

THE CAPITAL CHEMIST

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

Project SEED Summer Research Program Overview 2022

The four passionate students participating in the 2022 CSW Project SEED Program have spent the summer conducting research under their dedicated mentors at three research institutions within the DMV. The program kicked off June 20th with a welcome and small networking session and culminated on August 20th with a poster session attended by the student's mentors, family, and members of CSW. Over the last two months, the students have accomplished so much inside and out of the laboratory.

On June 20th, the CSW Project SEED Committee hosted the four 2022 CSW Project SEED students and their mentors for a networking and summer research kickoff event. During this 2 hour in-person event, the Project SEED students were able to network with members of the Project SEED Committee and with the attending university professors and mentors. Students heading off to college in the fall even got to meet people from the university they were going to attend (bonus!).

On July 6th, the Project SEED students came together in person to learn from a virtual panel of professionals in chemistry and chemical engineering. The panelists ranged from postdocs to professors, lawyers to company presidents. The hybrid format of this event allowed for people with limited time, or from further locations, to speak to the CSW SEED students about their experiences. The Project SEED students asked many insightful questions about preparing for university, a career in chemistry, and beyond! The CSW Project SEED Committee is thankful and indebted to the members who graciously offered their time and gave students a view into the careers you can attain with a degree related to chemistry.

On July 29th, the CSW Project SEED Committee held a virtual event for the Project SEED Students that focused on an important piece of science education and career development: how to present technical content. For those of us who have been presenting research and technical content for years, we may have forgotten how daunting it can be. It may now be second nature to incorporate differences between reports, slide presentations, and posters—but to students conducting their first research presentation, this information was valuable. Each of the students took the information they digested during this event to prepare posters for the August 20th poster session and awards ceremony held at ACS Headquarters in Washington DC. Tune in to the October Capital Chemist for the recap of this successful event! Thank you to everyone who came and supported our SEED Students!

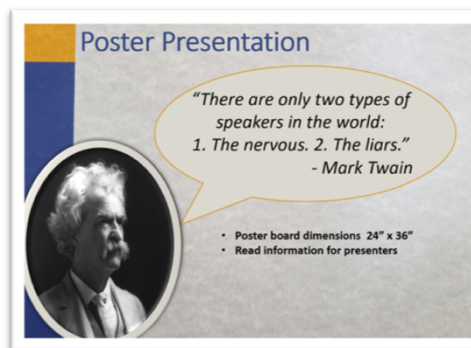
Green Travel Program

The students were paired with research that matched their interests, not necessarily to laboratories that were close to their home. For many of our students, this meant over an hour on the metro each way (and for those of

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us who take the metro, we know that bad days can take even longer!). This year, The CSW Project SEED Committee piloted our "Travel Green" public transportation reimbursement program for Project SEED students. To participate, the students filled out an application, sent in their metro route and estimated cost, and were reimbursed for any green public transit options (e.g., bus, metro, bike) between their home and the laboratory. On average, this saved the students more than \$200 in out-of-pocket costs and promoted a sustainable mindset in our young future chemists!

Virtual CSW Meeting on Thursday, September 15, 2022 – 6:00-7:00 ET

Featured Speaker: Dr. Brandi Toliver

Program Manager
Office of Workforce Development for Teachers and Scientists
U.S. Department of Energy

Topic: "Breaking up With Plastics"



This will be a Zoom meeting. There is no charge to attend, but you must register in advance. Register Now: <https://tinyurl.com/cswsept2022>

Speaker Bio

Dr. Brandi Toliver (she/her/hers) serves as a Program Manager in the Office of Workforce Development for Teachers and Scientists at the U.S. Department of Energy. In this role, Dr. Toliver partners with the 17 DOE National Laboratories and host sites to coordinate research and professional development opportunities to prepare undergraduate and graduate students for careers in STEM and provide access to DOE resources for faculty members from institutions historically underrepresented in the research community. Prior to her appointment at the DOE, Dr. Toliver managed the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) Program and the Professional Research Experience Program (PREP) at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). During her tenure at NIST, Dr. Toliver revamped the application submission process for the SURF Program which cultivated an increase in applicants from historically marginalized groups.

Raised in rural North Carolina with limited access to resources, Dr. Toliver strives to be a servant to her community. She has participated as an invited guest speaker and panelist for several professional organizations, government agencies, high schools, and colleges/universities. Additionally, she has served as the president of the NIST Women in STEM (WiSTEM), chair of the Standards Employee Board Association (SEBA), an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Collateral Duty Counselor, and is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Recently, Dr. Toliver participated in the prestigious U.S. Embassy Science Fellowship in Thailand which she collaborated with the U.S. Embassy Bangkok and the Phuket Hotel Association to eliminate single-use plastics in local hotels/villas. It should be noted that her favorite title/accomplishment is being a mother to her beloved daughter.

Dr. Toliver lives by Nelson Mandela's quote "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." She holds a B.S. in chemistry from North Carolina State University, M.S. in chemistry from North Carolina Central University, and Ph.D. in Fiber and Polymer Science from North Carolina State University. Since the completion of her Ph.D., she completed coursework for the executive certificate in diversity coaching at Howard University and earned an executive certificate in Diversity and Inclusion from Cornell University.

Abstract

Plastic is everywhere: our homes, grocery stores, restaurants, and hotels. As a result of our large consumption, plastic pollution has created many environmental challenges. During my seminar, I will discuss my collaboration with the Phuket Hotel Association to reduce plastic consumption in the hospitality industry.

Message from the CSW Committee on Minority Affairs

The White House Initiative on Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence, and Economic Opportunity through Historically Black Colleges and Universities host a conference every year as National HBCU Week. The conference is scheduled for September 20-23rd 2022. The Committee of Minority Affairs would like to recognize all CSW members who attended an HBCU. If you attended an HBCU, please email Carissa Hunter (chunte14@gmu.edu) by September 16th, 2022, and she will provide more information for you.

Thanks,
Committee of Minority Affairs



In Memoriam: Dr. Naga Bhushan Mandava

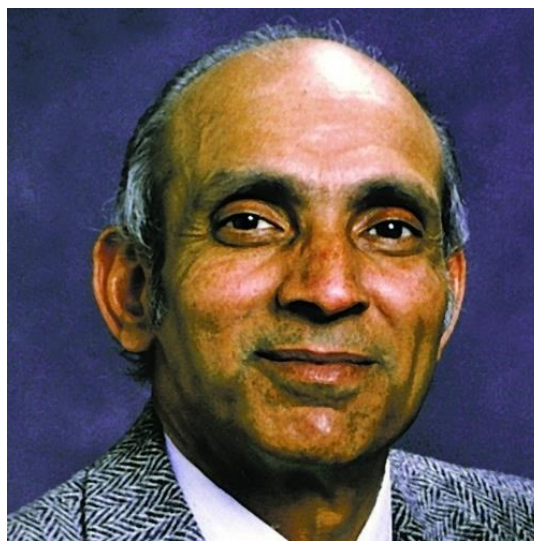
The Chemical Society of Washington (CSW) remembers a long-time CSW board member, Dr. Bhushan Mandava, who served as President of The Chemical Society of Washington and as a Councilor, career consultant, and ACS Ambassador for the American Chemical Society for over 25 years.

Bhushan Mandava passed away at the age of 87 years old on Thursday, July 7, 2022, in Potomac, MD. Bhushan was born in Andhra Pradesh, India. He received his Ph.D. from the Indian Institute of Sciences (IISc) in Bangalore, India in 1962. The family immigrated to the United States in 1963 on a fellowship at Oklahoma State University.

A renowned scientist: notable for his work in the field of Agriculture, he dedicated 24 years of public service to the USDA and EPA where he was involved in the discovery of the sixth class of plant hormones: Brassinolide. He received the prestigious Hillebrand award in 1986 and served as Director of United Nations Agencies (UNIDO, UNDP, FAO) to advise 15 countries in Asia and the Pacific Region on agricultural productivity and crop safety. Bhushan held 4 U.S. and Canadian patents as well as published over 170 papers, 2 books, and edited 6 books on naturally occurring pesticides.

Bhushan was a kindred spirit who touched many people across different communities. He was an iconic pillar in the communities he helped create. His greatest impact was on his family and the Telugu community.

Bhushan's spirit is carried on through his loving life partner of 66 years, Leela, and their son Srinivas, daughter Santi and son-in-law Milan; grandchildren Natasha, Shaan, Nikhil, and Kosh as well as extended family and friends.



Volunteers Needed for the Spooky Science Expo - October 15, 2022

The Watergate Youth Committee will be holding its sixth annual science event (Spooky Science Expo) for kids and teens at the terrace lounge (211 Yoakum Parkway, Alexandria, VA 22304) on Saturday October 15 (Rain day: October 22) from 3pm to 7pm.

The event celebrates science and Halloween. The science club at Watergate at Landmark has been serving the children of this nearly four thousand strong community for six years.

We are seeking volunteers to help at this event. Stephanie Moffitt is leading the effort to coordinate the volunteers from CSW. Please contact Stephanie at csw@acs.org to volunteer.



This event has received some local news coverage (<http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2020/oct/24/spooky-science-alexandria/> and <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2019/oct/21/science-gets-spooky-alexandria/>) in the past.

Materials Symposium at Clarkson University, Potsdam, NY, Oct. 1-2, 2022

In collaboration with the Northern New York ACS Local Section, the Center for Materials Processing is hosting a symposium on Advanced Functional Materials for Emerging Science and Technology. Please spread the word about this symposium to attract a comprehensive body of attendees!

Please feel free to reach out if you are faculty or a student from a local or regional Primary Undergraduate Institution (e.g., SUNY Plattsburgh, Canton, Potsdam). There may be funds available to co-sponsor transportation to Clarkson and/or registration.

The full long version of the symposium announcement is below and the highlights of the meeting details are as follows:

- 1.5-day materials symposium at Clarkson University, Potsdam, NY, **October 1-2, 2022**.
- The motto of the symposium is **"Advanced Functional Materials for Emerging Science and Technology"** which centers around functional (i) nanoporous materials (e.g., MOFs/COFs) and (ii) polymer materials (e.g., novel syntheses, upcycling, smart polymers) as the primary focus.
- The symposium kicks off with welcome remarks at 8:20am on Saturday (Oct 1st) and concludes with the last session ending at 12:20pm, followed by lunch, on Sunday (Oct 2nd). You would have ample of time to travel to Rochester, NY, (~3.5 h by car) if you intend to attend the ACS Northeast Regional Meeting (NERM) afterwards with their technical sessions starting on Oct 3rd.
- 18 invited talks, 3 keynotes and 1 plenary lecture; student and postdoc posters including two talks selected from submitted abstracts.
- No parallel sessions - one room, one session, one great networking experience.

- Among others, Omar Farha (Northwestern University) is confirmed as our plenary speaker, along with Tomislav Friščić (McGill University), Silvana Andreescu (Clarkson University), and Christopher Ober (Cornell University) as keynote speakers.
- The cost of registration is \$100 for faculty and \$50 for students/postdocs (dinner and lunches included).
- Link with further information and to register: <https://sites.clarkson.edu/camp/clarkson-materials-chemistry-symposium/>.
- The **registration deadline** is September 10, 2022. No on-site registration possible. Please reach out to us if you consider registering but cannot meet this deadline in the event of unusual circumstances. We might be able to accommodate you.
- We have hotel rooms blocked at two local hotels. Detailed information about accommodation is posted on our web site.

Download Flyer for the Symposium:

https://capitalchemist.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Flyer_CU_MaterialsChemSymposium.pdf

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CSW Calendar of Events

September 19: Board of Managers Meeting

October 19-22: Southeastern Regional Meeting of the ACS (SERMACS) Conference: <https://sermacs2022.org>