



of Western New York



Double Bond

The Newsletter of the Western New York Section of the American Chemical Society

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THE 90TH JACOB F. SCHOELLKOPF MEDAL

The WNYACS Schoellkopf award jury has selected Prof. Mary McCourt, of the Department of Chemistry, Biochemistry and Physics at Niagara University, as the 90th Schoellkopf Medal recipient

... in recognition of her pioneering contributions to the development of drug delivery methods for the treatment of breast cancer, diabetes, and Alzheimer's disease and for her outstanding dedication to teaching and mentoring.

The WNYACS reluctantly has postponed the public presentation of this year's Schoellkopf medal until an appropriate time, hopefully in 2021.

PASSING OF EDWARD A. HEINTZ

Longtime WNYACS member, and 1972-73 section Chair, Ed Heintz, died on August 10th of this year, at the age of 89. Ed received the 1980 Jacob F. Schoellkopf Medal for work with Airco Inc, of Niagara Falls, on the graphitization process for producing artificial graphite. He was a regular attendee of the Schoellkopf award banquet, where he was recognized on his 50th and, recently, his 60 anniversary of ACS membership.

OFFICER CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES

The following slate of candidates for WNYACS Executive positions has been established. In accordance with our bylaws, an election ballot will be circulated. Look for a separate email from **KwikSurveys.com** describing the voting process.

For Chair (2021): Luis Velarde is an Associate Professor in the Department of Chemistry at the University at Buffalo. He maintains an active research program with interests including surface chemistry and laser spectroscopy of low-dimensional materials, environmental and biological interfaces, and heterogeneous catalysts. Luis is active in graduate and undergraduate student mentoring and K-12 outreach programs in the Buffalo Public School system. He is the current Chair of the Niagara Frontier regional section of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy. Before starting at Buffalo, he received his Ph.D. from the University of Arizona (2008) with Prof. Andrei Sanov. He was a President's Postdoctoral Fellow with Prof. Alec Wodtke (now at the Max-Planck Institute in Goettingen) at UC Santa Barbara (2008-2010) and a postdoctoral research associate at the Environmental Molecular Sciences Laboratory (EMSL) of the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) from 2010-2013.

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"IT MAY VERY WELL BRING ABOUT IMMORTALITY, BUT IT WILL TAKE FOREVER TO TEST IT."

Visit the WNYACS website: <https://wnyacs.org/>

Candidate Biographies continued from page 1

For Chair-Elect (2021):

Dominic Ventura was born in Buffalo and has lived in the Western New York area his entire life. He received his B.S. degree in chemistry from the University at Buffalo in 2004, completed his Ph.D. from the same institution under professor Huw M. L. Davies in 2008, and then joined the faculty at D'Youville College in the fall of 2009. At D'Youville College he has taught general, organic, and organometallic chemistry as well as other science courses such as astronomy and natural disasters. D'Youville College has hosted the WNYACS Undergraduate Research Symposium twice and both times Dominic has chaired the organizing committee for the event. He is currently the Chair of the Department of Chemistry at D'Youville College and is overseeing the process to get their chemistry degree ACS approved. His research interests include the use of metallophthalocyanines as catalysts in various carbenoid transformations.

For Vice-Chair (2021):

Rachel S. Ventura (nee Dibbell) was raised in a small town in central NY, and then earned her B.S. in Professional Chemistry from the University of North Alabama in 2004. She went on to work with professor David Watson at the University at Buffalo for her graduate research, and earned her Ph.D. in Chemistry in 2009. Rachel then worked as a post-doc with professor Joe Gardella at UB, while also teaching several general chemistry courses at area colleges as an adjunct instructor. She joined the Nat Sci Dept at Daemen college from 2012 to 2015, and then chose to focus on her growing family while teaching General Chemistry courses as an adjunct at UB. Rachel joined the staff at UB in 2018 as their Associate Director of General Chemistry Laboratories, and was recently promoted to Director in September of 2020. Rachel is passionate about undergraduate chemistry education, and takes great pride in the improvement and development of the lab curriculum at UB. She is particularly interested in inquiry-based experiments, and in cultivating a love of chemistry in 1st-year students. She believes that general chemistry labs can be rigorous and fun for the students at the same time! Rachel has also served as the co-chair of the Education Committee of the WNYACS since 2018.

For Secretary (2021-2022):

Christopher Patridge is an Assistant Professor of Chemistry at D'Youville College in Buffalo. His current focus has been developing his teaching skills in the courses aimed at students pursuing careers in the health professions. His research interests involve the synthesis and geometric and electronic characterization of novel-structured and/or low dimensional inorganic materials for electrochemical storage.

Dr. Patridge received his B.A. from the University at Buffalo and completed his Ph.D. at UB with Sarbajit

Banerjee. His thesis involved synchrotron work in absorption spectroscopy leading to a 2-year NRC postdoc with Karen Swider-Lyons in the Chemistry Division at the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, DC. He moved back to Buffalo in 2013, with his wife and two children, to begin his academic career. The move was prompted by a desire to find a position that balanced the demands of teaching and research along with more personalized student/professor interaction that is not capable at larger institutions.

For Member at Large (2021-2022):

David Stewart grew up in Western New York and is happy he has been able to stay in Buffalo to teach general and analytical chemistry at D'Youville College. He attended Binghamton University, earning a B.S. in Biochemistry in 2005. After starting graduate school for a Master's in Education, he switched to the Chemistry Ph.D. program at the University at Buffalo. David worked under Diana Aga investigating methods for the identification and quantification of environmental contaminants using various mass spectrometry techniques and earned his Ph.D. in 2014. He continues to pursue research in the area of environmental chemistry with undergraduate students from D'Youville College. He has also helped small groups of high school students from Lewiston-Porter do research projects leading to presentations at International Super Science Fairs in Australia and Singapore.

COUNCILOR'S REPORT

258th ACS National Meeting
San Diego, California
August 25-29, 2019

General Comments.

The Council meeting was held virtually on August 19 due to the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic that continues to affect our personal lives and our work. Councilors were urged to take into account their own actions and habits to make their own communities safer. Councilors were advised to use their positions as members of the scientific enterprise to spread helpful messages and encourage the safe practice of mask wearing, physical distancing, and limiting exposure within your communities.

The continuous and ongoing struggle in this country to create a safe and equitable society for all was brought to Council's attention. The ACS encourages inclusivity and opposes discrimination in scientific learning and practice. Councilors were urged to take active roles in dismantling any barriers that may deter or impede their colleagues in their research or careers. Councilors and guests were encouraged to review the ACS statements on diversity and reflect on how to implement these in their local sections and divisions.

Actions of the Council

Election Results: Elected Committees of Council

By electronic ballot, the Council elected **Elizabeth M. Howson, Zaida C. Morales-Martinez, Margaret J. Schooler, and Jeanette M. Van Emon for three-year terms (2021-2023), and Mark D. Frishberg** for a one-year term (2021) on the Council Policy Committee (CPC).

By electronic ballot, the Council elected **Martha G. Hollomon, Diane Krone, Sarah M. Mullins, Andrea B. Twiss-Brooks, and Javier Vela for three-year terms (2021-2023)** on the Committee on Committees (ConC).

By electronic ballot, the Council elected **Jetty L. Duffy-Matzner, Kevin J. Edgar, Neil D. Jespersen, Julianne M. D. Smist, and Linette M. Watkins** for three-year terms (2021-2023) on the Committee on Nominations and Elections (N&E).

Other Council Actions**Key Actions**

On the recommendation of the Committee on Committees, and with the concurrence of the Council Policy Committee, Council approved the Petition to Clarify Amendments to the Standing Rules and **disbanded the Joint Board-Council Committee on Chemical Abstracts Service**, contingent on approval by the Board of Directors.

Establishment of an International Chemical Sciences Chapter

On the recommendation of the Committee on International Activities, and with the concurrence of the Council Policy Committee, Council approved the creation of an ACS International Chemical Sciences Chapter in the Israel, contingent on approval by the Board of Directors.

Highlights from Committee Reports**Nominations and Elections**

The Committee on Nominations and Elections solicits Councilors' input of qualified individuals for President-Elect, Directors, and the three Elected Committees for future consideration. Suggestions can be sent to nonelect@acs.org.

Ballots for the 2020 fall national election will be distributed starting on September 28th, with a voting deadline four weeks later on October 23rd. ACS members eligible to vote and with an email address on file will receive an electronic ballot with the option to request a paper ballot. Those members with no email

address on file will be sent a paper ballot with the option to vote electronically. The ACS election vendor, Survey & Ballot Systems, will send three email reminders during the voting period to those who have not voted as of the reminder dates. N&E encouraged all ACS members to vote for President-Elect. Election information may be viewed at acs.org/elections.

Budget and Finance

The Society's 2020 financial performance through July 31st yielded a Net from Operations of \$55.7 million, or \$25 million greater than the same period in 2019. Total revenues are \$354 million, 5% ahead of last year, and total expenses are \$298 million, or 3 percent below last year. Unrestricted Net Assets increased to \$466 million.

The most direct revenue impact to the Society related to the COVID pandemic has been to meeting related revenues with the termination of the in-person Spring National Meeting and termination of the in-person Green Chemistry Conference. Significant effort has been devoted to expense management. The Society expects to meet its budgeted net contribution of \$41.3M.

Fall 2020 Virtual Meeting Attendance

The theme of the 260th ACS National Meeting was "Moving Chemistry from Bench to Market." As of August 19th, registration for the Meeting, broken down by Category was:

Member	3,494
Student Member	1,638
Unemployed Member	25
Non Member	945
Student Non Member	375
Total	6,477

In-person meetings typically have an attendance in the 12-13 thousand range.

It was noted, that in general, in-person attendance by industrial members has been declining. The **Task Force on the Future of Meetings** has been charged with performing a "deep dive" on the current portfolio of ACS meetings and conferences, identifying current offerings, evaluating governance and staff support structures, revenue streams, financial targets, and business models, and recommending actions that will ensure the sustainability and future relevance of that portfolio. The possibility of having a hybrid meeting consisting of both in-person and virtual meeting will be reviewed and recommendations made to Council at a later date.

If anyone has any questions, please contact me by email at David.Nalewajek@Gmail.com.

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