

## Undergrad Research Symposium "a lively mix"

first published 14 January 2018

The 2017 ACS–St Louis Section Undergraduate Research Symposium was held Friday, December 8th, from 2:30 to 5:00 pm in the Science Laboratory West building at Southern Illinois University–Edwardsville.

Twelve presenters shared work from ten projects. There was a lively mix of students early in their research experience getting a chance to express what they had learned and students who had been working on their project for a while but may have not presented publicly yet. So close to the end of the semester, other floors of the building hosted senior presentations from other departments. A comment from one URS participant was that she got asked "do you have to do this to graduate?" and her response was "no, I want to do this to get better and not be nervous when presenting my research is a requirement".

We experimented with a new system for evaluating awards which involved more of the faculty in attendance and was, perhaps, a little less time-consuming for the judges. Awards were made to the following presenters (co-authors and collaborators are not listed):

- 1st: **Nicolas Revelt**, mentored by Dr Sarah Laesse, for *Influence of phenol substitution on tandem Ugi-Smiles Diels-Alder reactions*
- 2nd: **Haleigh Sperry**, mentored by Dr Sarah Laesse, for *Method development for preparation of triazole-based Ugi-Smiles derivatives*
- 3rd: **Hannah Schlarman**, mentored by Dr Susan Wiediger, for *Comparing the productivity of science-specific and general databases for chemistry primary literature*
- 4th: **Breanna Blackwell**, mentored by Dr Susan Wiediger, for *Shedding light on student perception of chemical exposure*



Award recipients, from left, Nicolas Revelt (1st), Haleigh Sperry (2nd), Hannah Schlarman (3rd), and Breanna Blackwell (4th) (photo Susan D. Wiediger)



Attendees and presenters at the 2017 ACS Undergraduate Research Symposium. (photo, Susan D. Wiediger)

Appreciation is extended to all the attendees and volunteers, especially so close to the end of the fall semester! Save the date for next year's Undergraduate Research Symposium, which is planned for Friday, November 2, 2018.



Susan Wiediger

### Guest author: Susan Wiediger

Susan Wiediger, Associate Professor of Chemistry at SIU–Edwardsville, is the Education Committee chair for the local section, as well as (obviously) the organizer of the Undergraduate Research Symposium.

## Local awardee Michael Gross goes national

first published 14 January 2018

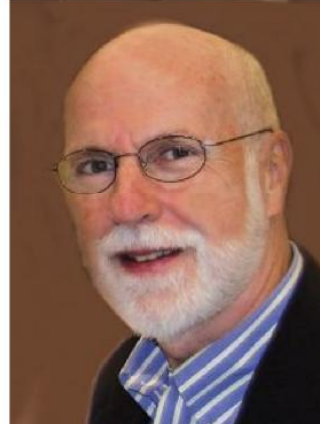
**Michael Gross** won the **Midwest Award**, administered by the Saint Louis Section, in 2002. Now the national ACS has admitted that we got it right. Gross, who is professor of chemistry at Washington University in Saint Louis and professor of immunology and internal medicine at Washington University School of Medicine, has been named the 2018 winner of the ACS Award in Analytical Chemistry. The award is sponsored by Battelle Memorial Institute.

He was cited "for development of mass spectrometry methods that provide insight in physical-organic chemistry, enable environmental protection, offer new approaches in biochemistry and biophysics, and give understanding of human disease."

Gross received his BA in chemistry from Saint John's University (Collegeville, Minn.) and his PhD in organic chemistry from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. He cites as his scientific role model "my postdoc mentor, Fred McLafferty, because he has a passion for science and ambition to contribute something important."

In support of his nomination for the award, Evan R. Williams, University of California, Berkeley, had this to say: "Mike is one of the most recognized leaders in the field of mass spectrometry and analytical chemistry. I have known him for nearly 30 years, and I have been impressed with his productivity, the many students who have come from his lab, his service to the community, and his innovation."

Our congratulations, Michael, for your further recognition.



Michael Gross

## Call for Nominations: Saint Louis Award 2018

first published 30 January 2018

Nominations are solicited for the St Louis Award, which is sponsored by the Monsanto Company and administered by the St Louis Section-ACS. Nominees should be individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the profession of chemistry and demonstrated potential to further the advancement of the chemical profession. The awardee is selected by a review committee constituted by the St Louis Section-ACS. The award, consisting of a \$4,500 honorarium and a plaque, is presented at the St. Louis Award Banquet, which is typically held in October during National Chemical Week.

At the time of the nomination, nominees must not have previously received the Midwest Award or any national ACS-sponsored award. Nominees must be members or affiliates of the St Louis Section of the ACS. Nomination packets received by April 30 are considered for award presentation in October.

Nomination packages (vide infra) should be prepared as a single Portable Document Format (PDF) file and sent by email to John-Stephen Taylor <taylor@wusl.edu>.

Nomination letters, required as an integral component of the nomination PDF-file-package, can be formally addressed to:

John-Stephen Taylor, Ph.D.  
 ACS Saint Louis Award Coordinator  
 Department of Chemistry  
 Campus Box 1134  
 Washington University  
 1 Brookings Drive  
 Saint Louis, Missouri 63130.

Nomination packages (single PDF-file) should include, in this order:

1. a face page with the award name, the nominees name, and the date of the nomination;
2. a nominating letter, which includes note of any significant activities with the Local Section;
3. two additional seconding letters (not more) from individuals who have had a close professional affiliation with the nominee;
4. a brief biography of the nominee (one page or less);
5. a concise description of the nominee's chief accomplishments in the field (one page or less); and
6. a list of publications and patents.

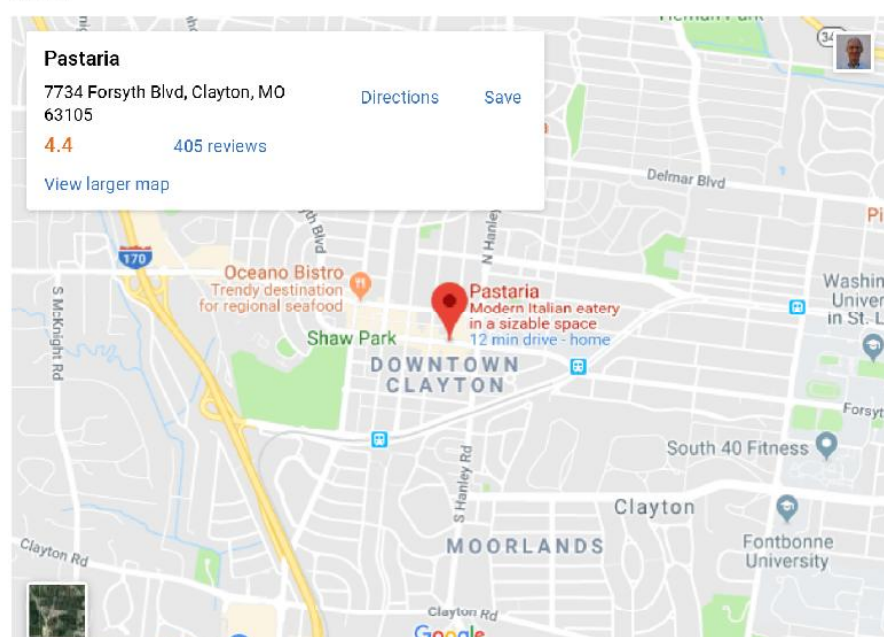
Additional details can be found at URL <http://www.stlacs.org/st-louis-award/>.

## Recognition Night 2018; The Recognizing

first published 31 January 2018

Join us on Saturday, March 10th, at Pastaria in Clayton, as we celebrate and recognize **50, 60, and 70-year ACS members**. **Eric Bruton** will be presented with the 2017 Distinguished Service Award for the St Louis Section. Eric is a past-chair of the section and currently helps to organize the Leadership Development Forum events. Many Past Chairs of the St Louis Section will gather, and our 2016 past Chair of the Section, **Joe Ackerman**, will give an entertaining after-dinner talk.

Pastaria is located at Centene Plaza 7734 Forsyth Blvd. Clayton, Missouri 63105. Ample free parking can be found adjacent to the restaurant in the Centene parking garage.



### Agenda:

6:00 – Reception/social hour  
 6:45 – Dinner  
 7:45 – Program:

- o Past Chair's Address (Joe Ackerman)
- o Introduction of 50, 60, and 70-year members
- o Distinguished Service Award presentation (to Eric Bruton)

RSVP by February 24th to Ben Barth, Chair of the St Louis Section-ACS, with the following information:

Name(s)  
 Number attending      x \$30 each = amount remitted \$

Make checks payable to St Louis Section-ACS, and mail to:

Jeffrey Cornelius  
 11 Maybeck Place  
 Elmhurst, IL 60120

## Meeting & Seminars

### Board of Directors

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.

If you want to attend for dinner, please contact the section Chair at least a week in advance. 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.

Date: Feb 8  
 Social hour, cash bar: 6:00 pm  
 Call to order: 6:30 pm (Board Meeting suspended during dinner service)  
 Future meetings: Mar 8, Apr 12

### 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](mailto: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, 314.516.5311, 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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Correspondence, letters to the editor, etc., should be emailed to [editor@stlacs.org](mailto:editor@stlacs.org) or mailed to St Louis Section-ACS, PO Box 410192, Saint Louis, MO 63141-0192

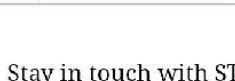
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