

THE Central Arkansas



CHEMIST

The Newsletter of the Central Arkansas Local Section of the American Chemical Society

April 2009

Dinner Meeting

Tuesday, April 28, 2009

Location: Donaghey Student Center
Rooms A & B
UALR
Little Rock, AR

6:00 pm Annual Central Arkansas ACS
Awards Banquet

*To obtain driving directions, visit
membership.acs.org/c/centralarkansas*

The Central Arkansas Local Section Annual Awards Banquet will be held in Rooms A & B of the Donaghey Student Center, UALR, on Tuesday, April 28, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. As is our tradition, we will present certificates of recognition to outstanding chemistry students from each of the colleges and universities within the Central Arkansas local section. We will be honoring several 50 year members and one 60 year member. The dinner will cost approximately \$15 per person.

Attention Faculty Members:

We are asking the college/university chemistry departments to cover the cost for the students they wish to honor. Faculty members should submit the names of students for recognition to Robin Lasey (rlasey@atu.edu) by Tuesday, April 14, so that certificates and programs can be printed in a timely fashion. In addition, Marian Douglas

(msdouglas@ualr.edu) needs an accurate count of the number of people planning to attend the banquet before Friday, April 24. Please consider joining us. This provides a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet new ones.

ACS Strategic Plan for 2009 and Beyond

The "ACS Strategic Plan for 2009 and Beyond," was released in January at www.acs.org/strategicplan, (available for mobile devices at <http://strategy.acs.org/mobile>). The plan provides a blueprint for ACS to advance our vision of "Improving people's lives through the transforming power of chemistry."

What is changing, and what is not, in the plan for 2009 and beyond?

The plan's evolution for 2009 and beyond represents a modest change from last year's release. It continues to emphasize the six aspirational goals. Briefly, these goals are:

- Providing indispensable resources,
- Engaging global community,
- Affecting world challenges,
- Communicating chemistry,
- Advocating for the profession, and
- Maintaining financial health.

The ACS vision, mission, and core values remain unchanged from last year's plan.

All plan content, except for the core values, has been structured around the plan's six goals. New sections on challenges & opportunities and how success will be measured have been added. The trends and strategies have been updated, as well.

Process of the plan's evolution:

The ACS Board of Directors worked diligently to conduct a wide-ranging environmental scan to aid in shaping the revisions. It explored the chemistry enterprise, received formal and informal feedback from ACS governance volunteers, and enlisted a leading association futurist to suggest key trends. Based upon these trends, the Board listed key challenges and opportunities related to each goal, and focused on strategies such as:

- Focus on increasing awareness among members and potential members of the wide array of valuable resources that ACS provides,
- Strengthen the emerging global community through the ACS Network and its online collaboration tools,
- Build on past endeavors to achieve greater sustainability in the areas of food, water, and energy,
- Prepare for active participation in the 2011 International Year of Chemistry, recently announced by the United Nations, which provides the opportunity to promote our science on a grand scale,
- Strengthen the policy development process, by strengthening the strategic dialogue between the committees which recommend policy and the Board committee that approves it, and
- Monitor and respond to the rapidly evolving economic environment to act responsibly to sustain our finances for the short and long term.

As we continue to implement the plan, it will require the creativity, experience, and talents of each ACS member to succeed. If you have suggestions, ideas, or approaches that should be included, please email them to strategicplan@acs.org at any time. The Board and its Planning Committee welcome your input.

ACS Short Courses in 2009

ACS Short Courses are one- to five-day, in-person seminars designed to help chemical scientists and technicians keep current in today's competitive marketplace. Please visit www.acs.org/shortcourses to register and for more information.

Short Course Circuits

The ACS Short Course Circuit offers the opportunity to take advantage of a wider range of course offerings in a single location and network with a variety of your colleagues.

May 4 – 8, 2009 | Durham, NC Circuit
Courses in Analytical Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Medicinal Chemistry, Laboratory Safety, Chemical Engineering, Management, Polymer Chemistry, Quality Assurance, and Cheminformatics

May 17 – 22, 2009 | Boston, MA Circuit
Courses in Analytical Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Medicinal Chemistry, Laboratory Safety, Chemical Engineering, and Biochemistry

Laboratory/Lecture Courses
Get in-class and hands-on experience with Laboratory/Lecture Courses from the ACS.

April 20 – 24; July 20 – 24, November 9 – 13; | Chicago, IL
Gas Chromatography: Fundamentals, Troubleshooting, and Method Development

July 13 – 17; October 5 – 9 | Chicago, IL
High Performance Liquid Chromatography: Fundamentals, Troubleshooting, and Method Development

August 9 – 14; December 6 – 11 | Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA
Polymer Chemistry: Principles and Practice

ACS offers special benefits for unemployed members

During these tough economic times it's more important than ever to belong to the American Chemical Society. Unemployed members can tap into a host of valuable benefits and services that help them get back in the workforce. And, members in good standing may qualify for an unemployed member dues waiver, allowing them to renew their memberships and keep their member benefits at no cost. Contact ACS at service@acs.org, 800-333-9511 or 614-447-3671 for complete details.

Other valuable benefits that help ACS member get back in the workforce include:

- Free registration at ACS National Meetings and registration fees at Regional Meetings of just \$25. Meetings offer ACS Career Fairs with on-site interviews.
- Special discounts for ACS/Harvard courses, ACS ProSpectives and Short Courses, and the ACS Leadership Development System.
- Membership in the ACS Network, your online resource to connect and communicate with friends, colleagues, and potential employers
- Free Guidance from ACS Career Consultants – ACS mentors offer resume reviews, job search strategies, and interview tips that make you stand out from the rest.
- Free access to InterviewStream, an online tool that will sharpen your interview skills
- Members-only access to the ACS Salary comparator.
- And more!

Contact ACS customer service today at service@acs.org, 800-333-9511 or 614-447-3671 today and let us know how we can help.

ChemMatters Magazine Demystifies Every Day Chemistry

The *ChemMatters* magazine for high school students provides teachers with an effective and affordable way of linking students with the fascinating chemistry of every-day life. ACS needs your help in publicizing this excellent resource. Consider sponsoring the subscription for your local teachers or possibly purchasing copies to use as door prizes. Also, explore the extensive 25-year archive of *ChemMatters* on CD. The CD price is only \$30 and you may order it by calling 1-800-227-5558. For more information about *ChemMatters* please visit www.acs.org/chemmatters or contact Patrice Pages at p_pages@acs.org.

Looking Ahead:

Put these dates on your calendar

Tuesday, Sept. 8

Speaker: Dr. George Bodner, *The Difference Between What We Do and What We Tell People We Do* Location: TBD

Thursday, Oct. 15

Speaker: Mr. Robert Blackledge, *The Floyd Landis Sports Doping Case as Evaluated by a Forensic Analytical Chemist*
Location: TBD

Get Involved:

The following are some possible committees in which you can get involved. Please contact Robin Lasey, rlasey@atu.edu or the contact name listed next to the committee.

National Chemistry Week – This committee helps to organize the National Chemistry Week activities that take place at the Museum of Discovery.

Legislative Action Network – The Legislative Action Network (LAN) is the Society's electronic grassroots program for updating members on federal legislation and facilitating contact with members of Congress. The network focuses primarily on federal science education and R&D policy, but also addresses environment, workplace, and competitiveness issues. Jeff Gaffney, jsgaffney@ualr.edu

Younger Chemists Committee – This committee will work to form a support network for younger chemists throughout the state. Burt Hollandsworth, bhollan1@harding.edu

By-laws Committee – This committee will work to update the bylaws which includes, but is not limited to, changes in the voting procedures (electronic voting).

Industry Connections – This committee will create a list of chemical industries and employers that hire chemists in the state of Arkansas to be publicized on the website that members can use as a reference.

There is also the opportunity to become website manager if you have the ability and interest.

Ever at a loss as to what's going on in the section? Simply visit the section's website:

<http://membership.acs.org/c/centralarkansas>

You'll find the section's meeting schedule, announcements, and information about services provided by the section, along with other useful links.

Local Section News

Please consider sharing your activities with the local section. Let us know what is going on in Arkansas' chemistry community.

If you have an article or job posting that you would like to have considered for publication in our newsletter, send it to odonnej@hsu.edu for review.

The *Central Arkansas Chemist* is published as needed by the Central Arkansas Local Section of the American Chemical Society. Section Chair, Robin Lasey, Arkansas Tech University, Russellville, AR 72801, rlasey@atu.edu 479-968-0391 Address all correspondence to the Section Secretary, Janice O'Donnell, Henderson State University, 870-230-5118, odonnej@hsu.edu. Newsletter contributions should be sent directly to the Section Secretary in electronic form. The Central Arkansas Local Section Web site is <http://membership.acs.org/c/centralarkansas>
