



# THE DAYTON SECTION

Fostering scientific education and research, and promoting public understanding of science since 1930

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Vacant

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Vacant

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## BULLETIN

No Spring Chicken Edition 2017

## Meetings and Events

May 25: Patterson High School Chemistry Awards

## Section News and Other Stuff

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DATE MATERIAL - MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT - DO NOT DELAY

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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## REPORT FROM COUNCIL

It was great being back in San Francisco for the 253rd National Meeting of the ACS. My duties started Sunday morning with a meeting of the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws, C&B, which adjourned around 4 PM. Then it was off to the Town Hall Meeting, where four candidates – Bonnie A. Charpentier, Mark D. Frishberg, Anne M. Gaffney, and Willie E. May – answered questions from the Nominations and Elections Committee (N&E) and from the audience. My question – Will you be marching for science on Earth Day? – was deemed unimportant by N&E. I was not impressed by any of the four candidates. For example, none of them knew anything about the ACS Governance Task Force to streamline its bylaws. Willie May went way over time on his opening remarks, seemed flustered when he got the red card, and decided just to plow forward to the end. Bonnie Charpentier, who is well known to Council, having volunteered in a variety of ACS positions, didn't seem to have any original thoughts. To his credit, Mark Frishberg was involved with the Career Fair, even way back when it was called the Employment Clearinghouse, but ACS should do more than help job seekers become more competitive over an insufficient number of jobs. For the life of me, I can't remember anything that Anne Gaffney said. Using my patented four-point ranking system, I had May way out in front, followed by Charpentier, who beat out Frishberg by a hair.

Sunday night concluded with District II Caucus. It felt just a tad awkward with the imposing presence of former District-II Director, George Bodner, who was there to brief the caucus. As you might recall, after serving two terms George failed to be re-elected for his third term (which would have been his last due to term limiting) by Christina C. Bodurow. George started off his briefing on the Governance Task Force saying that ACS is currently using a model developed in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. It occurred to more than one Councilor that the United States is currently using a model developed in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. For more information, go to [www.acs.org/govdesign](http://www.acs.org/govdesign). Send your comments and suggestions regarding modernizing ACS governance to [governancedesign@acs.org](mailto:governancedesign@acs.org).

Christina Bodurow briefed the caucus on what can be broadly described as, “ACS gets political!” The ACS has published policy statements against the North Carolina bathroom bill; in support of the March for Science; against President Trump's executive orders regarding visa bans; and in support of funding for science and technology. There was grumbling from some of the more politically conservative councilors that Allison Campbell, the first openly gay ACS President, is behind this new political bent.

At Council, we heard prepared statements from the four candidates for ACS President. Willie May was first and again he went well past his allotted time! Dr. May surely has an impressive résumé, although I think he's a better fit for ACS Director than President. After his address, he sat just two seats away from me in the first row, and even before the next candidate got to the podium, Dr. May took out his phone and started checking his email. Perhaps he's good at multitasking, but I found it rude. Frishberg was the only candidate who expressed more than passing concern for unemployed members, and he's been a personal career consultant with ACS for many years. I wound up voting for Charpentier and Frishberg, but Council selected Charpentier and May. If May wins, it will be the first time a male nominee defeats a female nominee.

What came next was interesting but predictable. Council debated a petition to amend the ACS Bylaws to allow for the removal of councilors and alternate councilors. According to the petition, councilors and alternate councilors may be removed for, among other things, “conduct that *tends to injure*” the ACS. Is that a low bar or what? Also, proceedings may be initiated by just five members of the section or division that the councilor or alternate councilor represents, even though some sections and divisions have thousands of members. Hell, I'm sure there are at least five past Dayton Section *Chairs*, much less regular section members, who'd like to see me removed as Councilor! Well, dream on; the motion to approve this amendment failed to be approved by two-thirds of Council.

The special discussion was a real yawner — *ACS Yesterday and Today: Paving the Way to Tomorrow!* According to CPC, the purpose was “to gather input for the Joint Board-CPC Task Force on Governance Design.” The task force offered three questions to guide the discussion:

- 1) What should the Society and its governance do differently to achieve its objects?
- 2) If you could change one thing about ACS governance, what would it be?
- 3) What should the task force leave “as is”?

Forty Councilors approached the floor microphones to share observations, comments, and suggestions — and jusy to hear themselves talk. Yada, yada, yada – I still think this is just a big power grab by the ACS Board.

The total meeting attendance was 18,850, with 9,797 regular attendees, 6,149 students, 1,198 exhibitors, 475 Expo-only, and 466 guests. At the Career Fair, 459 job seekers vied for 145 jobs offered by 32 employers. It goes without saying that no employer wanted to interview me; the streak continues!

Stay tuned for my next report from Council at the 254<sup>th</sup> National Meeting of the ACS, to be held in Washington DC.

Your faithful Councilor,  
Steve Trohalaki

## **UPCOMING MEETING**

**MAY 25**

### ***Patterson High School Chemistry Awards***

**Venue:** Room 146, Wohlleben Hall, Science Center, University of Dayton

**Parking:** Visitor Lot, University Circle and L Street (It's OK if no one is in the booth.)

**Social:** 5:15 - 6:00 PM

For a map, go to <https://www.udayton.edu/map/>

**Awards:** 6:00 PM

**Keynote:** Prof. Jeremy Erb, Department of Chemistry, University of Dayton

Originally established by Charles A. Thomas and Carroll A. Hochwalt, former Dayton chemists and Monsanto researchers, the top chemistry students in the area have been recognized under the auspices of the Dayton Section since 1943. In 1990, the family of the late Austin M. Patterson, also a prominent Dayton chemist, assumed sponsorship. All area high school students are invited to take an examination and the highest scoring applicants (\*) are then invited to write essays, which form the basis of the final judging. (These finalists, although only two from each school, are also invited to take the Chemistry Olympiad Exam.) In addition, teachers of the prizewinners receive \$50 awards, and the top scoring student from each high school is awarded a plaque. Grading was performed separately for those students who have only taken one year of chemistry. Students from this group (1) who were the highest scorers in their High School will also receive a plaque. The top three essayists are awarded first, second, and third prizes of \$1000, \$750, and \$500, respectively.

**This year's Patterson Scholars (and their teachers) are:**

Michael Li *	Centerville High School	(Summers)
Anirudh Rangaswamy *	Centerville High School	(Summers)
Sachin Shankar *	Centerville High School	(Summers)
Kevin Yin *	Centerville High School	(Buddendeck)
Ramzi Elased *	Centerville High School	(Buddendeck)
Michael Lim *	Centerville High School	(Buddendeck)
Noor Ali *	Centerville High School	(Buddendeck)
Tiffany Huang *	Beavercreek High School	(Rattan)
Vidushi Tripathi *	Centerville High School	(Summers)
Rupal Jindal *	Centerville High School	(Summers)
William Chan *	Beavercreek High School	(Rattan)
Calvin Suttman *	Alter High School	(Groene)
Tiffany Huang	Beavercreek High School	(Rattan)
Jacob Woeber	Catholic Central High School	(Watson)
Abigail Wilcher	Oakwood High School	(Davis)
Ryan Liang	Northmont High School	(Patrizio)
Abigail Gaydosh (1)	Anna High School	(Quinter)
Anna Nartker (1)	Beavercreek High School	(McDaniel)
William Zhang (1)	Centerville High School	(Monfort)
Mahmoud Elbasiouny (1)	Oakwood High School	(Davis)
Lauren Zaylskie (1)	Troy High School	(Orsborne)

## PAST MEETING

### Annual Poster Session & Patterson College Chemistry Awards

This year's Poster Session was held at Wright State University. Competing for outstanding poster awards were eight graduate students and twelve undergraduates. A total of 23 posters were presented. Two graduate students and two undergraduate students received \$100 outstanding poster awards.

#### Outstanding Undergraduate Posters:

*Improvements to the Synthesis of Haplomyrtin and Synthesis of a Trifluoromethoxy Analogue*, James Herbort, Wright State University

*Resolving the Molecular Mechanisms by Which DNA Mutations Alter the Function of a Genetic Switch*, Emily E. Wey, University of Dayton

#### Outstanding Graduate-Student Posters:

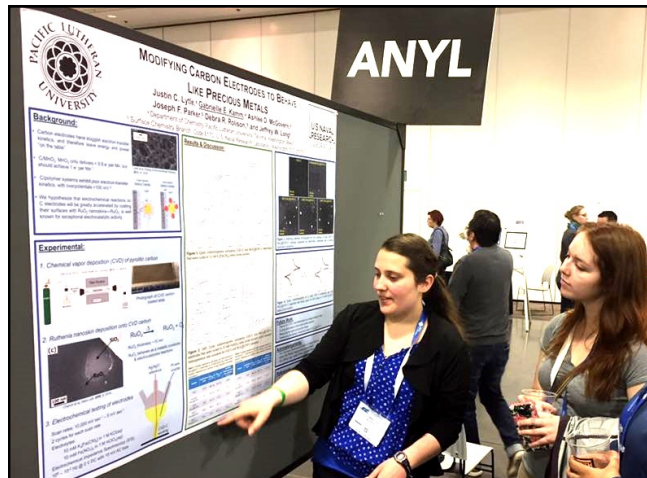
*Incorporation of 5,8-Dioxo-5,8-dihydroindeno-[2,1-C]fluorene into Polymeric Systems*, Nathaniel T. Bracket, Wright State University

*Development of N-Heterocyclic Carbene-Gold(I) Complexes for Therapeutic Applications*, Meredith Miles, Wright State University

We also presented four Patterson College Chemistry Awards to outstanding chemistry majors in their junior year. The award consists of a certificate and a check for \$400. This year's winners are:

- ◆ Cody Fourman, Wright State University
- ◆ Dexter Heath, Central State University
- ◆ Jessica Skoglund, Wittenberg University
- ◆ Emily Wey, University of Dayton

Unfortunately, no one thought to take any photographs. However, the photos below surely capture the mood present at our poster session.



## PAST MEETING — TECHFEST 2017

The Dayton Section of the ACS again presented an exhibit at TechFest, held the weekend of February 18th and 19th at Sinclair Community College's Ponitz Center. This annual event is sponsored by the Affiliate Societies Council of Dayton for the promotion of science and technology to benefit families and children in the Miami Valley. The first TechFest was held in 2003.

With over 2460 student attendees, total attendance was estimated at over 4000. The Dayton Section's theme was *Electrolysis* and was showcased with several hands-on demonstrations: Colorful Electrolysis; Orange-Juice Clock; Electrolysis of Water Using Hoffman Apparatus; and Reaction in a Bag.

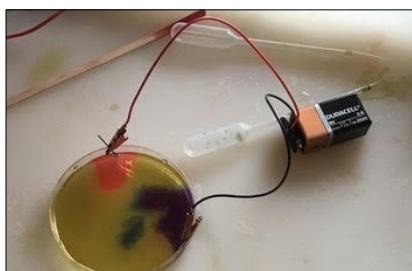
The Section owes a debt of thanks to Amit Sharma, who organized this event, and to all our volunteers, including Wayne Cook, Anastasie Weaver, Freddie Jordan, Weijie Lu, Jane Myong, Joy Haley, Ed Geller, Jenny Iskrenova-Ekiert, Tom Ekiert, Yu Kay Law, and Wright State University students Clara Leedy, Keun Hur, and Baxter Foskuhl.



It's not first time our banner has inspired a new window treatment.



Code Red — Physicist in the ACS Booth — Code Red!



A Dayton-Section volunteer mistakenly thinks a student wants his autograph. In the background: orange juice — it's not just for breakfast anymore!



Evidently, motherhood has prepared Joy Haley for the hours of mayhem at the Dayton Section ACS booth.

**Alzheimer's Avoidance Therapy\*** Unscramble the letters to reveal a chemical name. Then, use the circled letters to solve the riddle. Answers next edition!

A B E N T U



C E G I L N Y



A E H H O P P S T



After a sumptuous lunch of spam, spam, spam, baked beans, and spam, the King arose from his luxuriously upholstered chair. Concomitantly, a distinctive, high-pitched tone, increasing in frequency and volume, rattled the chandelier crystals. As the eyes of the guests began to water, the crumb-sweeper whispered to the waiter, "Do you smell that?" The waiter replied, "You think I'm hard of smelling? Of course, I smell that!" Overhearing this banter, the headwaiter admonished them. "This must be the first time you are experiencing



**Answers for Last Edition**

TIN PIPERDINE DODECANE

The Grateful Dead was playing so loudly through Hippy Dippy Chem-Tech Guy's earbuds that he barely heard the crash a moment after a 1000-mL volumetric flask of 2.0 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> slipped through his fingers. Uptight Chemical Hygiene Dude clearly wasn't happy when he said, "Now my spotless safety record is ... spotted!" The chem-tech replied, "Give me a break, man; it's been 40 years since the last time I DROPPED ACID!"

**Quotable Quotes for \$1000, Alex!**

"Jerry Ford is so dumb he can't fart and chew gum at the same time"

- Lyndon B. Johnson

"We are here on Earth to fart around, and don't let anybody tell you different."

- Kurt Vonnegut

"Pity, I've learned, is like a fart. You can tolerate your own, but you simply can't stand anyone else's."

- Jonathan Trooper

"He that lives upon hope will die farting."

- Benjamin Franklin

"Of course, this is Central Park. This was designed in 1850 by Joe Peppitone. Built during the Civil War so the northern armies could practice fighting on ... on grass. Oh, yeah. Giddyup ... *Rustyl!*"

- Kramer

**AAT-2 — Su Doku for Chemists!**

Using the following nine chemical elements:

La	Ce	Pr	Nd	Pm	Sm	Eu	Gd	Tb
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

fill in the grid below so that each row, column, and 9-element subcell has only one occurrence of each element.

								Ce	
Pm		La						Pr	Gd
	Eu	Ce	La				Sm		
	La		Nd	Pm	Sm				Tb
Eu				Gd					
Nd		Tb				Pr			
		Pr						Nd	
Ce				Eu				Tb	
			Pm						

**Solution for Last Edition**

Pr	Ce	Nd	Sm	La	Gd	Eu	Pm	Tb
Sm	Pm	Gd	Eu	Tb	Ce	La	Pr	Nd
Eu	Tb	La	Nd	Pr	Pm	Gd	Sm	Ce
La	Pr	Sm	Gd	Eu	Nd	Tb	Ce	Pm
Tb	Eu	Ce	Pr	Pm	Sm	Nd	La	Gd
Gd	Nd	Pm	La	Ce	Tb	Sm	Eu	Pr
Pm	Sm	Tb	Ce	Nd	La	Pr	Gd	Eu
Ce	Gd	Eu	Tb	Sm	Pr	Pm	Nd	La
Nd	La	Pr	Pm	Gd	Eu	Ce	Tb	Sm

\*Surveys suggest that mental exercises, including word puzzles, may delay the progression of Alzheimer's Disease.