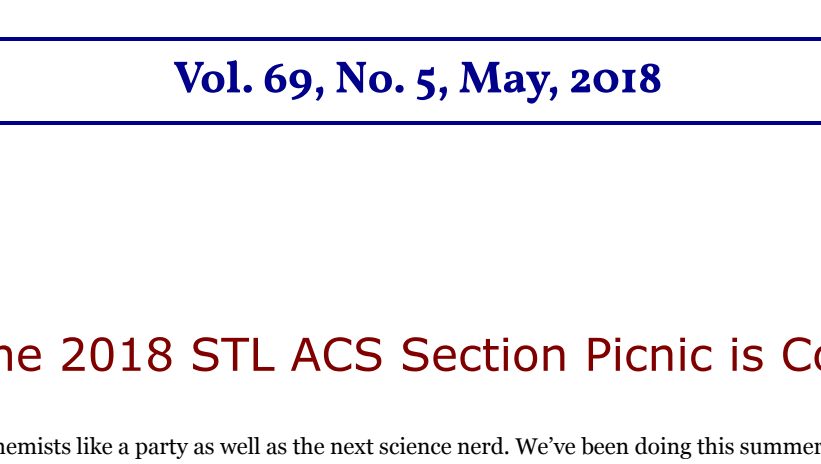


Chemical Bond, May 2018



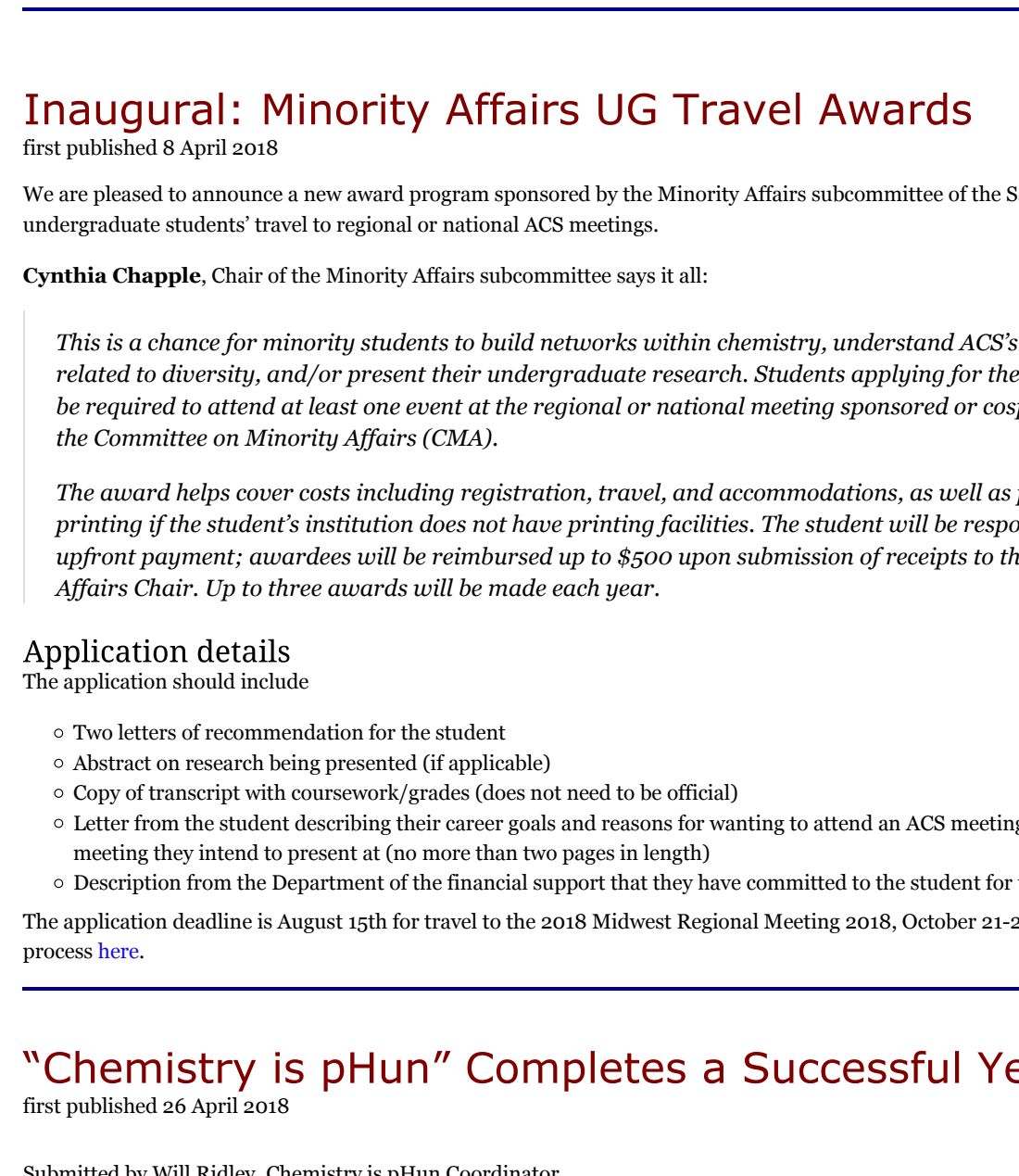
Vol. 69, No. 5, May, 2018

Save the Date: the 2018 STL ACS Section Picnic is Coming!

Join us for the 2018 Summer Picnic! Chemists like a party as well as the next science need. We've been doing this summer picnic thing since 2005...and we hope this year will be great!

Date: Sunday July 8, 2018
Time: 12 PM
Location: Creve Coeur Park Hekelman Picnic Shelter
Address: 13750 Marine Ave., St. Louis, MO 63146
[RSVP Here](#)

Look for the reservation under the name of Immediate Past Chair, Natalie LaFranzo. Bring a lawn game, your friends and family, and enjoy some BBQ and good company!



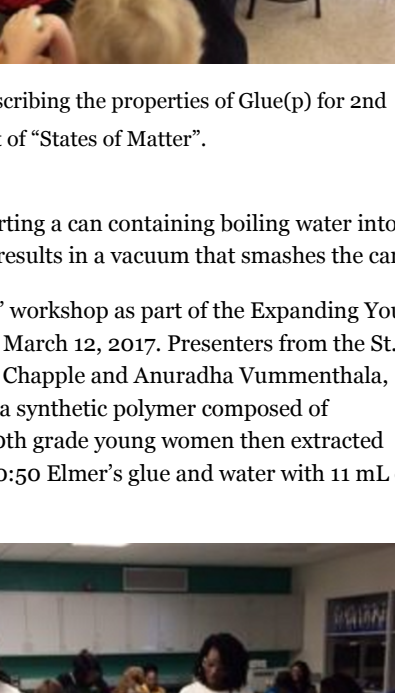
Inaugural Minority Affairs UG Travel Awards

We are pleased to announce a new award program sponsored by the Minority Affairs subcommittee of the Saint Louis Section-ACS: travel expense support for undergraduate students' travel to regional or national ACS meetings.

Cynthia Chapple, Chair of the Minority Affairs subcommittee says it all:

This is a chance for minority students to build networks within chemistry, understand ACS's agenda related to diversity, and/or present their undergraduate research. Students applying for the award will be required to attend at least one event at the regional or national meeting sponsored or cosponsored by the Committee on Minority Affairs (CMA).

The award helps cover costs including registration, travel, and accommodations, as well as poster printing if the student's institution does not have printing facilities. The student will be responsible for upfront payment; awards will be reimbursed up to \$800 upon submission of receipts to the Minority Affairs Chair. Up to three awards will be made each year.



The application should include:

- Two letters of recommendation for the student
- Abstract on research being presented (if applicable)
- Copy of transcript with coursework/grades (does not need to be official)
- Letter from the student describing their career goals and reasons for wanting to attend an ACS meeting, and if presenting research indicating which session of the meeting they intend to present at (no more than two pages in length)
- Description from the Department of the financial support that they have committed to the student for travel (if any).

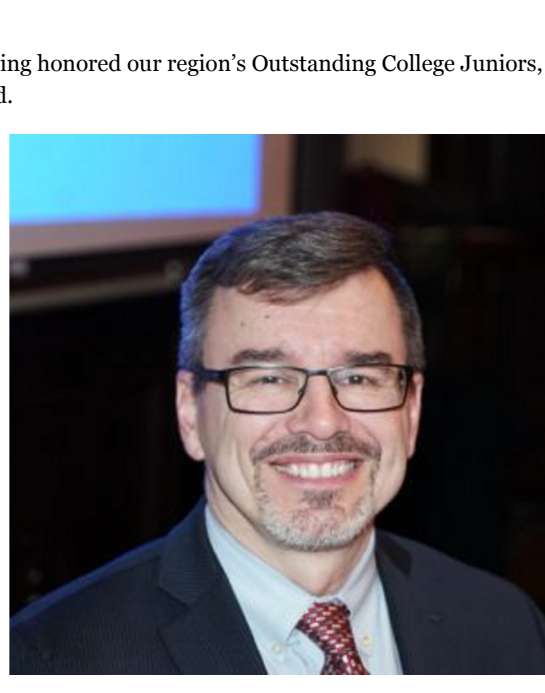
The application deadline is August 15th for travel to the 2018 Midwest Regional Meeting 2018, October 21-23 in Ames, IA. You can begin the electronic application process here.

"Chemistry is pHun" Completes a Successful Year

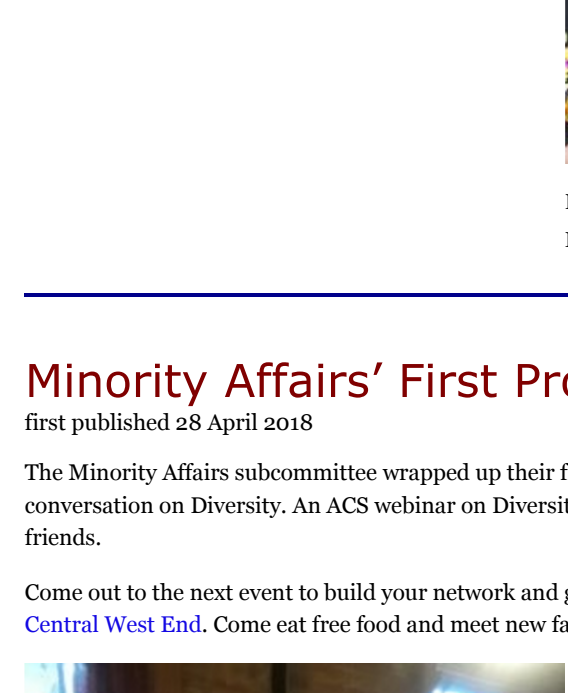
Submitted by Will Ridley, Chemistry is pHun Coordinator

A significant focus of the St. Louis Section of the American Chemical Society (ACS) is directed toward educating and supporting STEM chemistry-related activities among children and adolescents. The "Chemistry is pHun" program is one of the Section's popular outreach programs. Chemistry is pHun volunteers have historically presented hands-on demonstrations/workshops in classrooms for K-12 students based on well-developed modules.

Chemistry is pHun experienced significant growth in the academic year 2017-2018. In addition to the Rockwood School District Partners in Education (PIE) program, presentations were given in elementary schools in the Kirkwood School District, River Bend Elementary School in the Parkway School District and Our Lady of the Pillar Catholic School in Ladue. Will Ridley with expert assistance of Melissa de Weaver and Lisa Balbes presented the "States of Matter" program 35 times in 16 elementary schools to 1312 second-grade students. In the "States of Matter" program solid, liquid, and gas states are explored, mainly of water, demonstrating the addition or release of energy in the form of heat when changing physical states. "Glow(g)", a polymer made from Elmer's glue and a borax solution is made to show a substance that has properties of both liquids and solids.



Will Ridley describing the properties of Glow(g) for 2nd graders as part of "States of Matter".



ACS presenters for "Polymers are Marvellous Molecules" (left to right): Rhonda Woernle, Anu Vummethala, Cynthia Chapple and Amy Kerkmeyer.

Amy Kerkmeyer and Will Ridley presented the program "Crushing Cans" to 240 students in the 3rd and 5th grades at the River Bend Elementary School all day STEM Fair on February 6, 2018. Seventy-two soda cans were crushed in a spectacular manner by rapidly inverting a can containing boiling water into a bucket of cold water. The condensation of the steam to liquid water results in a vacuum that smashes the can.

"Chemistry is pHun" presented "Polymers are Marvellous Molecules" workshop as part of the Expanding Your Horizons Conference at the St. Louis Community College-Meramec, March 12, 2017. Presenters from the St. Louis Section of ACS, Amy Kerkmeyer, Rhonda Woernle, Cynthia Chapple and Anuradha Vummethala, described the properties of DNA, a biological polymer, and Glow(g), a synthetic polymer composed of polyvinylacetate crosslinked with borax. Three groups of twenty 7-10 grade young women then extracted DNA from strawberries and prepared Glow(g) by mixing 20 mL of 10% Elmer's glue and water with 11 mL of saturated borax solution.



Anu Vummethala and Cynthia Chapple work with students to extract DNA from strawberries.

A new program "Acids, Bases and the Scientific Method" developed by Will Ridley was presented to the 8th grade class at Our Lady of the Pillar Catholic School on April 3, 2018. In this presentation the students use the steps of the scientific method and hands-on titration to determine the relative content of acid in lemon, ammonia, orange and apple juices.

For the 2018-2019 academic year, "Chemistry is pHun" is seeking interested college chemistry students from throughout the St. Louis area, working chemists who can spare an occasional half day from work and retired ACS members with a desire to inspire and encourage an interest in chemistry-related science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) among elementary students. Training is available and a schedule should be completed for the next academic year in September 2018. Please contact Will Ridley, Chemistry is pHun Coordinator, St. Louis Section of ACS, email: rlridley@stl.acs.net, cell phone: 314-920-1507, for additional information.

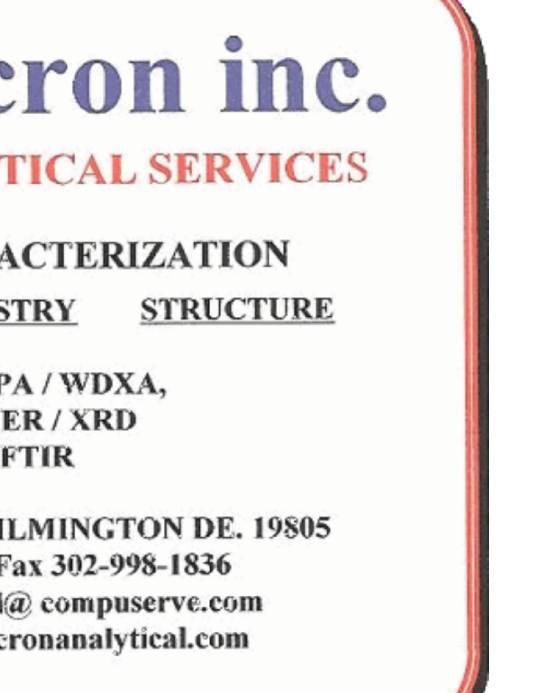
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Report from Awards Night 2018

Submitted by Susy Hartmann, Chair-Elect

The 2018 Edition of Awards Night was held Monday, April 9, at Maggiano's Little Italy in Brentwood. The evening honored our region's Outstanding College Juniors, winners of the High School Chemistry Contest, and the recipient of the High School Teaching Excellence Award.

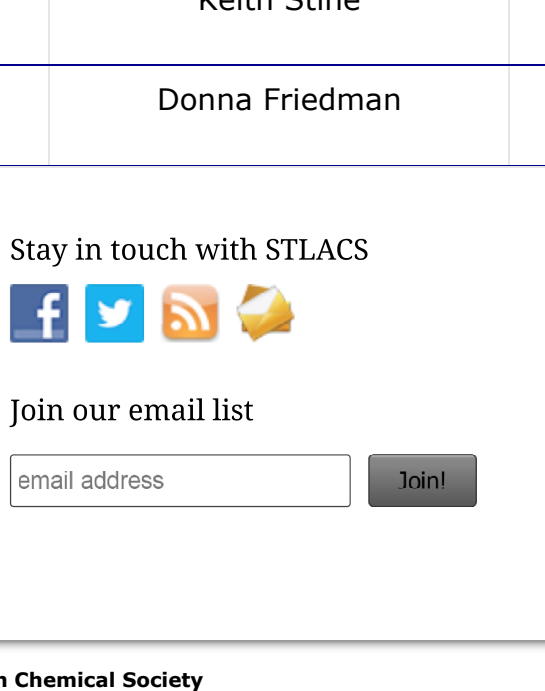
After dinner, Natalie LaFranzo, (Immediate Past Chair) welcomed the guests, and spoke about the benefits of professional networks. Susy Hartmann (Chair-Elect) introduced the keynote speaker, Dr. Tony Wallner, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Webster University. Dr. Wallner presented an overview of Webster's new interdisciplinary science building, Browning Hall. He also offered advice to the college-seeking members of the audience, outlining college experiences that are linked to life preparedness. Among the experiences he listed were class projects, internships, extracurricular activities, and having caring professors who made students excited about learning.



Dr. Tony Wallner, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Webster University

Thirty high school students were recognized for their outstanding achievement in the High School Chemistry Contest and seven college juniors were recognized for their outstanding achievement. Thanks to Dr. Wallner's presentation, we now know that Webster has a Chemistry program and will be eligible to nominate a student for next year.

The evening concluded with the presentation of the High School Chemistry Teaching Excellence Award. Elizabeth Hobbs of Washington High School was given an energetic introduction by last year's recipient, Kathleen Dwyer.



High School Chemistry Teaching Excellence Awardee Elizabeth Hobbs with last year's awardee Kathleen Dwyer

Congratulations to all winners and a special thank you to Leah O'Brien for her hard work in making this event run so smoothly every year. And to Jim O'Brien for his able services as a photo-documentarian. The full album of photos from the event can be viewed here.

Minority Affairs' First Professional Development event a Success!

Submitted by Susy Hartmann, Chair-Elect

The Minority Affairs subcommittee wrapped up their first professional development event on April 24th, where they came together and had a thought-provoking conversation on Diversity. An ACS webinar on Diversity in the Chemical Sciences was an opportunity to learn how to build their diversity IQ, laugh and make new friends.

Come out to the next event to build your network and get involved! Minority Affairs will host its next Happy Hour on May 8th at 5:30pm at [The Block restaurant in the Central West End](#). Come eat free food and meet new faces! See you then!



Our growing group of chemists, joined us, wasn't you?

Meeting Seminars

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