

## Chair's Report

Greetings Orlando Local Section,

Great news – Dr. Joel Olson of Florida Tech has agreed to serve as Chair Elect for the remainder of the year as Thorsten Schmidt had to resign due to his company relocating. You can read more about Joel in the following newsletter.

We have a full fall of activities as you will also see below. Please read about the upcoming NanoFlorida Conference and Call for Award Nominations. Take note of the General Meeting date (October 13) during which we will plan Orlando Section activities for the National Meeting coming here in spring.

Kind regards,

### Your 2018 Officers

Chair	Laura Sessions	<a href="mailto:lsessions@valenciacollege.edu">lsessions@valenciacollege.edu</a>
Chair-elect	Joel Olson	<a href="mailto:jolson@fit.edu">jolson@fit.edu</a>
Treasurer	Jim Bellows	-
Secretary	Elizabeth Barrios	<a href="mailto:elizabeth.barrios@nasa.gov">elizabeth.barrios@nasa.gov</a>
Councilor	Darlene Slattery	<a href="mailto:dslattery1@cfl.rr.com">dslattery1@cfl.rr.com</a>
Alternate Councilor	Laura Sessions	<a href="mailto:lsessions@valenciacollege.edu">lsessions@valenciacollege.edu</a>
<b>Appointed Chairs</b>		
Outreach Co-Chairs	Emily Heider	<a href="mailto:Emily.Heider@ucf.edu">Emily.Heider@ucf.edu</a>
	Nadia Edwin	-
Younger Chemists	Elizabeth Barrios	<a href="mailto:elizabeth.barrios@nasa.gov">elizabeth.barrios@nasa.gov</a>
Committee Co-Chairs	Bailey Mourant	<a href="mailto:baileymourant@knights.ucf.edu">baileymourant@knights.ucf.edu</a>



Call for  
award  
nominations

## Upcoming Activities

### NanoFlorida 2018 Research Conference

October 5 – 7

Florida Tech hosts the 11th annual NanoFlorida 2018 Research Conference at its Melbourne campus on October 5 – 7. NanoFlorida 2018 offers faculty and students an excellent opportunity to share their nanotechnology research with colleagues in the southeast. Students may receive a reimbursement of their registration fees thanks to a grant from the National Science Foundation. Conference symposia highlight nanotechnology research in the following areas:

- Medicine,
- Devices and materials,
- Energy and the environment,
- Agriculture,
- Aerospace and space exploration, and
- Education.

NanoFlorida 2018 is the only state-wide nanotechnology research conference in Florida. Chemists can reconnect with colleagues at nearby institutions who share their interest in nanotechnology. Industry representatives will showcase their latest products and discuss faculty research needs. Presenters will have the opportunity to author manuscripts to appear in special issues of peer-reviewed journals. A flier for NanoFlorida 2018 is available here: <http://411.fit.edu/nanoflorida/documents/flier-print.pdf>. See the NanoFlorida 2018 website for more details: <http://411.fit.edu/nanoflorida/>.

We offer many benefits to student attendees as well. First and foremost, undergraduate and graduate students can present their research in a relaxed environment so that they can hone their science communication skills in either oral or poster presentation sessions. Students can network with potential employers and graduate school representatives at a university-wide career fair on October 5 and a nanotechnology Industry and Career Expo on October 6 – 7. NSF funding will reimburse the first two hundred students for their registration fees. Awards are given to the best student presentations.

NanoFlorida 2018 is organized by Drs. Kurt Winkelmann and Jim Brenner of Florida Tech in Melbourne, Florida on October 5 – 7. We hope that your faculty and students can attend and share their nanotechnology research with colleagues from across Florida. Feel free to contact us at [nanoflorida2018@fit.edu](mailto:nanoflorida2018@fit.edu) if you have any questions.

The local section has an opportunity to be involved in planning some activities at the ACS National Meeting planned for Orlando in spring 2019. As one idea, we might consider highlighting some of our local start-ups and research at our host booth and in the program advertisement or at the exposition. We have some spaces at the event offered to us free of charge. And, we can host a reception. There is a budget available.

If you have an interest in coordinating local section activities related to the National Meeting, please submit a paragraph stating your interest and initial ideas to [lsessions@valenciacollege.edu](mailto:lsessions@valenciacollege.edu). I'm happy to chat with anyone that would like more information.

We will have an organizational meeting in October to plan our activities:

**General Meeting**

Saturday October 13 1:00-3:00pm  
Valencia College Lake Nona Campus  
12350 Narcoossee Rd., Orlando FL 32832  
Room 148

*Light refreshments will be served.*



**Chemistry for New Frontiers**  
257th National Meeting & Exposition  
March 31 - April 4, 2019  
Orlando, FL

*2018 ACS ORLANDO SECTION AWARDS*

Do you have a chemistry student that performed at an outstanding level in the classroom, laboratory, and beyond last year? Who among your academic colleagues deserves recognition for making chemistry exciting and fun for students?

If you know someone who should be recognized publicly for one of these achievements, please nominate them for an Orlando Section ACS Award!

Each year the Orlando Section of the American Chemical Society honors outstanding chemists from the counties of Brevard, Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Sumter, or Volusia. Awardees from the high school, college, and research levels are honored at the Section's annual banquet luncheon, held in early December. Each award consists of a plaque, a modest monetary award, and lunch for the winner, a guest, and the first nominator at the banquet luncheon.

**Awards**

The Eileen Tulley Award for Outstanding High School Student

Outstanding High School Teacher

Outstanding Two-year College Student

Outstanding Two-year College Teacher

Outstanding Four-year College Student (undergraduate)

Outstanding Four-year College Teacher

Outstanding Graduate Student

Outstanding Chemist

Outstanding Section Volunteer

To nominate an individual, 1) write a letter of nomination stating why this person deserves the award, 2) obtain a letter of support from someone else who knows the nominee. Each letter should include the name of the award, and the writer's email address and daytime phone number. Electronic submissions are required. Email PDF letters to Dr. Laura Sessions, Chair of the Orlando Section, at [lsessions@valenciacollege.edu](mailto:lsessions@valenciacollege.edu). To be considered, nominations must be received **by noon of Friday October 19, 2018**.

We look forward to receiving your nominations, and celebrating chemistry in Central Florida. Thank you for helping recognize and publicize excellence in chemical education.

**2019 Gustavus John Esselen Award for Chemistry in the Public Interest  
The Northeastern Section**

The Northeastern Section of the American Chemical Society (NESACS) is inviting nominations for its prestigious Gustavus John Esselen Award for Chemistry in the Public Interest. This award is given annually to a chemical scientist, whose scientific and technical work has contributed to the public well being and has thereby communicated the positive values of the chemical profession. The significance of this work should have become apparent within the five years preceding nomination. The awardee shall be a living resident of the United States or Canada at the time of the nomination.

The Award consists of a bronze medal and the sum of \$5,000. Travel expenses incidental to the conferring of the award will be reimbursed. The award will be presented at the April 2019 meeting of the Section. The Awardee is expected to deliver an address on the subject of the work for which the honor is conferred, or for work in progress which is also directed toward chemistry in the public interest.

Nominations should be submitted as a single pdf file including:

1. a letter signed by the primary sponsor with a description of the nominee's work recognized as making a major contribution to the public welfare and as communicating positive values of the chemical profession, plus the names of two co-sponsors;
2. short supporting co-sponsor statements;
3. the nominee's professional biography including a list of no more than ten of the nominee's publications selected for their pertinence to the work nominated for recognition; and copies of popular and technical press news or feature articles indicative of public benefit and interest.

Nominations Are Due October 19, 2018 to [dwalt@bwh.harvard.edu](mailto:dwalt@bwh.harvard.edu) with cc to [JPiperGrady@gmail.com](mailto:JPiperGrady@gmail.com). Award recipients will be notified by February 1, 2019.

Inquiries may be directed to the above or to Dr. David Walt, Tel. (857) 307-1112 or Jeananne Piper Grady, Tel. (617) 620-8315. Address: 11 Thaxter St., Hingham, MA 02043.

See [http://www.nesacs.org/awards\\_esselen.html](http://www.nesacs.org/awards_esselen.html) for more information.

Dr. Olson grew up in Upper-Peninsula Michigan and southern Wisconsin. At the age of 17 he enlisted in the U.S. Navy, serving as a Hospital Corpsman and a U.S. Navy SEAL (SEAL Team 5 in Coronado, CA). During his time with SEAL Team 5, he travelled extensively in southern California, Alaska, and Southeast Asia. After completing his enlistment Dr. Olson was accepted to the University of Wisconsin at Madison.



As an undergraduate student majoring in chemistry at the University of Wisconsin, Dr. Olson became involved in researching the optical and chemical properties of II-VI semiconductor surfaces, as well as developing materials for chemical education, working under the direction of Arthur B. Ellis. His research resulted in a publication in the *Journal of Physical Chemistry*. Undergraduate research had a profound impact on Dr. Olson, motivating him to pursue graduate studies. For this reason, Dr. Olson is deeply dedicated toward involving undergraduate and high school students in research activities.

Dr. Olson attended graduate school also at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. There he worked under the dual supervision of Arthur B. Ellis and Robert J. Hamers. For his dissertation project Dr. Olson constructed a scratch-built scanning tunneling microscope (STM) from basic components. He then used his STM to investigate tip-induced chemical reactions on cleaved surfaces of cadmium selenide.

Upon completion of his Ph.D., Dr. Olson accepted a position as a Principal Chemist at Ecolab, Inc. in St. Paul, MN where he gained familiarity with a number of analytical methods. While he learned a great deal working in industrial chemistry, Dr. Olson decided to leave Ecolab to pursue an academic career.

From Ecolab, Dr. Olson obtained a position as a Visiting Associate Professor in the Chemistry Department at the University of Saint Thomas in Saint Paul, MN where he taught General Chemistry 1 and 2.

Dr. Olson then became a Post-Doctoral Fellow in the laboratory of Philippe Buhlmann in the Chemistry Department at the University of Minnesota at Minneapolis using STM to investigate chemically-modified STM tips.

In 2003, Dr. Olson accepted a permanent faculty position at Florida Institute of Technology. His research has been directed toward the use of STM to investigate the quantum mechanical properties of pharmaceutical and catalyst molecules.

Dr. Olson enjoys spending time with his family, playing guitar, kayaking, bicycling, and he is an avid board game and role-playing game enthusiast.

*Many thanks, Dr. Olson, for agreeing to serve the section as Chair Elect!*

### Councilor's Report 256<sup>th</sup> National Meeting

The 256<sup>th</sup> National Meeting of the American Chemical Society was held in Boston, MA August 19 - 23 and was attended by **14,235** registered individuals. The Council meeting was held on August 22.

#### Election Results: Elected Committees of Council

- By electronic ballot, the Council elected **Ella L. Davis, Lissa A. Dulany, Lisa Houston, and Martin D. Rudd** for three-year terms (2019-2021), and **Will E. Lynch** for a one-year term (2019) on the Council Policy Committee (CPC).
- By electronic ballot, the Council elected **Allison Aldridge, Christopher J. Bannochie, Mary K. Engelman, Silvia Ronco, and Frankie K. Wood-Black** for three-year terms (2019-2021) on the Committee on Nominations and Elections (N&E).
- By electronic ballot, the Council elected **Rodney M. Bennett, Jacqueline A. Erickson, Judith M. Iriarte-Gross, Donivan R. Porterfield, and Carolyn Ribes** for three-year terms (2019-2021) on the Committee on Committees (ConC).

#### Other Council Actions

##### **Amendments to the ACS Bylaws**

- A recommendation by the Committee on Membership Affairs that Council approve the Petition on International Chemical Sciences Chapters achieved the two-thirds majority required to amend Bylaw XI, Section 3 accordingly (additions **underlined**; deletions ~~struck through~~):

Affiliations of SOCIETY Local Sections or Divisions shall become effective upon authorization by their governing body, **approval by their respective Council committees governing Local Sections and Divisions**, and ~~by~~ confirmation by the Council Committee on Constitution and Bylaws acting for the Council, that the provisions of Section 1 of this Bylaw are met.

The changes will become effective upon confirmation by the Board of Directors.

- A recommendation by the Committee on Membership Affairs that Council approve the Petition on International Chemical Sciences Chapters achieved the two-thirds majority required to amend Bylaw IX, Section 4 accordingly (additions **underlined**; deletions ~~struck through~~):

An International Chemical Sciences Chapter ~~shall receive no allotment of funds from the SOCIETY and shall not be entitled to elected representation on the Council.~~ A Chapter may assess its members local Chapter dues to be expended for its own purposes in harmony with the objects of the SOCIETY.

The changes will become effective upon confirmation by the Board of Directors.

### ***Membership Affairs***

As of August 21, ACS had 149,584 members, which is a decline of only eight-tenths of one percent from the over 150,000 members in 2017. This year-to-date figure represents an increase of over 1,200 members when compared to the last two years. It was noted that five of last seven months have been respectively the best months for membership since at least 2014. The current membership count positions ACS for a strong close to the year, and there is cautious optimism that total membership will rise for the first time since 2011.

### **Continuation of Committee**

On the recommendation of the Committee on Committees, and the concurrence of the Council Policy Committee, Council approved the continuation of the Committee on Chemical Safety, subject to concurrence by the Board of Directors.

### **Special Discussion**

President Dorhout introduced and led a special discussion on what role(s) ACS should play in preventing sexual harassment in the sciences. He highlighted several recent articles, workshops and studies that have called attention to the issue, notably a symposium, “Science of Sexual Harassment” organized during the ACS National Meeting in New Orleans (Spring 2018) by the Women Chemists Committee and Chemical & Engineering News; and a National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine consensus study report: “Sexual Harassment of Women: Climate, Culture, and Consequences in Academic Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine” (2018). He directed Council’s attention to existing ACS codes and initiatives to address sexual harassment, and offered items for discussion and possible action:

- More signs/information at National Meetings regarding our policies and supporting information
- Trained volunteers at national meetings for reporting sexual harassment
- A webinar on preventing sexual harassment for local sections or divisions

A summary of the discussion and additional information will be sent to Councilors at a later time.

### **Action of the Board of Directors**

In light of the recent financial performance of the technical-meeting component of the national meetings, the Board voted to approve an advance member registration fee of \$490 for national meetings held in 2019 (i.e., the current advance member registration fee escalated to account for inflation only).



**Stay tuned for more activities!**

**You can visit our website:**

**<http://orlando.sites.acs.org/>**

**or, our new Facebook page:**

**<https://www.facebook.com/acsorlandols/>**