



## American Chemical Society Western Michigan Section June, 2019 Newsletter

### Executive Committee Meeting

The executive committee met on May 28 and some of the highlights of past and present events are detailed below. We also discussed possible speakers for this fall.

### Spring Speaker - Grace Wolf-Chase, Ph.D., Adler Planetarium

Grace Wolf-Chase gave an informative lecture about star formation on Wednesday, April 10, 2019, 6:00 PM at the Grand Rapids Community College Calkins Science Center. The meeting was well attended and many questions were asked following her talk.

Check out the link to her lecture at <https://youtu.be/fcyxqoJHjRg> (hit control/click)

### Michigan Science Teachers Association (MTSA) Convention

The MSTA convention was held at the Amway Grand Plaza in Grand Rapids on Friday March 1 and on Saturday March 2. Our section and the Kalamazoo section partnered to host a table promoting the ACS in a very positive light. Thanks to those who volunteered to be our representatives!

### Congratulations are in order! 50 and 60 year members and a student chapter

50 and 60 year members will be honored at a meeting this fall. Congratulations to the following long time members of the American Chemical Society! Members and years of service are:

Fifty Years: Dr. Ronald Lee Blankespoor, Dr. Wallace T. Fu, Mr. Donald Clinton Jones, Dr. Craig E. Mixan, Mr. Roger Lee Mulder and Dr. Harvey J. Nikkel

Sixty Years: Dr. Thomas K. Dykstra and Dr. Bruce H. Klanderman

Aquinas College received a Commendable Award for their ACS Student chapter. The Society Committee on Education selects ACS Student Chapters to receive special recognition on the basis of their programs and activities, as described in their chapter reports. Awards are classified as outstanding, commendable, and honorable mention. Chapters that do not qualify for these awards receive a certificate of achievement for meritorious service.

For the 2017-2018 academic year, we honored 69 outstanding, 92 commendable, and 145 honorable mention chapters, plus 72 "green chapters" who successfully completed green chemistry activities throughout the year.

### National Chemistry Week 2019 at GVSU Kelly Family Sports Center – October 19

The Western Michigan Chapter of the ACS will celebrate National Chemistry Week (NCW) this year at Grand Valley State University in the Kelly family sports center on October 19th. The theme for NCW is **Marvelous Metals**. There will be a demo show organized by Jim Krikke, 16 tables with hands on activities, a college poster display organized by Shannon Biros ([biross@gvsu.edu](mailto:biross@gvsu.edu)) and a K-12 illustrated poster contest organized by Britt Price ([pricebr1@gvsu.edu](mailto:pricebr1@gvsu.edu)).



We are also celebrating the **150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Periodic Table**. As part of this outreach event we hope to make the world's largest periodic table and have submitted an application to the *Guinness World Records* book. Schools, groups, and local companies are each making huge representations of elements found on the periodic table. When assembled on the Sports Center floor, they will make a Periodic Table as large as the football field.

A link to a news story from WWMT Newschannel 3 dated May 16, 2019 is below:

[Grand Valley State University organizing attempt at world's largest periodic table](#)

Another link to an article on this event is from Deanna Cullen, High School Editor, ChemEd X ACS DivChEd Member at Large:

<https://www.chemedx.org/blog/working-largest-periodic-table-world-record-attempt>

**Help out by choosing an element from the periodic table and making a representation of it.** We are asking groups to complete and return the elements by June 15<sup>th</sup> so, we know if there are any elements left to complete. Please reserve an element soon! This is not just a West Michigan event. We have had elements come in from schools and organizations in Texas, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and other states. Keep informed by responding to the event on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/2261489874120479/>. Currently there is a poll on the event page to see if people would like to buy a T-Shirt that says "I helped make the World's Largest Periodic Table" Shirts would be around \$18 and \$5 for shipping if we get 20 people interested.

**If you would like to make one, check the ACS website to see what elements are left.** The link is below: (<https://westernmichigan.sites.acs.org/intyperiodictable.htm>) To date 108 of the 118 are spoken for and 50 have been received.

**Detailed instructions for creating your element are on the last two pages of this newsletter.**

**Volunteers needed:** We will be asking for many volunteers for the event when it gets closer. To volunteer to help out at the event please contact Michelle DeWitt ([dewittmi@gvsu.edu](mailto:dewittmi@gvsu.edu)).

If anyone would like to volunteer to help with the ACS poster booth (free T-Shirt for all volunteers) please let Britt Price ([pricebr1@gvsu.edu](mailto:pricebr1@gvsu.edu)) know by October 1st with your shirt size.

Also please contact Michelle if you wish to host a booth for your school or business. If you are hosting a booth let Michelle know a total number of T-shirts and sizes by October 1st.

## Undergraduate Research Poster Presentation – October 19, 2019

### Location: GVSU Kelly Family Sports Center

In conjunction with National Chemistry Week, the Western Michigan ACS is also hosting a research poster presentation for undergraduate students from our section. If you wish to display a research poster, please contact Shannon Biros ([biross@gvsu.edu](mailto:biross@gvsu.edu)).

## Periodic Table Element-Making Instructions



Western Michigan ACS and GVSU Chemistry Department are looking for groups to help make the world's largest Periodic Table to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the periodic table in 2019. To accomplish this, we must start NOW and we need YOUR help! Each element will be 216 inches across and 162 inches tall. This will make a Periodic Table that is 120 yards long by 53.3 yards tall, almost the size of a football field.



We will put all elements together on October 19, 2019 for 2019 National Chemistry Week Event held 10am-2pm at GVSU Kelly Family Sports Center <https://www.gvsu.edu/sportsfacilities/the-kelly-family-sports-center-6.htm>

This event will be FREE and open to the public. We are competing for the Guinness World Record. With your help starting at 10am, we plan on having the periodic table completely set up at noon and then take a group picture. Measurements for your element are below:

- Atomic Number (top left): 40 inches tall by 20-30 wide.
- Element Name (bottom left): 20 inches tall by 90-130 inches wide
- Element Symbol (center): 100-120 inches wide by 120-130 inches tall.
- Atomic Weight (bottom right): 40 inches wide by 20 inches tall.

Reminders: Please leave a 6-inch border. Get creative in colors and style! Sign your element in top right corner with names/logo of your group. You can also add pictures of your element or facts about it. It is recommended to be made by hot gluing 6 rectangular plastic disposable table cloths together.

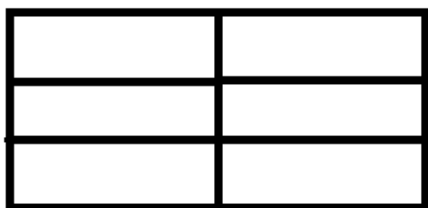
Elements are due back to Michelle DeWitt by April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019

### IF INTERESTED:

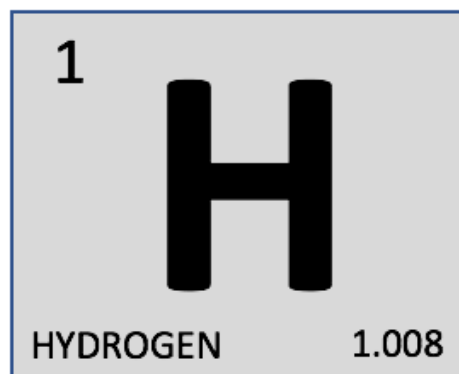
Email Michelle at [dewittmi@gvsu.edu](mailto:dewittmi@gvsu.edu) to claim your element.

GVSU Attn: 378 Padnos

1 Campus Drive, Allendale Drive 49401



Layout for tablecloths



Example of Element

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Some suggestions:

The table cloths are available on Amazon or at Gordon Foods for less than \$2 each (you need 6). Also, we have tried sharpies, spray paint and acrylic paint and the Acrylic (about \$1 at Michaels) works the best. The paint is also available on Amazon just a little more expensive. I am ok with any color table cloths or paint just make sure it can be seen from far away.

Please take a couple of pictures of your group working on it as I would like to include a video of the making of the table to the event. Please get back with me with a list of names of who worked on it. Let me know when you are done.

Look for event page on Facebook soon and ACS Western Michigan section webpage.

Let me know if you know of any schools or other groups that would like an element. First come first served for choosing elements.

I look forward to seeing them all together at the GVSU Allendale Kelly family Sports center on October 19<sup>th</sup> 2019, where we will celebrate National Chemistry Week in style as we always do and celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Periodic table.

Thank you everyone! This project will take many volunteers to make happen. I can't believe how quickly people across sciences and though out the community are getting excited and signing up.

Our application has been submitted to the Guinness book of world records.

Stay up to date by visiting our website at <https://westernmichigan.sites.acs.org>



Students from Leigh Thompson's 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Chemistry Class working on their element.

*Photo courtesy of Leigh Thompson  
- US Science Department  
103 N. Mooreland Rd.  
Richmond, VA 23229*

Items for the Newsletter may be submitted to James Krikke (GVSU) at [krikkeji@gvsu.edu](mailto:krikkeji@gvsu.edu)