SEPTEMBER MEETING NOTICE

● TEACHER AWARDS ●

Virginia Commonwealth University
Richmond, Virginia
Friday, September 13, 2019

RECEPTION: 6:00 p.m.
Rodney’s
Shafer Court Dining Center
810 Cathedral Place

PROGRAM: 7:00 p.m.
Virginia Rooms C & D
University Student Commons
907 Floyd Avenue

MENU: Heavy Hors-d’oeuvres (many kinds, hot and cold), Cookies, Brownies, Lemon Bars, Cream Puffs, Iced Tea, Beer and Wine

PRICE: Members/Guests - $18.00; Students, High School Teachers and Spouses - $9.00; Retired ACS Members and Spouses, Retired Teachers and Spouses - $13.00

RESERVATIONS: Please make reservations by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, September 6 by calling Rhea Miller at (804) 827-0352 or by e-mail to rmiller3@vcu.edu

HOST: Dr. M. Samy El- Shall, chemistry@vcu.edu

SPEAKER: Dr. Aron Lichtman, Professor of Pharmacology and Associate Dean of Research, Virginia Commonwealth University


PRESENTATION OF TEACHER AWARDS
Dr. Aron Lichtman

Dr. Aron Lichtman earned his B.A. in Psychology at Rutgers College in 1984 and proceeded to earn his Ph.D. in Psychology with Drs. Michael Fanselow and Catherine Cramer at Dartmouth College in 1989. He received postdoctoral training from 1989-1993 in pharmacology under the mentorship of the late Dr. Billy R. Martin at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU). He then joined the faculty at VCU and rose up through the ranks to Professor. In 2015, Dr. Lichtman became Associate Dean of Research and Graduate Studies in the VCU School of Pharmacy, while continuing his basic research.

His research program has been continuously funded by the National Institutes of Health since the early 1990s. Dr. Lichtman was recognized for outstanding research contributions made to the cannabinoid field by winning the 2013 Mechoulam Award from the International Cannabinoid Research Society. He also is a co-inventor on two patents and has served on the Scientific Advisory Board of Abide Therapeutics and Sea Pharmaceuticals. In addition to his scholarship, Dr. Lichtman is a dedicated teacher and mentor, and has trained 14 Ph.D. students and 11 postdoctoral fellows. He twice received the Professor of the Year Award in the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology and the VCU School of Medicine gave him the Distinguished Mentor Award in 2013.

“The Endogenous Cannabinoid System: Modulation of Drug Addiction”

The scientific pursuit to understand how cannabis produces its pharmacological effects has led to enormous strides in basic and medical research. These advances include the discovery of the endogenous cannabinoid (eCB) system that consists of two cannabinoid receptors (CB₁ and CB₂), endocannabinoid ligands (e.g., anandamide; AEA and 2-arachidonoylglycerol; 2-AG), and enzymes regulating the biosynthesis and catabolism of the endogenous ligands. The eCB system regulates myriad physiological systems within the central nervous system and throughout the periphery, which include synaptic plasticity, stress responses, immune function, renal function, and drug reward. In particular, genetic deletion or pharmacological inhibition of the CB₁ receptor reduces the rewarding effects of opioids, nicotine, and other drugs of abuse in rodent models of drug abuse. Conversely, delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol, the chief cannabimimetic constituent in cannabis, and other CB₁ receptor agonists ameliorate withdrawal signs in rodent models of opioid, nicotine, and cannabinoid dependence. This presentation will introduce the components of the eCB system, its general physiological functions, and the role it plays in drug addiction. Finally, we will cover an unintended consequence of cannabinoid research; the subversion of synthetic cannabinoids as research tools to emerging abused substances that are associated with deleterious public health consequences. At the conclusion of this presentation, the audience will gain understanding into how cannabis and its primary constituents produce their pharmacological effects, be familiar with major components of the eCB system as well as its physiological functions, and its role in drug addiction.
THE DISTINGUISHED ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SCIENCE TEACHER AWARD

Betty Edwards

I have taught in Mecklenburg County, Virginia for thirty-one years. I was born in North Carolina but spent my childhood traveling quite a bit due to my father’s career in the Air Force. I graduated from Pembroke High School in Hampton, Virginia and then attended Slippery Rock State College in Pennsylvania where I earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Special Education and Elementary Education. Upon graduating, I returned to Virginia and began teaching Special Education. I earned my Master’s Degree in Literacy and Culture in 2009 at Longwood University. Beginning in 2000 I spent a few years teaching fourth grade, and have just finished my fifteenth year teaching fifth grade at South Hill Elementary School in South Hill, Virginia. I was honored to receive the Mecklenburg County Elementary Teacher of the Year Award in 2007. I am married, the mother of two children, and have one grandson.

Early in my career as a Special Education teacher, I knew that I needed to engage my students in science activities in order to make the content meaningful and relevant to them. Upon moving into the regular elementary classroom to teach math and science, I have continued to provide opportunities for hands-on investigations and projects. We begin each year with a unit on science investigation where students work in groups using the scientific method to design experiments with bean plants and manipulate variables that affect plant growth. They are taught to use measurement tools, graph results, and draw conclusions. As the year progresses, the students enjoy making models of atoms and cells, participating in hands-on lab activities to investigate sound and light energy, building and testing electromagnets, and dissecting flowers.

Throughout my career I have had the opportunity to not only teach students but to mentor other teachers, including my daughter, who also teaches fifth grade science. I have encouraged these teachers to use experimental design and hands-on activities in their classrooms as well. I have served as the chairperson for the school science fair for over fifteen years. The local 4H instructor and I collaborated to offer an after school Young Scientists Club for many years. Each year I strive to make science exciting for my students. I enlighten them about science-related careers that they may want to pursue. My hope is that when my fifth graders leave me they will not only have a knowledge of the science content but also a mindset that science can be fun!

THE DISTINGUISHED MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE TEACHER AWARD

Rebecca Slominski

I am originally from Marietta, Ohio and graduated from Moravian College in Bethlehem, PA. I have spent my entire 26 year career at Walker-Grant Middle School in Fredericksburg where both of my children attend K-12 as well. This past school year completes my 26th year of teaching during which I taught 4th & 5th grade and then for the last 16 years 6th grade earth/physical science and I added 8th grade physical science this year as well. I have a master’s in curriculum & instruction with a science focus and I am also a Nationally Board Certified teacher with a middle generalist certificate which I completed in 2006 and renewed in 2016. Additionally I have been involved in our school by sponsoring a Scientist for a Night program & by organizing our yearly STEM Night for all of our students. I also teach a wetlands course as part of the Fredericksburg Area Regional Summer Governor’s School. Throughout my teaching career I have also been a coach for basketball, swimming, and track & field. I started the track & field program at my middle school and we just completed our 11th season and I have been fortunate enough to see several of those students go on and compete at the collegiate level.

While teaching 4th grade I continually felt myself pulled to the science piece of the curriculum and made that a large part of my focus and worked to incorporate language arts and reading into the science curriculum. When the opportunity arose to move to only teaching science with the middle schoolers I jumped at the opportunity. Teaching science to me has been such a great pleasure because of the joy it brings the students. My goal has always been to try to pull students into a love of science even when they think it may not be what they love. I do that by incorporating many hands-on activities that draw students in and allow them to explore science in a way that is meaningful to them. The best compliment a teacher can get is when students say they loved an activity and they learned something they did not previously know. Using toys to model different aspects of science is one of my favorite ways to draw students in.
Because I have taught in the same system for so long I have been fortunate to see my former students progress and continue their love of science throughout the rest of their middle school and high school careers and some even into their college careers.

During my non-teaching time I like to spend time with my family and have enjoyed watching my two daughters love science and math. Both are completing engineering programs at their universities. I spent a large amount of time at swim meets with both of my girls and have been heavily involved in their high school, summer, and club swim teams. I also enjoy powerlifting and listening to my husband perform at open mike nights.

Again, thank you for the recognition. My stepfather was a professor of science education and it quite pleased him that I received this award.

THE FRANKLIN D. KIZER DISTINGUISHED HIGH SCHOOL CHEMISTRY TEACHER AWARD

Suzanne McIninch

Suzanne McIninch began her teaching career later in life. Prior to teaching, Suzanne worked as a research assistant at Columbia University, Lamont Doherty Geological Observatory and Massachusetts Institute of Technology Woods Hole Oceanographic Laboratory as an environmental chemist. Suzanne studied uptake of tritium in microorganisms to determine rates of transfer from one compartment of the marine environment into the organic tissue of higher trophic level organisms. She continued on to receive her Masters at the University of Maryland College Park in Marine and Estuarine Environments with a master’s thesis on the uptake of P33 on marine aquatic plants. Mrs. McIninch has worked for several of the Nation’s premier Environmental Restoration companies working to bring the loss of wetlands and erosion to the attention of counties and states. Mrs. McIninch is the owner/operator of a company called Shoreline Sensations whose primary goal is to reestablish wetlands and shorelines in Tidewater Virginia.

During her research assistant years Ms. McIninch was able to lead many seminars and field study programs for students of all ages. What she found was that many students knew text book science but had very little connection to science outside the classroom. For instance while students are taught that contaminants move through the environment, they are never taught how scientists study the mechanisms of movement of these “ contaminants ” the students were at a loss to understand this critical thinking piece. Mrs. McIninch believes that these critical thinking skills in science should be developed in high schools so that students can ask serious questions about the world and, in particular, the status of the environmental world. Suzanne believes that student led research should be part of the curriculum for all ages and realizes she can make a difference in the lives of young adults. She found a career switchers pathway to teacher licensure from University of Virginia and has never looked back.

At New Kent High School, Suzanne is the lead science teacher and sponsor of both Student Council and Renaissance club. Mrs. McIninch believes that building personal relationships with students is something that is important as teachers are not only just educators but mentors to their students.

Her philosophy of teaching: Science is all around us and students need to realize and understand that . Students need to be engaged and interested in what they are learning about and guided into asking questions and trying new things. Most of all students need to know that science is based on a series of facts not hearsay and showing students by hands on activities the basis of these facts will help the students navigate the unnerving and bewildering world of what to believe and how to act on these beliefs. To bring science to life and incorporate student research into the learning experience, I have initiated a science fair where each chemistry student must perform an experiment and present it in poster form to school board members, faculty, administration and the student body. This has been a very good experience for the students as they navigate experimental design, scientific method and presentations in a poster conference setting. “The best way to teach science is to experience science”.
DIRECTIONS

The Reception will be held in Rodney’s, located in the Shafer Court Dining Center at 810 Cathedral Place on the Virginia Commonwealth University-Monroe Park Campus. This is just northeast of the Chemistry Department which is housed in Oliver Hall, 1001 W. Main Street. There is parking on the streets around Shafer Court, in the West Broad Street Deck at 1111 W. Broad Street, and in the West Cary Street Parking Deck at 1101 W. Cary Street. The lecture and Teacher Awards Program will be held in the University Student Commons (Virginia Rooms C & D), located at 1000 Floyd Avenue (across from the Cabell Library). Detailed campus maps are on the VCU website: http://www.vcu.edu.

MAP
With summer ending and another school year beginning, the Virginia Section is looking forward to honoring three terrific chemistry and science teachers. Having taught chemistry at Mills Godwin High School for 16 years, I can appreciate the amount of work these dedicated teachers put into having a successful school year. This year’s awardees include Betty Edwards, the Distinguished Elementary School Science Teacher Award winner, from South Hill Elementary School, South Hill; Rebecca Slominski, the Distinguished Middle School Science Teacher Award winner, from Walker-Grant Middle School, Fredericksburg; and Suzanne McIninch, the Franklin D. Kizer Distinguished High School Chemistry Teacher Award winner, from New Kent High School, New Kent County. These teachers will be recognized at the September 13th meeting at VCU, along with our 50-70 year ACS members. A big thanks to our Teacher Awards Committee Chair, Larry White.

I also would like to point out that the Virginia Section is soliciting proposals for grants to support school science projects in grades K through 12. The $50 to $500 grants will be provided to teachers in the Virginia Section for the purchase of materials and supplies. Please submit applications for funding by the December 1 deadline. More information at http://virginia.sites.acs.org/aboutUs/grants.htm.
The Virginia Section has been nominated for our 18th ChemLuminary Award by the national ACS. This nomination is for the Most Creative and Innovative Use of the Chemists Celebrate Earth Week (CCEW). The Section’s thanks goes to Dr. Kristine Smetana for all her hard work leading this last year.

Finally, the Section is looking for someone to coordinate our efforts in the High School Chemistry Olympiad. The local Chemistry Olympiad competition is the first step in the U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad. Local competitions are held each March. The Local Section coordinator oversees the administration of the first- and second-year exams. If you think you might be interested in getting involved with this program, please contact me at ChairVAsectionACS@gmail.com

...Joseph Pompano, 2019 Chair of the Virginia Section

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

September 13, 4:30 pm
Room 3309, Temple Building, VCU

For more information, contact Joe Pompano at ChairVAsection@gmail.com

CHEMISTRY SEMINARS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

August 30 - Professor Mike Hilinski, University of Virginia - “Escaping Flatland: Synthetic Innovation for the Future of Drug Discovery”

September 6 - Professor M. Samy El Shall, Virginia Commonwealth University - “Graphene-based Materials for Applications in Heterogeneous Catalysis, Water Treatment and Solar Water Desalination”

September 13 - Dr. Rachel Letteri, University of Virginia

September 20 - Professor Glen Alliger, ExxonMobil - “Ethylene Trimerization Using Chromium Pyridyl Amine Complexes: A Computational Study”

September 27 - Professor Suzanne Walker, Harvard University

October 4 - Professor Lucy Ziurys, University of Arizona

October 10 - Dr. Frank Gupton, Virginia Commonwealth University - “Increasing Access to Global Healthcare: The Medicines for All Institute” Graham Lecture

October 18 - Dr. William Dichtel, Northwestern University Burger Lecture

October 23 - The Synthetic Chemistry Colloquium - Professor Cameron Jones, Monash University

Oct 25 - Professor Ken Hsu

Seminars are held at 3:30 PM in Room 205 of the Mechanical Engineering Building
### CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENTS AT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES IN THE VIRGINIA SECTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School/Location</th>
<th>Department Chair/Program Coordinator</th>
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CORRECTION TO CARTOON IN THE SUMMER BULLETIN

Dr. Robert Langer’s comments were not included with the Harris cartoon that was published in the Summer issue of the *Bulletin*. Here is the cartoon with Dr. Langer’s comments.

“Polymers are fundamental to every part of our society, and they have all kinds of amazing properties. This cartoon depicts a merger of chemicals being discussed by two businessman (at least they look like businessman since there are vests and ties; no lab coats) to create a polymer. The timing for this cartoon couldn’t be more appropriate given the recent merger of Dow and DuPont, two of the oldest and largest polymer companies in the world. Hopefully, in business as well as in chemistry, the whole will be greater than the sum of its parts. Polymers are a great example of this — given all they have done for the world.” — Robert Langer, MIT

CHEMISTRY SEMINARS AT VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY

September 12 - **Dr. Martin Jarrold**, Indiana University Bloomington, “Charge Detection in Mass Spectrometry - Weighing Molecular Elephants” (5:00 pm, W.E. Singleton Center)  
Fenn Lecture

September 19 - **Dr. Osvaldo Gutierrez**, University of Maryland College Park

September 26 - **Dr. Raymond Moellerling**, University of Chicago

October 10 - **Dr. Rob Lorenzini**, Maroon Group

October 17 - **Dr. Christy Landes**, Rice University

October 24 - **Dr. Alenka Luzar Memorial Symposium** (1:00 pm, Student Commons)

November 14 - **Dr. Jerry Meyer**, University of North Carolina

*Seminars, except for the Fenn Lecture and the Luzar Symposium, are held in Oliver Hall, Physical Science Wing, Room 1024, at 4:00 pm*
SIDNEY HARRIS CARTOON FOR SEPTEMBER

Here is the this month’s chemistry cartoon by Sidney Harris. These cartoons are provided to ACS Local Sections as part of an ACS Technical Division Innovative Project Grant Program awarded to the Division of History and Chemistry (HIST). Commentary for this month’s cartoon is provided by Professor Fraser Stoddart, Board of Trustees Professor of Chemistry and head of the Stoddart Mechanostereochemistry Group in the Department of Chemistry at Northwestern University. Dr. Stoddart shared the 2016 Nobel Prize in Chemistry with Jean-Pierre Sauvage and Bernard L. Feringa. Dr. Jeffrey Seeman, a member of the Virginia Section, wrote the proposal for the grant enabling publication of Sidney Harris cartoons in local section publications.

“...AND, THEREFORE, I SHARE MY NOBEL PRIZE WITH MY CONSULTANT.”
Many of the select few who receive that call from Stockholm are, by that time in our lives, little more than spokesmen and women. We start off on our life’s journey as research scientists striving to catch hold of the coattails of the great and good, only to come to the realization, before too long, that we have reached our sell-by-date. In this Sidney Harris cartoon, the likes of me finds oneself at the podium, acting as the mouthpiece for a long line of accomplished young whippersnappers who have sustained and promoted my reputation - to the point where I am left holding a hot potato, thanks to all of them.” — *Fraser Stoddart*, Northwestern University

**WCC CAREERS IN CHEMISTRY PANEL**  
**OCTOBER 3, 2019**  
**CABELL LIBRARY, ROOM 303**  
**VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY**  
**MONROE PARK CAMPUS**

Hors s’oeuvres at 5:00 pm, program at 6:00

Sponsored by the ACS Student Affiliate Chapter at Virginia Commonwealth University and the Women Chemists Committee of the Virginia Section of the ACS

Speakers:

- **Dr. Kathryn Deibler**  
  GSK Consumer Healthcare

- **Dr. Carol Parish**  
  University of Richmond

- **Dr. Malgorzata Ducat**  
  Virginia Commonwealth University

**U.S. OLYMPIAD TEAM EARN THREE GOLD MEDALS**

The United States won three gold medals and one silver medal at the 51st International Chemistry Olympiad, held this year in Paris in July. Korea and Russia tied for most gold medals with four each. *Liu He*, a student on the Chinese team, was the top scorer. The U.S. team consisted of *Edward Jin* of Arnold O. Beckman High School in California (gold medal); *Albert Liu* of North Hollywood High School in California (silver medal); *Anton Ni* of University High School in California (gold medal); and *Yajvan Ravan* from Churchill High School in Michigan (gold medal). *Patrick Chen*, a chemistry teacher at Benjamin N. Cardoza High School in New York, was the head mentor for the U.S. team.

The 2019 Olympiad attracted 300 students from 80 countries. Each country is allowed to send up to four students. The first International Chemistry Olympiad was held in Prague in 1968. The United States sent its first team in 1984 and hosted the competition in 1992 and 2012. Next year’s competition will be in Istanbul, Turkey; the 2021 Olympiad will be held in Osaka, Japan.
CHEMISTRY AT VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY

The Virginia Commonwealth University Department of Chemistry has 42 faculty members, approximately 95 graduate students and 550 undergraduate chemistry majors. The department brings in about $2.5 million annually in research and educational grants. The department offers full-time undergraduate programs leading to the Bachelor of Science. The degree concentrations allow students to focus on different aspects of chemistry, depending on their specific interests. The concentrations include chemical science, professional chemist, professional chemist with honors, chemical modeling, and biochemistry.

The Department also offers graduate programs leading to the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degrees in Analytical, Inorganic, Physical, and Organic Chemistry. The Department also offers Joint Programs leading to PhD degrees in Chemical Physics, Chemical Biology, and Nanoscience & Nanotechnology. A wide range of graduate courses is offered; the classes are small in size and personal in nature.

The recent addition of new faculty and laboratories and the acquisition of new instrumentation provide a firm basis for continued excellence in both teaching and research.

A program of studies is tailored to the individual student and is designed to provide a sound background in all areas of chemistry, with emphasis on the student's area of research. The low student-to-faculty ratio ensures that each student receives personal attention.

An important and distinctive feature of the department is close interaction between faculty and students. This interaction, in an active and friendly environment, is designed to promote scholarship, develop experimental ability, and stimulate creative thought. Students work side by side with faculty members in small research groups. They are encouraged to present the results of their research at regional and national meetings of the American Chemical Society and other professional organizations. The department is committed to excellence in both research and teaching. The faculty actively conduct research in the areas of Analytical, Inorganic, Organic, Physical, and Theoretical Chemistry in addition to Chemical Biology, Chemical Physics, and Nanoscience. Faculty members have received training and experience at leading universities, industrial laboratories, and national research laboratories. Their excellent and diverse backgrounds ensure a graduate program of quality and balance, one that can meet the varied needs of future professionals. John B. Fenn, Nobel Laureate 2002, was a member of the Department of Chemistry faculty.

State-of-the-art instrumentation used by faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students in courses and research includes magnetic resonance spectroscopy, infrared, Raman, UV-Vis, and Fluorescence spectroscopy, mass spectrometry, liquid and gas chromatography, ICP-MS, XRD, XPS, TEM, and SEM.

A weekly seminar program brings distinguished speakers to the department from academia and industry. Arrangements are made for the speakers to meet with students to discuss research and other topics. The program results in graduates who are well-prepared for careers in industry, academics, and national research laboratories. In addition to the regular seminar program, the annual Mary E. Kapp Lecture in Chemistry brings a chemist of international reputation to the department. This lecture honors Kapp, the first chairman of the department, who guided the department through its formative years. Kapp established an endowment for the department from her estate. The Department also hosts the John B. Fenn Memorial Seminar that honors VCU’s first Nobel Prize winner.
ACS VIRGINIA MENTORSHIP LUNCHEONS

The ACS Virginia Section Younger Chemists Committee is hosting various luncheons on Saturdays – September 7th, 14th, and 21st in the Richmond, Virginia area to commence its 2019 mentorship program. The mentors are chemists primarily from local Richmond companies while the mentees are undergraduate & graduate students, along with early-career chemists from various schools and companies.

The objectives of the luncheons are as follows:

(1) Mentors will meet their mentees
(2) Be informed about the Younger Chemists Committee and learn about the logistics of the program (cores values, expectations, and etc.)
(3) Network with fellow chemists (industry chemists and chemistry students)
(4) Participate in fun, engaging activities
(5) Work Plan - Mentors and Mentees will discuss their imminent mentoring relationship

“I have really enjoyed having a mentor this year. She has assisted me in finding ways to get more involved within my school and she has shown me possible career options that are available upon completion of my degree. She helped me obtain an internship and has consistently kept me motivated. Having a mentor can give you more connections and opportunities. This mentor program is something I would recommend to every student who wants to further his or her educational career.”

...Ms. Fionna U. (a rising junior studying forensic science and chemistry at Virginia Commonwealth University)

THE LUZAR SYMPOSIUM
FRONTIERS IN PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY

Honoring the Scientific and Educational Contributions of Professor Alenka Luzar (1954-2019)

VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY
October 24, 2019 (1:00 - 5:00 pm)

University Student Commons Theater

Keynote Speakers:

Professor Pablo Debenedetti, Dean for Research & Professor of Engineering, Princeton University

Professor Puru Jena, Distinguished Professor of Physics, Virginia Commonwealth University

Professor Nancy Levinger, Professor of Chemistry and Engineering, Colorado State University

Professor Peter Rossky, Dean of Wiess School of Natural Sciences and Harry C. And Olga K. Wiess Professor of Chemistry, Rice University
SECTION RECEIVES CORPORATE GRANT FROM ACS

The Virginia Section has received a Corporate Grant of $500 from the national ACS. The grant proposal was written by Dr. Julian Bobb, Chair of the Virginia Section’s Younger Chemists Committee (YCC) and Shamara Weeraratne, YCC Treasurer. The YCC is planning to use the funds for its mentorship luncheons that are scheduled for September 7, 14, and 21. See the article on page 13 for more information on the mentorship program and the upcoming luncheons.

WCC LUNCHEON

The next meeting of the Women Chemists Committee (WCC) will be a lunch on Friday, September 20 at noon at Peter Chang’s, 2816 W. Broad Street, Richmond 23230.

We will be discussing the upcoming Career Panel and other relevant topics. Please join us for this networking event. Rsvp by Sept. 18 to Stacey Sank at Stacey.x.Sank@gsk.com. See article on Page 11 for information on the Chemistry Career Discussion Panel on October 3.

VIRGINIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE
FALL UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH MEETING

Saturday, November 2, 2019
9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Christopher Newport University
Newport News, Virginia

more information: www.vacadsci.org

The Bulletin is published nine times a year by the Virginia Section of the American Chemical Society

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Publisher: Will Lewis, (804) 586-5492; wlewis8669@aol.com

Chair of the Virginia Section: Joseph Pompano, (804) 852-6896; joepompano@comcast.net
NOMINEES FOR 2020 SECTION OFFICERS

The Virginia Section Nominations Committee has announced these candidates for 2020 officers of the Section:

For CHAIR:  Dr. M. Samy El-Shall
For CHAIR ELECT:  Dr. LaChelle Waller
For VICE CHAIR:  Ms. Vanessa Lopez
For TREASURER:  Dr. Rob Davidson
For SECRETARY:  Dr. Sarah E. G. Porter
For COUNCILOR:  
For ALTERNATE COUNCILOR:  
For TRUSTEE:  Dr. Kenneth Chapman  (2020-2022)

Biographies of the candidates will be published in the October Bulletin. Electronic balloting will be conducted in October. Write-in candidates will be accepted for all offices.

CHANGES IN CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have had a change in your personal information (mailing address, telephone number, email address), please let the membership office of the national ACS know. We use the information on their roster to communicate with our Local Section members. The correct email address is especially important since we use those to send our meeting notices and notification of the Bulletin postings on our website. Contact Member Services via email at service@acs.org or call them at (800) 333-9511 or (614) 447-3776.

PROJECT SEED IN THE VIRGINIA SECTION

This was the 51st year of the ACS Project SEED Program. Two universities (Longwood and Virginia Commonwealth) participated in the ACS Project SEED Program this summer. Project SEED was established to bridge the 'opportunity gap' that disadvantages low-income high school students from participating in after school and summer educational opportunities. Project SEED provides a 'hands-on' learning experience in a chemical research laboratory while also providing a number of college and career planning enrichment activities. The program is transformative for the SEED students. They leave with an expanded advocacy network, a sense of accomplishment and a mastery of skills they never imagined they could do, and a new perspective on what their futures can be.

Each student receives a cash fellowship award of either $2,500 (SEED I) or $3,000 (SEED II) and is eligible to apply for Project SEED college scholarships. SEED II students are invited to participate for a second year in the program based on their career interests and performance as SEED I students.

Gabby Birenbaum of the Richmond Times-Dispatch recently attended the poster presentation and celebration event for the VCU Project SEED program. Her article appeared in the August 10th edition “Six from RPS absorb knowledge of chemistry after summer spent in labs” and describes the evolution of the program at VCU and highlights three SEED II students who are now enrolled at VCU, James Madison, and the University of Virginia.

More details regarding the Project SEED programs at Longwood University and VCU will be included in the October Bulletin. [article by Mike Hunnicutt]