



*The Bulletin*  
of the  
Virginia Section  
**AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY**

**OCTOBER MEETING NOTICE**

***DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel***  
***Richmond, Virginia***  
***Saturday, October 24, 2015***

***100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala***

**SOCIAL HOUR:** 5:30 p.m.  
(Cash Bar) James River Ballroom  
DoubleTree by Hilton  
1021 Koger Center Blvd.  
Richmond, Virginia

**DINNER:** 6:30 p.m.  
James River Ballroom, DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel

**PROGRAM:** 7:30 p.m.  
James River Ballroom, DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel

**MENU:** Herb-Crusted Chicken Breast or Cheese-Stuffed Pasta Shells

**RESERVATIONS:** **The registration period has ended for this meeting.**  
No additional reservations will be taken and no one will be admitted to the event without a reservation.

**HOSTS:** Dr. Todd Koch, (804) 257-2890; [Todd.Koch@pfizer.com](mailto:Todd.Koch@pfizer.com)  
Dr. Denise Walters, (804) 257-2828; [Denise.Walters@pfizer.com](mailto:Denise.Walters@pfizer.com)

**SPEAKER:** **Dr. Diane Grob Schmidt, President,**  
**American Chemical Society**

**TOPIC:** **“Looking Back, and Looking Forward ”**

***OCTOBER 2015***

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## **Dr. Diane Grob Schmidt**



Dr. Diane Grob Schmidt is the President of the American Chemical Society. She holds a Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from the University of Cincinnati. She received a M.S. from the University of Tennessee, and a B. A. in chemistry from the University of Tennessee–Chattanooga. Immediately after finishing her Ph.D., she joined the Procter & Gamble Company (P&G), where she served as Section Head with responsibility for safety and regulatory affairs before retiring in 2014. She is an Adjunct Professor of Chemistry at the University of Cincinnati.

Diane has been a member of ACS since her first days in graduate school. She is a past Chair of the Cincinnati local section, and has held leadership positions at the regional and national level as well. She is a past Chair of the Division of Professional Relations and the Division of Chemical Health and Safety. Diane served three consecutive terms on the ACS Board of Directors as the Director from District II from 2002 to 2010. While on the Board her service included Chair of the Board Committee on Professional & Member Relations, Chair of the Board Committee on Public Affairs & Public Relations, member of the Board Executive Committee, and Chair of several task forces and working groups.

Diane's honors include selection as an ACS Fellow, the Henry Hill Award sponsored by the national ACS Division of Professional Relations, Distinguished Scientist of Cincinnati by Engineers and Scientists of Cincinnati (the first woman ever selected for this honor), Distinguished Alum of the University of Cincinnati–McMicken College of Arts & Sciences, Distinguished Alum of the University of Tennessee–Chattanooga, and many other honors.

Dr. Schmidt's research interests include carbohydrate chemistry, heterocyclic chemistry, polymers, separations technology, controlled release/delivery systems and chemistry as applied to consumer products. At P&G she developed and evaluated technologies for a variety of consumer products, and became a Certified Chemical Hygiene Officer. She holds multiple U. S. patents and corresponding applications and filings internationally and she has authored scientific publications and technical presentations.

### ***“Looking Back, and Looking Forward”***

Picturing the future of chemistry in a world characterized by dynamic global growth and relentless technological advances is a difficult chore. The role of technology, it would seem, would be of particular interest to the Virginia Section, as well as other ACS local sections. We have seen technology disrupt any number of fields in very serious, and in many ways, very unpredictable way. Travel agents used to get much more business until travelers themselves could book hotels and flights online. Smart phones have revolutionized the taxi industry. The major music labels lost control over the distribution of their music thanks to Apple, Spotify, and others. Netflix has put a wrecking ball to the video rental store industry once dominated by Blockbuster.

Local sections, as geographical entities, are evaluating their place in a world where technology—at least to the degree it connects people and information—continue to marginalize geography. Yet a look back at what has made the Virginia Section so successful provides us with a blueprint of how it can thrive for another 100 years, in spite of the rapidly changing world in which it operates. Let's remember, too, that the world hasn't exactly been sitting still since 1915. Successful local sections have been critical to the ongoing success of the ACS, and in the future, there are essential ways through which they can continue to support the Society .

## DIRECTIONS



The DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel is located in Chesterfield County, Virginia, a few miles southwest of the city of Richmond. It is just north of the Midlothian Turnpike, U.S. Route 60. The street address is 1021 Koger Center Boulevard, Richmond, VA 23235. Use that address in your GPS. Note that the address is sometimes given as Midlothian rather than Richmond. More information on the hotel and maps can be found on their website: <http://doubletree3.hilton.com/en/hotels/virginia/doubletree-by-hilton-hotel-richmond-midlothian-RICKSDT/index.html> or call (804) 379-3800. There is adequate parking on the hotel lots.

### Directions from the Hotel Staff:

From the North, traveling on **I-95 South**: Take Exit 79 (Powhite Parkway-195 TOLL ROAD). Keep to the left and follow the Powhite to Midlothian Turnpike (Route 60) West. Follow the Midlothian Turnpike two miles to Koger Center Boulevard. Turn right; the Hotel will be on your right.

From the South, traveling on **I-95 North**: Take Exit 67, Chippenham Parkway. Follow Chippenham Parkway ten miles to Midlothian Turnpike (Route 60) West. Travel 5 miles to Koger Center Boulevard. Turn right; the Hotel will be on your right.

From the West, traveling on **1-64 East**: Take the exit for 288 South to Midlothian Turnpike (Route 60) East. Follow Midlothian Turnpike approximately three miles to Koger Center Boulevard. Turn right; the Hotel will be on your left.

From The East, traveling on **I-64 West**. Follow signs to I-95 (do not take I-295N). Stay on I-95 South to Exit 79 (Powhite Parkway-195 TOLL ROAD) and follow the Powhite Parkway to Midlothian Turnpike West (Route 60) Follow Midlothian Turnpike for two miles to Koger Center Boulevard. Turn right; the Hotel will be on your right.

**NOTE: Traveling West on the Midlothian Turnpike, Koger Center Boulevard is just past Johnston-Willis Drive, the entrance to C/W Johnston-Willis Hospital.** The Chesterfield Shopping Center is on Midlothian Turnpike, just past Koger Center Boulevard.

If you enter the Hotel by the front door (lobby entrance), you will pass through the Atrium by the registration desk. The James River Ballroom is on the first floor. Continue down the hall on the right to the James River Ballroom at the rear of the building. Registration will be in the corridor outside the Ballroom. The Social Hour and bar will be in Parlor G. Dinner and the



## **PROGRAM**

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

*Dr. Todd Koch*

RECOGNITION OF SPONSORS

*Dr. Todd Koch*

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATIONS  
AND SPECIAL GREETINGS

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE VIRGINIA SECTION

*Mr. Larry White*

INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

*Dr. Denise Walters*

THE R. GERALD BASS AWARD FOR EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE

*Dr. James Beck*

INTRODUCTION OF THE RECIPIENT OF THE R. GERALD BASS AWARD

*Dr. William Welstead*

INTRODUCTION OF THE KEYNOTE SPEAKER

*Dr. Denise Walters*

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

*Dr. Diane Grob Schmidt*

CLOSING REMARKS

*Dr. Todd Koch*

**\*\*\* VIRGINIA SECTION NEWS \*\*\***

## **VIRGINIA SECTION TO PRESENT NEW AWARD**



The Virginia Section of the ACS is run entirely by volunteers—there are no paid staff persons. During the past 100 years, hundreds of ACS members have devoted countless hours to Section activities that advance the chemical profession. The Section is honoring this legion of volunteers by establishing a new award that will be presented periodically to an individual who has served the Section and the profession for many years and who represents the true spirit of volunteering.

The new award will be named the **R. Gerald Bass Award for Exceptional Service**. The name reflects the years of service by Dr. R. Gerald Bass who has been a member of the Section for over 57 years and who was recently named an ACS Fellow. Jerry has provided an exemplary model for others to follow. The Section honored him in 1979 with its Distinguished Service Award.

The R. Gerald Bass Award will be formally announced at the Anniversary Gala on October 24 when the first recipient will be honored.

## **FUTURE MEETING OF THE SECTION**

DATE: **November 13, 2015**  
 LOCATION: University of Mary Washington  
 Fredericksburg, Virginia  
 HOST: Dr. Leanne Giancarlo  
 PHONE: (540) 654-1407  
 E-MAIL: lgiancar@umw.edu  
 SPEAKER: **Dr. Bryan Tienes**  
 TOPIC: "Chemical, Biological, and Radiological (CBR) Defense at the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Division (NSWCDD)"



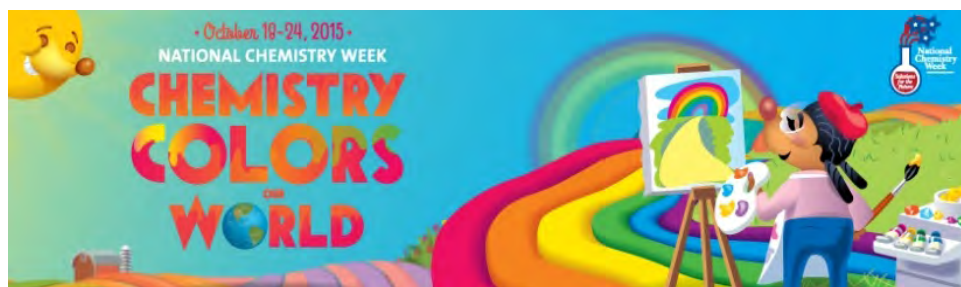
NOTE: There will not be a Section meeting in December.

## **VAS FALL UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH MEETING**

The Virginia Academy of Science Fall Undergraduate Research Meeting will be held on Saturday, October 24 at Virginia State University in Petersburg. Sessions will be held from 9:00 a.m. through 3:00 p.m. in the L. Douglas Wilder Building (Cooperative Extension). At the conclusion of the meeting, five \$500 research grants will be awarded to undergraduate students to support their research during the 2015-16 academic year. Note that the faculty mentor for the project must be a member in good standing of the Virginia Academy of Science. Additional meeting information can be found on the VAS website: <http://www.vacadsci.org>.



## NATIONAL CHEMISTRY WEEK 2015 VIRGINIA SECTION CELEBRATION - OCTOBER 24



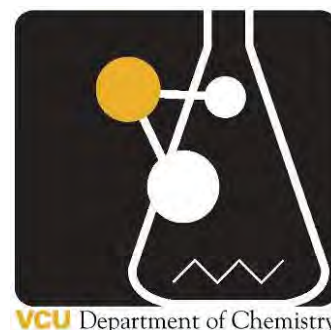
The theme for NCW-2015 is “**Chemistry Colors Our World**”. The Virginia Section celebration will be held from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 24 at the Children’s Museum of Richmond, 2626 W. Broad Street in Richmond. Dr. Kristine Smetana is coordinating NCW in the Virginia Section. Contact her with ideas and to volunteer your help: [ksmetana@jtcc.edu](mailto:ksmetana@jtcc.edu); (804) 706-5143. ACS members, high school and college students, teachers — we need everyone’s help at the Children’s Museum on October 24!



Visit [www.acs.org/ncw](http://www.acs.org/ncw) for more information on NCW 2015.

### SEMINARS AT VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY

- October 15 - **Dr. Ram B. Gupta**, VCU School of Engineering, “Clean Energy for a Growing and Prospering World”
- October 20 - **Dr. Stephanie Brock**, Wayne State University
- October 22 - **Dr. Scott Gronert**, VCU Department of Chemistry
- October 29 - **Dr. Hooman Tafreshi**, VCU Department of Mechanical Engineering
- November 5 - **Dr. Chris Mundy**, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
- November 10 - **Dr. Jennifer Aitken**, Duquesne University
- November 12 - **Dr. Jeffrey Seeman**, University of Richmond
- November 19 - **Dr. Amanda J. Morris**, Virginia Tech, “Exploring Metal Organic Frameworks for Use as Integrated Artificial Photosynthetic Assemblies”
- November 24 - **Dr. Sarah Michel**, University of Maryland



All seminars are scheduled at 3:30 p.m. in Room 1024 of Oliver Hall-Physical Science Wing.

### 2016 MEETINGS OF THE VIRGINIA SECTION

These meetings have been scheduled for 2016:

- January 22 - Virginia State University, Petersburg - Awards Meeting
- February 19 - University of Richmond - Dr. Dennis Liotta (Powell Lectureship)
- March 18 - Evonik Industries, Richmond - laboratory tour



## **CHEMISTRY SEMINARS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA**

- October 16 - **Professor John Matson**, Virginia Tech, "Therapeutic Delivery of Hydrogen Sulfide: Small Molecules, Polymers, and Materials"
- October 23 - **Professor Yoshiki Chujo**, Kyoto University
- October 30 - **Professor Krzysztof Szalewicz**, University of Delaware, "Investigating Mysteries of Water from First Principles"
- November 6 - **Professor Marcel Bruchez**, Carnegie Mellon University
- November 13 - **Professor Steve Soper**, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, "Integrated Fluidic System for Analysis of Circulating Tumor Cells: Searching for Drug-Induced DNA Damage Using Nanosensors"

All lectures are scheduled at 4:00 p.m. in Room 304 of the Chemistry Building.

For more information, visit this website: <http://chem.virginia.edu/events-seminars/>.

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2016**

Ballots will soon be available for Virginia Section members to vote for candidates for offices that will be filled in 2016. Instructions for voting electronically will be sent to all active members of the Section whose email addresses are on file with the national office. Voting should begin no later than October 20; all balloting must be completed by November 1. Section members who cannot vote electronically should contact Dr. Scott Gronert, Chair of the Nominations Committee, to request a paper ballot: Dr. Scott Gronert, Department of Chemistry, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA 23284; (804) 828-8551; sgronert@vcu.edu. Below are brief biographical statements for the candidates. Write-in voting is possible by electronic means or on paper ballots.

### **For CHAIR: Dr. Denise Walters**

### **Pfizer Consumer Healthcare**

Denise Walters is a Senior Manager in the Global R&D Operations Analytical Sciences team at Pfizer Consumer Healthcare in Richmond. She has been with Pfizer Consumer Healthcare (formerly Wyeth Consumer Healthcare) for 15 years, holding a number of technical leadership positions in various Analytical Development groups, and has been in her current position since October, 2013. Prior to joining Pfizer Consumer Healthcare, Denise worked for five years as a study director/task leader at Battelle Memorial Institute in Columbus Ohio, supporting analytical projects for both industrial and government contracts. Before that, she worked for three years as a research scientist in pharmaco-kinetics and analytical development at Whitby Research in Richmond, Virginia. She has a B.S. degree in Chemistry and a Ph.D. in Pharmacy from Virginia Commonwealth University. Denise has been an ACS member since 1985 and has been an active member of the Virginia Section since 2000. She is currently the Vice Chair of the Section.

### **For CHAIR-ELECT: Dr. Colleen Taylor**

### **Virginia State University**

Dr. Taylor is an associate professor of chemistry at Virginia State University where she has filled a variety of roles over the last decade, including Interim Department Chair, blackboard trainer, Undergraduate American Chemical Society Student Affiliate Chapter mentor, general chemistry course coordinator, and research mentor. Her interest in the ACS student affiliate chapter has led her to include students in yearly outreach activities such as the DuPont Girls in Science, Fool for Arts Festival and National Chemistry week at the Science Museum of Virginia. Her most active endeavor with her student affiliates involved serving on the board for SERMACS 2011 and receiving the student affiliate grant to run the Undergraduate Program. Her research interests are in chemical education and interfacial coordination chemistry. The former area of interest has been a major focus for Dr. Taylor for the past several years. She has worked with a local High School to integrate guided inquiry exercises into the curriculum and has presented work on the integration of laboratory videos in place of recitation. She has presented several times on the Flipped Classroom in her

General Chemistry courses. On November 13, 2013, Dr. Taylor was featured on the PBS radio program "With Good Reason: The Future of Higher Education" (<http://withgoodreasonradio.org/2013/11/the-future-of-higher-education/>). She serves on the Board of the Academy for Process Educators and is the current Chair of the local PE section in Virginia.

**For VICE CHAIR: Ms. Kathleen Sink****Eurofins Lancaster Laboratories PSS**

Kathleen Sink is a Scientist for Eurofins Lancaster Laboratories PSS at the Altria CRT in Richmond. She has been involved in tobacco and pharmaceutical testing for 4 years. Prior to Lancaster, she worked at Arista Laboratories in the liquid chromatography group and Fareva Pharmaceuticals in the raw materials lab. She has a Bachelors in Chemistry from the University of Virginia, with a minor in Studio Art. Currently, she is enrolled full time in Virginia Commonwealth University's MS in Business Decision Analytics Professional Track Program. Kathleen recently joined the board for the Richmond Chromatography Discussion Group. A couple years ago, she started the Virginia Younger Chemists Committee by hosting events such as "The Chemistry of Beer" at Legends Brewery and "The Chemistry of Cannabis" at Sine with guest speaker Aron Lichtman. The National Section of the ACS recently recognized the Virginia YCC with a ChemLuminary Award for Outstanding New Local Section Younger Chemists Committee Award. She is currently the Chair for the Virginia Section YCC and is assisting in launching the Mentor Program for the Virginia ACS.

**For SECRETARY: Dr. Christine Farthing****Pfizer Consumer Healthcare**

Christine Farthing is a Scientist in the Global R&D Operations Analytical Sciences team at Pfizer Consumer Healthcare in Richmond. She has been with Pfizer Consumer Healthcare in her current position for over a year. Prior to joining Pfizer Consumer Healthcare, Christine worked for Virginia Commonwealth University as a laboratory specialist in the Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Nephrology and Clinical Pharmacology, refining her analytical skills and attending college. Christine received her B.S. degree in Biology and a minor in Chemistry from Virginia Commonwealth University in 2008. She received her Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical Sciences from Virginia Commonwealth University in 2014. Christine has been a member of ACS since 2014, and is currently the secretary of the Virginia section.

**For TREASURER: Dr. Thad Hannel****Altria Client Services**

Thad Hannel received his B.S. degree in Chemistry and a minor in Mathematics from Indiana University (Southeast) in 2005. He received his Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry from the University of Kentucky in 2010 where he worked under Professor Robert Lodder. His research at the University of Kentucky was focused on the development of integrated sensing methodologies for the identification of "false samples" through integration of chemometric techniques directly into the sensor system. These Integrated Sensing and Processing (ISP) methodologies have been applied to Acoustic Resonance Spectrometry (ARS), Near-Infrared (NIR) Hyperspectral imaging and in the development of a novel solid state spectrometer. In 2009 he co-founded Escent Technologies LLC with venture capital based on his research with the solid state spectrometer. In 2013, Dr. Hannel began working as a contractor for Altria where he applied his knowledge of NIR spectroscopy and chemometrics to solve real world problems in manufacturing. He now currently works for Altria as a research scientist in the Modeling and Simulation group where he applies his knowledge of chemometrics to solve diverse problems in a wide range of areas significant to the business.

**For COUNCILOR (three-year term): Dr. Kristine Smetana      John Tyler Community College**

Dr. Kristine Smetana is a Professor of Chemistry at John Tyler Community College. She graduated from Wheaton College with a B.A. in chemistry/ACS certified in 1990 and completed a Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry from Virginia Commonwealth University in 2004. During her time in graduate school, she worked full time teaching college chemistry, college biology, environmental science and economics for the Governor's school for Global Economics and Technology in Southside Virginia and directed their student research program. She also taught Biology, Earth science and Advanced Science at the Appomattox Regional Governor's School. She has been teaching chemistry at John Tyler Community College for the last 15 years and received the Outstanding Faculty Award for teaching in May 2015. She is currently working with the Online Educational Resources (OER) team for the VCCS to reduce the cost for chemistry books and materials. Kristine has been a member of the Executive Committee of the Virginia Section since 2000 and has been very active with the section's community activities. She has been the coordinator of National Chemistry Week (NCW) activities in the Section since 2006 and coordinator of the Chemists Celebrate Earth Day (CCED) program since 2007. Our Section has received numerous Chemluminary awards for the work done during Chemists Celebrate Earth Day, National Chemistry Week, and Chemists with Disabilities Awards for activities at events for teaching science to children with disabilities. She is a Councilor for the Virginia Section and was a member of the national SOCED special task force for two-year colleges. Currently, she serves on SOCED sub A.



**For ALTERNATE COUNCILOR (three-year term): Dr. Joseph Pompano      Arista Laboratories**

Joe Pompano was raised in Connecticut and earned his BS in mathematics and chemistry at the University of Connecticut in Storrs. Joe received an M.S. in Human Nutrition from the University of Massachusetts, and did a Dietetic Internship at the Medical College of Virginia Hospitals in Richmond, which brought him to Virginia in 1982. After teaching high school mathematics and chemistry in Henrico County for 16 years, he obtained a Ph.D. in chemistry from Virginia Commonwealth University, doing research with Professor Sarah Rutan on artificial neural networks in the analysis of water soluble sulfonylurea herbicides, using an LC/MS.

In the 1970's, Joe was the founder of an alternative school in Orange, Massachusetts and the owner/operator of a natural foods restaurant. His professional chemistry-related experience includes working as a laboratory technician at Erving Paper Mills in Erving, Massachusetts, and as a Principal Scientist at Boehringer-Ingelheim Chemicals, Inc. in Petersburg, Virginia. He is currently employed as a Scientist and team leader at Arista Laboratories in the LC Group.

Joe has been an ACS member since 1994 and is a member in the Analytical Chemistry Division. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the Virginia Section and has served the section as Treasurer, Secretary, Vice-Chair, Chair-Elect, and Chair. He was the General Chair of the 2011 Southeast Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society (SERMACS) and is currently involved with the Chemistry Olympiad.

Joe lives in Hanover with his wife Debbie and two dogs, Snowbear and Corky. He has three daughters. Rachel is an art teacher in Charlottesville, Rebecca is finishing a post-doc in chemistry at the University of Chicago, and Laura is a Ph.D. candidate in International Nutrition at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York.

**For TRUSTEE (three-year term): Dr. Stephanie Mabry      Afton Chemical**

Dr. Stephanie Mabry is an R&D Manager at Afton Chemical, where she leads an analytical testing laboratory. She has a BS in chemistry from West Virginia University and a PhD in physical chemistry from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her professional experience includes Group Leader at Rayonier, Instrument Manager at the University of Maryland - Baltimore County, Research Scientist at Insmed, and Adjunct Instructor at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College. Dr. Mabry has served as Chair (2011) and Treasurer (2012-2014) of the Virginia Section and was awarded the Section's Distinguished Service Award in 2012. Currently, she serves as chair of the Section's Women Chemists Committee.

## ***REPORT ON THE TEACHER AWARDS MEETING***

The annual Teacher Awards Program was held at Virginia Commonwealth University on Friday, September 18. **Dr. Todd Koch**, Chair of the Section, presided, with assistance by **Dr. Denise Walters**, Chair-Elect.

The program began with a PowerPoint presentation by **Mr. Larry White**, Chair of the Section's History Committee. He provided information on the National ACS Meeting (1927) and the four Southeastern Regional Meetings (1959, 1969, 1991, 2011) that have been hosted by the Virginia Section. Along the way, Larry described some interesting facts from the 100-year history of the Section.

Denise Walters read the names of the class of 2015 new 50-yr and 60-yr members of the ACS from the Virginia Section. Todd Koch presented ACS certificates to the three 50-yr members in attendance—**Dr. James Beck**, **Dr. Maurice Maxwell**, and **Mr. Larry White**.

**Dr. Ann Sullivan**, Director of the Chemistry Olympiad for the Virginia Section, recognized outstanding performance by several schools in the Olympiad competition. These included Albemarle High School, The Collegiate School, Prince Edward County High School, Prince George County High

School, and St. Stephen's and St. Agnes' School. Ann presented plaques to chemistry teachers **Ms. Susan Foumess-Ewell** of the Collegiate School (Team and School Awards) and **Mr. Gary Lutz** from Prince Edward County High School (Team Award). Mr. Lutz accepted the Team Award along with four of his chemistry students.

**Dr. Elliot Bolles**, Principal of Penn Elementary School in Prince William County, introduced **Ms. LoriAnn Pawlik**. Dr. Koch presented her with the Distinguished Elementary School Science Teacher Award. The Award consists of a plaque and a check for \$300. In addition, the Section presented a check for \$300 to Penn Elementary School for use in enhancing science instruction.

The recipient of the Distinguished Middle School Science Teacher Award was **Ms. Carrie Reardon** from Manassas Park Middle School in Manassas Park. She was introduced by **Ms. Pamela Kalso**, Principal of Manassas Park Middle School. Dr. Koch presented Ms. Reardon with her plaque and the two checks.

The Franklin D. Kizer Distinguished High School Chemistry Teacher award was given to **Mr. Paul Parker**, chemistry teacher at Midlothian High School in Chesterfield County. Mr. Parker was introduced by **Mr. John Pettis**, former Chair of the Science Department at Midlothian High School. Dr. Koch presented the plaque and checks to Mr. Parker.

Dr. Walters introduced the speaker, **Dr. Kate Yu** from the Waters Corporation in Milford, Massachusetts. Dr. Yu gave an enlightening talk on the use of analytical instrumentation to determine the composition and detect adulterants in herbal and dietary supplements. She described three case studies from her personal experiences. At the conclusion of Dr. Yu's talk, Dr. Walters presented her with the traditional engraved Jefferson Cup from the Virginia Section.

**Dr. Kristine Smetana**, Chair of the Community Activities Committee, showed the two ChemLuminary Awards that the Section received at the national ACS meeting in Boston. One is for activities by the Younger Chemists Committee, chaired by **Ms. Kathleen Sink**, and the other is for the Section's Earth Day programs that were organized by Dr. Smetana.

The Section thanks **Dr. Scott Gronert** and Virginia Commonwealth University for hosting this outstanding meeting. See below for photographs from the awards meeting.

## ***THANK YOU LETTER FROM TEACHER AWARD WINNER***

Ms. LoriAnn Pawlik, who received the Distinguished Elementary School Science Teacher Award at the Section meeting on September 18, has sent this letter to the members of the Section.

"Please convey my sincere appreciation and thank you to the membership. As Educators, I don't think that many of us seek out awards for teaching excellence- we just teach a love for our passions and try to pass that along to our students... to spark an interest in them for their future. Actually, to all of the students since they will also be our future leaders! What better way to influence our country's leadership than through engaging them in a passion for science and its importance at a young age?"

I am truly honored that the American Chemical Society took the time to encourage and support us - especially teachers at the elementary level! I've already begun to share the educational materials on the ACS website with my students and am especially looking forward to using the info on 'Colors' during National Chemistry Week!"

## **MORE RESULTS FROM THE 2015 CHEMISTRY OLYMPIAD**

Most of the results from this year's Chemistry Olympiad were included in the September *Bulletin*. Here are the School and Team Awards:

**The School Award** is given to the school with the highest overall average, separated by test, but not category. The school must have at least seven participants, the highest and lowest scores are discarded, with the average score determined from the remaining scores. Winning schools receive plaques.

### **School Awards:**

First Year Exam - **Prince George High School**  
Second Year Exam - **Collegiate School**

**Team Awards** are given to the schools having the highest combined total for three students, separated by category and year. Winning schools receive plaques.

### **First year Team Award:**

Small School & Small Governor's School - **St. Stephen's and St. Agnes' School**  
Large School - **Albemarle High School**

### **Second Year Team Award:**

Small School & Small Governor's School - **Collegiate School**  
Large School - **Prince Edward County High School**

More information on the Chemistry Olympiad in the Virginia Section can be found on the Section website <http://virginia.sites.acs.org/>. Dr. Ann Sullivan is Chair of Virginia Section Olympiad Committee and prepared this report of the 2015 Olympiad results: [asullivan@reynolds.edu](mailto:asullivan@reynolds.edu). Joe Pompano, Kevin Moore, Linette Watkins, and Tom DeVore assisted with the Olympiad.



**The ten students from the Virginia Section who took the national Chemistry Olympiad exam at James Madison University on April 19**

## INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIAD RESULTS

The 47<sup>th</sup> International Chemistry Olympiad was held July 20-29 in Baku, Azerbaijan. China was the overall team winner with four gold medals. South Korea and Taiwan also won four gold medals. The U.S. team earned one gold and three silver medals. Teams from 75 countries participated in this year's competition. The U.S. team consisted of Sooraj Nath Boominathan from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Bryce Cai from Barrington, Illinois; Daniel Wang from Cupertino, California; and Janice Ong from the Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in Alexandria, Virginia. The 48<sup>th</sup> International Chemistry Olympiad will be held in Karachi, Pakistan in 2016.



Cai (from left), Ong, Wang, and Boominathan

## IRS FORM FOR VIRGINIA SECTION

The Virginia Section of the ACS is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. An annual 990 form must be filed with the IRS and made available to the public. Contact the Section Treasurer, Dr. Thad Hannel, to access the Virginia Section Form 990: (804) 335-2552; Thaddeus.Hannel@altria.com.

## REPORT ON THE STUDENT SUCCESS WORKSHOP



On April 17, the Minority Affairs Committee of the Virginia Section and the National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCChE) sponsored a workshop at the UVA meeting. The session on "Branding Yourself for Academic and Professional Success in STEM" was led by Ms. Talitha Hampton, Project manager at AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals who is now the President of NOBCChE. Students in attendance were from Virginia Union University in Richmond, Virginia State University in Petersburg, and the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg.

According to Ms. Hampton, being perceived as one of many isn't good enough in today's highly competitive academic and business environment. Whether you want an internship, an academic opportunity, a new job, a promotion or a raise; you want to start a business; or you want greater buy-in from your target audience, your ability to make an high impact first impression and be memorable long after an encounter helps you stand out from the crowd and win. The demand for skilled workers in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) is high and is closely linked to global competitiveness. But with so many people pursuing STEM careers, it is not enough to work hard, do great work and hope to get noticed. You have to be both seen and heard, relevant and engaging. The Branding Yourself workshop revealed the secrets and principles of how one has to market himself as a brand, harness potential, and take charge of academic and professional career, business and life, while leveraging the competitive advantage that a career in STEM provides. Whether one is in the classroom or the corner office, this workshop had something for everyone.

***(Information provided by Dr. H. Hyacinthe Yarabe, Chair of the Minority Affairs Committee)***

## VIRGINIA SECTION IMPLEMENTS MENTORING PROGRAM

During the spring, the Virginia Section implemented a pilot project that matched students with professional chemists in a mentoring program. **Dr. Colleen Taylor**, Vice Chair of the Section, coordinated the program. Rob Davidson, Kathleen Sink, Todd Koch, Colleen Taylor, and Scott Gronert identified mentors for the program. Thirteen students responded to a survey solicitation. The students were polled on their desired type and length of the interaction. Selections ranged from a few “chats” to several in person visits and a semester to years remaining in school. Based on these selections and the students’ interests, the matches were made with the pool of initial mentors and their desired type and time range of desired mentoring.

All mentees were given a deadline to create their profile on the ACS network site. The ten students meeting the deadline were accepted and represented the University of Richmond, Virginia Commonwealth University, Virginia Union University, Virginia Tech, James Madison University, Eastern Mennonite University, the University of Virginia, and Hampden-Sydney College. All applicants who responded posted their profile on the network and were matched with mentors. A remaining mentor was matched with a student enrolled in an associates program in biotechnology from NOVA and completing an internship position at JTCC.

The pilot highlighted many ways in which we can expand and improve the program. A meet and greet pizza party is planned at the University of Richmond at 7PM on October 8<sup>th</sup> to review the successes, improvements and insights of both the Mentee and Mentors involved. The YCC will be taking ownership of the program and we expect another solicitation to go out near the end of the fall semester.

Mentors	Mentees
Scott Gronert, Colleen Taylor	Nhat Lee VUU
Ryan Stiltoner	Gloria Miller UR
Kathleen Sink	Ashley Parks VCU
Brooke Van Zandt	Gregory Domaleski VCU
Camelia Drissi	Aidan McKenzie JMU
Jim Saunders	Caitlyn Holzkecht UVA
Krista Weissbart	Darryl Venn Mason UVA
Heather Lourenca	Jason Halmo HSC
Ashleigh Feely	Marchelle (Marcy) Smucker EMU
Genya Prepelitskaya	Matthew John Bowen JMU
Samantha Tsotsoros	Christopher Kellerhalls NOVA

(This article was provided by Dr. Colleen Taylor, Vice Chair of the Section)

**WORDS OF WISDOM FOR OCTOBER: “THE KEY TO LIFE IS ACCEPTING CHALLENGES”**

## VIRGINIA SECTION HOLDS CCED EVENT



On April 18, the Virginia Section participated in the Chemists Celebrate Earth Day (CCED) with a day of activities at the Midlothian Campus of John Tyler Community College, part of the JTCC Fool for Art Celebration. This year's theme for CCED was "Climate Science: More Than Just a Weather Report!" Dr. Kristine Smetana, Chair of the Community Activities Committee for the Virginia Section,

coordinated the CCED event. This marked the tenth year of Section involvement in the CCED program. Thanks to all the students, teachers, and ACS members who volunteered their time for this community outreach event.

### CCED PHOTOGRAPHS, COURTESY OF TODD KOCH:

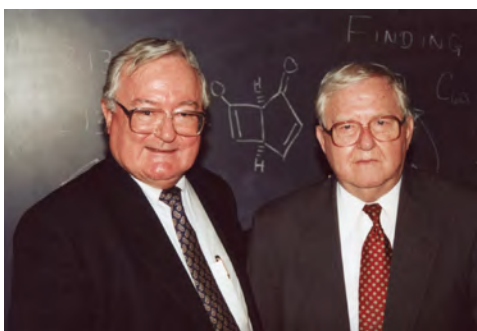


## QUESTIONS FROM THE PAST

This question was asked in the Summer Bulletin: In addition to the national meeting in 1927, the Virginia Section has hosted several regional meetings. **How many southeastern regional meetings has the Virginia Section hosted and in what years?** The Virginia Section has hosted four Southeastern Region meetings: in 1959, 1969, 1991, and 2011.

A new question from the past: In 1938, the Virginia Section hosted the national meeting for one of the largest scientific organizations in the world. **What was the organization and where was the meeting held?**

## CAN YOU IDENTIFY THESE PERSONS?



The photograph is from February, 2001 when one of these persons spoke at the Powell Lectureship at the University of Richmond. He was a Professor of Chemistry at the University of California at Los Angeles. His topic at U of R was "Forty-Three Years of Photochemistry." He had a worldwide reputation for bringing the best of information technology to higher education. The other person was a Professor of Chemistry at the University of Richmond. He received Distinguished Service Award from the Virginia Section in 1977.

The mystery persons in the Summer Bulletin were Dr. Lidia Vallarino and her husband Dr. James Quagliano. Lidia received the Distinguished Service Award in 2002 and Jim's *alter ego* was Christopher Columbus.



## PHOTOS FROM THE TEACHER AWARDS MEETING SEPTEMBER 18, 2015



Larry White



Ann Sullivan and  
Susan Foumess-Ewell



Ann Sullivan, Gary Lutz, and  
Prince Edward County students



Denise Walters  
and Kate Yu



LoriAnn Pawlik, Paul Parker,  
Carrie Reardon and Todd Koch



Virginia Section 2015  
ChemLuminary Awards



Larry White, Jim Beck, and  
Maurice Maxwell

## NEWS ABOUT SPEAKERS AT VIRGINIA SECTION MEETINGS

**David G. Karraker**, a retired Savannah River National Laboratory researcher, died on February 27, 2015. He spoke to the Virginia Section on December 7, 1962 on "Reprocessing Nuclear Fuel."

**Matthew Neurock**, Shell Professor of Chemical Engineering & Materials Science at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, is the recipient the 2015 Robert Burwell Lectureship in Catalysis. Dr. Neurock spoke to the Section at Mary Baldwin College on October 21, 2005. His topic was "From Computational Chemistry to Catalyst and Materials Design."

**Rodney O'Connor**, a retired professor at Texas A&M University, died in August, 2014. He gave a talk to the Section on April 19, 1980 at the College of William and Mary on "Creepy Crawlers: The Chemistry of Animal Venoms."

**Harry B. Gray**, Arnold O. Beckman Professor of Chemistry at California Institute of Technology, is the recipient of the 2014 Theodore Williams Richards Medal Award. Dr. Gray spoke on "The Solar Army" at the Section meeting held at the University of Richmond on March 18, 2011.

**Sunny Xie**, the Mallinckrodt Professor of Chemistry at Harvard University, has received the Peter Debye Award in Physical Chemistry for 2015. On February 23, 2007, he spoke at the University of Richmond on "Holding Single Molecules up to the Light: From *in vitro* to *in vivo* Studies."

**Henry A. Bent**, an emeritus professor at the University of Pittsburgh, died on January 3, 2015. He spoke to the Section in Fredericksburg on December 15, 1972.

**Lisa Balbes**, founder of Balbes Consultants, is the winner of the Howard & Sally Peters Award. On October 15, 2010, she spoke in Farmville on "Career Management in the Information Age: New Ways to Find Jobs."