service*

Gale Starkey, Ph.D.: *Scientific Advisor & Patent Agent,
Global Patent Group, LLC*

Zachary Stacy, PharmD.: *Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice,
St. Louis College of Pharmacy*

Event Highlights

- PRESENTATIONS FROM LEADING EXPERTS
- QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION
- FOOD & BEVERAGES
- FREE ADMISSION

**Thursday, September 20th, 2012
6:00 – 8:30 P.M.**

St. Louis College of
Pharmacy
Jones Building, Room 1390

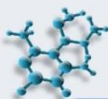


Please register by 9/18 at : <http://bit.ly/CCN2012> or contact us at ycc@stlacs.org



October 2012 CMS:

Resources for Career Management for Chemists in a Challenging Market XIII – The Interview



Washington University Danforth Campus

McMillen Laboratory Sciences 311, October 9, 6:30 P.M.



"Professional Interviews - A Simple Science"

David Feldman -

US Recruiting Operations Lead, Monsanto

**"Power Interviewing—Strategies to Secure
the Interviews and Offers You Want"**

Arlene Taich -

Graduate Career Strategist, Washington University

- 6:30 P.M.: Networking / Food and Soda
- 7:00 P.M.: David Feldman
- 7:30 P.M.: Arlene Taich
- 8:00 P.M.: Q & A and Networking



* \$3 (exact change, please)

* RSVP at <http://bit.ly/CMS-10-9>

by October 7

Presented by St. Louis Local Section of American Chemical Society

Younger Chemists Committee (YCC) www.stlacs.org/ycc &

www.facebook.com/ACS.STL.YCC

ycc@stlacs.org



November 2012 CMS:

Resources for Career Management for Chemists in a Challenging Market XIV – Practicing the Interview



Thursday November 15

St. Louis College of Pharmacy—Jones Hall Room 1303

For directions, visit <http://bit.ly/StLCoP-Map>



Behavioral Based Interviewing Interactive Workshop

Facilitated by: Lisa Balbes -
Balbes Consultants, LLC and ACS Career Consultant

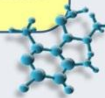
- 6:30 P.M.: Networking / Food and Soda
- 7:00 P.M.: Interactive Workshop
- 8:00 P.M.: Q & A and Networking



* No charge to attend!

• RSVP at

<http://bit.ly/YCC-CMS-Nov2012>



Presented by St. Louis Local Section of the American Chemical Society

Younger Chemists Committee (YCC)

www.stlacs.org/ycc & www.facebook.com/ACS.STL.YCC

ycc@stlacs.org



December 2012 CMS:

Resources for Career Management for Chemists in a Challenging Market XV: Business Etiquette



Tuesday December 4

Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine

Farrell Learning and Teaching Center - Room 303A/303B



“Using Conscious Communication in the Workplace”

Dr. Elizabeth Petre - Lecturer,
Washington University in St. Louis Olin Business School

“Effective Professional Workplace Communication”

Dr. Dennis Harney - Partner, SNR-Denton

- 6:30 P.M.: Networking / Food and Soda
- 7:00 P.M.: Dr. Elizabeth Petre
- 7:30 P.M.: Dr. Dennis Harney
- 8:00 P.M.: Q & A and Networking

* No charge to attend!

• RSVP at <http://bit.ly/YCC-CMS-Dec4>
by December 3

Beer and soda provided courtesy of SNR-Denton

Presented by St. Louis Local Section of the American Chemical Society

Younger Chemists Committee (YCC)

www.stlacs.org/ycc & www.facebook.com/ACS.STL.YCC

Questions? Contact: ycc@stlacs.org

