



July 10, 2021

Immediate Past-Chair's Report of the Section Activity/Successes/Challenges During the period of January to December 2020

- The Section held two Executive Committee (EC) Meetings in 2020, one on January 25, 2020 at Virginia Commonwealth University, and a zoom meeting on June 19, 2020. We discussed and approved the 2020 budget and the Officers and Committees reports. In the January meeting, the EC voted unanimously to award the R. Gerald Bass Award for Exceptional Service to Dr. Ann Marie Sullivan (Professor and Chair at Reynolds Community College).
- The Section held two regular monthly meetings, one on January 24 at the Enthalpy Laboratories in Richmond and the other on February 28 at the University of Richmond. The January Meeting included a tour of the Enthalpy laboratories and was devoted to the Distinguished Service and Research Awards. The recipient of the Service Award **Dr. Rob Davidson** (Senior Research Associate at Afton Chemical) delivered a talk on “*My ACS Journey*”, and the recipient of the Research Award **Dr. B. Jill Venton** (University of Virginia) delivered a talk on “*Analytical Neurochemistry: New Techniques Uncover Rapid Neurochemical Signaling*”.
- The February Meeting featured the University of Richmond Powell Lectureship presented by **Dr. Frank Gupton** (Virginia Commonwealth University) on “*Pharmaceutical Processing in the 21st Century: Seeing what others have seen and thinking what no one has thought*”.
- Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the March and April Meetings scheduled at Randolph Macon College and the University of Virginia, respectively were cancelled. The Section remained committed to helping our members navigate the numerous challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic. All the Section Meetings and Activities continued online from September through December 2020.
- In April, the Section honored the outstanding senior chemistry majors from colleges and universities in Virginia with the 2020 Undergraduate Chemistry Student Award. This award consists of a certificate, a one-year membership in the ACS, and a copy of book “*The Disappearing Spoon*” by Sam Kean.

The following students were mailed their Award books and certificates: Gabrielle Perkins (Bridgewater College), Jocelyn R. Brown (Virginia State University), Gabrielle Nelson (Randolph Macon College), Kyle Albert (Shenandoah University), Connor Vincent

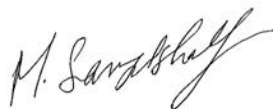
Headley (University of Virginia), Bethany Taylor (Mary Baldwin University), Leah Lapp (Eastern Mennonite University), Allison Burgess (University of Mary Washington), Ruth Ann Beaver (College of William & Mary), Alan Branigan (Virginia Commonwealth University), Erin Krist (James Madison University), Dani Sklar (University of Richmond), Corri Calandra (Longwood University), Charles A. Wolfe (Hampden-Sydney College), and Charles Whitehead-Tillery (Virginia Union University).

- The Section nominated the historical chemical hearth at the University of Virginia to the National Historic Chemical Landmarks Program and the designation was approved by the ACS committee. The Section plans a ceremony in Spring 2022 to celebrate the landmark's status.
- The Section held three zoom meetings on September 18, October 16 and November 13, 2020.
 - The September meeting hosted by Virginia State University, Petersburg was the Teachers' Awards meeting and featured two speakers: **Mr. Rodney Robinson**, National Teacher of the Year Awardee, and **Dr. Teshell Ponteen Greene**, STEM Educator and Instructional Coach. The recipients of the Teachers' Awards were:
Dona Breen, Moss-Nuckols Elementary School, Louisa County, Distinguished Elementary School Science Teacher Award;
Jeffrey Peake, Skyline Middle School, Harrisonburg, Distinguished Middle School Science Teacher Award; and
Gary Lutz, Prince Edward County High School, Franklin D. Kizer Distinguished High School Chemistry Teacher Award. Each awardee received a plaque and check for \$300. Each school received a check for \$300 to use for science teaching.
 - The October meeting hosted by Virginia Union University, Richmond, featured presentation of the Gerald Bass Award to **Dr. Ann Sullivan**, Reynolds Community College. The meeting featured a very interesting and popular talk by **Dr. LaTia E. Scott**, Delaware State University on "*Wound Healing: From Eye to Foot*"
 - The November meeting hosted by James Madison University, Harrisonburg and featured another interesting and popular talk by **Dr. Christine A. Hughey**, James Madison University on "*Beer Processomics: Mass Spectral Molecular Monitoring of Volatile and Nonvolatile Compounds in Beer throughout the Brewing Process*".
- The Younger Chemists Committee (YCC) received a \$500.00 grant from the ACS Corporation Associates Committee to organize a "Women's Leadership Workshop" in September 2020.
- The Section has been selected as a finalist for the following ChemLuminary Award(s):
 - Outstanding Community Involvement in NCW
 - Outstanding NCW Event for a Specific Audience
 - Outstanding Ongoing CCEW Event
 - Best Overall Local Section Minority Affairs
 - Outstanding Performance by a Local Section (Medium Large Size)

- Outstanding New Local Section YCC
- Outstanding Local Section YCC
- Outstanding or Creative Local Section Younger Chemists Committee Event

The section received three ChemLuminary Awards on December 9, 2020:

- * Outstanding or Creative Local Section Younger Chemists Committee Event
 - * Best Overall Local Section Minority Affairs Committee
 - * Outstanding Ongoing Chemists Celebrate Earth Week Event
- The EC held a Strategic Plan Update Meeting on December 5, 2020 to review new Financial Strategic goals, update the 2018 Strategy Scorecard, and plan for the 2021 ACS Strategic Plan Retreat.



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