

THE CAPITAL CHEMIST

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

Virtual CSW Meeting "Leveraging the Chemistry Classroom for Impact" with Chidi Duru, PhD., NBCT - December 14th, 6 P.M.

The Chemical Society of Washington would like to congratulate Dr. Chidi Duru on earning the prestigious Fulbright Teachers for Global Classrooms Program award (<https://www.fulbrightteacherexchanges.org/programs/tgc/>) from the U.S. Department of State and the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board. Dr. Duru will present at the upcoming December 14th CSW virtual meeting, and this is a great opportunity to invite your local high school science teachers to this virtual presentation.

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Inside this issue:

- Register to attend the next virtual meeting
- Richard Weiss wins 2022 Hillebrand Prize!
- Volunteer with CSW this holiday season
- Learn how to submit a nomination for the EPA Green Chemistry Challenge Awards

Registration

This will be a Zoom meeting. There is no charge to attend, but you must register in advance.

Registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/sebwu65x>

Presenter Bio



Chidi Duru, PhD., NBCT

National Board Certified Chemistry/Science Teacher, Science Department Chair

Crossland High School (Prince George's County Public Schools)

"Leveraging the Chemistry Classroom for Impact"

Dr. Chidi Duru is a National Board Certified Chemistry/Science Teacher and currently teaches Chemistry, Biogeochemical Systems, and AP Environmental Science. He heads the science department at Crossland High School in Maryland, where he initiated and leads a climate action program that has secured a multilateral partnership that installed a Teaching/Treating Storm Water Bioremediation facility in the school, obtained a \$35,000 grant for an outdoor classroom, and inspired a cultural shift in environmental education and action that earned the school a spot as a Maryland Green School.

Dr. Duru, a lifelong learner and avid collaborator with other professionals and STEM-related institutions, continually seeks innovative ways of engaging and empowering students, building the capacity of fellow educators, and enhancing his community. Over the past few years, he attended the Exploratorium Teacher Institute in San Francisco, NASA Wallops (Virginia) Rocket Academy for Teachers (WRATS), On the Farm STEM

PD, and Project Atmosphere Teachers Institute. He has also taken graduate courses at Harvard and other universities, acquiring state-of-the-art pedagogical/leadership skills in the process.

Bringing these experiences back to his classroom has changed how his students respond to STEM. Unlike when he first joined the school, now many more of his students now get into STEM fields/careers. Most significantly, this is breaking the “school-to-prison” pipeline for these minority/underrepresented/underserved populations.

Dr. Duru serves as a mentor for teachers seeking National Board certification and facilitates professional development sessions in his school, school district, and across the United States. He is a National Geographic Certified Educator, NEA Foundations Global Learning Fellow, facilitator and abstract reviewer at the National Science Teaching Association (NSTA) conferences, facilitator at the Science Research Conference, and member of the American Chemical Society (ACS), American Association of Chemistry Teachers (AACT), and American Meteorological Society (AMS).

Fulbright TGC provides a unique opportunity for Chidi Duru to interact and collaborate with other professionals from across the United States and abroad. Interacting with professionals of such diversity in skill sets, capacities, and perspectives enables him to continually reflect on his practice and to further refine his pedagogy. Thus, enhancing his ability to continue to provide his students with the knowledge and competencies needed to thrive in our rapidly evolving global community. Transferring the knowledge he gained from Fulbright TGC to his community will enable many more students and community members to appreciate the preponderance of perspectives, reexamine their roles as global citizens, and potentially excel in our ever-changing world.

Abstract

Chemistry is at the heart of all sciences. The chemistry classroom could be used for cross-disciplinary learning, action, and impact, with the premise that learning/knowledge with no action is a futile exercise. Over the years, the presenter has led students to develop the mindset that young people can take action right now. Young people understanding that they are not only the future, that they are also our present, could potentially “catalyze” them into immediate action. Their energy, skill, enthusiasm, and scientific knowledge could be leveraged for positive action. This presentation discusses ways to harness the “*reaction*” between chemistry, the classroom, and the youth to produce impactful “*glocal*” action.

Professor Richard Weiss Wins 2022 Hillebrand Prize



Dr. Richard Weiss

Department of Chemistry

Institute for Soft Matter Synthesis and Metrology

Georgetown University

In recognition of his contributions to an understanding of the relationship between structure, function, and the chemical and photophysical properties of polymers and gels, as well as their applications, and of the impact he had on generations of students and fellow researchers (both here and around the globe) in the course of his more than fifty years as an academic scholar.

Dr. Weiss' Bio at Georgetown University: <https://tinyurl.com/4zznc5n3>

Volunteer Opportunity: Gifts for DC Families this Holiday Season

December 9, 2022

Angel Tree Distribution Center
5160 Lawrence Place,
Hyattsville, MD



DOING THE
MOST GOODSM

The Chemical Society of
Washington would like to invite
members to volunteer with us for

the Salvation Army National Capital Area on December 9th in Hyattsville, MD. Volunteers will have the opportunity to help sort gifts collected through the Angel Tree program for deserving families within the Washington D.C. area. We would love to see members on December 9th, at one of the 3 allocated time slots. Slots are filling fast. Please use the registration link below to volunteer on December 9th with CSW, or any other day that fits your schedule.

Angel Tree is a unique holiday assistance program that connects an individual sponsor or a group sponsor with a deserving child (or “Angel”) in need. Sponsors buy presents, and volunteers help unload, sort, organize, decorate, and distribute gifts!

Registration link: <https://cerv.is/0355x123>

Please contact LaKesha Perry, CSW-President@acs.org, if you have any questions.

ICYMI: Recording of 2023 Green Chemistry Challenge Awards Webinar Available

A recording of the Sept. 28, 2022 webinar to educate stakeholders on the Green Chemistry Challenge Awards' nomination process is now available. This webinar, hosted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), reviewed the history of the awards, eligibility requirements, and what is needed to submit a nomination. The webinar also reviewed the six award categories, including a category to recognize technology that reduces or eliminates greenhouse gas emissions, in support of the Biden-Harris Administration's efforts to combat the climate crisis.

EPA is currently accepting nominations for the 2023 Green Chemistry Challenge Awards from companies or institutions that have developed a new green chemistry process or product that helps protect human health and the environment. Nominations are due to the agency by Dec. 9, 2022.

An independent panel of technical experts convened by the American Chemical Society Green Chemistry Institute will formally judge the nominations and make recommendations to EPA for the 2023 winners. EPA anticipates giving awards to outstanding green chemistry technologies in six categories in the Fall of 2023.

Learn more about the Green Chemistry Challenge Awards: <https://tinyurl.com/mu2r77m5>

View the Webinar: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a6mIOHXTi00>

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CSW Calendar of Events

December 1: Student Travel Award Deadline

December 9: Angel Tree Volunteer Opportunity

December 9: Nomination Deadline for EPA Green Chemistry Challenge Awards

December 14: Virtual CSW Meeting