

## ACS MATTERS

Your Source for the Latest News & Events  
from the American Chemical Society



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Students, apply for the ACS Bridge Program by April 1 | **January 14, 2020**

## FEATURE

### Nominate Your Section, Division, or Chapter for a ChemLuminary Award!

ACS's annual [ChemLuminary Awards](#) honor outstanding programming, outreach, and operations from ACS local sections, technical divisions, and international science chapters. Awards include Best Activity or Program Highlighting ACS Change Driver(s) or Strategic Planning, the MAC Industry Engagement & Outreach Award, and many more.



Officers may submit ChemLuminary Award nominations through FORMS as part of their ACS Annual Reports, due February 15, 2020. ChemLuminary Awards honoring successful 2019 activities will be presented at the ACS 2020 Fall National Meeting in San Francisco, CA. Please contact your ACS local section, technical division, or international science chapter officers to suggest activities for ChemLuminary Award nomination. Visit the [ChemLuminary Awards homepage](#) for the full list of awards and nomination guidelines.

## MY ELEMENT



This week's favorite element is the "versatile catalyst" **ruthenium**, as described by Dr. Ashish Kumar. "My journey of research in the area of catalysis started with Ruthenium. Ruthenium is a versatile catalyst, especially its oxides, which are used in the removal of H<sub>2</sub>S from oil refineries and other industrial processes, for the production of ammonia from natural gas, and for..." [read more](#)

What's your favorite element? [Share your story today!](#)

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24<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Green Chemistry  
& Engineering  
Conference  
*Systems-Inspired Design*  
June 16-18, 2020 | Seattle, WA  
Call for Abstracts is open  
Jan. 6 – Feb. 17, 2020.  
SUBMIT YOUR ABSTRACT TODAY!  
ACS GCI  
Chemistry for Life®

## ADVANCE YOURSELF & YOUR SCIENCE

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### ACS and Earth Day Network Strengthen Partnership for Earth Day's 50th Anniversary



On April 22, Earth Day 2020 will mark the 50th anniversary of the world's largest environmental movement, and ACS is a proud partner for this milestone event.

Together, ACS and Earth Day Network are creating resources and programs to support [Chemists Celebrate Earth Week \(CCEW\)](#), an ACS public awareness initiative. Held annually during the same week as Earth Day, CCEW brings ACS Members and chemistry enthusiasts together to celebrate and communicate the positive role that chemistry plays in the world. CCEW 2020 will take place April 19-25, celebrating the theme "Protecting the Planet through Chemistry." Resources for CCEW will be available on February 1.

Through CCEW's community service events and with Earth Day Network and its partners across the globe, ACS is helping to build Earth's largest cleanup crew. To learn more about the partnership and how to participate in the Great Global Cleanup by hosting an ACS-sponsored cleanup in your area, visit [www.acs.org/ccew](http://www.acs.org/ccew).

### Apply for Petroleum Research Fund Grants Starting February 17

The ACS Office of Research Grants will be accepting proposals for [Petroleum Research Fund \(PRF\) grants](#) to support fundamental research in the petroleum field from 12:00 PM ET on February 17 until 5:00 PM ET on March 13. Proposals must be directed to fundamental petroleum research in one of 10 specified subject matter areas.

Grant programs are available for new professors beginning their first tenure-track position, and also for established tenured or tenure-track professors pursuing new research directions. Separate grant programs are available for qualified professors in non-doctoral departments. Further information and application forms can be found on the [PRF website](#).



### Submit an Abstract to the Green Chemistry & Engineering Conference



The ACS Green Chemistry Institute invites you to submit an abstract to the [24th Annual Green Chemistry & Engineering Conference](#), to be held June 16-18, 2020, in downtown Seattle, WA. The conference will feature three days of programming, more than 40 technical sessions, and numerous networking opportunities for the over 600 green chemists and engineers who are expected to attend from around the world. This year's conference symposia revolve around the theme of "Systems-Inspired Design,"

driving the sustainable chemical life cycle. Take a moment to [browse the symposia and submit an abstract](#) by February 17.

### Cook, Taste, and Learn with the Next Free Weekly ACS Webinar

Did you know that cooking food might have started as long as 2 million years ago, resulting in a profound influence on the evolution of early humans? Recent advances in cooking science now teach us how to improve the nutritional quality of food, thus reducing the threat of a number of chronic diseases and increasing quality of life. These advances will be the subject of the next free online event from ACS Webinars, "[How the](#)



Evolution of Science Transformed the Art of Cooking," on Thursday, January 16, 2:00-3:00 PM ET.

Join certified food scientist and speaker [Guy Crosby](#) of the Harvard T H Chan School of Public Health and Milk Street Kitchen as well as moderator [Brian Guthrie](#) of Cargill and ACS AGFD during this [free interactive broadcast](#) as they discuss how cooking has become the perfect embodiment of art and science.

#### What You Will Learn...

- How cooking transformed the evolution of humans
- The role that science has played in changing the way we cook food
- How the recent application of cooking science teaches us how to improve the nutritional quality of food

## ACS CAREER NAVIGATOR

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### ACS Career Day Returns to the DC Metro Area



All chemists are invited to attend a free [ACS Career Day](#) on Saturday, February 8, in downtown Washington, DC. This one-day event will feature career-building workshops, networking opportunities with recruiters, and more. ACS Members have the added opportunity to sign up onsite to meet with ACS

Career Consultants. [Register today!](#)

### Bring the Classroom to Your Desk

Professional development is essential for building your career, and high-quality courses on topics important to you are just a click away.

[ACS Professional Education](#) offers live online courses from esteemed instructors to provide you with an inclusive classroom experience from the comfort of your own desk. Browse topics like [Regulatory Toxicology](#), [Chemical Engineering](#), [Innovation Pathways](#), and more!



### Innovation Zone: Yelena Kann, Cofounder and CTO, Radical Plastics



***You ... have extensive experience working in the plastic industry with bioplastics and more – what makes the technology of Radical Plastics different than those of your former employers? What was lacking that you brought to the market?***

"We had a very exciting technology at Metabolix. It still sounds like science fiction to me: genetically engineered microorganisms, being fed by any source of sugar or oil..." [read more](#)

### Early Career Chemist: Jamie Schwarzbach, Brand Manager, Oncology, Natera

***Meet the brand manager marketing an early-stage cancer surveillance test***

"'Sometimes we forget that chemists are actually very creative,' says Jamie Schwarzbach, who is using the creativity she honed in the organic

chemistry lab to..." [read more](#)

Reprinted from the January 9, 2020 weekly edition of *ACS Industry Matters*. To subscribe, [click here](#).



### C&EN Jobs - Latest Postings

**c&en** JOBS

- Contract Faculty, Biochemistry/Bioinformatics, Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering | New York University Tandon | Brooklyn, NY
- Postdoctoral Appointee - Atomistic Materials Modeling | Sandia National Laboratories | Albuquerque, NM
- Visiting Assistant Professor (Organic Chemistry) | Oberlin College and Conservatory | Oberlin, OH
- Computational Chemistry and Biology Opportunities | D. E. Shaw Research | New York, NY

## ACS NEWS

### Public Outreach Award: Call for Nominations



Do you know any ACS Members who have improved public recognition and appreciation for the contributions of chemistry? If so, please consider nominating them for the [Helen M. Free Award for Public Outreach](#), which carries a \$1,000 prize, a crystal trophy, and an honorarium to attend the Fall 2020 ACS National Meeting. You can even nominate yourself! [Nominations](#) are due February 15.

### International Research Experiences for Students (IRES) Singapore Program

The [ACS International Research Experiences for Students \(IRES\) Singapore Program](#) is a bilateral exchange that allows talented young chemical and materials scientists to spend a summer conducting research in another country. For the summer of 2020, up to five undergraduate students from the U.S. will be selected to conduct research at the National University of Singapore (NUS) for 10-12 weeks. Applicants will have the opportunity to choose between three laboratory projects, working closely with NUS professors over the course of the summer. The entire program will be conducted in English. The deadline for [applications](#) is Monday, February 10, at 11:29 pm ET. If you have any questions, please e-mail [IRES@acs.org](mailto:IRES@acs.org).



### Apply Now for Scholarships Through the ACS Scholars Program



The [ACS Scholars Program](#) is offering renewable scholarships of \$1,000 to \$5,000 per year for African American, Hispanic/Latinx, and Native American students majoring in chemistry-related fields and pursuing chemistry-related careers. The program also pairs students with academic and/or professional mentors. Scholarship applications will be accepted online at

[www.acs.org/scholars](http://www.acs.org/scholars) through March 1, 2020, for the academic year 2020-21. Additional information is available by calling 1-800-227-5558, extension 6250, or by emailing [scholars@acs.org](mailto:scholars@acs.org).

### **Orientation and Reception for New Councilors at the Spring National Meeting**

Congratulations to new ACS Councilors! At the upcoming Spring National Meeting in Philadelphia, the ACS Council Policy Committee will host the 2020 New Councilor Orientation Program & Reception for all newly elected Councilors and Alternate Councilors, on Saturday, March 21, starting at 3:00 PM in the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown Hotel, with a reception to follow from 6:00-7:00 PM. Attendees will have an opportunity to meet with other ACS leaders, learn more about the Society and ACS committees, and establish mentoring relationships. Special remarks will be given by the ACS President, the President-Elect, the ACS Board Chair, and the Executive Director & CEO. If you're a new Councilor or Alternate Councilor, please let us know if you plan to attend the orientation and reception by sending e-mail to Semora Smith at [s\\_smith@acs.org](mailto:s_smith@acs.org).



The Mentorship Program for New Councilors will continue in 2020, so please let us know if you'd like to have a mentor assigned to offer guidance to you in your new role as Councilor and/or Alternate Councilor. A Pre-National Meeting Webinar is scheduled for February 6 at 3:00 PM ET, to share information about your role in ACS Governance and how to plan for the Philadelphia meeting. Further information on how to register will be sent to you soon.

### **ACS in the News: IGN.com**



"Scientists Can Now Make Synthetic Spider Web Silk" (from *IGN.com*, December 25, 2019)

"We can now use bacteria to produce something as good as nature," says synthetic biologist Fuzhong Zhang of Washington University in St. Louis during an annual meeting for the American

Chemical Society. Spider silk is a unique material that is extremely lightweight yet very, very strong. A single strand of dragline silk — which is what spiders suspend themselves from their web with — is roughly five times as strong as steel at the same diameter.

### **Resolutions and Rewards: Save Up to 45% On PCs & More!**

Reward yourself with a new Lenovo PC to achieve even more in 2020! You can save throughout the month of January with [discounts of up to 45% off](#) on Lenovo PCs and other technology products. As part of this savings program, ACS Members receive FREE shipping on all web orders to U.S. addresses. Even after this promotion for the new year ends on January 31, be sure to check the [ACS Member Savings Program](#) page often for the latest discounted offers. Members can also call 1-800-426-7235, ext. 3881 (Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-9:00 PM ET; Saturday, 9:00 AM-6:00 PM ET) to speak with a customer representative.



### **C&EN - This Week's Headlines**

- [C&EN, Table of Contents, January 13 issue](#)
- [C&EN's World Chemical Outlook 2020](#)
- [The chemical revolution of central Europe](#)
- [Nuclear scientist applies latest technologies to sustainable development challenges](#)

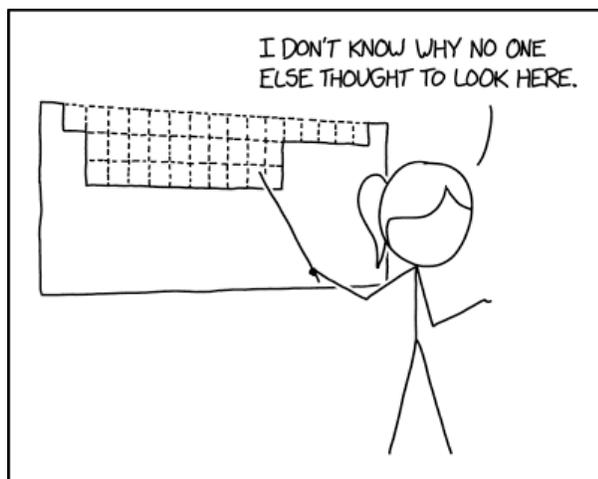


- Peptide coupling agents can cause severe allergic reactions
- Mass spec sorts droplets
- n-Lorem Foundation launches to develop individualized therapies for ultra-rare diseases
- India's PhD students must study research ethics, university oversight agency says
- A visit with Stephen B. King, U.S. ambassador to the Czech Republic
- Being outspoken about your accomplishments isn't selfish; it's smart

## PHUN & GAMES

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### xkcd: Chemistry Nobel



THE 2019 NOBEL PRIZE IN CHEMISTRY WENT TO THE TEAM THAT DISCOVERED THE ELEMENTS IN THE BIG GAP AT THE TOP OF THE PERIODIC TABLE.

Cartoon courtesy of [xkcd.com](http://xkcd.com). Visit the [website](http://xkcd.com) for more delights than we can possibly recount in this space.

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