

THE CAPITAL CHEMIST

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

Please Vote in the CSW 2022 Election!

The Chemical Society of Washington will conduct its election of Officers, Councilors, and Managers with electronic ballots. If you are a full CSW member and have a valid e-mail address on file with The American Chemical Society, then on or about October 11 you will receive an e-mail with instructions for accessing the secure voting website and candidate statements, along with a unique voter ID code. The ballot will be sent to the same e-mail address at which you receive official communications from ACS. If your e-mail account has strong spam filters, please “white list” elections@vote-now.com and election.ballot@vote-now.com in order to ensure that you receive your voter ID code. If you haven’t provided an e-mail address to ACS, fear not—anyone without an e-mail address on file, or whose ballot e-mail is returned as undeliverable, will receive a paper ballot with voting instructions and candidate statements. Candidate statements will also be posted on the CSW website (www.capitalchemist.org) on or about October 11. As in previous elections, voting will close at 11:59 pm on November 15. Just click, read, and vote! Even better—if you, like many of us, are chronically absent-minded, you will receive two reminder e-mails if you have forgotten to cast your ballot. If you haven’t voted in prior CSW elections, please take this opportunity to do so, and help shape the future direction of CSW. If you have questions about the new voting process, or if you do not receive a ballot by October 21, please contact us at csw@acs.org.

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Inside this issue:

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- Submit an abstract for the CSR workshop
- Congratulate Raychelle Burks on becoming an ACS Fellow!
- Encourage participation in the Illustrated Poem contest
- Learn more about the history and roles of HBCUs, and our members who attended them
- Volunteer for the Spooky Science Expo
- Read about the Project SEED poster session

CSW Elections: Candidates

President-Elect (vote for 1)

Lauren Ragle

Councilor (vote for up to 3)

Joseph Duran

Ravinder Paul Lall

Xiaoyong Lu

LaKesha Perry

Nevart Tahmazian

Treasurer (vote for 1)

Reyniak Richards

Manager-at-Large (vote for up to 6)

Allison Aldridge

Novella Bridges

Jason Schaff

Jacqueline Anita Smith

(write-in candidate 1)

(write-in candidate 2)

Candidate Statements can be found on the CSW website at <http://www.capitalchemist.org>.

NAS announces free event, October 24-25, 2022, in Washington, DC -- Abstracts due October 5, 2022

The NAS workshop for the Chemical Sciences Roundtable on “Innovations in Catalysis to Address Modern Challenges” will be a hybrid meeting (in-person and virtual) in Washington DC. It will be held October 24-25.

In addition to a topically diverse set of speakers, the Workshop is seeking submissions from the catalysis community for short 3-minute presentations from researchers (students, post-docs, research scientists, principal investigators, etc.) related to their cutting-edge work in catalysis. Abstracts are due Wednesday, October 5th.

For more information on the agenda, registering for the free event, and how to submit an abstract for the short presentation, please see: <https://tinyurl.com/3y6n7m5x>.

Contact: Ayanna Lynch - alynch@nas.edu

Congratulations to Dr. Raychelle Burks - 2022 ACS Fellow

ACS announced 45 new fellows, honored for their contributions to science.

CSW Member Raychelle Burks, Associate Professor of Chemistry at American University, was among 2022's honorees.

Congratulations Dr. Burks!

Read more at C&E News: <https://tinyurl.com/4cyv9hy3>.

photo credit: <https://ifthenexhibit.org/ambassador/T-01/>



2022 NCW Illustrated Poem Contest, “Fabulous Fibers: The Chemistry of Fabric”

The Chemical Society of Washington, CSW- the local section of the American Chemical Society (ACS) is sponsoring an illustrated poem contest for students in kindergarten through 12th grade.

Contest Deadline: Sunday October, 23, 2022 by 11:59 pm ET.

Submission: Both the poem and the entry form should be emailed to csw@acs.org as separate attachments in the email. Incomplete forms and submissions will not be considered. Please use pdf or word format.

Please see below the rules for the illustrated poem and use the entry form below for your submission.

Winners of the CSW Local Section's Illustrated Poem Contest will advance to the National Illustrated Poem Contest for a chance to be featured on the ACS website and to win prizes!

Entry form: <https://capitalchemist.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/2022-ncw-poem-contest-entry-form.docx>

Contest flyer: <https://capitalchemist.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Capital-Chemist-ad-for-the-CSW-2022-NCW-Illustrated-Poem-contest-1.pdf>

Thank You from the Committee on Minority Affairs



The Committee on Minority Affairs would like to thank everyone for their submissions for National HBCU Week! It was amazing to see and get to know members of CSW and spotlight them and their HBCU. Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) helped Black Americans pursue professional careers, earn graduate degrees, and advance their education in an inclusive environment. They offer diverse and inclusive educational experiences, affordable costs, scholarship opportunities, unique programs, and supportive environments for underserved communities. The Committee on Minority Affairs would also like to thank the community for the great feedback we received about this spotlight!

Interesting facts about HBCUs:

- Though HBCUs make up only three percent of the country's colleges and universities, they enroll 10% of all African American students and produce almost 20% of all African American graduates.
- About 25% of African American graduates with STEM degrees come from HBCUs.
- HBCU's account for about 30% of Black graduates in science and engineering doctorate programs.
- Black representation makes up about 7.9% among bachelor's degree recipients, 4.5% in PhD recipients, 3.2% for postdoctoral researchers in universities and only 1.6% of chemistry professors at the top 50 schools in the USA.

Please read the article in *C&EN*, "Who has the most success preparing Black students for careers in science? Historically Black Colleges and Universities": <https://tinyurl.com/3dfmn9zu>.

Please also read the article in *Nature Chemistry*, "The missing colours of chemistry": Menon, B.R.K. The missing colours of chemistry. *Nat. Chem.* 13, 101–106 (2021). <https://tinyurl.com/2p9ek7uy>

Don't forget to check out CSW's HBCU Spotlight on the Capital Chemist website: <https://capitalchemist.org/2022/09/history-of-hbcus/>

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.

Celebrating Young Scientists & Their Hard Work: CSW Project SEED Culminating Poster Session August 20th 2022



On the morning of Saturday August 20th, the CSW Project SEED Committee hosted the Culminating Poster Session at ACS Headquarters in Washington, DC to recognize our four talented Project SEED students. The SEED students presented their research posters to the 20 attendees from across the DMV. Central pictures within the photo collage below show the poster session in action! The students conducted their research under dedicated mentors from three different universities in the CSW region: University of Maryland College Park, University of the District of Columbia, and The George Washington University. Each of the students were fortunate to have a graduate or undergraduate mentor in addition to their PI mentor to help guide their journey. The left side of the photo collage shows the students and their mentors (some mentors are not pictured). The caliber of research conducted by these SEED students amazed many of the attendees who commented that the poster could be mistaken for that of a graduate student, not a SEED Student who spent 9 weeks in the lab. The twenty attendees, spanning SEED family members, CSW members, those interested in hearing about research, and those interested in finding out more about the program supported our CSW SEED students!

CSW members and CSW SEED Committee members in attendance were able to speak with students and parents about next steps in the science arena. Attending parents were very interested in learning about the SEED-eligible scholarships available as well as other opportunities including internships, and K-12 outreach programs. A light networking lunch followed the poster session and awards ceremony (awards ceremony

pictures on right side of collage), where students and family members could talk with local professionals in the chemical sciences. This event successfully broke the ice as the first in-person CSW SEED event open to all CSW members since 2019, and we are happy to continue supporting our SEED students and young scientists.

Are you interested in being a mentor for 2023? If so, please contact us at csw@acs.org with the subject "2023 CSW SEED Mentor Interest". Professors and laboratory scientists in academia, private industry, and government are welcome to apply.



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The **Chemical Society of Washington (CSW)** is the local ACS Chapter for the Washington, DC area and serves approximately 3,500 members.

2022 Officers

President

LaKesha Perry

President-elect

Alessandra Zimmermann

Past President

Jennifer Tanir

Secretary

Brian Rolczynski

Treasurer

Reyniak A. Richards

CSW Calendar of Events

October 15: Spooky Science Expo

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

October 23: Illustrated Poem Deadline

October 24-25: Chemical Sciences Roundtable Workshop

November 15: CSW Elections Deadline

November 17: Board of Managers Meeting