

THE CAPITAL CHEMIST

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

2025 President's Welcome

Happy New Year and best wishes for 2025. I welcome you to the Chemical Society of Washington (CSW) new year along with the Board. I encourage you to attend CSW events and I hope to meet more members at our in-person events. We will also continue to have hybrid events.

My goal this year is to get more CSW members at all career levels active in 2025. There are many opportunities for you to become active. We currently have standing committees for Program and Arrangements, Membership, Budget, Audit, Finance and Investment, Awards, Public Relations, a Committee on Bylaws and Standing Rules, Publications, Education, Nominations, Younger Chemists, Public Affairs, the Hillebrand Prize, and Long-Range Planning. We also have ad hoc committees for Outreach, Senior Chemists, Women Chemists, and Minority Affairs.

CSW offers programs for Project SEED, Chemistry Olympiad, Chemathon, National Chemistry Week, Earth Day and dinner meetings. We also have a committee to plan the host local section booth at the ACS Fall 2025 meeting in Washington DC. Many volunteers are needed to staff our booth at the convention center.

I'm a public servant for the US. I received my PhD from Loyola University Chicago after working for a government-owned, contractor-operated ordinance plant for about nine years. I've been active in local sections for many years, and it has been very rewarding. I'm also active nationally and I was recently elected to the national Committee on Committees, and I serve as an ACS career consultant. I've formed lasting relationships over the years and I'm looking forward to meeting new people.

For more information on CSW events, stay connected with CSW by visiting our website, www.capitalchemist.org, and follow us on social media through LinkedIn (www.linkedin.com/company/chemical-society-of-washington) and X (www.x.com/CapitalChemist).

I look forward to seeing you this year!



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Inside this issue:

Events

- Plan to attend the January dinner meeting
- Register for RAMP in the Research Lab
- Save the date for 2025 events!
- 2025 Board Meeting Dates

Section News

- 2025 President's Welcome
- CSW Election Results
- View photos from the 50/60/70-year luncheon
- Encourage students to participate in the Chemistry Olympiad
- CSW CMA Event a success!

Awards / Opportunities

- Volunteer as a Project SEED mentor
- Volunteers are needed for the CSW booth at the ACS Annual Meeting this fall
- Apply for the Division of Analytical Chemistry YCC Travel Award

CSW Election Results: 2025 Officers, Councilors, and Managers

Congratulations to everyone who was elected to new positions for 2025! I'm honored to be moving into an alternative counselor position, where I will continue to support the incoming Executive Committee. I am excited for the possibilities in 2025! – Lauren, 2024 President

Based on the recent election, the current slate of officers, councilors and managers is provided below – *those newly elected are marked with an **

Officers

President: Allison Aldridge
President-Elect: Nevart Tahmazian *
Immediate Past President: Lauren Ragle
Secretary: Lee Nagao
Treasurer: Andrew Tricker *

Councilors - 2025-2027

Allison Aldridge *
Stephanie Moffitt *
Jacqueline Smith *

Councilors - 2024-2026

Raychelle Burks
Alessandra Zimmermann

Councilors - 2023-2025

Xiaoyong Lu
LaKesha Perry
Nevart Tahmazian

Alternate Councilors - 2025-2027

Monika Konaklieva *
Lauren Ragle *

Alternate Councilors - 2024 - 2026

Novella Bridges
Wesley Farrell
Alexander Zestos

Alternate Councilors - 2024-2025

Joseph Duran
Ravinder Paul Lall
Sarah Ward

Manager-at-Large - 2025-2026

Adriana Bankston *
Steven Cummings *
Reyniak Richards *
Aditya Savara *
Jason Schaff *
Jennifer Swift *

Manager-at-Large - 2024-2025

Matthew Diasio
Carissa Hunter
Pritha Roy
Eva-Maria Rudler
Savanah Shumaker
Brandi Toliver

CSW would like to thank the following Board Members who are retiring from the Board at the end of 2024. Their years of service to CSW and the chemistry community are greatly appreciated, and they will be missed! Lyle Isaacs, Jason Johnston, Kehinde Joshua, and Janice Reutt-Robey.

CSW Dinner Meeting on January 23, 2025 – featuring Dr. Dorothy J. Phillips, ACS President 2025, "My Journey to Leadership in Industry and ACS" (hybrid event)

Meeting Logistics

DATE / TIME: January 23, 2025

- 6:00 p.m. Check-in / Networking
- 6:30 p.m. Dinner
- 7:00 p.m. Presentation: "My Journey to Leadership in Industry and ACS"

IN PERSON: ACS Headquarters – Marvel Hall
1155 16th Street, N.W. – Washington, DC 20036

VIA ZOOM: Registration required: <https://tinyurl.com/26bpwhpp>

COST: \$20 per person (half price for students and teachers)

Meal will be catered by W. Millar & Co. and will feature crispy beef in savory sesame glaze and lemongrass chicken served over fragrant scallion rice, freshly baked bread board, homemade cookie & bar desserts. Beverages will be provided. Vegetarian Option (*only if specifically requested*) is Thai veggie skewers over asian rice noodles (GF) (Vegan).

Biography

Dr. Dorothy J. Phillips is the American Chemical Society (ACS) President 2025. She served three terms on the ACS Board of Directors, Director-at-Large, 2014- 2022. She holds a B.A. degree from Vanderbilt University in chemistry and a Ph.D. from the University of Cincinnati in biochemistry. Dr. Phillips began her industrial career at Dow Chemical Company in 1974 and continued it at Waters Corporation from 1984-2013. She retired as Director of Strategic Marketing with extensive business travel experience.



Among her honors are the Roland H. Hirsch Award for Distinguished Service in the Advancement of Analytical Chemistry from the Division of Analytical Chemistry in 2023; The Percy L. Julian Award, from National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCChE) in 2022; the Vanderbilt University Dr. Dorothy J. Wingfield Phillips Endowed Chair in 2015 with investiture of Professor Renā Robinson in the chair in 2023; Vanderbilt University Trailblazer, Class of 2019; American Chemical Society Fellow, Class of 2010; and Distinguished Alumni, University of Cincinnati, McMickens College of Arts and Sciences, 1995 and Center for Women Studies, 1993.

Dr. Phillips is a co-editor and a co-author of a chapter in *Responsible Conduct in Chemistry Research and Practice: Global Perspectives* (2018), an ACS symposium series book. Dr. Phillips is featured in *African American Women Chemists in the Modern Era* by Jeannette E. Brown (2018). She is the co-author of an editorial for the special virtual issue of *Langmuir* honoring the work of Dr. Bettye Washington Greene, (<https://go.acs.org/7lh>). In addition, she is the author of a chapter in the virtual ACS Symposium Series book 1367, *Building Your Best Chemistry Career* (2020).

Abstract

Dr. Dorothy Phillips will speak about the paths that she took on her professional and personal journeys, always moving forward, although not always sure of the outcome. She will discuss her path as an industrial chemist that took her from R&D to Applied Technology and then to a position in Marketing. She climbed the ladder from research scientist to Director, Strategic Marketing during a 29-year career at Waters Corporation. Her career was filled with unexpected achievements and recognitions that she will highlight. She will also talk about the American Chemical Society and her service in ACS over the last 35 years. Dr. Phillips will cover her leadership roles in the Northeastern local section, the Division of Analytical Chemistry, and as a Councilor. After serving three terms on the ACS Board of Directors she was elected to the presidential succession 2024-26. She will close with a discussion of her plans during her presidential year.

ACS Division of Chemical Health and Safety Workshop “RAMP in the Research Lab” – Registration Deadline January 31, 2025

This is a great workshop for graduate students who have recently joined a lab, new undergraduates or postdoctoral scholars, or anyone who would like to increase the priority of safety in their lab space and daily work.

This 3.5-hour workshop is for frontline researchers in academic institutions: graduate students, postdoctoral scholars, and undergraduate students. It will introduce the principles of the RAMP

paradigm (recognize hazards, assess risk, minimize risk, and prepare for emergencies), through a series of case studies and discussion sessions focused on practicing each of the RAMP steps. By the end, attendees will have learned and practiced how to systematically do a risk assessment of both existing protocols as well as for past incidents.

The workshop is \$25 per attendee, and participants will receive a certificate of participation to add to their resume or portfolio upon completion of the workshop.

Register by Friday, January 31, 2025: <https://tinyurl.com/369vk8ht>

ACS CHAS Peer-Led Workshop:

RAMP in the Research Lab

Sunday, February 9 from 2-5:30 pm EST

Registration fee is \$25 per participant.

Presented by

Olajumoke Mary Ayeni from the University of North Texas and
Omowunmi Aworinde from Michigan Technological University



Learn the principles of the RAMP paradigm through a series of case studies and discussion sessions focused on practicing each of the RAMP steps.

This **3.5-hour workshop, led by grad student researchers with significant lab safety experience** is for frontline researchers in academic institutions: **graduate, postdoctoral, and undergraduate students**. Faculty and safety staff are also welcome to participate.

Local Chemistry Olympiad Competition for 2025 – Deadline January 17th

The 2025 US National Chemistry Olympiad is right around the corner! Every year, high school students from around the country participate in this exciting challenge. From the local exam, we can submit up to 17 students to participate in the national exam. From there, the top 20 students participate in an intensive study camp. The best 4 students will represent the USA on the international stage at the International Chemistry Olympiad.

The local exam is 60 multiple-choice questions which must be answered within 110 minutes. The national exam is three parts: (I) problem solving of 60 multiple-choice questions, (II) problem solving of 8 written questions, and (III) two laboratory practicals.

Student registration is due by January 17th, and registration information can be found at <https://www.acs.org/education/olympiad/participate.html>. We will be holding the local exam virtually during March, with more details to come. You will be contacted to confirm participation in the exam. Please contact Lauren Ragle (lragle@gwu.edu) with any questions.

Project SEED Recruitment – Mentors and Students

We will be seeking applications for Project SEED, which is a program to encourage underprivileged high school students by providing them with a paid summer research experience. Across this experience, CSW will host sessions about chemistry careers and how to present research. Students in the DC metro area will complete the program in August with a poster presentation at the ACS National Headquarters in Washington, DC. You can learn more about Project SEED at www.acs.org/education/students/highschool/seed.html.

Student applications open in mid-February, so watch for an announcement email from CSW. The summer program is 8-10 weeks of full-time work in a local research laboratory. Students are provided a \$4000 stipend. CSW also supports students who use public transit with our Travel Green Program.

Meanwhile, we are actively seeking mentors with project proposals for the 2025 Project SEED program. The application deadline is February 3, 2025. These mentored projects should be able to be completed by competent high school students in 8-10 weeks. For more information, or if you are interested, feel free to contact Lauren Ragle (lragle@gwu.edu).

Seeking Volunteers for the Local Section Booth at the 2025 ACS Fall Meeting

As you may be aware, the fall ACS meeting will be held in DC this year. As such, CSW is the local section host! We will have our own booth to welcome people to our neck of the woods. Therefore, we are seeking energetic volunteers to staff our booth. More details will come, of course, but we are going to be staffing the booth with 2 volunteers each day. Each volunteer will get a handcrafted thank you gift from our 2024 President, Lauren Ragle. If you are interested in helping, please email csw@acs.org.

**SEEKING
VOLUNTEERS**

Congratulations again to Our Long-Serving ACS Members celebrating 50, 60 and 70 Years in 2024

It was an honor and a pleasure to share a lunch and great conversation with our members celebrating 50-, 60-, and 70-year milestones as ACS members. We swapped stories while passing plates of delicious food at Maggiano's. Thank you to everyone who was able to come out to the luncheon. – Lauren Ragle, 2024 President

Below are pictures from the event.





CSW CMA Event on Exploring Postdoctoral Programs a success!

The *Exploring Postdoctoral Programs: Unlocking Career Opportunities* Panel on December 3, 2024 was an incredible success! We had an outstanding virtual turnout, with participants actively engaging through thought-provoking questions and lively chat discussions. The panelists delivered invaluable insights on navigating postdoctoral opportunities whether in industry, government, or academia, creating an interactive and enriching experience. The energy and enthusiasm were palpable, making it a fun and dynamic session. This event not only provided practical advice, but also fostered connections and left attendees inspired to confidently pursue their career goals. Thank you to everyone who joined and made it so impactful!

Save the date! Upcoming events for 2025

Please make note of these upcoming events for 2025:

- February 20, 2025, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.: CSW Dinner Meeting
- March 21-23, 2025: Fairfax County Science Fair
Location: TBA
They will be seeking volunteers in early 2025.
Read more at <https://www.fcps.edu/sciencefair>
- April 4-5, 2025: Montgomery County Science Fair
White Oak FDA Campus
They will be seeking volunteers in early 2025.
Read more at <https://md-usmd03.zfairs.com/App?f=7dc7fbdf-9958-4657-b576-24cfa814e06c>

2025 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 2025 are as follows:

- January 27th
- March 17th – virtual only
- May 19th
- September 15th
- November 20th – virtual only

Our meetings are always from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. and are typically 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.

ACS Division of Analytical Chemistry YCC Travel Award

The ACS Division of Analytical Chemistry is offering travel awards for Younger Chemists (under age 40) 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/>. The application forms will be available when the application period is open.

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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.

2025 Officers

President

Allison Aldridge

President-elect

Nevart Tahmazian

Immediate Past President

Lauren Ragle

Secretary

Lee Nagao

Treasurer

Andrew Tricker

CSW Calendar of Events

- January 17: Deadline to register for the Chemistry Olympiad
- January 23: CSW Dinner Meeting
- January 27: CSW Board Meeting
- January 31: RAMP in the Research Lab Registration Deadline
- February 3: Project SEED mentorship deadline
- February 20: CSW Dinner Meeting
- March 17: CSW Board Meeting
- March 21 – 23: Fairfax County Science Fair
- April 4 – 5: Montgomery County Science Fair
- May 1: Deadline to Apply for Division of Analytical Chemistry YCC Travel Award
- May 19: CSW Board Meeting
- September 15: CSW Board Meeting
- November 20: CSW Board Meeting