

THE CAPITAL CHEMIST

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

CSW Dinner Meeting - March 26, 2026 - featuring Hillebrand Prize Recipient and College Chemistry Achievement Awards

Meeting Logistics

Date: Thursday, March 26, 2026

Time: 6:00 p.m. Check-in / Social Hour
6:30 p.m. Dinner

7:00 p.m. Presentation of Awards, followed by Presentation by Dr. Remaley, Hillebrand Prize Winner

Location: ACS Headquarters - Marvel Hall
1155 16th Street, N.W., Washington, DC

Menu: Meal will be catered by W. Millar & Co. and will feature chicken and salmon tikka masala served over basmati rice with peas and carrots (GF), chole (garbanzo beans and spinach simmered with curry, tomato, onion, and ginger (Ve, GF), Naan bread with red pepper hummus and mango chutney (Ve), mixed greens with cucumber, mint, dried cranberries, and roasted cauliflower paired with coriander-cumin vinaigrette (Ve, GF), coconut-mango cupcakes (V).

Vegetarian Option (available by request only): Cumin cauliflower steaks (Ve)

Cost: \$26.00 per person (half price for students and high school teachers)

An RSVP is required for dinner so we can plan appropriate seating and meals.

Register for the virtual option via Zoom: <https://tinyurl.com/3sd67huj>

RSVP by noon (ET) Tuesday, March 24, 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.

Metro: Blue/Orange/Silver Line: McPherson Square or Farragut West. Red Line: Farragut North

Volume 76, Number 3 March 2026

Inside this issue:

Events

- Register for the March dinner meeting, and save the date for April
- Register for the upcoming ACS Virtual Workshop on safety
- Plan to join an upcoming CMA meeting

Section News

- Pilates and Prosecco was a success

Awards / Opportunities

- Help plan MARM 2028
- Nominate a CSW member for the Hillebrand Prize, Gordon Award, or Schubert Award
- Apply for the CSW Student Travel Award
- Apply for the Teacher Travel Grant
- Apply for the Division of Analytical Chemistry YCC Travel Award

Speaker Bio

Dr. Alan Remaley, MD, PhD

Senior Investigator

The Lipoprotein Metabolism Laboratory,
Translational Vascular Medicine Branch
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), NIH



Dr. Alan Remaley, MD, PhD, received his medical degree and PhD from the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. He completed his residency at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. Then, he moved to the NIH to complete his postdoctoral training at NHLBI under the guidance of Dr. Bryan Brewer. Dr. Remaley has won over 50 awards for his research, has published over 500 papers on lipoprotein metabolism and cardiovascular disease, contributed to 27 book chapters, and is the inventor of 20 patents. His research paved the groundwork for the invention of new therapeutic agents and diagnostic tests for cardiovascular disease. Notably, he has made significant contributions to high-density lipoprotein metabolism related to the mechanism of the ABCA1 transporter. His therapeutic inventions of an apoA-I mimetic peptide and recombinant Lecithin: Cholesterol acyl transferase have been tested in early-stage clinical trials. More recently, Dr. Remaley has expanded his research into new diagnostics and therapeutic approaches for low-density lipoproteins and the structure of apB100, the main protein constituent of low-density proteins.

Since 1995, Dr. Remaley has mentored 13 postdoctoral fellows, three graduate students, 12 postbacs, and 19 clinical chemistry fellows. All these individuals have gone on to have great careers as scientists, professors, and doctors worldwide. He is currently mentoring one postdoctoral fellow, one postbac, and two clinical chemistry fellows. Dr. Remaley's legacy at NHLBI has been profound. He was also the 2025 NHLBI Research Retreat Keynote speaker.

Abstract

Dr. Alan Remaley, a senior investigator at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute in Bethesda MD, will discuss his research on cardiovascular disease, as well as the history of the field. He will begin his lecture describing the major historic breakthroughs in chemistry and biological sciences that uncovered the pathophysiologic link between cholesterol metabolism and cardiovascular disease. He will then describe his research related on both the measurement and the structure of Low-density lipoproteins-the major causal factor in the development of atherosclerosis. He will conclude his lecture on future directions of cardiovascular research.

2025 College Chemistry Achievement Awards

The College Chemistry Achievement Awards are presented to outstanding seniors from each of the area's four-year colleges and universities majoring in chemistry and biochemistry, who have demonstrated excellence in chemistry based on a combination of (in order of importance) research experience, coursework, and a desire to pursue chemistry-associated careers.

View the list of awardees: <https://tinyurl.com/2esxs2pt>

Save the Date!

The next CSW Dinner Meeting will be held on April 30, 2026, and will feature Dr. John Warner, who will speak about sustainability and green chemistry.

ACS Virtual Workshop "Empowering Academic Researchers to Strengthen Safety Culture"



Peer-Led
Workshops



ACS Committee
on Chemical Safety

ACS Chemical
Safety Programs

Empowering Academic Researchers to Strengthen Safety Culture
Sunday, March 29, 2026, 2:30 - 5:30 PM ET

Led by:

Ranjana Burman, University of Connecticut
Eugene Oga, University of North Dakota



Register by March 26, 2026

Target Audience:

This workshop is geared toward frontline researchers (**graduate students, postdoctoral scholars, and undergraduate students**) at academic institutions.

Registration is \$25 per participant.

Workshop Goals:

- **Educate** participants about the importance of RAMP risk assessment
- **Guide** participants towards gaining awareness of safety culture messages from leadership at institutions
- **Empower** participants to expand safety networks and develop laboratory safety teams

Find more information at <https://dchas.org/>

Presented by ACS Division of Chemical Health and Safety, this interactive workshop offers frontline researchers in academic institutions the opportunity to learn more about safety culture and develop the skills necessary to become leaders in safety.

The target audience consists of graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, and undergraduates in STEM departments. Also welcome are faculty and safety professionals interested in supporting the development of Laboratory Safety Teams (LSTs) and strengthening their institution's safety culture. If your department has already established an LST, this workshop can also help it grow and mature, as well as build connections among students across universities who are working hard to strengthen their safety culture. If your institution doesn't have an LST, ACS can help you build a team.

Registration Details

The registration fee for this virtual workshop is only \$25 per attendee. Secure your spot by registering before Saturday, March 15, 2026. For more information and to register, please visit the official workshop page <https://Spring2026Workshop.eventbrite.com>

Upon completion, attendees will receive a certificate of participation, a valuable addition to your resume or portfolio.

Learn More:

For those interested in learning more about Laboratory Safety Teams (LST), check out the ACS LST <https://dchas.org/2023/08/22/history-of-the-chas-lst-workshop-2/>

Thank you for your support in creating safer and more productive academic research environments.

Pilates & Prosecco Event a Success

Collaboration, community, and a little core strength!

The joint Chemical Society of Washington and Northeast NOBCChE Prosecco and Pilates event was a reminder that building strong scientific networks also means creating space for wellness, connection, and joy. We were grateful to partner with organizations that value both professional growth and personal well-being.

A huge thanks to Brandi Williams for being a fantastic NOBCChE National Student Representative and Pilates instructor! Thank you to our NOBCChE National President Dr. Tyrslai Williams, Ph.D. for showing up for our region and organization. Also, a huge thanks to CSW President Prof. Nevart Tahmazian!

Lastly, thank you to CSW Committee on Minority Affairs co-chairs Carissa Hunter and Dr. Nia Pollard and NOBCChE NE Region Chair Dr. Brea Manuel for putting on such a successful event.

Volunteer Opportunity: Help Plan MARM 2028

The Chemical Society of Washington has been selected as the host of the 2028 Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting (MARM) of the ACS. An organizing committee has been established, and preparations are already underway. The meeting will be held right in the heart of Washington, DC, at historic Howard University June 8 – 10, 2028. Howard was selected for its prime location, favorable accommodations, and historic nature as one of the first HBCUs established in the United States after the Civil War by General Oliver Otis Howard. While we plan to include many of the symposia you are used to from other regional and national ACS meetings, we will also work to include symposia geared towards government labs and policy making given our unique location. We hope you can make this meeting to share and hear about great chemistry happening in the Mid-Atlantic area, but even more so we hope you can assist in our preparations!

So far, the organizing committee is composed of the following volunteers: Prof. Wes Farrell of the US Naval Academy is the General Chair, Prof. Lauren Ragle of George Washington University and Prof. Jacqueline Smith of Howard University are the Co-Program Chairs, Dr. Alessandra Zimmerman of the American Association for the Advancement of Sciences is the Communications Chair, former CSW President Dr. Jason Schaff is the Treasurer, Prof. Alex Zestos of American University is the Outreach and Volunteering Chair, and our outgoing CSW President Dr. Allison Aldridge is the Fundraising Chair. Additionally, Prof. Steven Cummings of Howard University is hard at work serving as a liaison between the committee and Howard University officials.

The local organizing committee is currently seeking to fill additional roles which require different levels of commitment. Furthermore, we hope to have volunteers to organize and preside over symposia, and make suggestions for plenary speakers. We encourage you to share your thoughts or volunteer using our Google survey: <https://tinyurl.com/yjtcvaxr>

Teacher Travel Grant Available for 29th Biennial Conference on Chemical Education – Deadline Extended to March 16th

The 29th Biennial Conference on Chemical Education (BCCE), will be held at the University of Wisconsin – Madison from July 26-30, 2026. DMV-area high school

teachers are strongly encouraged to apply for the CSW BCCE Teacher Travel grant by March 16, 2026. Applicants will be notified of the status of their application by mid-April. Additional details can be found in the application form.



The conference, like all its predecessors, provides the chemistry education community with opportunities to interact and engage. The conference will be a mixture of symposia, workshops, poster sessions, exhibits, and spaces for both formal and informal conversations. Learn more about the conference on their website at <https://conferences.union.wisc.edu/bcce2026/>.

Application form: <https://tinyurl.com/3mh9m5ua>

Applications are now being accepted: CSW Student Travel Award - ACS Fall 2026 Meeting

The ACS National Meeting for Fall 2026 will be held in Chicago, Illinois, on August 23-27, 2026. This will be a hybrid event.

The Chemical Society of Washington is pleased to announce a student travel award to defray travel and/or registration costs to the ACS Fall 2026 meeting. Eligible expenses include meeting registration, travel expenses, airfare and lodging. Applicants should submit the following by midnight on June 1, 2026 to csw@acs.org:

- A cover letter stating how and why attending this ACS meeting will promote their 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 their professional development;
- An accepted abstract with proof of acceptance.

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 or 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.

After returning from the conference, awardees will be asked to draft a short (1-page) summary of their experiences for posting to the *Capital Chemist* website and to present their posters, if applicable, at one of the upcoming CSW dinner meetings.

Accepting Nominations for the 2026 Hillebrand Prize: Recognizing original contributions to the science of chemistry by a member or members of the Chemical Society of Washington (CSW)



William Francis Hillebrand
December 12, 1853 – February 7, 1925

American Chemist
ACS President 1906

Nominations are being accepted for the 2026 Hillebrand Prize Award.

Nominations are invited for the 2026 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.

View the list of past 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 broadly on the chemical accomplishments of the nominee, rather than their bio, 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.

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. Since this is only 25 words, you may simply want to provide 1 or 2 examples of previous awardees.

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. The Prize will be presented at a CSW dinner meeting in Spring 2027, 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.

Accepting Nominations for the 2026 Charles L. Gordon Award: Recognizing Excellence in Service

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 fall 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.

The nomination should be submitted electronically to csw@acs.org. Please contact CSW (csw@acs.org), if you have any questions.

Accepting Nominations for the 2026 Leo Schubert Award: Recognizing Excellence in Chemistry Teachers

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 a fall 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.

The CSW Schubert Award nomination form is available via our website: <https://tinyurl.com/29k2vvh4>

Alternatively, a pdf version of the nomination form can be obtained by an email request to csw@acs.org. Completed nomination forms can be sent directly to csw@acs.org. Please contact csw@acs.org if you have any questions.

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/award/younger-chemists-conference-travel-grants/>. The application forms will be available when the application period is open.

Committee on Minority Affairs Meeting Schedule

The Committee on Minority Affairs (CMA) had a great start with our first meeting in February! We're excited to announce that we'll now be hosting monthly meetings via Zoom and would love for you to join us.

Upcoming Dates

- March 5, 2026
- April 1, 2026
- May 7, 2026
- June 4, 2026
- July 2, 2026
- August 6, 2026
- September 3, 2026
- October 1, 2026
- November 5, 2026
- December 3, 2026

Meeting Details

Topic: CSW CMA Committee Meeting
Time: 6:00 PM

Join via Zoom

Meeting ID: 958 2100 7951
Passcode: cswcma

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.

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CSW Calendar of Events

- March 5: CMA Meeting
- March 16: Teacher Travel Grant deadline
- March 26: CSW Dinner Meeting
- March 29: "Empowering Academic Researchers to Strengthen Safety Culture" Virtual Event
- April 1: CMA Meeting
- April 30: CSW Dinner Meeting
- May 7: CMA Meeting
- June 1: CSW Student Travel Award deadline
- June 4: CMA Meeting
- July 2: CMA Meeting

The following CSW members contributed content to this month's newsletter: Wesley Farrell, Carissa Hunter, Monika Konaklieva, and Nevart Tahmazian.