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Free virtual issue on Chemistry in Coronavirus Research | **March 17, 2020**

FEATURE

Genentech Foundation Grants \$3 Million to ACS Bridge Project

ACS has received a \$3.015 million grant from the [Genentech Foundation](#) to support the [ACS Bridge Project](#) through 2023. The project aims to boost the number of students from underrepresented minority groups earning chemistry-related PhDs to match the number of those in these groups who currently receive bachelor's degrees in the field.



The grant will support new ACS Bridge Fellows (students from underrepresented groups pursuing advanced chemical sciences degrees) and ACS Bridge Sites (university departments committed to diversity). It will also fund career workshops, an online networking platform and a researcher who will help ACS evaluate the project.

"ACS is grateful to the Genentech Foundation for its generous gift that will help us advance both the chemical sciences and the chemists of the future," said LaTrease Garrison, executive vice president, ACS Education Division. "Diversity, inclusion and respect are core values of ACS, and this program is another important addition to our overall efforts to create opportunities for students from all backgrounds," she added.

"The ACS Bridge Project helps unlock the potential of rising scientists who are the future of biomedical research," said Carla Boragno, Genentech Foundation board chair and senior vice president and global head of engineering and facilities, Genentech and Roche. "We are proud to partner with ACS to help dismantle barriers preventing underrepresented students from pursuing careers in science and medicine."

Learn more about the ACS Bridge Program [here](#). Student applications for support through the ACS Bridge Program are due **April 1**.

PERIODIC PLAYOFF

And Then There Were 8...

We're down to the #ElementalEight in this year's #PeriodicPlayoff: uranium, silver, carbon, tungsten, oxygen, potassium, hydrogen, and helium are the last ones standing. Contests in the prior round were tight: potassium squeezed by titanium



by just six votes! And hydrogen and iron were in a tie earlier this morning, before the voting ended at noon, with hydrogen emerging as the victor. This round features uranium vs. 2019 champion silver; the organic kingpin carbon against upstart tungsten; gaseous nonmetal oxygen vs. alkali metal potassium; and 1 vs. 2 in hydrogen squaring up in a contest with high-flying helium. We're the only game in town – get your bracket fix in this round of 8! [Pick your favorites today](#); voting ends for this round on Tuesday, March 24, at 12:00 noon ET, when we'll announce the last 4!

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Annual Sale is here!
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ADVANCE YOURSELF & YOUR SCIENCE

ACS Releases 2020 Public Policy Agenda

ACS has announced its public policy agenda for 2020. Priorities include ensuring a robust scientific enterprise and freedom of international scientific exchange, along with support for high-quality, inclusive STEM education and workforce training. In addition, ACS is working to promote sustainability across the chemistry enterprise, including action toward addressing climate change. Lastly, in the face of an array of regulatory and scientific challenges, ACS is encouraging U.S. policymakers to adopt transparent and unbiased scientific integrity policies, while also urging rejection of restrictive regulations that prevent scientists from publishing their results in a manner of their choosing.



To carry out this broad agenda, ACS seeks to work with Congress, the administration and the stakeholder community in a bipartisan manner to address topics that impact the scientific community and the world at large.

To learn more about the ACS public policy agenda, [click here](#).

Just-Released Discovery Report: The Future of Plastic



Plastic is everywhere because few materials match its versatility. Glass, aluminum, and cardboard are single products with comparatively limited applications. When it comes to reuse, however, the homogeneity of those materials is advantageous. According to 2017 data from the Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. recycled just 8.4% of the 32 billion kg of plastic that consumers threw away. That pales in comparison to the recycling rates for glass (26.6%), metal (33.3%), and paper (65.9%). If chemistry helped get the world into this mess, surely it can help get us out. In this newest [Discovery Report](#), *C&EN* examines the developing strategies that could complement traditional plastic recycling.

Free Webinars This Week: Chemistry Tools for Pollution Control (in Spanish), Passive Diffusion in Drug Absorption

Limpiando el Medio Ambiente Usando Catálisis
Wednesday, March 18, 3:00-4:00 PM ET

Can chemistry play an important role in preventing global pollution? Join speaker [Juventino García Alejandre](#) of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma

de México for this [free, Spanish-language webinar](#), in which he'll discuss organometallic chemistry tools and homogeneous catalysis to solve pollution problems.



Passive Permeability: An Important Mechanism for Drug Absorption
Thursday, March 19, 2:00-3:00 PM ET



Passive diffusion plays an essential role in oral absorption of drugs through the gastrointestinal tract, penetration across the blood-brain barrier to reach central nervous system disease targets, entry into hepatocytes to be metabolized, and drug reabsorption from renal tubules. Join Pfizer research fellow [Li Di](#) for this [free, interactive broadcast](#), as she discusses how physicochemical properties influence passive permeability and how passive permeability and transporters coexist to affect ADME properties of drugs.

AGRO Webinar: Sustainable Agriculture in a Global Environment



The next free webinar from AGRO, a division of ACS, will be "[Fitting Sustainable Agriculture into the Global Environment](#)," on Thursday, March 19, 12:00-1:00 PM ET. The presenter will be Dr. Peter Raven, President Emeritus of the Missouri Botanical Garden. Dr. Raven is one of the world's leading botanists and advocates of conservation and biodiversity. He has published more than 700 articles, books, and monographs covering topics in evolution, taxonomy and systematics,

biogeography, coevolution, plant conservation ethnobotany, and public policy. Raven has received the National Medal of Science for Biological Sciences, and he is former president of the American Association for the Advancement of Sciences. [Register online today!](#)

Nominations are Open Until April 1 for the 2020 ACS Fellows Awards

The [ACS Fellows Program](#) recognizes members of the ACS for excellence and leadership in both of two areas: (1) science, the profession, education, and/or management, and (2) volunteer service in the ACS community. ACS is calling for nominations from National Committees, Local Sections, Divisions, and individual members. Celebrate the excellence and impact of your colleagues in the field of chemistry by

[submitting nominations online](#) by April 1 at 11:59 PM PT. Visit the ACS Fellows [website](#) for complete nomination details, and please e-mail any questions to fellows@acs.org. ACS looks forward to receiving your nominations and the opportunity to recognize our members who are making an impact.



Webinar on Writing Grant Proposals and Funding Opportunities for PUIs



The ACS Office of Research Grants and the Council for Undergraduate Research invite you to participate in "[Writing Grant Proposals and PRF Funding Opportunities for PUIs](#)," a webinar taking place on Tuesday, April 28, at 2:00 PM ET. This webinar will cover basic grant writing tips, the proposal evaluation process, and PRF funding

opportunities directed specifically to primarily undergraduate institutions. The webinar is recommended both for professors who are seeking research program funding and for institution grant officers. Get more information and [register online today!](#)

ACS CAREER NAVIGATOR

ACS Virtual Classrooms Are Ready to Help You Land Your Next Job

Register for complimentary online [Virtual Classrooms](#), where you'll learn live from skilled experts, helping you achieve your career goals and get the boost you need to succeed in your career.



Making the Most of Your Interview: Outshine the Competition (April 15, 12:00-2:00 PM ET)

Participate in critical practice interview scenarios that teach you how to anticipate and handle difficult questions while developing thoughtful, robust responses that leave a lasting impression with hiring staff. [Learn more.](#)

Setting Yourself Up for Success in an Interview (April 29, 12:00-2:00 PM ET)

Learn how to successfully navigate the stages of the interview process and identify critical performance factors from job announcement media. This course will also teach you how to relate your experience and values to the organizational values and job requirements of potential employers. [Learn more.](#)

Visit the [ACS Virtual Classrooms](#) home page for the full schedule and links to all upcoming events.

Early Career Chemist Spotlight: Josh Kaitz, Associate Research Scientist, DuPont



Meet the polymer chemist helping make next-generation computer chips possible

"Josh Kaitz has been fascinated with polymer synthesis for over a decade. In 2009, after..." [read more](#)

Adapted from the March 12, 2020 weekly edition of ACS Industry Matters. To subscribe, click [here](#).

C&EN Jobs - Latest Postings

c&en JOBS

- Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Food/Pharmaceutical Process Engineering | University of Melbourne | Melbourne, Australia
- Postdoctoral Associate | Ivy Brain Tumor Center | Phoenix, AZ
- Assistant Professor of Chemistry | The College of St. Scholastica | Duluth, MN
- Asst/Assoc Faculty-Chemical & Biological Engineering & School of Advanced Materials Discovery | Colorado State University | Fort Collins, CO

ACS NEWS

AACT Resources Unlocked Through March 31

In response to the growing need to teach chemistry remotely, [selected resources](#) from the American Association of Chemistry Teachers (AACT) are unlocked and [freely available](#) to the chemistry community through March 31. These resources include activities, animations, projects, simulations, videos, and more for



elementary school, middle school, high school, and Advanced Placement/general chemistry. A [complete list of unlocked resources](#) is available on the AACT website.

Apply Starting April 1 for Global Innovation Grants (GIG)

Applications will open on April 1 for the [Global Innovation Grants \(GIG\)](#), sponsored by the ACS Committee on International Activities (IAC). The GIG assists ACS Technical Divisions, Local Sections, International Chapters, and Committees with travel, projects, and events. Grants of up to \$5,000 will be available. All projects should support IAC strategic interests and catalyze new international collaborations and partnerships dedicated to solutions to global challenges. The deadline for applications is Friday, April 20, at 5:00 PM ET. For more information, [visit the GIG home page](#) or send e-mail to intlacts@acs.org.



Celebrate CCEW 2020 with a ChemCatcher

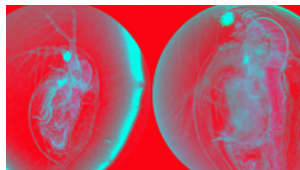


The CCEW "ChemCatcher" is a fun and easy way to celebrate [Chemists Celebrate Earth Week \(CCEW\)](#), April 19-25, 2020, and to learn about 50 years of Earth Day. Just print out the PDF, cut and fold according to the instructions, and start playing today! The ChemCatcher is available as a Featured Resource on the [CCEW Educational Resources](#) web page.

ACS in the News: *Futurism*

"Brutal 'Nanodrills' Can Kill Tiny Living Worms and Water Fleas" (from *Futurism*, March 6, 2020)

"The work here shows that whole organisms, such as small worms and water fleas, can be killed by nanomachines that drill into them," lead researcher James Tour, co-author of a [paper](#) published in the journal *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces* about the research last month, said in a statement. "This is not just single-cell death, but whole organism, with cell death in the millions."



SUV Savings from Budget: Rates as Low as \$37!



Budget is offering [special savings](#) as low as \$37 per weekend day, \$229 weekly, or \$999 for an entire month for your next sport utility vehicle (SUV) rental until June 30, 2020! Go to the special [ACS Budget page](#) to see all the great SUV options being offered, or call 1-800-455-2848 and mention discount code V118009 along with coupon code MUWZ195. No matter what your transportation needs are, [you'll go farther with Budget!](#)

C&EN - This Week's Headlines

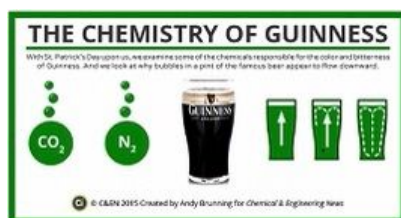
- [C&EN, Table of Contents, March 16 issue](#)
- [As telecom demands grow, optical fibers will need to level up](#)
- [Petrochemical makers look ahead to an uncertain decade](#)
- [The end of enterprise resource planning](#)



- How one country is grappling with mercury emissions from artisanal gold shops
- How international students can share their culture in the lab
- Dishing on dishwashing for a greener planet and playing games in a glove box
- ACS cancels spring national meeting in Philadelphia
- Chemists work around coronavirus restrictions
- \$8.3 billion allocated for U.S. coronavirus response
- Celgard sues Chinese firm over battery technology
- Researchers in China report structure of the novel coronavirus bound to its human target
- India set to boost science budgets

PHUN & GAMES

Periodic Graphics: Chemistry of Guinness



Happy St. Patrick's Day! In the spirit of this holiday, which is so dispirited in this year of social distancing, here's a throwback to an old edition of *C&EN*'s "Periodic Graphics" feature, which looks at the chemistry behind the bubbles and bitterness of Guinness. You can [view the full graphic](#), created for

C&EN back in 2015 by [Compound Interest](#) blogger and chemistry educator Andy Brunning, over on the *C&EN* website. Keep your spirits up, everybody, and stay safe!

Image credit: C&EN/Compound Interest

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