

THE CAPITAL CHEMIST



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

Message from the President

Contributed by Dennis Chamot, CSW President

As summer approaches and the academic year draws to a close, I thought this would be a good time to examine the current job market for chemists. This will be the topic to be discussed at the May 26 membership meeting, featuring a presentation from Dr. David Harwell (see details elsewhere in this issue).

Overall, the American economy is stronger than it has been in some time, and is still improving. However, some long-term trends have had, and are still having, major effects on jobs for chemists and other chemical professionals: downward pressures on federal and state budgets; industrial mergers; reduced opportunities for industrial research; globalization of not only chemical production but also chemical research; and technological advances that facilitate increased productivity (read that as needing fewer people to do the same amount of work).

Job creation in general these days is steady but slow. Whether one is a student about to enter the job market or an experienced chemist looking for new opportunities, the key to success may well be flexibility, which, by the way, is not at all a bad thing. Personally, I have found the training I received in becoming a chemist to have provided me with a whole variety of skills that I have been able to apply successfully in venues far removed from the laboratory or classroom, e.g., logical thinking; the ability to formulate hypotheses, develop evidence, and perform analyses leading to useful conclusions; and the ability to present arguments clearly, both written and oral.

So where can chemists work? Everywhere—in laboratories and classrooms, certainly—but also, for example, in corporate executive suites, in state and federal regulatory agencies, in medical research and practice, as patent attorneys and patent examiners, in consulting and advisory organizations, as technical writers, as congressional staff, and on and on.

So, join us on May 26. We will get the data and statistics, and can explore both the challenges and opportunities.

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Inside this issue:

- Message from CSW President, Dennis Chamot
- Read about the logistics for the May dinner meeting
- Learn more about the 83rd Retired Chemists Luncheon
- Learn more about the Student Travel Awards, and how to apply
- Nominate a CSW member for Councilor, Treasurer, President, or Manager!

May Dinner Meeting Details

Date: Thursday, May 26, 2016

Time: 6:00 p.m. Check-in/Social Hour

6:30 p.m. Dinner

7:15 p.m. Presentation

Cost: \$20 (Members and Guests)/\$10 (Students)

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

Menu: Meal will be catered by Purple Onion, serving lemon and herb roasted fresh-cut chicken, orzo “risotto” with fresh herbs, broccoli florets with fresh red peppers, and assorted cookies. Vegetarian option: roasted vegan vegetable salad.

RSVP by noon on Tuesday, May 24, to csw@acs.org or by voicemail at 202-659-2650. 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 reservation, but are unable to attend, should send a check for the cost of their meal to the CSW office.

If you need any further information or would like to make a reservation, please contact the CSW office by email at csw@acs.org or by voicemail at 202-659-2650.

Parking: Parking is available in nearby commercial parking garages. Please be aware that garage closing times vary. Parking is also available on the street after 6:30 p.m., but be aware that most parking meters are in effect until 10:00 p.m. and may be limited to 2 hours. You should check the individual meters for details and payment methods as some are no longer coin-operated.

Metro: Blue/Orange/Silver Line: McPherson Square or Farragut West. Red Line: Farragut North.

May CSW Member Meeting – Chemistry, the Economy and Jobs

The May 26 CSW member meeting will feature a talk by and discussion with Dr. David Harwell, Assistant Director of Industry Member Programs at ACS, on the jobs situation for chemical professionals in the United States. While Dr. Harwell’s current duties seek to improve ACS offerings for members in the chemical industry, he has long been involved with employment and economic issues affecting all ACS members, including those in academia and government. He notes that, “The availability of jobs in chemistry-related fields is dependent upon a few key industrial sectors, and how they fare in today’s global economy. This isn’t your grandparents’ economy.”

BIOGRAPHY:

David Harwell is the Assistant Director of Industry Member Programs at the American Chemical Society. He currently serves as the staff liaison to the Board Committee on Corporation Associates, the Multidisciplinary Program Planning Group, and the Presidential Task force on U.S. Employment of Chemists. He manages the ACS Heroes of Chemistry awards program for industrial chemistry, and provides support to the ACS Pharma Leaders Conference, the CTO Summit, and other industry roundtables at ACS.

Dr. Harwell graduated from Texas Tech University with both B.S. and Ph.D. degrees in chemistry. He was also awarded an Executive MBA from the University of Maryland. Before coming to ACS, Dr. Harwell was a chemistry Professor at the University of Hawaii, where he synthesized optoelectronic silicon nanoparticles.



Now Accepting Applications: 2016 Student Travel Awards

The Chemical Society of Washington is pleased to announce a student travel award to defray travel and/or registration costs to the national ACS meeting in Philadelphia this Fall.

The Philadelphia meeting will be held August 21-25, 2016. Eligible expenses include meeting registration, travel expenses, airfare and lodging.

The award is open to students who are graduate and undergraduate students in the jurisdiction of the Chemical Society of Washington. The award is not intended for post-doctoral fellows. There will be a maximum of four awards available for the 2016 National meeting in Philadelphia. Each award will be for up to \$500 of eligible expenses based on the review of the following materials.

Applicants should submit the following by June 1, 2016 at midnight to CSW (email: CSW@acs.org):

- A cover letter stating how and why attending this ACS meeting will promote his/her career;
- The applicant's CV;
- 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;
- An accepted abstract with proof of acceptance.

Post-Meeting Commitments:

After returning from the conference, awardees will be asked to submit articles to *The Capital Chemist* on their experience. Awardees may also be asked to present their posters, if applicable, at one of the upcoming CSW dinner meetings.

Call for Nominations for CSW Officers/Councilors/Managers

The annual election of Officers, Councilors, and Managers of the Chemical Society of Washington will be held in November 2016 in accordance with the Bylaws and Standing Rules of the Section. All CSW Members are invited and encouraged to submit nominations for the open positions. Self-nomination is acceptable. Elected members have general charge of the business and affairs of the CSW. Managers and Alternate Councilors serve on the Board of Managers and are expected to serve on at least one of the CSW committees. Councilors also serve on the Board of Managers and, along with serving on CSW Committees, they are expected to serve on ACS Committees and attend the Councilors Meetings held during the ACS National Meetings.

Nominations should be submitted to the CSW Office no later than Monday, June 20, 2016. Nominations can either be mailed to the CSW office or by email to the CSW administrator with the subject line of "CSW Nomination." All CSW members are eligible for nomination, and CSW welcomes all who are willing to participate, including those who have not previously held positions in CSW. Incumbents are eligible for nomination to the same position (if the term expires) or any other position as Officer, Councilor, or Manager. Please note that all candidates will be provided with a form to fill out to prepare the ballot for publication in the *Capital Chemist*, on the CSW website, and in the materials to be sent out.

Call for Nominations, Continued

The following positions are open for election this year:

- 3 Councilors and 3 Alternate Councilors (serving three-year terms)
- Treasurer (serving a two-year term)
- President-Elect (one year as President-Elect, one year as President, one year as Past-President)
- 6 Managers (serving two-year terms)

To nominate yourself or someone else, download the nomination form at http://csw.sites.acs.org/CC_pdf/CSW%202016%20Nomination%20Form_1a.pdf.

Current Officers:

President: Dennis Chamot, National Academy of Sciences (ret)

President-elect: Jason Schaff, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Past President: Alan Anderson, Bowie State University

Secretary: Jennifer Tanir, Health and Environmental Sciences Institute

Treasurer: Stefanie Wittenberg, US Patent and Trademark Office

Councilors:

Through 2016: Joseph Antonucci, NIST (ret); John Malin, ACS (ret); Jason Schaff, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Through 2017: Regina Cody, NASA (ret); Monika Konaklieva, American University; Stefanie Wittenberg, US Patent and Trademark Office

Through 2018: Christopher Avery, National Council for Science and the Environment; Allison A. Aldridge, US Food and Drug Administration; Kim Morehouse, US Food and Drug Administration

Alternate Councilors:

Through 2016: David Carrillo, Department of Air Force; Richard M Goodman, Richard M Goodman Consulting, LLC; Richard Jordan, Dickinson Wright, PLLC

Through 2017: Chris Hollinsed, University of Maryland; Ajay Mallia, Georgetown University; Bhushan Mandava, Consultant

Through 2018: Darryl Boyd, US Naval Research Laboratory; Dennis Chamot, National Academy of Sciences (ret); Matthew Windsor, Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology

Managers:

Through 2016: Svetla Baykoucheva, University of Maryland; Greg Brewer, Catholic University; Philip DeShong, University of Maryland; Wesley Farrell, University of Maryland; Joseph Houck, University of Maryland; William Trenkle, Department of Health and Human Services

Through 2017: Alan Ehrlich, Stein IP, LLC; Zory Glaser, Johns Hopkins University; Mukes Kapilashrami, University of Maryland; Amol A. Kulkarni, Howard University; Sara Orski, NIST; Nevart Tahmazian, Montgomery College

83rd Retired Chemists Group Luncheon

Wednesday, May 11, 2016
Alfio's La Tratoria Restaurant
4515 Willard Ave., Chevy Chase, MD

Social: (no- host bar): 11:30 am – 12:00 noon
Lunch: 12:00 – 1:00 pm
Speaker: 1:15 – 2:00 pm

Speaker: Robert Luskin, Attorney

Subject: "What do Lance Armstrong and Karl Rove have in Common?"

Abstract

From Abscam to Benghazi, every few years, Washington falls victim to scandal derangement syndrome, with obsessive, 24/7 coverage of whatever has captured the imagination. Mr. Luskin will discuss modern Washington scandals and talk about what they have in common, their relationship to the political process, and how the criminal justice does (and does not) manage to handle the challenges they pose to fairness and justice.

Speaker Biography

Robert Luskin is one of the best-known and most highly-regarded lawyers in Washington, DC. First in government service and later in private practice, he has played a leading role in virtually every high profile US criminal case over the last three decades.

Mr. Luskin has represented senior advisors to both Republican and Democratic Presidents, cabinet secretaries, federal judges, and congressmen, as well as leading multi-national corporations.

A graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Law School, he was a doctoral candidate in English Literature at Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar. Mr. Luskin teaches Global Anti-Corruption at Georgetown University as an Adjunct Professor of Law, and was formerly a Lecturer in Law at the University of Virginia.



Luncheon Information

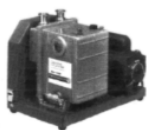
Menu choices: (1) Chicken Dorati, (2) Veal Piccata, (3) Veal Parmigiana, (4) Broiled Filet of Flounder, (5) Eggplant Parmigiana. Your entrée selection will be served with house salad, bread, beverage, and dessert. Cost: \$27.00

Reservations: Please send your menu selection(s) and names of those in your party, along with a check made out to Retired Chemists Group, for \$27 per meal to Dr. Jerome McDonald, 19636 Olney Mill Road, Brookeville, MD 20833 (Tel: 301-570-4865) **to be received by Friday, May 6, 2016.**

Alfio's LaTratoria has free valet parking and the Friendship Heights Metro Station is within walking distance.

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Stefanie Wittenberg, United States Patent and Trademark Office

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CSW Calendar of Events

May

5/11: RCG Luncheon

5/16: CSW Board Meeting

5/26: CSW Board Meeting

June

6/1: Deadline to apply for Student Travel Awards

6/9-6/12: MARM

6/20: CSW Elections Nominations deadline

September

9/12: CSW Board Meeting

November

11/21: CSW Board Meeting