



ACS Virginia Section Younger Chemists Committee Chair Report: 05/11/2018
Chair: Mr. Julian Bobb

I. The YCC sponsored several events since January of 2018.

- A. In January, the YCC hosted a tour and happy hour at Cirrus Vodka in Richmond. Attendees (12) were escorted on a tour of the distillery by an accommodating staff whereby they were lectured on the fermentation and distillation processes for the preparation of gluten-free vodka from potatoes.
- B. In February, the YCC sponsored a tour of the Richmond Central Department of Forensic Science. Attendees (20) were inclusive of undergraduate and graduate students from various Virginia colleges along with chemists from local companies. Attendees were escorted on the tour by Jeffrey D. Ban, the central laboratory director, to various sections of the department. Attendees learned about how evidences from various disciplines (i.e. digital and multimedia, firearms & toolmarks, latent prints & impressions, DNA, controlled substances, and trace evidence) are collected and analyze to solve crimes. Attendees were well-engaged and asked questions pertinent to the company, job opportunities, and crime solving processes.
- C. Also, in February, the YCC in conjunction with the chemistry club at the College of William and Mary hosted a "Program-in-a-Box" event (Opioids: Fighting Addiction with Chemistry) at the college. In total, 20 people attended the special webinar inclusive of 15 undergraduate students and 2 faculty members from the college, along with 3 graduate students from Virginia Commonwealth University. Attendees learned about how the current opioid crisis and epidemic came to be, the neurobiological pathways involved, the current pharmacotherapeutic approaches to treatments, and the medicinal chemistry approaches being utilized.

- D. In March, the YCC sponsored a tour at Afton Chemical Corporation in Richmond. In total, 15 people attended the event inclusive of undergraduate and graduate students from the department of chemistry at Virginia Commonwealth University. Attendees were escorted on the tour by Mark Devlin, PhD and were given a brief history about the company and were guided to various sections of the company to learn mainly about the role of lubricants as it pertains to tribology on mating parts present in automobiles.

- E. In April, the YCC sponsored a tour of the Anton-Paar facility in Ashland, Virginia. In total, 17 people attended the event encompassing chemistry graduate students from Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), a post-doctoral fellow from VCU engineering and a research chemist from Altria. Light refreshments were provided for the attendees upon arrival at the facility. The Attendees were then escorted to an auditorium to watch a short introductory video about the company. Followingly, the attendees were divided up into groups of 3 or 4 and was escorted by product specialists to various labs at the facility whereby a brief lecture and demonstration was given on several instruments. The tour was concluded with a Q & A session with Tim Cassell, the Vice President for sales and marketing.

II. Met in April with the Richmond Chromatography Discussion Group (RCDG)

- A. We discuss initial plans for a potential chromatography workshop event.
- B. Still need to work out the logistics and target audiences

III. Mentoring Program

- A. Seven people have signed up to be mentors
- B. We have 2 – 3 current mentees and 5 students who have signed up
- C. Need 1 more student or early chemist to sign up
- D. Will have mentees and mentors create profiles in the coming days
- E. Thinking of planning a social event (dinner or lunch) in the early Fall

IV. Career Development Workshop in the Fall

- A. The Virginia Local Section has been funded **\$1000** for the Local Section Innovative Project Grant (IPG) proposal entitled, "Intergenerational Career Development Workshop".
- B. Special thanks to Mrs. Kathleen Spangler for guidance and for the letter of support and to Dr. Denise Walters for guidance and advice during the proposal writing process.
- C. The event is planned for Saturday, October 27th, 2018 at Longwood University in Farmville, VA.
- D. Planning to have a half-of-a-day event.
- E. This event, which will be leveraged by experienced senior members will encompass an interactive workshop on how to construct strong resumes and cover letters, and developing interviewing and networking skills. This will be followed by a discussion panel and a networking session.
- F. I have contacted the ACS Career Services:
 - Looking into getting an ACS career consultant.
 - Waiting to hear back.

V. Other Fall Plans

- A. Tours of other companies
- B. A program-in-a-box event at a university/college
- C. Social events (brewery etc.)
- D. *Will Continue to update the YCC webpage with current events*