

# THE CAPITAL CHEMIST

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

## CSW Dinner Meeting on February 22, 2024

### Meeting Logistics

**Date:** Thursday, February 22, 2024

**Time:** 6:00 p.m. Check-in/Social Hour  
6:30 p.m. Dinner  
7:00 p.m. Speaker Presentation

**Location:** ACS Headquarters – Marvel Hall, 1155 16th St. NW, DC

**Cost:** \$20 (half price for students)

**Menu:** Meal will be catered by VIPS Catering and will feature Peruvian chicken with green sauce on the side, black bean rice pilaf, garden salad, rolls, cookies, and brownies. The vegetarian option features oven-roasted quinoa stuffed peppers with a side of roasted potatoes (also suitable for vegan and gluten-free). Beverages will be provided.

RSVP by noon ET Tuesday, February 20th, to [csw@acs.org](mailto:csw@acs.org). An RSVP is required for dinner so we can plan appropriate seating and meals. Please provide the names in your party, as well as your contact information and if you prefer the vegetarian option, when you RSVP. The public is invited to attend. You may attend the talk only at no charge, but reservations are appreciated. If you need any further information or would like to make a reservation, please contact the CSW office by email at [csw@acs.org](mailto:csw@acs.org).

This is a hybrid event, and you may participate by Zoom. Zoom registration: <http://tinyurl.com/mrmvcfzz>

**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 pm, but be aware that most parking meters are in effect until 10:00 pm 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

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## CHEMICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON FEBRUARY 2024 DINNER MEETING



Dr. Maranda C. Ward  
Assistant Professor and Director of Equity  
Department of Clinical Research and Leadership  
GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences



Join us in person\* or virtually on February 22, 2024, at 6:00 P.M. ET  
ACS Headquarters, Marvel Hall - 1155 16<sup>th</sup> St., NW, Washington, DC

\*Dinner is served in person,  
requires registration and payment

## Speaker Bio

Dr. Maranda C. Ward is an Assistant Professor and Director of Equity for the Department of Clinical Research and Leadership at the GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences. In this role, she designs, evaluates, and teaches health equity curriculum for student and faculty learners. Her teaching excellence was recognized with the highest teaching honor at GW—the 2021 Morton A. Bender Teaching Award.

Dr. Ward is an expert in advancing anti-racism efforts within health professions education and in designing curricula to enable students and faculty to competently promote health and racial equity in practice. Her research focuses on diversity, equity, inclusion, justice, and antiracism educational interventions as well as stakeholder-engaged community-focused studies on HIV, Black women's health, and youth identity. As a member of the DC Center for AIDS Research (DC CFAR), she is the principal investigator on Two in One: HIV and COVID Screening & Testing Model (<https://twoinone.smhs.gwu.edu/>) that allows her to lead a national research-based educational intervention for primary care practitioners to routinize screenings for HIV, PrEP/PEP, and the COVID vaccine. This research will lead to a set of policy recommendations for overall practice-based changes for all patients and culturally responsive messaging for racial, ethnic, sexual, and gender minoritized patients. She is also skilled in the application of participatory action research methods.

As an affiliate faculty for the GW Honey W. Nashman Center for Civic Engagement and Public Service, she translated her participatory action research on youth identity into a youth-led canvas-based mural on preserving D.C. legacy. Dr. Ward's research is further converted into practice as the Co-Founder and Executive Director of Promising Futures - a youth development pipeline for D.C. youth ages 11-24 that integrates a social justice approach to positive youth development using edu-tainment to invite youth to explore their civic and social identities, social inequities, and health-seeking behaviors. When she is not teaching or serving on-campus, she is engaged in DC in a range of capacities. For instance, she is on the board of trustees for the Washington School for Girls and is a founding board member of Girls Rock DC. She also serves on the Sibley Memorial Hospital & Johns Hopkins Medicine advisory board for wellness projects in wards 7 and 8. The DC Mayor, Muriel Bowser, appointed her to fill an advisory board seat on the Mayor's Commission on Health Equity.

When asked, she describes herself as a community educator, curriculum developer, and youth builder. She has strong commitments to service-learning, equity, community legacy, youth development, and honoring youth voice. Maranda earned the 2023 GW Black Alumni Impact award, the 2022 Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion & Community Engagement Award by Transform Mid-Atlantic, the 2020-2021 GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences Diversity and Inclusion Award, as well as the 2021 Stigma Warrior Award during the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference on Stigma at Howard University for going above and beyond in her field to fight discrimination among historically-marginalized populations. She has been consulted by *Ebony.com*, *Rolling Out* magazine, *DCist*, and the *Washington Post* for her research on HIV disparities and featured on a live segment of *Good Morning Washington*, NPR's *Morning Edition* and the *KevinMD* podcast for her health equity expertise.

Maranda earned her Doctorate in Education from GW, her Master's in Public Health from Tulane University, and her Bachelor's degrees in Sociology and Anthropology from Spelman College. She enjoys learning from youth, traveling, and brunch.

For more information, visit [www.marandaward.com](http://www.marandaward.com)

## Richard Gerald Weiss - November 13, 1942 - December 28, 2023

We are very sorry to report that Dick Weiss passed away on December 28, 2023. He was an active member of the Chemical Society of Washington and received CSW's most prestigious award, the Hillebrand Prize, in 2022 (presented in 2023: <http://tinyurl.com/mr4ddc7h>) 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 on generations of students and fellow researchers (both here and around the globe) in the course of more than fifty years as an academic scholar. Dick also headed CSW's annual recognition of college students for their achievements in chemistry. He will be missed in the CSW community but forever remembered.



## 2024 Board Meeting Calendar

CSW's Board of Managers (BOM) meets quarterly to discuss CSW business and to have open floor discussion of new business. This includes all officers and reports of committee chairs. Meetings are open to CSW membership. Dates of the board meetings for 2024 are as follows:

- March 11
- May 20
- September 16
- November 21

Our meetings are always from 7pm - 9pm and are hybrid (both in-person at the ACS headquarters and on Zoom). To attend, please email [csw@acs.org](mailto:csw@acs.org) one week prior to the meeting to be put on the visitor registration for ACS Marvel Hall or to request a Zoom link if attending virtually.

## Professor Christopher L. Cahill Wins 2023 Hillebrand Prize

CSW is pleased to announce Professor Christopher L. Cahill as the winner of the 2023 Hillebrand Prize, in recognition of illuminating research in condensed phase actinide chemistry and crystal engineering harnessing organic-actinide interactions, which inform efforts in environmental remediation, separations, and nuclear forensics.

Professor Cahill will be presenting his talk, "Non-covalent interactions for U and Me(tals)!" at the upcoming CSW dinner meeting on March 14, 2024.



**Christopher L. Cahill**  
Department Chair,  
Professor of Chemistry  
and International Affairs  
The George Washington  
University

# CSW Project SEED 2024 – Call for Students & Mentors/Projects



Every year, the Chemical Society of Washington (CSW) hosts a CSW cohort with ACS Project SEED (Summer Experiences for the Economically Disadvantaged), where high school students join laboratories across the DMV for a paid summer research internship in chemistry or a chemistry-related field! Through participating in Project SEED, CSW—and our amazing research mentors—support the growth of underrepresented and economically-disadvantaged groups in chemistry and chemistry-related fields. You can see that in action on the *Capital Chemist* website by reading about the Project SEED culminating poster session held last year (<http://tinyurl.com/36tps7v2>). You can also learn more about Project SEED on the ACS website (<https://tinyurl.com/ywnj3623>).

For researchers interested in being mentors, you'll need to complete and submit a project proposal no later than Tuesday, February 6th, 2024. You may participate in a free mentor training program offered by ACS (<http://tinyurl.com/3hh2hcnt>). Projects can be either in-person or virtual. Please begin by emailing [csw@acs.org](mailto:csw@acs.org) to request the proposal format and submission form and to be put in contact with the CSW Project SEED chair and DC area coordinator.

For educators who have high school students interested in chemistry/science, who qualify as low-income based on the program criteria (eligibility criteria on the Project SEED website: <https://tinyurl.com/45v6bcu>), and who have successfully completed at least one high school chemistry course, please direct them to apply at <https://tinyurl.com/45v6bcu>! Student applications will be accepted starting February 13th and will run through April. Students who are selected to participate in the program will work in the laboratory (or on a virtual project) for 8-10 weeks during the summer. Students will earn a \$4,000 stipend for their research work. In addition, students participate in career development and scientific development programs put together by the CSW Project SEED committee, including a career panel, a workshop on how to present scientific information, and a culminating poster session where students present their research to family, friends, and CSW members!

## ACS Division of Analytical Chemistry YCC Travel Award

The ACS Division of Analytical Chemistry is offering travel awards for Younger Chemists (under age 35) to travel to a meeting to present the results of their research. Individuals who may not have previously been able to participate in professional meetings are particularly encouraged to apply. Applications are due Nov 1<sup>st</sup> for winter and spring meetings and May 1<sup>st</sup> for summer and fall meetings. More information is available on the Division website at <https://acsanalytical.org/ycctravel/>. The application forms will be available when the application period is open.

## Teacher Travel Grant Available for 28th Biennial Conference on Chemical Education

The 28th Biennial Conference on Chemical Education (BCCE), will be held at the University of Kentucky from July 28 - August 1, 2024. The conference will be organized around four themes within the K-12, two-year college, and university communities: Classroom Practice and Learning Environments, Curriculum and Cognition, Assessment and Research Methods, and Professional Development. The deadline for symposium and workshop abstracts is November 10. High school teachers are strongly encouraged to apply for the CSW

BCCE Teacher Travel grant (<https://tinyurl.com/ydjwc6pt>) by February 14, 2024. Applicants will be notified of the status of their application by mid-March. Additional details can be found in the application form.

## CSW Member Publication Submission

We would like to highlight the work of CSW Members' accomplishments in terms of publications, book chapters, op-eds, reports, and presentations at local/national/international meetings. If you have such contributions, please complete the Google form using the link below.

Google

Form: <https://forms.gle/zRhFLkRWMdPXoLXNA>

*Note that submission does not imply that your work is guaranteed to end up in the newsletter or website. We reserve the right to remove submissions that may be controversial or upsetting to others.*



View the full list of submitted publications on the *Capital Chemist* website at <https://capitalchemist.org/2023/01/csw-recent-publications>.

## The Capital Chemist

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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.

### **2024 Officers**

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Alessandra Zimmermann

#### **Secretary**

Lee Nagao

#### **Treasurer**

Reyniak A. Richards

## CSW Calendar of Events

- February 6: Deadline for Project SEED Mentor Application
- February 13: Student Project SEED Application period opens
- February 14: Deadline for BCCE Teacher Travel Grant Application
- February 22: CSW Dinner Meeting
- March 11: CSW Board Meeting
- March 14: CSW Dinner Meeting
- May 1: YCC Travel Award Deadline
- May 20: CSW Board Meeting
- September 16: CSW Board Meeting
- November 21: CSW Board Meeting