

Dr. Robert Hoyle to Receive the Stanley C. Israel Regional Award at MARM in 2021



(Photo courtesy of Dr. Robert Hoyle)

See notification letter on page 5.

THIS MONTH IN CHEMICAL HISTORY

Harold Goldwhite, California State University, Los Angeles • hgoldwh@calstatela.edu

My last column began a survey of “Great Books of Chemistry” with a look at two ancient texts: Plato and Lucretius. Although you might question the inclusion of an alchemical work in this exploration I believe that as alchemy is a direct precursor of modern chemistry such a survey would be incomplete without a look at a representative work of alchemy – if there is such a thing! My choice, in part because I have a copy in my personal library, is “The Works of Geber” “Englished by Richard Russell, 1678” in an edition by E. J. Holmyard, a distinguished historian of chemistry. My copy was published in 1928.

Geber is the westernized version of Jabir, one of the most famous Arab alchemists. There is a large body of work ascribed to Jabir, who lived from about 720 C.E. to about 800 C.E. He was born in what is now Iraq and studied religion and mysticism – possibly including alchemy - in Arabia. He also became a proficient physician and served in that capacity at the court of Haroun-Al-Rashid, the caliph of the Arabian Nights.

Because Jabir became a famous alchemist many later workers used his name to add luster to their own efforts. Consequently it is quite unclear how much of the extensive Jabirian corpus can be ascribed to Jabir himself. Scholars of alchemy have agreed that the core of Jabir’s alchemy includes the following points. While accepting Plato and Aristotle’s four elements: earth, air, fire, and water – Jabir had a novel “insight” into the constitution of metals. They are made up of two “exhalations”, one earthy and one watery. These are respectively the “sulfur” and the “mercury” principles. These principles are not to be equated to the familiar substances that bear these names. The names are a convenient shorthand for the essential essences that go into making up the familiar terrestrial substances.

To turn to more practical aspects of Jabir’s work it is clear that he was an experimentalist. He describes the operations of alchemy and the materials on which those operations were performed. He wrote a whole “book” (many of the “books” of this period are what we would call chapters) on furnaces. In Russel’s English version there are illustrations of each type of furnace: calcinatory; distillatory; descensory; fusory; solutory; fixatory; and the water bath.

However the writings of Jabir are often deliberately obscure. Alchemy was a “mystery” (or mastery) only to be passed down and interpreted by those whose lives were given to its study. These adepts would have the key to unlock a passage like the following (I have deliberately chosen a short extract):

“Of the Calcination of middle minerals. All Atraments, Salts, Allones, and the kinds of Tutia are calcined in the said Calcinary Furnace, with Tartar and other Things, with fire moderate or strong, according to the Exigency of Things to be calcined; as is evident in Our Book, Of the Investigation of the Perfect Magistry; but all bodies are calcined, as in Our Testament.”

I promise you more clarity in the next column.

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CONTENTS

Advertisers' Index	4
Call for Applications	20
Call for Nominations	21
Call for Nominations for Outstanding Teaching Awards	22-23
Call for Volunteers	20
New York Meetings	8-9
Nichols Symposium	23
North Jersey Meetings	6

EDITORIAL DEADLINES

October	August 28
November	September 28
December	October 28
January 2021	November 28, 2020
February 2021	December 28, 2020
March 2021	January 28, 2021
April	February 28
May	March 28
June	April 28
September	July 28

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<https://www.acs.org/editmyprofile>.

Address advertising correspondence to Advertising Manager. Other correspondence to the Editor.

September Calendar

NEW YORK SECTION

Friday, September 11, 2020

New York Section Board Meetings
See page 8.

Friday, September 25, 2020

Biochemical Topical Group
See page 8.

also

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Long Island Subsection
See page 9.

Wednesday, October 7, 2020

Westchester Chemical Society
See pages 11-12.

Sunday, October 25, 2020

NYACS National Chemistry Week
See page 10.

Early November, 2020

Westchester Chemical Society
See pages 12-13.

Friday, November 13, 2020

New York Section Board Meetings
See page 8.

Friday, April 16, 2021

Nichols Symposium
See page 13.



Ad Index

Eastern Scientific	4
Micron	21
Robertson.....	13



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NORTH JERSEY SECTION

Monday, September 21, 2020

North Jersey Executive Meeting
See page 6.

Tuesday, September 22, 2020

Mass Spectrometry Discussion Group
See page 6.

**To Comply With the
Federal Regulations
Regarding Social
Distancing Necessitated by
the COVID-19 Virus,
it became imperative
to cancel or postpone all
Section Meetings for
the past six months.**

**Details of any relevant
meetings will appear
in the appropriate future
issues of *The Indicator*.**

***The Indicator* is
posted to the web
around the 15th of the
previous month at**

www.TheIndicator.org

DR. ROBERT HOYLE WILL BE THE RECIPIENT OF THE STANLEY C. ISRAEL REGIONAL AWARD FOR ADVANCING DIVERSITY IN THE CHEMICAL SCIENCES AT ACS MARM IN 2021



ACS Committee on Minority Affairs

July 7, 2020

Dear Robert Hoyte and SUNY Old Westbury,

The Committee on Minority Affairs (CMA) is honored to select you as the 2020 recipient of the Stanley C. Israel Regional Award for Advancing Diversity in the Chemical Sciences for the Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society. You will be recognized at ACS MARM in 2021.

You will receive your plaque at the meeting and a \$1000 award to continue your efforts (funds will be sent Direct Deposit only). In addition to your plaque and cash award your meeting expenses will be paid and will include transportation, accommodations, registration and two tickets to the award dinner/event.

Once we are closer to the meeting, please contact Victoria Fuentes (v_fuentes@acs.org) with your travel dates so that she may coordinate your accommodations & registration. Travel arrangement instructions will be sent shortly thereafter.

In addition we request you send a picture to be used to promote you as the Stanley C. Israel award winner for the Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting.

Also, attached you will also find an IRS W-9 form so that we may process your \$1000 award direct deposit.

Please forward both your w-9 form and your picture to Victoria Fuentes by September 30th.

If you have any questions, please contact Victoria Fuentes, ACS Diversity Programs at 202-872-4524 or v_fuentes@acs.org

Congratulations!

Note: The letter comes from the Committee on Minority Affairs.
Currently the Chair of the CMA, is Dr. Ann Kimble-Hill.

North Jersey Meetings



<https://www.njacs.org>

NORTH JERSEY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Section officers, councilors, committee chairs, topical group chairs, and section event organizers meet regularly at the Executive Committee Meeting to discuss topics of importance to running the section and representing the membership.

All ACS members are welcome to attend this meeting and to become more involved in section activities.

Date: Monday, September 21, 2020

Time: 6:30 - 8:30 PM

Place: Seton Hall University
Jubilee Hall, Room 132
400 South Orange Avenue
South Orange, NJ 07079

To connect to the meeting remotely, please contact Cecilia Marzabadi at cecilia.marzabadi@gmail.com for information.

NORTH JERSEY MASS SPECTROMETRY DISCUSSION GROUP

The NJMSDG committee has met and, for the foreseeable future, the group will be working for monthly webinars for the community. Therefore, our September Vendor Night is cancelled for 2020.

In the meantime, we have scheduled a Webinar as follows:

Automated Deconvolution and Analysis of Intact Biomolecule MS Data: From Antibody Drug Conjugates to Oligonucleotides

Speakers: Robert Schuster and Kevin McCarl
Novatia, LLC
Newtown, PA

Date: Tuesday, September 22, 2020

Time: 7:00 PM

Registration details will be posted on the NJACS website shortly.



NOMINEES FOR THE 2020 NORTH JERSEY ACS ELECTIONS

This fall the NJACS will once again hold its yearly elections. Members will be voting for the 2020 Chair Elect, the Executive Board Secretary, and three National ACS Council representatives. The nominees are as follows:

Position	Name	Current/Recent Position(s)
Chair-Elect	Qi Gao (Merck)	2019 NMR Group Co-Chair
Secretary	Bettyann Howson (incumbent)	Long time secretary, ACS National Councilor
Council (3)	Amanda Mann (Merck)*	Current councilor running for another term
	Alan Cooper (MedChem Consulting)*	Recently elected member of the ACS National Nominations Committee
	Amjad Ali (Merck)	2019 NJACS Chair
	Jasmine Lu (Shimadzu)	Former Chair Chinese American Chemists
	Cecilia Marzabadi (Seton Hall)	2020 NJACS Chair
	Justyna Sikorska (Merck)	2019 NMR Group Co-Chair
	Steven Silverman (Merck)	Alternate councilor

*indicates a current Councilor running for another term

Anyone wishing to nominate someone for the 2020 Election should contact Miriam Gulotta (mgulotta@njacs.org).

RECOGNIZING PROJECT SEED SCHOLARS

The North Jersey Section congratulates these three students who have received honors and scholarships for their research and participation in Project SEED. Maria Gutierrez, a 2020 graduate from East Orange High School, received Honorable Mention at the North Jersey Regional Science (Virtual) Fair that took place in March 2020. Catherine Pangemanan, a 2020 graduate of Highland Park High School, and Frank Peprah, a 2020 graduate of Irvington High School, both received Project SEED scholarships of \$5000 each toward their first year at college.

Maria presented her research “Polymerization of Boron-Modified Phenylnorbornene Monomers” which she did during the summer of 2019 at Rutgers University, Newark, under the mentorship of Dr. Frieder Jaekle. Maria plans to enter Essex County Community College this fall.

Catherine was a Project SEED student in 2018 and her research topic was “Force Mapping Solid-Liquid Interfaces”. Catherine was mentored by Dr. Robert Hayes, Rutgers University, Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology, Piscataway. Catherine will be a student at NJIT, Newark, majoring in engineering.

Frank was a Project SEED student for two years. Both years he was mentored by Dr. Huixin He and supervised by Mr. Qingdong Li at Rutgers, Newark. His research topic in 2018 was “Fabrication of Phosphorene-Holey Graphene Hybrid for Photocatalytic Water Splitting”. In 2019 Frank’s project was “Microwave Enabled Rapid Fabrication of Enzyme-Inspired Single-Atom Electrocatalysts Using Metal Organic Frameworks as Precursors”. Frank has been granted a full, four-year scholarship to Amherst College which he will enter this fall.

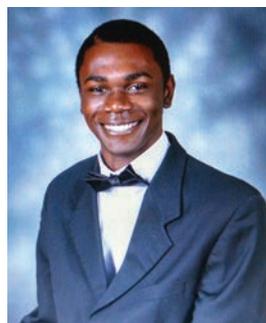
Frank Peprah: “...to thank you for what I termed ‘the most memorable years of my life’. Introducing me to this program is the best thing to have happened to me. To be honest Project SEED is a fulfillment to a phrase I have heard my whole life: ‘go to school and change the world’. I always had a smile on my face when the sun rose up and a frown when it set because that meant I had to go home after being in the lab.”



Maria Gutierrez
(Photo by Craft Studios)



Catherine Pangemanan
(Photo by Prestige Portraits)



Frank Peprah
(Photo by Mr. Peynado)

New York Meetings

<https://www.newyorkacs.org>

ACS, NEW YORK SECTION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING DATES FOR 2020

The dates for the Board of Directors Meetings of the ACS New York Section for 2020 were selected and approved. The meetings are open to all – everybody is welcome. All non-board members who would like to attend any of the meetings should inform the New York Section office by emailing Bernadette Taylor at btaylor@NewYorkACS.org or by calling the Section office at (732) 770-7324.

Dates of the meetings for 2020 are posted on the New York Section website at <https://www.newyorkacs.org> below, and monthly in *The Indicator*. Dr. Ruben Savitzky will chair all meetings. Board meetings will start at exactly 6:30 PM. Until further notice, meetings will be held on-line.

The Board Meeting dates for 2020 are:

Friday, September 11

Friday, November 13

Meeting will be held on line.



BIOCHEMICAL TOPICAL GROUP – JOINT MEETING WITH THE NYAS BIOCHEMICAL PHARMACOLOGY DISCUSSION GROUP

Drug Discovery for Remission of Chronic Kidney Disease

Organizers: Matthew D. Breyer, MD
Janssen Pharmaceuticals

Michael Ross, MD
Albert Einstein College of
Medicine

Kishor Devalaraja-
Narashimha, DVM, PhD
Regeneron Pharmaceuticals,
Inc.

Susan Quaggin, MD
Northwestern University

Joseph Vassalotti, MD
National Kidney Foundation

Sara Donnelly, PhD
New York Academy of
Sciences

Sonya Dougal, PhD
New York Academy of
Sciences

Keynote: Jonathan Himmelfarb, MD
University of Washington

Speakers: Ali Gharavi, MD
Columbia University
Vagelos College of Physicians
of Surgeons

Katalin Susztak, MD, PhD
Perelman School of Medicine
University of Pennsylvania

Karin Hehenberger, MD, PhD
Lyfebulb

Katherine Tuttle, MD
Providence Health Care &
University of Washington

Monika Niewczas, MD, PhD, MPH
Joslin Diabetes Center
Harvard Medical School

Benjamin Freedman, PhD
University of Washington

Kevin Bennett, PhD
Washington University
in St. Louis

Xunrong Luo, MD, PhD
Duke University School of
Medicine

Chronic kidney disease (CKD) affects 30 million people in the United States. This symposium will highlight the latest research on the physiological and genetic mechanisms underlying CKD, and discuss novel kidney imaging techniques, biomarkers and treatment strategies.

Date: Friday, September 25, 2020

Time: 10:30 AM – 5:20 PM

Place: Virtual Symposium

Cost: ACS and Academy members save \$30 or more on this event. Please select the appropriate non-member Registration Category and use the Priority Code "ACS".

For more information and to register for the event, go to: www.nyas.org/CKD2020

To become a Member of the Academy, visit nyas.org/become-a-member/

EMPLOYMENT AND PROFESSIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE NEW YORK SECTION

To Human Resources Departments in Industry and Academia

The Employment and Professional Relations Committee maintains a roster of candidates who are ACS members seeking a position in the New York metropolitan area. If you have job openings and would like qualified candidates to contact you, please send a brief job description and educational/experience background required to

hessytaft@hotmail.com.

Candidates from our roster who meet the requirements you describe will be asked to contact you.



ACS NEW YORK SECTION 2020 ELECTION RESULTS

The results of the ACS New York Section's 2020 elections, held in May, were announced at the Board of Directors meeting on June 5, 2020. The New York Section extends a sincere thank you to all of the candidates and expresses its appreciation for their time and efforts in preparing for the elections. Congratulations to all.

Chair-elect for 2021

Kathleen Kristian

Secretary for 2021 – 2022

Daniel Amarante

Directors-at-Large for 2021

Maria Contel

Yolanda Small

Ronald D'Amelia

Councilors for 2021-2023

Hiroko Karan

Patricia Redden

Frank Romano

Alternate Councilors for 2020-2022

Eric Chang

Elmer-Rico Mojica

Alternate Councilors 2021-2023

Donald Clarke

Barbara Hillery

Daniel Silverio

LONG ISLAND SUBSECTION

The April seminar was postponed and will be rescheduled for Thursday, October 1, 2020

Design and Total Synthesis of Self-healing Cyanine Fluorophores

Speaker: Dr. Zhou Zhou,
Assistant Professor
Queensborough Community
College

Plans are being made to present remotely through zoom:

<https://ncc-zoom.zoom.us/j/93543608449?pwd=UGNkQjdocEhQWDFuSGQ1Ui8xUEJLZz09>

Meeting ID: 935 4360 8449

Passcode: 888773

The abstract is listed below.

Small organic fluorophores are powerful research tools in biological imaging that have enabled unprecedented insights into mechanisms of bio-functions. Fluorescence applications as single-molecule fluorescence resonance energy transfer (smFRET) requires high photo-stability and brightness of fluorophores. A series of cyanine dye molecules have been synthesized with significantly enhanced brightness, lifespan and water solubility by covalently attaching triplet state quenchers (TSQ) to the fluorophores along with other structural modifications. The advanced physical properties of these new fluorophores have already led to several previously impossible research projects, and shed light on both cellular and molecular processes masked by ensemble averaging in bulk investigations.

Date: Thursday, October 1, 2020

Time: 6 :00 PM

Place: Science Building, S-112
Queensborough Community
College
222-05 56th Avenue
Queens, NY 11364
[when campus is open]

**Deadline for items to
be included in the
OCTOBER 2020 issue
of *The Indicator* is
AUGUST 28, 2020**



Help the New York Section of
the American Chemical Society
Celebrate National Chemistry Week 2020

Sticking with Chemistry - the Virtual Way!

For the 16th consecutive year, the New York Section once again will bring its thousands members together celebrating the National Chemistry Week (NCW) and conveying the importance of chemistry to the public. This year, the celebration will be carried out through the following online events:

- Virtual Chemistry Demo Show
When: Sunday, October 25, 11:00-1:00
 Where: Website URL TBA
 What: Presenters from area universities, colleges, high schools, chemical companies, business centers, and nonprofit organizations are invited to perform online demonstrations, celebrating the 2020 NCW yearly theme, "Sticking with Chemistry!"
 How: Registration opens on Sept. 1, 2020 and ends on Sept. 25, 2020. Register at NYACS website: https://www.newyorkacs.org/meetings/NCW/2020_ncw.php.
- Adhere to Chemistry – Kahoot!
When: Sunday, October 25, 1:30-3:30
 Where: Website URL TBA
 What: Students are invited to compete for their chemistry knowledge via a 15-30 min. online Kahoot game. Winners in the following five categories will be recognized: K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, and college freshmen.
 How: Registration opens on Sept. 1, 2020 and ends on Sept. 25, 2020. Register at NYACS website: https://www.newyorkacs.org/meetings/NCW/2020_ncw.php.
- Digital Illustrated Poem Contest
K-12th Students. Students are invited to write and illustrate a poem using the NCW theme, "Sticking with Chemistry". Winners receive gift cards in four grade categories (K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12), and will advance to the national contest for a chance to win cash prize. Please contact Erin Wasserman, ewasserman602z@gmail.com, about the Contest Entry Submission deadline and detailed information.
- Distribute Celebrating Chemistry Magazine
 "Celebrating Chemistry" contains NCW 2020 themed articles, activities and games, and is available in both English and Spanish. FREE copies can be requested at NYACS website:
https://www.newyorkacs.org/meetings/NCW/2020_ncw.php.

For more information, please contact Dr. Ping Furlan (furlanp@usmma.edu), Dr. Ivan Hyatt (ihyatt@adelphi.edu), or Mrs. Erin Wasserman (illustrated poem contest coordinator, ewasserman602z@gmail.com). We look forward to your participation and your organization's sponsorship as we celebrate the important roles chemistry plays in our everyday lives and how it can be FUN! Additional information about NCW can be found on the American Chemical Society's website at: <https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/education/outreach/ncw/about.html>



WESTCHESTER CHEMICAL SOCIETY

FUTURE MEETINGS

Because of Covid-19 pandemic restrictions, fall meetings will not be held at our usual location at the Westchester Community College. Currently all meetings, dates and times are tentative. The meetings will likely be held remotely (e.g., via Zoom).

Special Seminar – “Safety, Fire, and Chemical Hazards in Special Effects”

Note this was originally planned to be a Science Café held on March 18, 2020 and rescheduled as such, because of Covid-19 for October 7, 2020. Again because of Covid-19, it will likely not be a Science Café but will be a remote meeting.

Speaker: Monona Rossol, M.S., M.F.A.
Industrial Hygienist
President: Arts, Crafts & Theater Safety, Inc.
New York, NY

Abstract

People in theater, film and television work with chemicals every day. As a child, Ms. Rosso worked in variety entertainment (Vaudeville), and saw chemicals used in magic acts that caused things to flash into flame, disappear, or change color. Today she deals with chemicals ranging from those used to paint faces (makeup) or to paint scenery to explosive chemicals used to blow up cars in movies. The talk will start with a short video showing how pyrotechnic chemicals are used to simulate bullets hitting walls or people and then move on to discuss a host of other chemical safety issues in the entertainment industry

Biography



Monona Rossol is a chemist, artist, and industrial hygienist. She was born into a theatrical family and worked as a professional entertainer from age 3 to 17. She enrolled in the University of Wisconsin–Madison where she earned a B.S. in Chemistry with a minor in Math (1959), an M.S. majoring in Ceramics and Sculpture (1962), and an M.F.A. with majors in Ce-

ramics and Glassblowing and a minor in Music (1964). Monona was in Harvey Littleton's first college-level glassblowing courses. Her ceramics, sculpture and blown glass were exhibited in over 40 group shows and four solo shows. Her many awards include a purchase prize in the 23rd Ceramic National Competition of the Everson Museum of Art

While at school she worked as a research chemist, taught art and chemistry classes, performed with University music and theater groups, toured with summer stock, and began working as a free lance art conservation consultant/restorer working primarily with furniture, ceramics, and enamels. She also noticed the vast difference in the safety cultures in the science, art and theater departments. She presented several graduate seminars on art safety to a very unreceptive art student body which sparked a life-long interest in the subject

She moved to New York City in 1969 and began working in the area of art safety despite a thundering lack of demand for these services. Her major income was from teaching art and performing in musical and straight acting roles in Off and Off Off Broadway theaters and cabarets. Her work was eventually recognized and she became a full member of the American Industrial Hygiene Association in 1984.

Today, this work is in demand. Monona is a building regulatory and ventilation system planning consultant and has worked on over 80 new and renovation building projects. She consults, trains, and lectures regularly on the hazards of theater and art hazards including those of conservation work and museum/laboratory disaster planning. She has been a member of the American Institute for Conservation since 1981 and was made a life-time Honorary Member in 2002.

Monona is President/founder of Arts, Crafts & Theater Safety (ACTS), a nonprofit dedicated to providing health and safety services to the arts. She also is the Safety Officer for Local USA829 of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE) and for the New York Production Locals (representing all unions on film locations). Her jobs have taken her to all but two states in the US, Canada, Australia, England, Mexico, Portugal, the Netherlands, and the United Arab Emirates. She has written nine books, one of which won a 1996 Choice Outstanding Academic Book Award from the Association of

(continued on page 12)

WESTCHESTER CHEMICAL SOCIETY

(continued from page 11)

College and Research Libraries. Her latest book: *Pick Your Poison: How Our Mad Dash to a Chemical Utopia has made Lab Rats of Us All* (Wiley & Sons) 2011. She will teach a 40-hour Art/theater Safety Course at UMass-Amherst, August 24-28, 2020. This past February, she and the SAG-AFTRA rep got an OSHA rule protecting child workers in film from atmospheric special effects in Georgia.

Tentative

Date: Wednesday, October 7, 2020

Time: TBD

Place: TBD, likely to be remote.

Cost: Likely to be free and open to the public

For further information: contact Paul Dillon

E-Mail PaulWDillon2@hotmail.com

Phone 1-914-393-6940

Special Seminar – “Clinical Tests and COVID-19”

Speaker: Paul Dillon, Ph.D.

Co-Chair and Program Director,
Westchester Chemical Society.

Patient Advisor,
Interstitial Lung Disease
Collaborative (ILDC).

Abstract:

This talk is an update of an invited talk, given via Zoom, to the Boston and Cape Cod support groups of the ILDC. Because of the pandemic there is great interest in tests related to the SARS-CoV-2 virus (the cause of the COVID-19 disease). This talk discusses the availability of COVID-19 tests. Considering the short time-frame, tests have been developed quite well and quickly. There are brief reviews of clinical testing in general, and of the SARS-CoV-2 virus structure. I discuss the types of clinical tests (diagnostic-for viral RNA and/or antigens) and serological (for antibodies to the virus) and the difference between qualitative tests (those concerned with COVID-19) and quantitative tests. I address questions of sensitivity, specificity, prevalence and predictive values. I and several of my colleagues in clinical diagnostics have been concerned about false positive serological results; fortunately our fears were unfounded. However, we must still be cautious in handling positive antibody tests on individ-

uals who have been asymptomatic and never tested positive for the virus. Unless we know that the local population has a reasonably high prevalence, such positive tests can be misleading. I have developed models for positive predictive value vs. prevalence and for estimating prevalence. I discuss recent CDC guidelines including the use of pairs of serological tests, and of neutralizing antibody tests (i.e., for antibodies that can be shown to kill the virus or impede its propagation). Finally, I note some prognostic (severity) tests, just becoming available, for patients newly diagnosed with COVID-19.

Biography:



Paul Dillon is a chemist turned biostatistician. He received his B.S. from The Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn (now NYU's Tandon School of Engineering) in 1966, his M.S. and Ph.D.

from New York University's Graduate School of Arts and Science in 1969, and 1974, respectively (all degrees in Chemistry). He was a chemist for Union Carbide Corp., Tarrytown, NY from 1965-1970 working on paint latexes and took a leave to do his dissertation research from 1970-1973. Although technically in Chemistry, his research dealt with creating an optimization program to estimate molecular geometries by minimizing quantum calculated energies as functions of bond distances and angles. Back at Union Carbide in 1973 he worked on urethane foam flammability, modeling the evaporation of aqueous solutions of organic solvents and internally consulting in engineering statistics. In 1997, he received the first prize in the Roon Awards administered by the Federation of Societies for Coatings Technology for his development of the concept of critical relative humidity.

In 1986, he joined Technicon Instruments Corp., also in Tarrytown, NY, as a biostatistician. There, and for successor companies (Miles Laboratories, Bayer Diagnostics, Siemens Diagnostics, and Siemens Healthineers), he worked on protocol development, data analysis and generated reports for internal and external (clinical trials) evaluation studies for new or improved automated diagnostic instruments and reagents. He has worked on a range of diagnostics including,

classic clinical chemistries, and immunodiagnos-
tics. Retiring in 2012 he consulted until
2018. He has also been active in the West-
chester subsection of the NY Section of the
American Chemical Society, serving as its
Program Director since 2009 and its co-chair
since 2015. He has also served on the board
of the NY section of the ACS (2016-2018),
and on the Advisory Board of the Center for
Sustainable Energy at Bronx Community
College (2014-2015), and the Industrial Ad-
visory Board of the Polytechnic Institute of
New York University, Department of Chemi-
cal and Biomolecular Engineering (2012-
2013). He recently became a Patient Advisor
at the Interstitial Lung Disease Collaborative
(2020).

Tentative

Date: Early November, 2020

Time: TBD

Place: TBD, likely to be remote.

Cost: Likely to be free and open to the
public

For further information: contact Paul Dillon
E-Mail PaulWDillon2@hotmail.com
Phone 1-914-393-6940.



PARIS SVORONOS RECEIVES THE 2020 JAMES FLACK NORRIS AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN THE TEACHING OF CHEMISTRY

Prof. Paris Svoronos from Queensborough
Community College is a recipient of the 2020
James Flack Norris Award for Outstanding
Achievement in the Teaching of Chemistry by

the Northeastern Section of the American
Chemical Society. Paris received his Ph.D.
from Georgetown University in 1979, and
had been teaching organic chemistry over
the summer there for 31 years. In addition,
he has been an active and prominent
member of the faculty at QCC since 1981, in-
cluding being a department chair from 2001-
2010.

The James Flack Norris Award for Outstand-
ing Achievement in the Teaching of Chem-
istry pays tribute to outstanding contributions
to the field of chemical education. The Award
consists of a \$3,000 prize and a certificate.
The presentation takes place at an Award
Ceremony and dinner in November, followed
by a formal address by the Awardee.

The Award, the first national award for out-
standing achievement in the teaching of
chemistry, was established in 1950 by the
Northeastern Section of the American Chemi-
cal Society to honor the memory of James
Flack Norris, Professor of Chemistry at the
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and a
teacher of great repute.

The first award was made in 1951 to Profes-
sor George Shannon Forbes, an outstanding
teacher at Harvard and, in retirement, at
Northeastern University.

**Deadline for submit-
ting Articles for the
OCTOBER 6th Indicator is
AUGUST 28, 2020**



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WESTCHESTER CHEMICAL SOCIETY

The Westchester Chemical Society's co-Chair and Program Director, Paul Dillon, PhD, has joined the Interstitial Lung Disease Collaborative (ILDC) as a patient advisor. The ILDC is a clinical care and research network. Its institutional core is comprised of academic ILD Centers in the Boston-Providence area. The objectives of the ILDC include promoting communication and partnership amongst patients and physicians, advancing the understanding of causes and mechanisms of the interstitial lung diseases, facilitating their earlier recognition, and improving and tailoring their management and treatment by both physicians and patients. By integrating clinical, laboratory, and radiological data with patient-reported outcomes, the ILDC data infrastructure and bioinformatics platforms allow the study of shifts in treatment patterns, disease exacerbations, efficacy of new drugs, comparative effectiveness of established therapies, side effect management, health-related quality of life and other areas

On June 3, 2020, Paul gave a (Zoom) presentation to their Boston and Cape Cod Patient Support Groups, "COVID-19 Testing:

How It's Done and What It Means." An updated version of this talk is tentatively to be presented at the Westchester Chemical Society in early November (see. pp. 9-10). He is also working to develop a protocol for an at-home device that is intended to reduce the need for hospitalization for newly-diagnosed Covid-19 patients. The ILDC is the first clinical care and research network founded by the Pulmonary Care and Research Collaborative, a Massachusetts 501(c)(3) tax exempt nonprofit organization founded in 2013.

In addition, our Treasurer and Education Secretary, Peter Corfield, Ph.D., has published an interesting article, "Synthesis, Decomposition Studies and Crystal Structure of a Three-Dimensional CuCN Network Structure with Protonated N-methylethanolamine as the Guest Cation" *Acta Cryst.* (2020). C76, 405-411, electronic reprint <https://doi.org/10.1107/S2053229620004477>. Co-authors of the article were: Christopher Koenigsmann, Leena N. Rachid, and Christina M. Sheedy. All are with the Department of Chemistry, Fordham University, Bronx, NY. Dr. Corfield also presented this and related work at the virtual Annual Meeting of the American Crystallographic Association in August.

NY/NJ SOCIETY FOR APPLIED SPECTROSCOPY MAY 27th, 2020 MONTHLY ZOOM ON-LINE MEETING

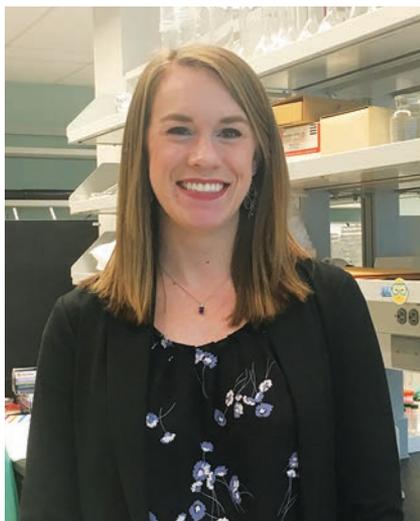
Utilizing Raman Spectroscopy and Machine Learning for Developing a Novel Universal Method for Medical Diagnostics

By Debbie Peru

As the country begins to unravel from the Covid-19 pandemic, many of our members are beginning to make plans to go back to work with emphasis on personal health and safety. Companies are putting in place personnel protection plans that includes modification of how we interact with one another. We hope all of our members, family, and colleagues remain healthy, and continue to do well during this stressful time. Although our in-person monthly meetings are postponed, we have developed an on-line meeting schedule, so that we can stay connected to provide you with spectroscopy news and developments.

To resume the new on-line schedule, the New York/New Jersey Regional Section of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy held another ZOOM on-line meeting on Wednesday, May 27 at 1100 - 12 Noon. We are excited and pleased to announce that our speaker, Nicole Ralbovsky, was selected as the 2020 NY/NJ SAS Graduate Student Award winner. Ms. Ralbovsky is a fourth-year doctoral candidate in Dr. Igor K. Lednev's laboratory at the University at Albany, SUNY.

Ms. Ralbovsky's presentation discussed the use of machine learning modeling for non invasive and early detection of several diseases simply by using the Raman fingerprint of biological fluids. To address the growing need for fast, non-invasive diagnostic tools that are also sensitive and selective, Raman spectroscopy in combination with machine learning is the focus of research in Albany by many of Dr. Igor Lednev's students. The combination of Raman and genetic algorithms has been applied for analyzing several different diseases



including Alzheimer's disease, Duchenne muscular dystrophy, and Celiac disease in proof-of-concept studies. In each individual case, Raman spectral data was collected from biological samples of healthy and diseased donors. Machine learning algorithms were built and validated, each achieving over 95% diagnostic accuracy. The studies reported support the hypothesis that Raman spectroscopy in combination with machine learning analysis has enormous potential and is gaining support by the medical community as a minimally invasive, accurate and rapid universal medical diagnostic method.

Nicole Ralbovsky
2020 NY/NJ SAS Graduate Student
Award Winner!, Speaker for the May 27th
ZOOM on-line meeting.

(Photo courtesy of Howard Mark)

Ralbovsky *et al.*, *J. Alz. Dis.* 2019; 71: 1351-1359
 Ralbovsky and Lednev, *Spectrochim. Acta. Part A.* 2019; 219: 463-487
 Ralbovsky *et al.*, *CSMMOJ* 2019; 5: 1-10
 Ralbovsky *et al.*, *Sci. Rep.* 2020 under review
 Ryzhikova, Ralbovsky, *et al.*, *Appl. Sci.* 2019, 9: 3256
 Ryzhikova, Ralbovsky, *et al.*, *J. Alz. Dis.* 2020 under review

Nicole Ralbovsky's research focuses on developing a novel method for medical diagnostics which uses Raman spectroscopy in combination with machine learning. Nicole has had great success in developing the technique and has published an article in *Biophotonics* magazine describing the methodology; she has successfully applied it for detecting Alzheimer's disease, Celiac disease, muscular dystrophy, and diabetes. Nicole has three first-author manuscripts published, one under review, and two more submitted for review, with others in progress. Nicole received an NIH-funded RNA fellowship awarded by SUNY Albany to pursue this research.

In addition to the progress she has made regarding her research, Nicole has maintained an overall 4.0 GPA and was the two-time recipient of SUNY Albany's Harry L. Frisch Memorial scholarship in Chemistry and the Lawrence and Marie Shore Graduate Scholarship in Life Sciences as a result of her academic achievements. Nicole received the 2019 Coblenz Society student award, was an invited Symposium speaker at Pittcon 2019, received the Ford Foundation Initiatives for Women in Science Fellowship, and has been the recipient of ten different travel awards which resulted in 13 presentations at various conferences and symposia. Nicole additionally spends time participating in SUNY Albany's Graduate Student Club for Chemistry, where she is the secretary, SUNY Albany's Graduate Student Association; and volunteers with the Alzheimer's Association and her local church.

With the help of Chris Brais, we advertised the meeting using a variety of social media venues. WOW! We almost had twice the number of people compared to last month. A grand total of 45 people attended the ZOOM meeting including many new attendees within and outside our regional section and country!. Thank you! to everyone who participated. NY/NJ SAS regional section will continue to offer their meetings on-line for all members who want to participate. If you have any feedback or would like to join our on-line meetings, please send an email to debperu@outlook.com and we will send you a link to the webinar.

More information about the NY/NJ SAS organization, including our past and future meeting schedule, please go to our website www.nysas.org.

Best wishes for good health and be safe!

NY SECTION – COVID-19 VIRTUAL SEMINARS

Teaching in the Time of COVID-19

American Chemical Society

ACS Local Section
New York

Teaching in the Time of COVID-19

What are best practices for distance learning in chemistry?

Yosra Badei

The New York Section of the American Chemical Society has held a series of virtual seminars aimed at discussing distance learning in the COVID-19 era. Particular emphasis was placed on distance learning and teaching laboratory courses in chemistry. The first event which focused on a general overview of teaching and learning chemistry online took place on June 4, 2020 and was very well attended, with over 80 participants. In the session, professors discussed various strategies and assessments that were employed, and scenario planning for the upcoming fall semester. Prof. Yosra Badei from St. Peter's University gave a presentation on using PhET Simulations, followed by a demonstration of Labster and Beyond Labz by Prof. Ishwar Sadarangani from St. John's University. Prof. Brian Gibney from the CUNY Graduate Center and Brooklyn College then gave a description of how recorded lab experiments for

Mass Volume and Density

- Volume from measuring edge length
- Volume from water displacement in grad cylinder
- Calibration/use of a pycnometer
- Compare pycnometer and hydrometer results
- Not at all a watered down version of the face-to-face experiment

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\$2 set

Digital scale 0.01 g
\$12 Amazon

\$3 wholesale
plasticware set
Amazon

25 mL volumetric
flask \$3

Hydrometer
\$12 Amazon

48:07 / 1:53:52

his analytical chemistry course, and Prof. Charles Hicks from Nassau Community College finished with a comprehensive illustration of experiments that students could perform at home. Issues to consider related to returning to lab safely were presented for discussion by Patricia Redden of St. Peter's University.

The second discussion took place the following week on June 11 and also had over 80 attendees. At this session, a presentation, led by Prof. Alion Hyslop, introduced the proposed guidelines set forth by the ACS Committee on Professional Training (CPT), which led to a response from the New York Section to CPT which helped inform their final policy. This was followed by a short talk by Prof. Jack Barbera Jr., Portland State University. In addition to being one of the developers of PhET, Prof. Barbera has extensive knowledge in chemical education and ways to measure student success in chemistry courses. His presentation on comparing virtual and in-person labs was extremely timely and informative. To conclude the second event, we provided break-out rooms for specific disciplines (general chemistry, organic chemistry, analytical chemistry/instrumental analysis, physical chemistry and inorganic chemistry) so that the participants could share their ideas and experiences. After some lively discussion, the participants then rejoined the main Zoom session and exchanged information about what transpired in each breakout room.

Based on the success of these two events, two additional sessions were added for July 9 and July 16. These workshops were designed to be more in-depth and show how an experiment could be carried out online, from start to finish and allow time for user questions. In these final events, platforms such as Labster, Beyond Labz, Praxis, LabFlow and Hayden-McNeil were all demonstrated and discussed. The July 9th workshop had over 30 participants. The July 16th workshop, led by Brian Gibney, had over 20 participants.

A final workshop on "Online Assessments and Teaching Large Online Classes and Developing a Communication Plan" was offered on July 30th. This event was targeted towards courses which were traditionally offered in a lecture format. This workshop covered best practices in online content delivery, student learning, and evaluating student performance.

All of these events were organized by the educational committee of the section, led by Profs. Brian Gibney (Brooklyn College and The Graduate Center at CUNY), Alison Hyslop (St. John's University), Patricia Redden (St. Peter's University), Ruben Savizky (The Cooper Union) and Joseph Serafin (St. John's University). Recordings and support materials are currently available on the New York Section website at <https://newyorkacs.org/>.



(All artwork courtesy of Joseph Serafin.)

ACS LONG ISLAND SUBSECTION NEWS

Spring Seminar and High School Awards Ceremony



The Long Island ACS had its final spring seminar on March 5, 2020 with a presentation by Dr. Daniel Amarante of Chemistry Department at Stony Brook University titled "Synthesis and Characterization of $M(\text{CO})(\text{CN})$ and $M(\text{RS}_2)_x$ Complexes to Mimic Hydrogenase". The synthesis of Osmium and Rutherfordium complexes that are a key part of the hydrogenase enzyme was discussed along with their value for producing hydrogen as an alternative fuel. The presentation was engaging and generated many questions of interest by those who attended. Dr. Amarante shared many of the breakthroughs in his research experiences synthesizing these complex compounds.

For the 31st consecutive year, the LIACS recognized the best High School chemistry students from High Schools in Queens, Nassau, and Suffolk Counties. Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 Pandemic we were not able to hold our traditional High School Awards Ceremony. We were successful in reaching the High School Science Teachers via e-mail. We received 40 nominations this year. Each of the Awardees received a certificate mounted on a handsome wood plaque (photo below). The Award Plaques for most students were mailed directly to their homes.

The LIACS Spring Seminar featuring (above) Dr. Daniel Amarante, presenting and shown (below) with LIACS Chair John Sleckman.

(Photos courtesy of Paul Sideris)





High School Award Plaques

(Photos courtesy of Frank Romano)

Call for Applications

FREDDIE AND ADA BROWN AWARD

This Award recognizes and encourages high achieving middle- and high-school students, of African American and Native American heritage, to further develop their academic skills, with views on careers in the chemical sciences.

Award Amounts

Middle School \$100.00 Check and \$50.00 gift certificate : High School \$200.00 Check and \$100.00 gift certificate.

Who is Eligible

Middle School students enrolled in a science class : High School students who have completed a chemistry course

Grades

Middle School B Average or better in Science, B Average overall : High School B Average in Chemistry, B Average overall

Letter of Recommendation

Math or Science/Chemistry Teachers or Guidance Counselor

Statement

Middle School "Why I Like Science" : High School "Why I Like Chemistry"

Selection Criteria

Applicants must be African American (Black) or Native American (including Pacific Islander) or of mixed race.

Transcript

Official transcript required.

Financial Need

Not Required.

Applications available on the web: www.njacs.org/freddieadabrown or from your school guidance office.

Return Application To

Freddie and Ada Brown Award, NJACS Section Office, 49 Pippens Way, Morristown, NJ 07960

Due Date

Completed Applications must be postmarked no later than **March 31 Annually**

Questions: Contact Jeannette Brown Jebrown@infionline.net or (908) 239-1515

Call for Volunteers

OPPORTUNITY FOR ACS MEMBERS TO AID STUDENTS 2 SCIENCE IN A HYBRID VIRTUAL LAB PROGRAM

Can you spare a few hours of your time? Do you like working with students and would you like the opportunity to share your science knowledge in a classroom? Students 2Science (S2S) is seeking volunteers to support its V-Lab program. S2S has a series of elementary, middle, and high school experiments that run in various schools across New Jersey. Members are especially needed to mentor students in participating schools to help with experiments. It's great fun, a wonderful way to give back, and only requires

1-2 hours of your time. Experiments include CO₂ to the Rescue, Curious Crystals, Mystery of M&Ms, Thermochemistry: *Exothermic and Endothermic Chemical Reactions*, and *Glow it Up: The Chemistry of Luminol*. All are age-appropriate and volunteers are provided with instructions on how to support in the classroom prior to your scheduled volunteer day.

For more information, contact Cyndi Roberston, Director of Corporate Relations, at (973) 947-4880 ext. 516 or visit the website to register for the upcoming school year: <https://www.students2science.org>.



SEMINAR SPEAKERS WANTED

The New York Section of the ACS is in search of speakers that we can add to our Speakers Bureau database of interested local area speakers who are available for Section-wide seminars and symposia. If you have an area of research or interest that would provide an interesting talk appropriate for our Section members, and would like to be included in our Speakers Bureau, please contact the New York Section Office at (516) 883-7510 or send an email to Bernadette Taylor btaylor@NewYorkACS.org with the following information that will be posted on the Section's website: your name, affiliation, a title, and 5-6 words briefly summarizing your area of specialty. We look forward to hearing from you about topics that you wish to share with our other members!

Call for Nominations

NEW YORK SECTION OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

Dear Section Members,

The New York Section of the American Chemical Society is one of the most distinguished sections of the Society. An essential foundation for this distinction are members whose achievements have inspired and driven significant activities that contributed to over 30 ChemLuminary Awards over the years.

Please help us recognize these inspirational leaders and send us **by September 6, 2020**, your nominations including up to two letters of recommendation per nominee who meets the criteria for the Award as noted below.

1. The purpose of this award is to recognize the efforts of members of the New York Section who provide their time, leadership skills and dedicated service in promoting quality programs that contribute to the excellence of the Section.

2 This annual award consists of an engraved ACS plaque that is presented at the New York Section's General Meeting and Section-wide Conference in January. The awardee becomes a member of the Outstanding Service Award Committee for four years.

3. This award was established in 1976 and is supported by the New York Section.

4. Eligible are members of the New York Section whose nomination data has been sent to the Outstanding Service Award Committee **by September 6, 2020**. Please be sure to include with your submission at least one nomination letter with specific examples of the nominee's outstanding service and the impact it had on the Section. You may submit one additional letter of recommendation.

Nominations with supporting data should be sent to the Office Administrator email btaylor@newyorkacs.org



COMMITTEE ON THE HISTORY OF THE NEW YORK SECTION

Over the past twenty-three years the New York Section has participated in the designation of seven National Historic Chemical Landmarks and four New York Section

Historic Chemical Landmarks. A brief description of these National and local section landmarks may be found on the NY Section Home Page at <https://www.newyorkacs.org> under the Committee on the History of the NY Section. These landmark programs recognize achievements in the chemical sciences and related areas, in order to enhance public appreciation for the contributions of the chemical sciences to modern life.

Please consider making a nomination for an historic chemical landmark. The Committee on the History of the NY Section will consider all nominations. In addition to a particular achievement, an historic library, building or association may be worthy of this distinction.

Please send your nomination, with supporting documentation, to the Chair of the Committee, Dr. Neil Jespersen, at jespersn@stjohns.edu.

Please reach out to your members to consider sending recommendations for this award. All nominations must be submitted by the Division or Committee, after approval from the respective Chair.

Nominations with supporting data should be sent to the Office Administrator email btaylor@newyorkacs.org.







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micronanalytical@compuserve.com

Call for Nominations For Outstanding Chemistry Teacher Awards

NEW YORK SECTION ACS ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR THREE OUTSTANDING CHEMISTRY TEACHING AWARDS



Outstanding Two-Year College Chemistry Teaching Award

Purpose: To recognize, encourage and stimulate high quality teaching and research at two-year colleges within the New York Section of the American Chemical Society.

The nomination for this award includes:

1. Candidate's CV including list of publications, students' oral and poster presentations and other evidence of students' involvement.
2. Up to three letters of support from superiors, associates, or local section members' evaluation the nominee's achievements as a teacher.

These documents should demonstrate the candidate's

- a. Quality of teaching
- b. Research productivity
- c. Department/college service including course development work
- d. Ability to challenge and inspire students
- e. Awards

The nominations are due September 30th. The candidates need not be a member of the American Chemical Society. The Award committee of the New York Section will review the candidates and select the nominee. Unsuccessful candidate's files will be kept active for a period of three years. Any updating of the file will be welcomed. The award consists of a major award plaque and a one year regular ACS member dues with New York Local Section dues, and will be recognized at the NY ACS Sectionwide Conference **in January**

2021.

Send nomination materials to Bernadette Taylor, ACS-NY Office Administrator, at btaylor@newyorkacs.org by **September 30, 2020**.



Outstanding Four-Year University with Graduate School Chemistry Faculty Teaching Award

Purpose: To recognize, encourage and stimulate high quality teaching and research at four-year colleges and universities with graduate programs only within the New York Section of the American Chemical Society.

The nomination for this award includes:

1. Candidate's CV including list of publications, students' oral and poster presentations and other evidence of students' involvement.
2. Up to three letters of support from superiors, associates, or local section members' evaluation the nominee's achievements as a teacher.

These documents should demonstrate the candidate's

- a. Quality of teaching
- b. Research productivity
- c. Department/college service including course development work
- d. Ability to challenge and inspire students
- e. Awards

The nominations are due September 30th. The candidates need not be a member of the American Chemical Society. The Award committee of the New York Section will review the candidates and select the nominee. Unsuccessful candidate's files will be kept active for a period of three years. Any updating of the file will be welcomed. The award consists of a major award plaque and a one year regular ACS member dues with New York Local Section dues, and will be recognized at the NY ACS Sectionwide Conference **in January 2021**.

Send materials to btaylor@newyorkacs.org by **September 30, 2020**.

Outstanding Four-Year Undergraduate College and University Chemistry Faculty Teaching Award

Purpose: To recognize, encourage and stimulate high quality teaching and research at four-year colleges and universities with undergraduate programs ONLY within the New York Section of the American Chemical Society.

The nomination for this award includes:

1. Candidate's CV including list of publications, students' oral and poster presentations and other evidence of students' involvement.
2. Up to three letters of support from superiors, associates, or local section members' evaluation the nominee's achievements as a teacher.

These documents should demonstrate the candidate's

- a. Quality of teaching
- b. Research productivity
- c. Department/college service including course development work
- d. Ability to challenge and inspire students
- e. Awards

The nominations are due September 30th. The candidates need not be a member of the American Chemical Society. The Award committee of the New York Section will review the candidates and select the nominee. Unsuccessful candidate's files will be kept active for

a period of three years. Any updating of the file will be welcomed. The award consists of a major award plaque and a one year regular ACS member dues with New York Local Section dues, and will be recognized at the NY ACS Sectionwide Conference **in January 2021**.

Send nomination materials to Bernadette Taylor, ACS-NY Office Administrator, at btaylor@newyorkacs.org by **September 30, 2020**.



NICHOLS SYMPOSIUM RESCHEDULED

Dear NY ACS Section Member:

We are sorry to inform you that due to the outbreak of the Coronavirus in the New York area, the Executive Committee of the ACS New York Section feels it is in everyone's best interest (the hotel, the speakers and Dr. Matyjaszewski) to postpone the Nichols Symposium and Dinner until **Friday, April 16, 2021**. If for some reason we need to change this date again, another announcement with those details will be sent.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you. We hope you find that the new date works with your schedule. If you have already registered for this event and cannot attend, you will receive a full refund. We appreciate your patience as we work through this.

Wishing you best of health.

Dr. Ruben Savizky, 2020 Chair ACS-NY.

October is right around the corner. Be sure to publicize your NCW activities in the next issue of The Indicator. (deadline is August 28)