

# THE CAPITAL CHEMIST



A Publication of the Chemical Society of Washington Section of the American Chemical Society

## April CSW Speaker Rich Engler to Speak about TSCA Reform

On April 27, Rich Engler, Senior Chemist with Bergeson & Campbell, P.C. and the Acta Group, will speak about TSCA before and after the reform, and some of the challenges faced in implementing and complying with the new law. Meeting logistics can be found below.

### Biography

Rich Engler is a Senior Chemist with Bergeson & Campbell, P.C. (B&C®) and The Acta Group (Acta®), where he provides chemistry expertise for a wide variety of global chemical regulatory issues. Before joining B&C in 2015, he worked at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for 17 years, where he was a senior staff chemist in the Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics. At the EPA, he reviewed numerous chemicals under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), led the Green Chemistry Program (including the Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge), and worked on a variety of other projects, including the Risk-Screening Environmental Indicators, Marine Debris and Trash-Free Waters, and cheminformatics.

Prior to joining the EPA, Rich taught organic chemistry at the University of San Diego. He holds a Ph.D. in physical organic chemistry from UCSD.

### Abstract

The Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) was the last of the major environmental statutes to be reformed. After more than a decade of discussion and effort, TSCA reform became a reality when President Obama signed the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act (Lautenberg) on June 22, 2016. Lautenberg made a number of significant changes to TSCA, but left the fundamental underlying structure intact. We will discuss TSCA before and after reform and some of the challenges the EPA and industry face in implementing and complying with the new law.

*Photo credit: Bergeson & Campbell, P.C.*

## Meeting Logistics

**Date:** Thursday, April 27, 2017

**Time:** 6:00 p.m. - Check-in and social hour

6:30 p.m. - Dinner

7:15 p.m. - Presentation

**Cost:** \$18.00 Members / Guests

\$ 9.00 Students

**Location:** ACS Headquarters, Marvel Hall  
1155 16th St., N.W., Washington, DC

**Volume 67, Number 4**  
**April 2017**

### Inside this issue:

- Nominate someone for the Hillebrand Prize
- Learn how to get involved with CCED
- Volunteer for the Chemathon
- Learn more about this year's GC&E Conference



**Menu:** Southern fried chicken (spiced, breaded chicken), white gravy, and mashed potatoes.

**Vegetarian Option (gluten-free):** Penne with roasted zucchini, sweet peppers, eggplant, and tomatoes, with a lemon-garlic sauce.

*Meal includes seasonal greens with house dressing, bread/butter, heavenly cookies, and beverage.*

**RSVP by noon on April 25, 2017**, to [csw@acs.org](mailto:csw@acs.org) or by phone 202-659-2650 (messages only). Please provide the names in your party when you RSVP and let us know if you want the vegetarian option. The public is invited to attend. You may attend the talk only, but reservations are appreciated. Those who make a dinner reservation, but are unable to attend, should send a check for the cost of their meal to the CSW office.

# Hillebrand Prize Call for Nominations

Nominations are invited for the 2017 Hillebrand Prize, awarded annually for original contributions to the science of chemistry by a member or members of the Chemical Society of Washington (CSW), the local section of the American Chemical Society. The Hillebrand Prize is the most prestigious honor given each year by CSW and is recognized nationally as a mark of significant accomplishment in chemistry. The Hillebrand Prize originated in 1924 and is named for Dr. William F. Hillebrand (1853- 1925), an internationally-recognized pioneer in analytical chemistry and one of Washington's most distinguished early chemists. The prize carries an honorarium of \$2000. Many previous Hillebrand Prize recipients have won numerous other national and international awards, including three who have received the Nobel Prize. See the list of award winners at [http://csw.sites.acs.org/CC\\_pdf/Hillebrand\\_CSW\\_Award\\_winners.pdf](http://csw.sites.acs.org/CC_pdf/Hillebrand_CSW_Award_winners.pdf).

The nominating package should contain the following:

## **Nominating Letter – limited to 1000 words**

The letter should focus on the chemical accomplishments of the nominee, rather than the bio of the nominee, from a broad standpoint, leaving the finer points to those submitting seconding letters. Biographic details (degrees, positions held, major activities etc) will be given in the nominee's CV. The letter should begin with the major theme(s) in the nominee's research career with perhaps a summary of how these evolved over the years to create breakthroughs or push the field in a new or very productive direction.

Describing the nominee's major contribution(s) is extremely important and should be the bulk of the letter. There is no preference or restriction for the specific area of contribution so long as it represents a significant accomplishment in chemistry. Anything is fair game; synthetic or analytical, experimental or theoretical, bio- or inorganic, etc. This section might detail such things as: the major techniques used in their research and how these were applied to a specific area to bring about significant results not previously achievable; if their research resulted in the development of a new experimental/instrumental technique or use of an existing technique in an innovative new way; how techniques the nominee developed became standard in that area; the impact the nominee's work had on influencing other areas of research; development of new reagents, catalysts or reaction conditions; development of a new computational method or theoretical approach; etc. The nominator should provide evidence in support of these statements. This could information about: the number of citations, impact factors of certain articles (or aggregate numbers), especially influential articles/book chapters, important invited talks, previous awards by other societies, patents, funding, important leadership positions, etc. Mentioning an extremely productive collaboration is possible so long as the role/contributions of the nominee are clear. The award is not given for mentoring students (as a specific criteria) but nominators often mention if this has occurred, especially if these students have gone on to significant posts on their own.

## **Two Seconding Letters – limited to 500 words each**

It is helpful if these be from established experts in the nominee's field, and best if they are from experts at institutions other than the nominee's unless a notable expert in the nominee's area is also from the nominee's institution.

## **Curriculum Vitae - the candidate must be a member of CSW**

The CV should strongly emphasize individual academic backgrounds, appointments, publications, presentations, and patents.

## **List of Publications**

This is critical in determining the specific scientific contribution of the nominee or team.

## **Proposed Citation – limited to 25 words**

This is a brief statement that should be understood by chemists in almost any area. It should avoid highly specialized language but still give the reader the area of accomplishment and why this is a significant accomplishment in chemistry. In some ways it is a one or two sentence abstract of the first paragraph of the nominating letter. Since this is only 25 words, you may simply want to provide 1 or 2 examples of previous

## Hillebrand, Continued from Previous Page

awardees.

We strongly recommend that the nominator collect all materials and forward in one email, preferably as PDF files(s), to [csw@acs.org](mailto:csw@acs.org). Nominations will be active for three years.

If you would like to verify the eligibility of an individual as a nominee or nominator, please contact the CSW Administrator at [csw@acs.org](mailto:csw@acs.org). All materials must be received by November 1, 2017. The awardee will be announced before the end of the year, and the Prize will be presented at the CSW dinner meeting in March 2018.

If you have any questions about the award or the procedure for nominating someone for the award, please contact our office – [csw@acs.org](mailto:csw@acs.org) or 202.659.2650.

## Chemists Celebrate Earth Day (CCED) 2017: “Chemistry Helps Feed the World”

*Contributed by Kim Morehouse, CCED Coordinator*



Earth Day was first officially recognized on April 22, 1970 as a way to demonstrate support for a healthy environment, raise awareness about environmental issues, and remind people that we all need to contribute to a sustainable planet. For years, chemists have been promoting a better world through recyclable plastics, cleaner-burning fuels, phosphate-free detergents, environmental monitoring, and green chemistry initiatives. The American Chemical Society joined the Earth Day celebration on April 22, 2003.

The Chemical Society of Washington (CSW) will once again participate in Chemists Celebrate Earth Day (CCED) activities. Chemistry is all around us and is vital to our planet's sustainability. Whether it's used in recyclable and biodegradable materials or through the reduction of waste, chemistry is involved in ensuring that we can be eco-friendly and kind to our environment. CCED seeks to bring international focus to environmental causes, such as clean air, water, and energy. ACS offers events, contests, and educational resources for members, chemical educators, and chemistry enthusiasts to illustrate the positive role that chemistry plays in preserving the Earth. The CCED 2017 theme is "Chemistry Helps Feed the World." This year's theme looks at the impact of chemistry on soil and plants that are used to produce food, including the preservation of food, which is a critical element to provide an adequate amount of food. The world's population is growing and the need to produce more food to feed the population places additional strain on the environment. Chemistry can assist with the need to produce more food. The electronic version of the *Celebrating Chemistry* newsletter for CCED, as well as additional information about this year's CCED celebration is available from the ACS website ([www.acs.org/earthday](http://www.acs.org/earthday)).

## Rockville Science Day: April 23, 2017

The 28th annual Rockville Science Day will take place on Sunday, April 23, 2017. Held annually on the Montgomery College campus, Rockville Science Day features a variety of science and technology-related exhibits, activities, games and demos. Activities and exhibits over the 27 years of the program have included rocket-building (and firing), telescope viewing, a travelling planetarium, all kinds of robots, backyard wildlife, ship models, microscopes, snakes, oyster farming, botball, stream science, a pigeon release, Civil War medical practice, coding challenges, math puzzles, chemistry in action (flames, explosions & other reactions), electric vehicle demos, quadcopters, archaeology mini-digs, 3D printing, and brain games.

Rockville Science Day is intended to provide a friendly environment for students and their parents to participate in some hands-on demonstrations and to learn more about how science and engineering are important to our society. There will be more than 70 exhibitors with hands-on activities. Additional information about Rockville Science Day can be found on their website (<http://rockvillesciencecenter.org/rockville-science-day/>).

As part of the celebration of Chemists Celebrate Earth Day, the Chemical Society of Washington, in conjunction with the Chemistry Department at Montgomery College, Rockville Campus will participate in Rockville Science Day on Sunday, April 23, 2017. Rockville Science Day is open to the general public and CSW encourages you to attend.

This event will be co-sponsored by the CSW Outreach Committee and the CSW Environmental/Sustainability Committee. Volunteers from CSW will be providing hands-on activities for children who attend the event as a part of CSW's participation in CCED. Volunteers will also hand out copies of the *Celebrating Chemistry* publication for CCED, and various CCED themed products. If you would like to volunteer for this event, please contact the CSW CCED coordinator, Kim Morehouse ([Kim.Morehouse@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Kim.Morehouse@fda.hhs.gov)).

## Illustrated Poem Contest

As part of the Chemists Celebrate Earth Day activities, the American Chemical Society is sponsoring an illustrated poem contest for students in Kindergarten through 12 grades. Students are asked to write and illustrate a poem using the Chemists Celebrate Earth Day 2017 theme, "Chemistry Helps Feed the World." This year's theme looks at the impact of chemistry on soil and plants that are used to produce food. The world's population is growing and the need to produce more food to feed the population places additional strain on the environment. Chemistry can assist with the need to produce more food. The illustrated poems should relate to how chemistry can impact soil and plants and their relationship to food. Detailed rules and guidelines are available on the Chemists Celebrate Earth Day website; [www.acs.org/earthday](http://www.acs.org/earthday). All entries must provide the information that the ACS requests via the entry form, which is available via the ACS or CSW websites. Teachers at schools in the Chemical Society of Washington area are encouraged to have a contest at their school and then submit the winning entries from the school to:

Chemist Celebrate Earth Day Coordinator  
Chemical Society of Washington  
1155 16th Street, NW, Stop O-218  
Washington, DC 20036

Electronic submissions should be sent to: [Kim.Morehouse@FDA.HHS.GOV](mailto:Kim.Morehouse@FDA.HHS.GOV)

All entries must be received by Monday, April 24, 2017 so winners at the local section level can be submitted to the ACS by Friday April 28, 2017.

## Chemathon: April 29, 2017

The Thirty-third Annual Chemathon will take place on Saturday, April 29, 2017. The Chemathon is an annual chemistry competition for high school chemistry students in Maryland, Northern Virginia, and the District of Columbia. The Chemathon competition is organized by a committee of area high school chemistry teachers and chemists, and is hosted by the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at the University of Maryland at College Park. The Chemathon is open to all area high schools who would like to participate. There are two competitive tracks; Level I: for students who have not taken and are not currently taking AP Chemistry or IB Chemistry and have not previously participated in Chemathon, and Level II: aimed at students at the AP and/or IB level as well as previous contestants. The theme for the posters this year is "The Chemistry of Global Infectious Diseases and Their Treatments and Cures."

There is no entry or registration fee. If you are a high school chemistry teacher and would like your students to participate in this event, please see the Chemathon website for information on how to register your school (<http://www2.chem.umd.edu/chemathon/>).



The Chemical Society of Washington will once again be a sponsor of this event. Volunteers are needed to help judge the poster contest as well as to assist with some of the activities that the students will be competing in. If you would like to volunteer for this event, please contact Kim Morehouse via e-mail at [kim.morehouse@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:kim.morehouse@fda.hhs.gov).

## Green Chemistry & Engineering Conference Updates

Early registration closes April 28th! [Register now.](#)

### 2017 NextGen GreenChem Workshop: Making Green Chemistry Work for You

Looking to sharpen your Green Chemistry knowledge and professional skills? The NextGen GreenChem Workshop provides undergraduate and graduate students, as well as post-doctoral scholars, unique opportunities for professional development along with practical examples of green chemistry applications. The workshop is Monday, June 12, 2017 just before the 21st GC&E Conference. The workshop is capped at 75 participants, so enroll today to guarantee your space (deadline April 28th)!

### GreenX: Rising Stars

The GreenX plenary at GC&E features concise, creative and inspirational talks and is a fantastic way to learn from contemporary early career achievers. This year's edition will highlight early-career women who are making outstanding contributions to the fields of green chemistry and engineering. See what it takes to break into a career that incorporates and advocates green chemistry and engineering.

After careful consideration of our group of standout nominees, three exemplary women have been selected to be honorary speakers.

### Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Awards

Monday, June 12, 2017 the EPA's Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Awards ceremony will take place at the National Academy of Sciences followed by an ACS Green Chemistry Institute®-hosted reception. If you are interested in attending, please contact us at [gci@acs.org](mailto:gci@acs.org) to request an invitation.



**Dr. Jillian Goldfarb**  
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## CSW Calendar of Events

### April

April 2-6: ACS National Meeting, San Francisco

April 23: Rockville Science Day

April 24: Illustrated Poem deadline

April 27: CSW Meeting

April 29: Chemathon

### May

Monday, May 22: CSW Board Meeting

### June 2017 and Beyond

June 4-6: MARM

June 13-15: GC&E Conference

August 20-24: ACS National Meeting, DC

Monday, September 25: CSW Board Meeting

Monday, November 20: CSW Board Meeting