

SECTION ELECTIONS

2020 SECTION ELECTION VOTING INSTRUCTIONS

The election for officers of our local ACS Section will be conducted electronically. The ballot will be sent to the email address you provided to ACS in your "Yellow Book" member registration. You will receive an e-mail with a link to a survey hosted at www.SurveyMoz.com. Simply follow the link to see the ballot where you can vote for each position. The voting process is very straightforward and will take about one minute. Note that the ballot does have the option for write-in candidates, per our bylaws. **The last day votes will be accepted is November 13, 2019.**

For those members who do not have an e-mail address registered, you are receiving a paper ballot in this newsletter. **Please return the ballot by November 13, 2019.**

PLEASE VOTE ONLINE
YOUR PARTICIPATION IS APPRECIATED!

 **BALLOTS DUE**
NOVEMBER 13th

Fall Social & Awards Ceremony

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: November 15 Annual Member Recognition Social 6-8pm, Richland Community Center, 500 Amon Park, Richland, WA

The Richland Section Fall Social has traditionally been a time for Section members to socialize and honor the 50-year ACS members. We will do that again, and much more too! Join us for an enjoyable evening with wine and light hors d'oeuvres that also includes:

Senior Chemist Roundtable

*Research Posters presented by
Eastern Oregon University Students*

*Special Talk presented by Associate Professor Jim Harbertson
from Washington State University's Wine Science Center*

About Dr Jim Harbertson

Jim Harbertson is an Associate Professor of Enology at Washington State University's Wine Science Center in Richland, Washington. He received his bachelor's degree in biochemistry and doctorate in agricultural chemistry from the University of California at Davis. Jim's research focuses on the phenolic compounds found in grapes and wine and their biochemical and chemical changes during grape ripening, winemaking and aging. Jim serves as an associate editor for the Australian Journal of Grape and Wine Research. Jim has received research paper of the year in Enology from the American Journal of Enology and Viticulture four times (2010, 2014, 2017, 2018). Jim is an active volunteer for the American Society of Enology and Viticulture serving in various capacities on the board and now serves as the technical program director and past President. Jim has organized symposiums, workshops and seminars in California and Washington.

INSIDE: CANDIDATE BIOS & DR. INGRID MONTES VISITS THE TRI-CITIES



PRESENTING THE 2020 SLATE OF CANDIDATES

COUNCILOR *Anna Cavinato*



Anna Cavinato is a professor of Chemistry at Eastern Oregon University in La Grande, OR working in the field of spectroscopy, non-invasive analysis and, most recently, DNA aptamer-based sensor development. In addition to over 60 publications and several book chapters, Anna has been recently recognized with the following distinctions: ACS E. Ann Nalley Northwest Region Award for Volunteer Service (2018); ACS Fellow (2013); 2014 Volunteer of the Year (Richland Section).

Anna has been an active member of the American Chemical Society since 1986. She is currently the Councilor of the Richland Section, a member of the Local Section Activities Committee, and the Secretary of the Division of Analytical Chemistry. She served as Chair of the 50 Forward Campaign for Project SEED (2018); Chair of the Committee on Project SEED (2015-2017); and General Co-Chair for NORM 2018. Anna served as Chair of the Richland Section in 1999 and has been Chair of the Diversity Committee since 2000. Under her leadership, the Section has greatly expanded its outreach efforts with programs such as "Girls in Science" and "Saturday Science" promoting science to women and underrepresented groups. These efforts have earned the Richland Section multiple ChemLuminary awards. Anna is the advisor for the EOU Students Member Chapter (Chem Club) which continues to distinguish itself as one of the outstanding chapters in the nation.

Election Statement: I am honored to be nominated for the position of Councilor and I look forward to the opportunity to continue serving the Richland Local Section in this capacity. Recently, the Section underwent the process of strategic planning with strong focus on increasing networking opportunities and improving services that benefit all members. As experienced member of the executive committee, I am committed to assist in the implementation of the plan. If elected, I will work eagerly to strengthen the Section's efforts to promote science education at all levels, and grow and diversify Section membership and leadership. My goal is to help shape a strong, dynamic Local Section with effective governance and programs that help advance the profession of all its members.

COUNCILOR *David Heldebrandt*



I was born in Pasadena, California and went to school at the University of California at Davis, receiving a PhD in organic chemistry in 2005. I have worked at the Pacific Northwest national Laboratory since 2006, where my research is focused on green chemistry and engineering as a means to minimize the environmental impacts of industrial processes. I have served the ACS at the local, divisional and regional levels. I served the Richland local section as Chair in 2012 and as a member of the executive committee for the past six years, and the past few years I have served as alternate councilor. I recently served as Program Chair for the Division of Energy and Fuels in 2017 and as their Chair for 2019. I have enjoyed serving our local section for the past few years, and I would like to continue my service for 2020. I look forward to continuing to offer my experience and energy to continue our local section's exemplary track record serving our members and the scientific community.

SECRETARY *Shirmir Branch*



Shirmir Branch is a Chemist at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. She joined the Nuclear Chemistry & Engineering group at PNNL from the University of Cincinnati in 2018, where she received her PhD in analytical chemistry. The focus of her research at PNNL involves technetium synthesis and detection in tank waste, mercury separation in Hanford waste, and molten salt chemistry and spectroscopic monitoring development. She has been a member of the American Chemical Society since 2009 and has participated in national, regional, and local meetings as a presenter and event organizer. She has been involved in the local Richland section since 2016 and currently serves as the section's secretary. She has participated in several outreach events with the Tri-Cities. She is founding member of the local Women Chemists Committee and currently serves as the mentoring chair.

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CHAIR-ELECT *Mariefel Olarte*



Mariefel V. Olarte is a Chemical Engineer at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. She joined PNNL from the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta where she finished her Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering. The focus of her research was in base-catalyzed depolymerization of lignin and the subsequent catalytic upgrading of lignin-derived compounds to produce renewable hydrocarbon. She also has an MS in Paper Science and Engineering (Chemical Engineering) from GaTech. She worked in aqueous phase reforming of actual biomass as well as hydrolysis of biomass as a means of fractionation. Currently, her research focus at PNNL is the thermochemical processing of biomass, involving chemical analysis, catalyst characterization and development as well as process development. She has been a member of the American Chemical Society since 2006 and has participated in national conferences as an oral presenter, session chair and symposium co-organizer. She served as Richland Section Secretary in 2018 and remained very active in the organization. She had served as secretary of the Filipino-American Association of Tri-Cities from 2012 – 2014.

TREASURER *Deepika Malhotra*



Deepika Malhotra grew up in a city located on the foothills of Himalayas in northern India named Chandigarh. She received her Ph.D. from University of Louisville, Kentucky in Organic Chemistry in 2014 and then joined Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL). She is currently a Scientist in Applied Synthetic Chemistry Group and her research at PNNL is focused towards designing and synthesis of modular solvent for CO₂ capture and acid gas separations. She has been a member of American Chemical Society and has participated in national/local conferences as an oral presenter, session presider and has co-organized symposium. She was fundraising Chair for American Chemical Society 73rd Northwest Regional Meeting (NORM) held at PNNL in June 2018. She is actively involved with the local Richland ACS section and is currently serving as a Treasurer for Richland local section. Given the opportunity she will be delighted to continue serve the local section as a treasurer and contribute to the overall success and growth of the organization.



**Happy
Fall!**

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**BALLOTS DUE
NOVEMBER 13th**

DR. INGRID MONTES VISITS THE TRI-CITIES

Dr. Ingrid Montes, professor of chemistry at the University of Puerto Rico, founder of the "Festival de Química" and director-at-large of the American Chemical Society (ACS), gave a seminar at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory on Tuesday, September 24, 2019. The Hispanic for Outreach and Leadership Achievement (HOLA) employee resource group sponsored the lecture, titled "Inspiring future generation through inclusiveness". Dr. Montes discussed the definitions of diversity and inclusion, then examined the reasons why it is necessary to give consideration to both when establishing strategies and solutions to achieve a balanced and well represented scientific community in the workforce. She explained how diversity has been described as what you have, whereas inclusion is what you do.



"Inclusion is about creating an environment that welcomes everyone's uniqueness"

Dr. Montes emphasized that inclusion is not a word or discussion; it is an action, it is a call to nurture a culture without boundaries, and it is the belief that everyone brings their unique perspectives to the table. It embraces a wide range of talents and skills, a variety of viewpoints and approaches to problems, and opportunities to improve decision-making that leads to creativity and innovation.

Dr. Montes participated in several tours, aquatic lab, RPL at PNNL and B-Reactor. Also, HOLA and ACS's members hosted a dinner at Bookwalters. PNNL, HOLA, and our ACS local chapter are currently collaborating with Dr. Montes to coordinate our first Festival de Química in the Tri-Cities next summer.



Dr. Ingrid's seminar at PNNL discussed diversity and inclusion.



ACS members host Dr. Ingrid at Bookwalters Winery.

UPCOMING EVENTS



NOVEMBER 1

SECTION ELECTION BALLOTS DISTRIBUTED

A ballot will be distributed to your email by November 1. Response is required by November 13. Questions can be submitted directly to Kristin Omberg: kristin.omberg@pnnl.gov or (509) 375-2934

NOVEMBER 13

SECTION ELECTION BALLOTS DUE

Kristin Omberg: kristin.omberg@pnnl.gov or (509) 375-2934

NOVEMBER 15

ANNUAL MEMBER RECOGNITION SOCIAL 6-8PM

Richland Community Center, 500 Amon Park, Richland, WA

UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ALWAYS AVAILABLE AT <http://acs.labworks.org>

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