

Notes from the Editor

first published 30 April 2021

- The number of fully vaccinated people across the country and in the St. Louis region continues to rise, as does my hope for a semblance of summer normalcy. One summer normalcy that will continue is the Chemical Bond will be on its usual publishing hiatus for June-August, returning with the September issue. If you have stories or announcements, please send them to us at editor@stlacs.org so we can post them to the web site and be featured in the September mega issue.
- The Midwest Regional Meeting has been scheduled for this October in Springfield, MO. Initial section topics can be found at [the web site](#), with more information on registration coming soon.
- Lastly, we will be sending out a member survey at the end of May. We ask you to keep a look out and please respond. The responses will help the local section provide programming tailored to the needs and interests of our members.

Jeramia Ory
Editor, The Chemical Bond

Melanie Shedd Awarded the 2021 High School Chemistry Teaching Award

first published 8 April 2021

We would like to congratulate Melanie Shedd on receiving the High School Chemistry Teaching Award, sponsored by the St. Louis Section of the American Chemical Society. This award was created to recognize, encourage, and stimulate outstanding teachers of high school chemistry. Melanie has taught students chemistry at Principia Upper School in St. Louis, MO since 2005 and has been the department chair since 2014. She also is the Co-Chair of the St. Louis Region High School Chemistry Teachers Group (S.L.A.C.K.E.R.S.) that meets to discuss new ideas, activities, strategies, and labs in chemistry.



Melanie Shedd of Principia School, our 2021 High School Teacher Awardee

Mx. Shedd believes in developing future-ready students who are prepared to be change agents, effective communicators and collaborators, and innovators. Her courses reflect a balance of rigorous yet relevant material to keep the students engaged and active. She leverages project-based learning with authentic performance tasks where students can demonstrate their transfer of knowledge. Some student-driven performance tasks include: creating a soap company, developing different aquaponic and hydroponic systems to address food insecurity, testing the water quality of various local bodies of water to inform land management decisions, and creating chemistry games to teach elementary school children about the periodic table of elements.

Melanie Shedd is an excellent example of what a determined and gifted teacher is capable of in the science classroom even under the extra stresses of the current challenges. Congratulations and thank you for embodying the very spirit of this award.

Be on the lookout for 2022 officer nominations

first published 28 April 2021

Yes, you read that right, 2022 planning is on the agenda. In the next few weeks, you will receive a Google Forms link about nominations for the election in which officers are elected for terms beginning in 2022. Please consider nominating one or several of your talented colleagues, or yourself, to participate in the governance of the local section and contribute to building excitement in the local chemistry community.

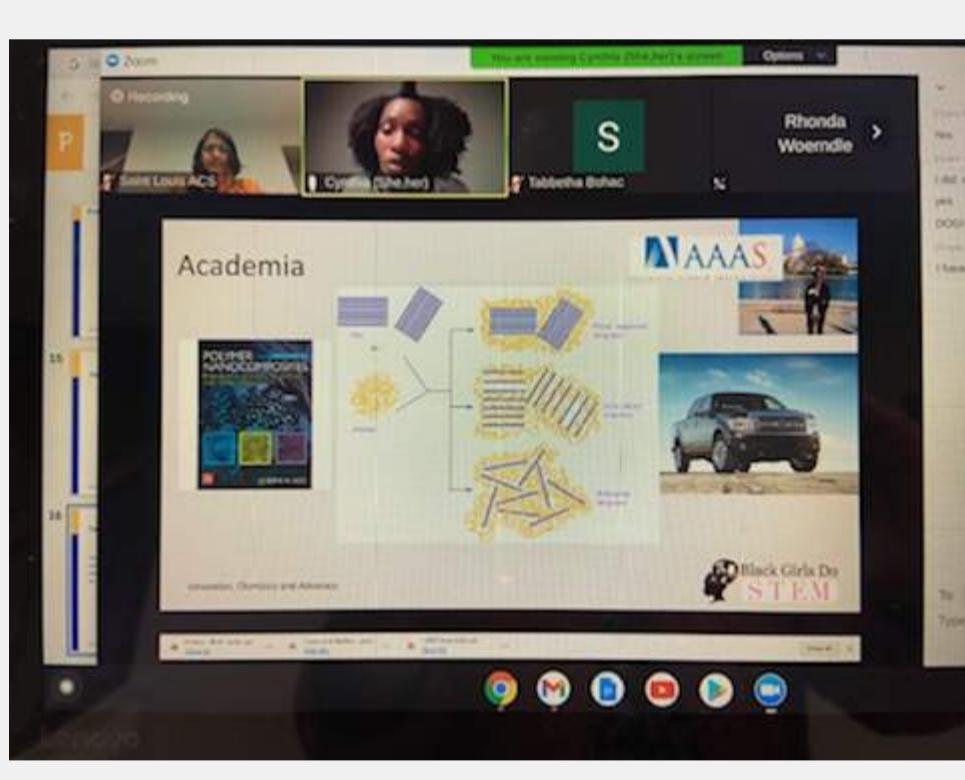
If you would prefer not to use an online service, you can send [this pdf](#) to the section secretary by email (rohrrs@wustl.edu) or you can print the ballot and mail it (Henry Rohrs, 440 South Gore Avenue, Webster Groves, MO 63119).

Please keep in mind that you should use only one method to nominate people: the Google Forms link, e-mailing the pdf to Henry, or snailmailing Henry.

UG coaching series closes on diverse career paths

first published 30 April 2021

The third and final coaching workshop for the Spring was held on April 14, once again with 20+ attendees and engaging discussions. We started with a presentation from **Samina Azad** on interviewing and how to convince the hiring team that you are the right fit for their role and organization. We also talked about salary negotiation.



Screen grab from UG coaching session on early career paths

Then our three invited presenters, chemists in traditional and non-traditional roles, talked about their career paths:

- **Laura Lloyd**, Senior Associate Scientist, Analytical R&D at Pfizer
- **Susan Hartmann**, Elemental Strengths coaching and consulting
- **Eric Bruton**, Chemist at Boeing

Laura, a recent graduate from SIUE, initially took on contract positions to build work experience until she landed a permanent scientist role with Pfizer. She talked about the importance of persistence in the job search process. One other key advice nugget: "Do the homework to know who the employer is and their vision/mission and product portfolio, before going to the interview. Be prepared to talk about what they do, why it is interesting to you and how you can contribute. It shows the employer that you are really interested and serious about working with them."

Suzu described her career path, starting as a R&D chemist, then moving into a non-traditional role in Procurement and Supply Chain a few years down the road. She explained one particular transferable skill from her R&D days that helped her excel in the Supply Chain role: she was very good at analyzing data to understand trends in R&D, and found that same skill is key to success in supply chain and procurement planning.

Eric recapped his journey and talked about the various roles he held in industry, giving examples of projects that he worked on so the students could get see the breadth of projects they may work on as chemists in industry.

This wraps up our workshops for the Spring. Stay tuned for information on the Fall workshops, and best of luck to the new graduates in finding excellent opportunities!

Samina, Chair

Meeting & Seminars

Board of Directors

St Louis Section-ACS Board of Directors meets the second Thursday of each month over Zoom for the foreseeable future

Date: May 13 ([via Zoom](#))

Join internet meeting at 6:00 pm for social/chit-chat
Business meeting begins at 6:30 pm

Future meetings: The board does not meet over the summer. The next meeting is September 9th

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 [home page](#) and follow the link to the Seminar Schedule.

University of Health Sciences & Pharmacy in St. Louis

The Center for Clinical Pharmacology hosts a monthly seminar series in ARB 212 unless otherwise noted. For the most up to date information refer to the center's [seminar page](#) or contact [Jodi Maslin](#).

University of Missouri-St Louis

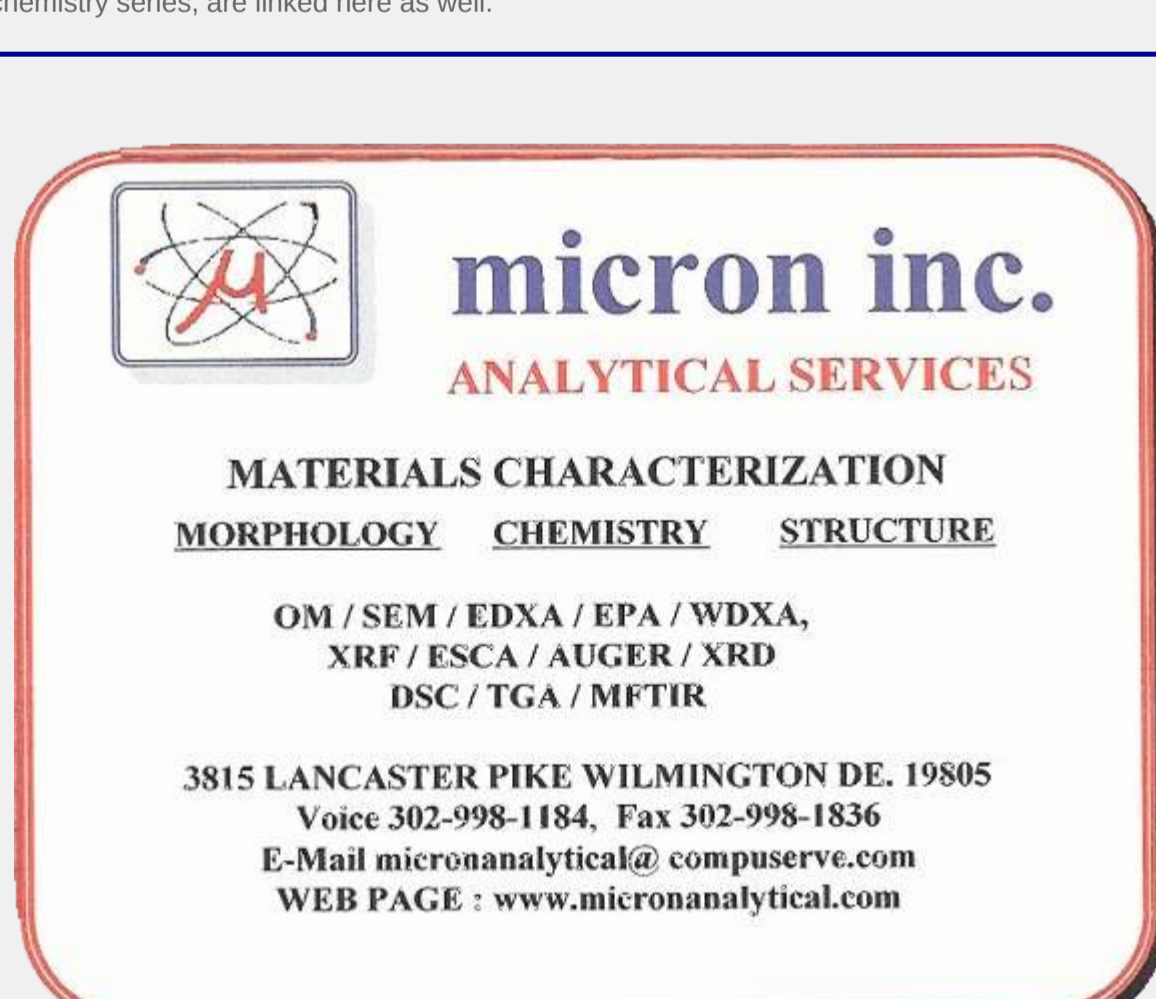
Mondays at 4 pm in 451 Benton Hall, unless otherwise specified. Refreshments 15 minutes prior to seminar time. For timely information on visiting seminar speakers, contact the Chemistry Department, 314.516.5311, or visit the [seminar schedule](#). The department has additional seminar series which are 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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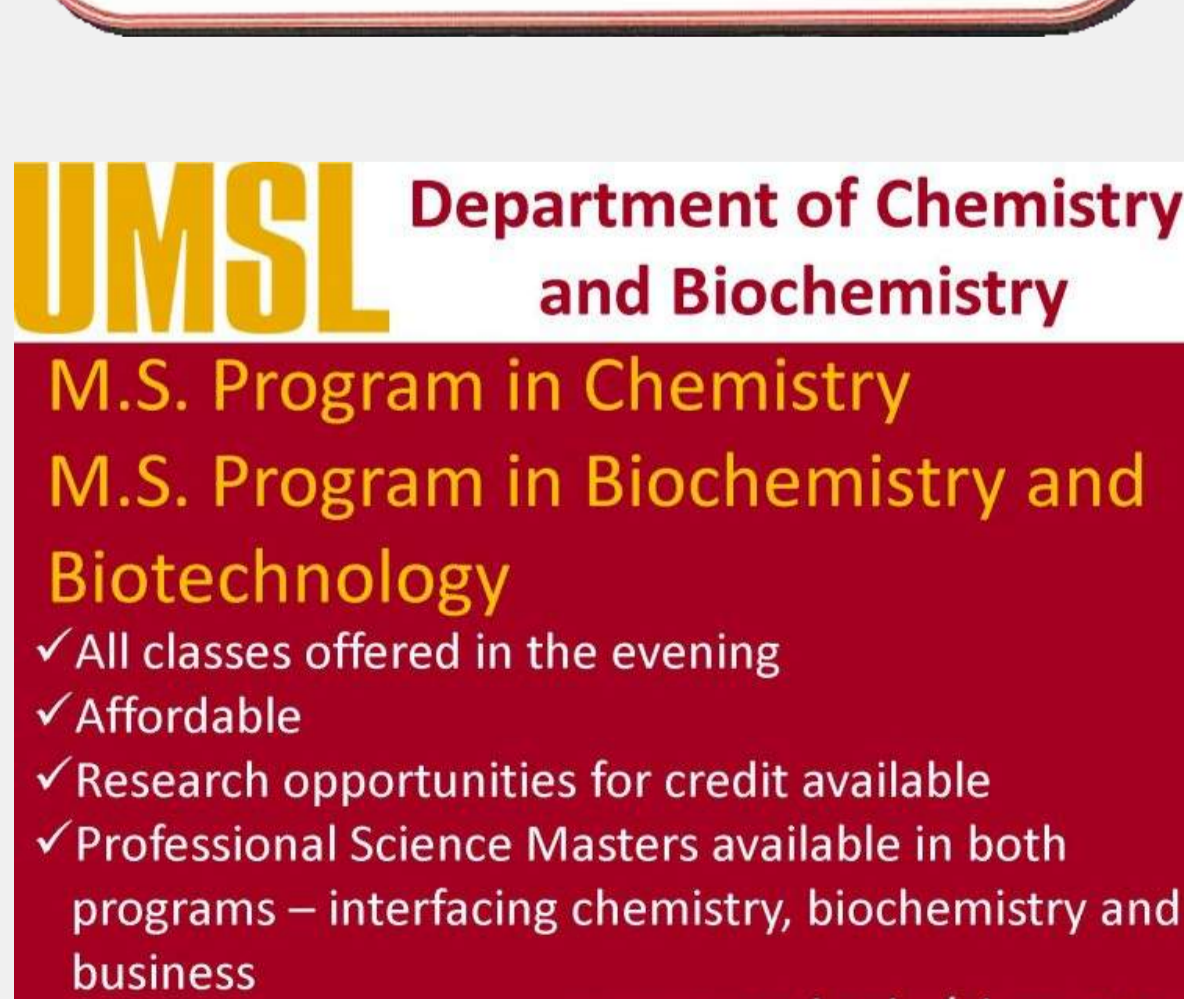


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The *Chemical Bond* is published at www.stlacs.org January through May and September through December by the St Louis Section-American Chemical Society. If you would like to receive email notification when each issue is posted, you can subscribe to our email list and join the "Chemical Bond reminders" group.

Correspondence, letters to the editor, etc., should be emailed to editor@stlacs.org or mailed % St Louis Section-ACS, PO Box 410192, Saint Louis, MO 63141-0192.

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