May 23, 2024: CSW Dinner Meeting featuring, "Astrochemistry: Exploring our Cosmic Chemical Origins"

Meeting Logistics
Date: Thursday, May 23, 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 / Othmer Hall
1155 16th St., N.W., Washington, DC
Menu: Meal will be catered by W. Millar & Co. and will feature Peruvian Mixed Grill, Southwest Caesar Salad, bread board, and assorted bar desserts. Vegetarian Option: Thai Veggie Skewers (GF)(v). Beverages will be provided.
Cost: $24 per person (half price for students)
An RSVP is required for dinner so we can plan appropriate seating and meals.
Zoom registration: https://tinyurl.com/3wbvysfz
RSVP by noon (ET) Tuesday, May 21, to csw@acs.org. Please provide the names in your party as well as your contact information 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.

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.


Bio
Dr. Olivia Wilkins, PhD, is an astrochemist at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, where she conducts cosmic ice experiments. She earned a BS in Chemistry and Mathematics from Dickinson College in 2015, after which she spent a year in Germany as a Fulbright Research Fellow. Dr. Wilkins earned her PhD in Chemistry at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), where she conducted observational astrochemistry research as an NSF Graduate Research Fellow. Dr. Wilkins was named a 2022 CAS Future Leader and is the Chair of the Maryland Younger Chemists Committee (MD-YCC) of the Maryland Section of the American Chemical Society (ACS), as well as an associate of the national Younger Chemists Committee (YCC). She is also passionate about science communication and using art to share science, something that culminated in her writing and
Abstract
Let's take a tour of the molecular universe! We will travel through time and space, beginning with the advent of matter about 13.8 billion years ago, before traversing through the interstellar medium and the formation of stars and planets—and the chemistry that evolves alongside them. Along the way, you will learn about the field of astrochemistry and the different ways in which astrochemists study objects in space, including recent experiments in the SubLIME lab at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. You will also hear about exciting discoveries made thus far and some of the big questions that have yet to be answered.

Call for Nominations for CSW Officers/Councilors/Managers-At-Large

The annual election of Officers, Councilors, and Managers-At-Large of the Chemical Society of Washington will be held in October/November 2024 in accordance with the Bylaws and Standing Rules of the Section. All eligible 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. Each member of the Board is expected to attend all Board meetings, normally five per year, and to serve on at least one CSW committee. Additionally, Councilors serve as CSW’s representatives to ACS governance and are expected to attend all meetings of the ACS Council, held in conjunction with the ACS National Meetings, if possible. Alternate Councilors serve as backups for Councilors who are unable to attend a Council meeting.

Nominations should be submitted to the CSW Office no later than August 15, 2024. Nominations should be emailed to the csw@acs.org with the subject line, “CSW Nomination.” All CSW members are eligible for

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nomination, although student members may only serve as Managers-at-Large. 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-At-Large. Please note that all candidates will be provided with a form to fill out for publication in the Capital Chemist, on the CSW website and in the voting materials to be sent out.

The following positions are open for election this year:

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

**Current Officers:**
President: Lauren Ragle  
President-Elect: Allison A. Aldridge  
Immediate Past President: Alessandra Zimmermann  
Secretary: Lee Nagao  
Treasurer: Reyniak A. Richards

**Councilors:**
Through 2026: Raychelle Burks, Alessandra Zimmermann  
Through 2025: LaKesha Perry, Nevart Tahmazian, Xiaoyong Lu  
Through 2024: Allison A. Aldridge, Stephanie Moffitt, Janice Reutt-Robey

**Alternate Councilors:**
Through 2026: Novella Bridges, Wesley Farrell, Alexander Zestos  
Through 2025: Joseph Duran, Ravinder Paul Lall, Sarah Ward  
Through 2024: Gloria Bazargan, Monika Konaklieva

**Managers-At-Large:**
Through 2025: Matthew Diasio, Carissa Hunter, Pritha Roy, Eva-Maria Rudler, Savanah Shumaker, Brandi Toliver  
Through 2024: Steven Cummings, Lyle Isaacs, Jason Johnston, Kehinde Joshua  
Jason Schaff, Jacqueline Smith

Nomination Form: [https://tinyurl.com/53r27vdu](https://tinyurl.com/53r27vdu)
MARM 2024: High School Students Encouraged to Participate in Chemagation Competition

For this year’s Chemagination Competition, high school students are asked to imagine that they are living 25 years in the future and have been invited to write an article for ChemMatters, a magazine for high school students that focuses on the role of chemistry in everyday life. In addition to the article, students are asked to design the cover art for the magazine. The subject of the article is to, “Describe a recent breakthrough or innovation in chemistry (and/or its applications) that has improved the quality of people’s lives today.” To view a sample ChemMatters magazine, visit the ACS website: https://tinyurl.com/3bxfath9.

View more details, as well as the competition rules: https://tinyurl.com/5ccav2bt

Important Chemigation Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Local sections notify MARM 2024 Chemagination Chair of their preliminary intent to participate in MARM 2024 Chemagination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Local sections confirm their intent to participate in MARM 2024 Chemagination.</td>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Local Sections submit their estimate of the number of teams they will be sending to the MARM 2024 Chemagination.</td>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Local sections submit the Chemagination entry forms, which include the article titles for each category and the name and contact information for each student. (Submission process will be announced at a later date.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Teams submit their articles for pre-judging.</td>
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<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>The MARM 2024 Chemagination competition takes place at The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA.</td>
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Join us for NMR Community Happy Hour & Trivia on May 2

Date: Thursday, May 2, 2024
Time: 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Happy Hour -- stay for Trivia, starting at 7
Location: Clear Skies Meadery - 15201 Display Ct, Rockville, MD 20850
RSVP: Not necessary, just join in if you can
Contact: Savanah Shumaker, 920-360-2642
All are welcome!

Download the flyer: https://tinyurl.com/5fzkh5b2

CMA/YCC Social Event, March 24, 2024

The CSW Committee on Minority Affairs and Younger Chemist Committee had an amazing social and winery tasting/tour on Sunday March 24th at District Winery. We learned that the grapes grown and harvested are shipped to them between the months of August and November as no vineyards are nearby. We learned about the crushing and pressing process for different kinds of grapes, the fermentation process, and aging/bottling of the wine by their winemaker. As chemists, we all had lots of questions when it came to pH and acidity. We hope to visit again soon!
Call for Nominations for the 2024 William F. Hillebrand Prize - applications due November 15, 2024

Nominations are being accepted for the 2024 Hillebrand Prize Award. The deadline to submit a nomination is November 15, 2024.

Nominations are invited for the 2024 Hillebrand Prize, awarded annually for original contributions to the science of chemistry by a member or members of the Chemical Society of Washington (CSW), the local section of the American Chemical Society. The Hillebrand Prize is the most prestigious honor given each year by CSW and is recognized nationally as a mark of significant accomplishment in chemistry. The Hillebrand Prize originated in 1924 and is named for Dr. William F. Hillebrand (1853–1925), an internationally recognized pioneer in analytical chemistry and one of Washington’s most distinguished early chemists.

The prize carries an honorarium of $2000. Many previous Hillebrand Prize recipients have won numerous other national and international awards, including three who have received the Nobel Prize. See the list of award winners: https://capitalchemist.org/2018/06/hillebrand-prize-recipients-by-year/

The nominating package should contain the following:

Nominating Letter – limited to 1000 words

The letter should focus on the chemical accomplishments of the nominee, rather than the bio of the nominee, from a broad standpoint, leaving the finer points to those submitting seconding letters. Biographic details (degrees, positions held, major activities etc.) will be given in the nominee’s CV. The letter should begin with the major theme(s) in the nominee’s research career with perhaps a summary of how these evolved over the years to create breakthroughs or push the field in a new or very productive direction.

Describing the nominee’s major contribution(s) is extremely important and should be the bulk of the letter.

There is no preference or restriction for the specific area of contribution so long as it represents a significant accomplishment in chemistry. Anything is fair game; synthetic or analytical, experimental or theoretical, bio- or inorganic, etc. This section might detail such things as: the major techniques used in their research and how these were applied to a specific area to bring about significant results not previously achievable; if their research resulted in the development of a new experimental/instrumental technique or use of an existing technique in an innovative new way; how techniques the nominee developed became standard in that area; the impact the nominee’s work had on influencing other areas of research; development of new reagents, catalysts or reaction conditions; development of a new computational method or theoretical approach; etc. The nominator should provide evidence in support of these statements. This could include information about the number of citations, impact factors of certain articles (or aggregate numbers), especially influential articles/book chapters, important invited talks, previous awards by other societies, patents, funding, important leadership positions, etc. Mentioning an extremely productive collaboration is possible so long as the role/contributions of the nominee are clear. The award is not given for mentoring students (as a specific criteria) but nominators often mention if this has occurred, especially if these students have gone on to significant positions of their own.

Two Seconding Letters – limited to 500 words each

It is helpful if these be from established experts in the nominee’s field, and best if they are from experts at institutions other than the nominee’s unless a notable expert in the nominee’s area is also from the nominee’s institution.

Curriculum Vitae – the candidate must be a member of CSW

The CV should strongly emphasize individual academic backgrounds, appointments, publications, presentations, and patents.

The Capital Chemist
List of Publications
This is critical in determining the specific scientific contribution of the nominee or team.

Proposed Citation – limited to 25 words
This is a brief statement that should be understood by chemists in almost any area. It should avoid highly specialized language but still give the reader the area of accomplishment and why this is a significant accomplishment in chemistry. In some ways it is a one or two sentence abstract of the first paragraph of the nominating letter.

We strongly recommend that the nominator collect all materials and forward in one email, preferably as PDF files(s), to csw@acs.org. Nominations will be active for three years.

If you would like to verify the eligibility of an individual as a nominee or nominator, please contact the CSW Administrator at csw@acs.org. All materials must be received by November 15, 2024. The awardee will be announced before the end of the year, and the Prize will be presented at the CSW dinner meeting in March 2025, or on a date mutually agreeable. If you have any questions about the award or the procedure for nominating someone for the award, please contact our office at csw@acs.org.

Call for Nominations for the 2024 Leo Schubert Memorial Award - Submissions Due November 15, 2024

The Chemical Society of Washington (CSW) is pleased to announce the call for nominations for the Leo Schubert Memorial Award to recognize an outstanding high school chemistry teacher in the Washington, D.C. area. The award was established in 1979 to honor Dr. Leo Schubert (1916-1978), a chemistry professor at American University who devoted much of his career to developing programs for high school teachers and students. The Schubert award consists of a $500 honorarium and a certificate, which will be presented at the next spring CSW dinner meeting.

Nominations for the award must be comprehensive in describing the nominee’s accomplishments in areas such as innovation in teaching, writing curricula, outside teaching, papers published, involvement in science fairs, and postgraduate study. The application may also include supporting letters, as well as any supporting documents that concisely illuminate the nominee’s accomplishments.

To be eligible for the CSW Schubert award, the nominee must currently teach chemistry at a secondary school in the geographic region of the Chemical Society of Washington, which includes metropolitan Washington, D.C. and the neighboring counties in Maryland (Montgomery, Prince George’s, Charles, Calvert and St. Mary’s Counties) and Virginia (Arlington, Fairfax and Loudoun Counties). The region of CSW also includes six counties on the Eastern Shore of Maryland: Caroline, Talbot, Dorchester, Wicomico, Worcester, and Somerset.

Download form: https://tinyurl.com/29sa3bau

Completed nomination forms can be sent directly to csw@acs.org. All nominations must be submitted by November 15th. Please contact CSW (csw@acs.org) if you have any questions.

Call for Nominations for the 2024 Charles L. Gordon Award - Submissions Due November 15, 2024

Named after Charles Gordon for his years of service as managing editor of the Capital Chemist, the Charles L. Gordon Memorial Award is given in recognition of exemplary service by a CSW member to the profession of chemistry, to the science of chemistry, and/or to the Chemical Society of Washington. Nominations are invited for this award, consisting of a plaque that will be presented at a spring CSW dinner meeting. A written nomination should include a description of the accomplishments on which the nomination is based. Additional documentation that includes seconding letters and the nominee’s CV are welcome.
Completed nominations for the Charles L. Gordon Award are due on or before November 15. The nomination should be submitted electronically to csw@acs.org. Please contact CSW (csw@acs.org) if you have any questions.

**Applications due June 1, 2024, for CSW Student Travel Award**

The ACS National Meeting for Fall 2024 will be held in Denver, Colorado, on August 18-22, 2024.

The Chemical Society of Washington is pleased to announce a student travel award to defray travel and/or registration costs to the Fall 2024 National ACS meeting. Eligible expenses include meeting registration, travel expenses, airfare, and lodging. Applicants should submit the following by Midnight June 1, 2024 to CSW (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.

View the abstract details on the ACS website: [https://tinyurl.com/mpd96nb5](https://tinyurl.com/mpd96nb5)

Within three weeks of returning from the ACS meeting, the awardees should submit receipts for any or all of the eligible expenses described above, after which the Treasurer of the Chemical Society of Washington will issue a check to each of the awardees.

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. Each award will be for up to $1,000 of eligible expenses based on the review of the above materials.

**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 1st for winter and spring meetings and May 1st for summer and fall meetings. More information is available on the Division website at [https://acsanalytical.org/ycctravel/](https://acsanalytical.org/ycctravel/). The application forms will be available when the application period is open.

**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 remaining board meetings for 2024 are as follows:

- Monday, May 20, 2024
- Monday, September 16, 2024
- Thursday, November 21, 2024

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 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.
The Capital Chemist

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

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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

President
Lauren Ragle

President-elect
Allison Aldridge

Immediate Past President
Alessandra Zimmermann

Secretary
Lee Nagao

Treasurer
Reyniak A. Richards

CSW Calendar of Events

- May 1: YCC Travel Award Deadline
- NMR Community Happy Hour and Trivia
- May 20: CSW Board Meeting
- May 23: CSW Dinner Meeting
- June 1: CSW Travel Award Deadline
- June 15, 11-1 – Welcome to Project SEED
- July 6, 11-1 – Project SEED Career Panel
- August 3, 11-1 – Project SEED Scientific Writing Workshop
- August 15: Deadline for CSW Election Nominations
- August 24, 11-1 – Project SEED Poster Presentations
- September 16: CSW Board Meeting
- November 15: Deadline for Hillebrand Prize Nominations
- November 15: Deadline for Gordon and Schubert Award nominations
- November 21: CSW Board Meeting