
THE OCTAGON

VIRTUAL SEPTEMBER LVACS MEETING

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH; 7:00 PM

“Creating a Community of Practice for Faculty Mentoring Undergraduate Research in the Lehigh Valley”



The Lehigh Valley Section of ACS includes more than ten traditional four-year colleges/universities as well as several community colleges. At these institutions, undergraduate research is mentored by independent faculty, but there is very limited communication between faculty who mentor undergraduate research at various campuses. It is with this project that we intend to create more of a community of practice to build bridges between chemistry and biochemistry programs at our LVACS institutions so that more collaboration and sharing of resources can benefit our local section members.

A series of discussions is planned with the following themes:

1. Why Don't We Collaborate? (Identifying overlaps with research areas among LVACS faculty & speed networking event for faculty to meet others and share ideas)
2. Where's the Money? (Guidance and tips for pursuing extramural undergraduate research funding at PUIs)
3. Sharing Resources & Learning Together (Discussion about instrumentation and other research-relevant resources available in the Lehigh Valley)
4. Retention of Students in STEM (Discussion about innovative pedagogical methods we can use to improve retention of students in chemistry)

At the September Meeting, Project leaders Lindsey Welch of Cedar Crest College and Fran Mayville of DeSales University will introduce the goals of the project and invite area faculty to ask questions and propose ideas for collaboration and resource sharing.

Zoom Meeting [link](#)



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