

# THE CAPITAL CHEMIST



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

## Welcome from CSW President, Dr. Alan Anderson

It is both an honor and a privilege to serve you, the Chemical Society of Washington (CSW) membership, as the CSW President in 2015. The CSW was established in 1884 as an organization and is currently the local section of the American Chemical Society (ACS) for the Washington, DC area serving approximately 4,000 members. In recent years, we have made some bold moves and have seen some great results thanks to the work of our members, the Board of Managers, and past leadership. For example, at the last National Meeting in San Francisco, we were recognized for our work in 2013 with two ACS ChemLuminary awards: for Outstanding Project SEED Program and Outstanding Local Section Career Program. We have also had great success instituting electronic voting. This has allowed us to modernize our election process and has increased voter participation from 2.5% prior to its inception in 2012 to 12% in our last election, a number which we are actively seeking to grow over the next few years with your support. That is, of course, just a small sampling of the successes we've had so far, but we are not resting on our laurels. One initiative that we have in the works is the revamp of the *Capital Chemist* into a more interactive and dynamic digital presence where the CSW leadership, fellow members, and others can better communicate about information and issues that are important to our community. Please look forward to these exciting changes launching later this month.



As President, my goals are to facilitate the career development of chemical professionals, improve the public's awareness and appreciation of the contributions of chemistry, expand our services to all of our members and prospective members working in all facets of chemistry, and encourage the participation of students and young chemists in all activities of the Society. This last goal is a particular priority for me; going forward, we will work to expand mentorship of future chemists and the promotion of interest in the chemical sciences through outreach into K-12 settings, provide travel stipends for students to attend national and regional ACS meetings, bring dynamic speakers to regional K-12 institutions, develop and conduct novel workshops, and host local section meetings that aim to increase interactions between students, teachers, and the general public.

It is our goal to tailor activities towards the needs of our membership. Whether you are a returning member or someone who has just joined us, an established leader or student at the beginning of your career path, we believe you have something to offer and we want to hear from you. One easy way to make your voice heard is by joining us at one of our upcoming events. Our monthly meetings are a great place to network with fellow members, learn about interesting topics, find out how to get involved, and let the leadership of the various committees know what you think in person.

Our first meeting of the year will be on Saturday, January 10, 2015 beginning at 11:00 am. The venue will be The Cabinet Room at Old Ebbitt Grill (675 15th Street NW) in Washington, DC. During this meeting, we will recognize our long-term members and will feature a talk on the "History of the Chemical Society of Washington" by Dr. John Malin. This will be a great chance to connect (or reconnect) with CSW and we hope that you will join us. Even if you can't attend this meeting, we are always happy to hear from you via email ([csw@acs.org](mailto:csw@acs.org)), social media ([www.facebook.com/ACSCSW](http://www.facebook.com/ACSCSW)), or mail (O-218, 1155 16th St, NW, Washington, DC 20036).

Again, thank you for the opportunity to serve as your 2015 CSW President, and with your help we can continue our forward momentum.

Volume 65, Number 1  
January 2015

### Featured Items:

- Alan Anderson's President's Welcome
- Information about the January CSW meeting, with John Malin as the guest speaker on CSW History
- Last chance to apply for student travel awards
- Apply to be a USNCO mentor
- CSW election results

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# Dr. John Malin to Speak About CSW History at January Meeting

On Saturday, January 10, Dr. John Malin, former CSW President, will speak about the history of CSW at the January CSW meeting. The meeting will be held at Old Ebbitt Grill in NW Washington, DC at 11:00 am.

Dr. John M. Malin is a native of Cleveland, Ohio. After education at high schools in the US and England, he obtained a Bachelor's degree in Chemistry from the University of California, Berkeley and a Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry from the University of California, Davis. Subsequently, he held an NIH Postdoctoral Fellowship working with future Nobel Laureate Professor Henry Taube at Stanford University. During 1970-73, he was awarded a National Academy of Sciences Overseas Research Fellowship and instituted a new program of research in chemical kinetics at the Instituto de Química, Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil. Dr. Malin returned to the United States to become Associate Professor of Chemistry at the University of Missouri – Columbia. In 1980, he served as Program Officer in Chemical Dynamics at the US National Science Foundation, and in 1981, Dr. Malin accepted a position as Assistant Program Administrator for the American Chemical Society's Petroleum Research Fund. He became Administrator for Awards and International Activities for American Chemical Society in 1988. He visited many countries in Africa, Asia, the Americas, and Europe, organizing workshops and exchange programs to stimulate international collaborations in chemistry. Dr. Malin has served as a lecturer at Georgetown University. He retired from ACS employment in 2006.



Dr. Malin has served as President of the Chemical Society of Washington (2007), and as Treasurer, Secretary, and currently as Councilor. He was Chair of the CHEMRAWN (CHEMical Research Applied to World Needs, 2004-2007) committee of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC), and Chair of the IUPAC Management Committee for the International Year of Chemistry (IYC 2011). Dr. Malin has published some 60 papers and articles on chemical and international subjects.

Dr. Malin has received the NSF Superior Performance Award; the Cenu Vojtech Award of the Czech Chemical Society for service to chemistry in the Czech Republic; the Palacky University Medal; the Slovak Chemical Society Medal and the Alpha Chi Sigma Fraternity Service Award from the Washington Professional Chapter. He has been named a lifetime National Associate of the US National Academy of Sciences/National Research Council.

## Abstract: History of the Chemical Society of Washington

The beginnings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) in 1848 led to the organization of sections and soon afterwards to separate societies in many areas of science. By 1873 a chemical branch of AAAS was formed, which included seven future presidents of the American Chemical Society (ACS), and in 1876 Prof. Charles F. Chandler of Columbia University issued an invitation for a group to assemble for the purpose of organizing an American Chemical Society. However, because the new entity was not felt by all to be fully representative, chemists in the Washington, DC area organized the Chemical Society of Washington (CSW), beginning operations in January 1884. Finally in 1892, the groups in New York and Washington, DC joined together becoming local sections of the ACS. This short presentation will outline these and subsequent developments in CSW's history, as our local section has grown to enrich the professional lives of nearly four thousand members.

## Meeting Details

**When:** Saturday, January 10, 2015, 11:00am - 2:00pm

**Agenda:** Welcome from CSW President, Recognition of 50- and 60-year members, Featured speaker

**Where:** Old Ebbitt Grill (675 15th Street NW, Washington, DC 20005)

**Cost:** \$30 Members and Guests, \$15 Students

**Menu:** Brunch will be served buffet-style, including fresh brewed coffee, teas, orange juice, bacon, sausage, breakfast potatoes, breakfast breads, Old Ebbitt Grill strata, french toast and seasonal fruit.

**Reservations:** Make reservations by Wednesday, January 7, 2015, 12:00 noon, to the CSW office: [csw@acs.org](mailto:csw@acs.org) or 202-659-2650. Please designate the names in your party. The public is invited to attend. You may attend the talk only, but reservations are appreciated. Those who make a reservation, but are unable to attend, should send a check for the cost of their meal to the CSW office.

**Parking/Metro:** The closest metro stop is Metro Center (Red, Orange, Blue, Silver line). Local parking garages and Valet Parking (\$10) are available.

# 2014 CSW Student Travel Award Application Process

The Chemical Society of Washington is pleased to announce a travel award to defray travel and/or registration costs to a National ACS meeting. Eligible expenses include meeting registration and travel expenses, such as airfare and lodging. Applicants should submit the following to CSW (email: [csw@acs.org](mailto:csw@acs.org)) by January 16, 2015:

1. A cover letter stating how and why attending this ACS meeting will promote his/her career;
2. The applicant's CV;
3. A letter of recommendation from the student's mentor explaining why the student deserves the award and how this will help his/her professional development;
4. An accepted abstract with proof of acceptance.

Within three weeks of returning from the ACS meeting, the awardees should submit receipts to the CSW Treasurer for any or all of the eligible expenses described above, after which the Treasurer of the Chemical Society of Washington will issue a check to each of the awardees. After returning from the conference, awardees will be asked to present their posters at one of the upcoming CSW dinner meetings.

The award is not intended for postdoctoral fellows. There will be a maximum of 4 awards available for each National meeting. Each award will be for \$500 and award of this stipend will be based on the review of the above materials. The award is open to current graduate students enrolled in the jurisdiction of the Chemical Society of Washington.

## APPLY NOW: U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad (USNCO)

*Sponsored by the American Chemical Society*

The USNCO seeks a College Chemistry Mentor. Some of the duties and responsibilities associated with this position are:

- a) Preparing students for the International Chemistry Olympiad (IChO) competition,
- b) Helping to conduct a two-week study camp for the nation's brightest twenty chemistry high school students at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado in June of 2016, 2017, and 2018,
- c) Developing practice problems, theoretical, and practical tests for the study camp,
- d) Accompanying the U.S. team at the IChO in July.

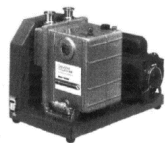
Most students at the study camp have completed Advanced Placement Chemistry or the equivalent; therefore instruction at the camp is well beyond the level of high school general chemistry courses. The curriculum also includes considerable laboratory work.

Successful applicants are expected to have background in one or more of the areas of organic, inorganic, analytical, physical, or biochemistry, with classroom experience, and should demonstrate involvement with students in special projects or activities. Applicants must be prepared to make a three-year term commitment. ACS pays an honorarium and most expenses associated with the study camp and the IChO.

Interested individuals may obtain an application and additional information at: [www.acs.org/olympiad](http://www.acs.org/olympiad) or contact Margaret Thatcher, Program Administrator, at [USNCO@acs.org](mailto:USNCO@acs.org) or 202-872-6328. The deadline to submit an application is January 23, 2015. Applicants must arrange to send three letters of recommendation directly to Cecilia Hernandez, Assistant Director Endowed Programs, Education Division, at [c\\_hernandez@acs.org](mailto:c_hernandez@acs.org) by February 6, 2015.

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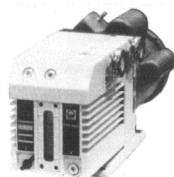
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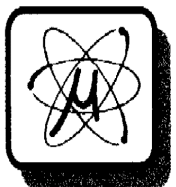
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The **Chemical Society of Washington (CSW)** is the local ACS Chapter for the Washington, DC area and serves approximately 4,000 members.



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## Additional CSW Election Results

Congratulations to all newly-elected members!

### Councilors

Regina Cody (through 2017)  
Stefanie Wittenberg (through 2017)  
Monika Konaklieva (through 2017)  
Joseph Antonucci (through 2016)  
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Katrice Lippa (through 2015)  
Fatima Sequeira (through 2015)  
Kelli Sikorski (through 2015)

## CSW Calendar of Events

### January

- 1/10: CSW Monthly Meeting
- 1/16: CSW Student Travel Award Applications Due
- 1/23: USNCO Mentor Application Deadline
- 1/30: Project SEED Mentor Application Deadline