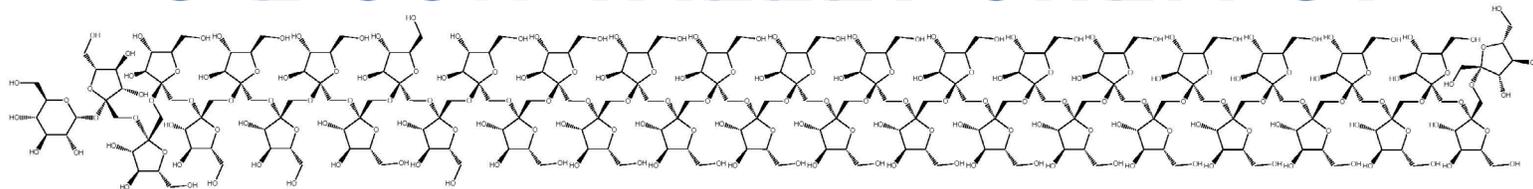


# SILICON VALLEY CHEMIST



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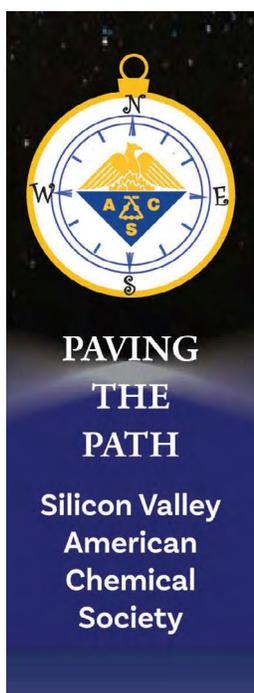
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## Paving the Path: Virtual Career Panel & Pizza-fueled Watch Parties

March 16, 2026 4:30-6:30 PM



Calling all community college and transfer students interested in chemistry-related fields!

Silicon Valley American Chemical Society (SVACS) invites you to interact with a career panel of 4 chemistry professionals, all of whom began their educational journeys at community colleges. They will highlight their unique professional journeys and tell us their stories of resilience and determination. This year's panelists are

MAGI YASSA, Materials Chemist, National Lab  
RICKI MENARD, Chemical Technician, Industry  
DAVID SANTIAGO, Graduate Student, Academia  
LISA OLSHANSKY, Associate Professor, Academia

This virtual career panel can be accessed by Zoom on your own or at an in-person watch party at:

- Cabrillo College
- California State University – Monterey Bay
- DeAnza College
- Evergreen Valley College
- Foothill College
- Gavilan College
- Hartnell College
- West Valley College

The in-person watch parties will also include refreshments (read: pizza), networking, and ACS swag. **Register** by March 15 with your choice of watch party location so we order enough food. All registrants will be contacted by email with the Zoom link and the location of the watch party on their choice of campus (if applicable). See the flier on page 3. **Download and share the flyer.**

Can't make it to the watch party? **Register** & get the link to join us on your own by Zoom. Looking forward to an animated evening of inspirational stories and pizza-fueled conversation!

## Volunteer Judges Needed for Local Science Fairs in 2026

To join our Silicon Valley ACS special award team of judges at the Synopsys Championship on March 10, 2026 in San Jose, please **contact us**. We welcome participants from all chemistry-related fields.

As an ACS volunteer judge, you will be able to see the incredible level of focus, energy, sophistication, intelligence, commitment, and diversity in students who participate in science fairs. These are our science stars of tomorrow, and they need to be encouraged. It takes just one day of your time to judge at a local science fair – and all but one (San Mateo STEM Fair) are in person. Our local science fairs need

*continued on next page*

*Judges Needed for Local Science Fairs, continued from front page*

category awards judges, especially in the areas of biology, chemistry, microbiology, and all areas of informatics. Science fairs put a human face on chemistry – make it yours by volunteering! Graduate students and Post-docs are welcomed, too.

All of our local science fairs are qualifiers for the **California State Science & Engineering Fair** and either the **Thermo Fisher Scientific Junior Innovators Challenge** (previously Broadcom MASTERS) (middle schoolers) or the **Regeneron ISEF** (International Science and Engineering Fair) (high schoolers) which will be held this year in Phoenix, Arizona. No matter which local fair(s) you choose, please volunteer now!

- **Synopsys Championship, Santa Clara County**, March 10, 2026, San Jose Convention Center
- **San Mateo County Office of Education STEM Fair**, March 14, 2026, virtual format
- **Santa Cruz County STEAM Expo**, March 28, 2026, Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds
- **Golden Gate STEM Fair**, March 8, 2026 for High School and March 22, 2026 for Middle School, Randall Museum, San Francisco
- **Alameda County Science and Engineering Fair**, March 14, 2026, Chabot College, Hayward Campus

## Local Science Fairs in Bay Area



# ACS Spring Meeting 2026: Collaborate, Innovate, Transform

Atlanta, Georgia & Virtual, March 22-26, 2026  
<https://www.acs.org/events/spring.html>



<a href="#">Registration &amp; Pricing</a>   <a href="#">Meeting Badge Pickup</a>	<a href="#">Virtual Platform</a>   <a href="#">Systems Compatibility Checker</a>
<a href="#">Ways to Attend</a>   <a href="#">Travel</a>   <a href="#">Hotels</a>   <a href="#">Hotel Shuttle Map</a>   <a href="#">Getting Around Town</a>   <a href="#">Discover Atlanta</a>	<a href="#">Schedule Overview</a>   <a href="#">Keynote Events</a>   <a href="#">Presidential Events</a>
<a href="#">Attendee Resources</a>   <a href="#">1st Time Attendees</a>   <a href="#">Convention Center – Interactive Floorplan</a>	<a href="#">Sessions by Divisions/Committees</a>   <a href="#">Sessions by Themes</a>   <a href="#">Digital Only Sessions</a>
<a href="#">Exposition</a>   <a href="#">Floor Plan</a>   <a href="#">Exhibitor Directory</a>	<a href="#">Full Program</a>   <a href="#">Program for Print/Download</a>
<a href="#">Frequently Asked Questions</a>   <a href="#">Policies</a>	<a href="#">Presenter Tips</a>   <a href="#">Presenter FAQs</a>   <a href="#">SciMeetings</a>
<a href="#">Registration Statistics</a>   <a href="#">Meeting Demographics</a>	<a href="#">Presider FAQs</a>   <a href="#">Poster Presenter FAQs</a>
<a href="#">ChemLuminary Awards</a>   <a href="#">Governance Activities</a>	<a href="#">Career Events</a>   <a href="#">Social Events &amp; Networking</a>

The **ACS Spring 2026 Virtual Platform** is officially available. To access the full virtual platform, you must be signed in with your ACS ID. ACS President Rigoberto Hernandez offers a few tips on how you can take advantage of all the content available to you on the platform.



[Watch this Video](#)



**PAVING  
THE  
PATH**

Silicon Valley  
American  
Chemical  
Society

**WATCH PARTY  
LOCATIONS**

**Cabrillo College**

**DeAnza College**

**Evergreen College**

**Foothill College**

**Gavilan College**

**Hartnell College**

**CSU  
Monterey Bay**

**West Valley  
College**

**PIZZA-FUELED CAREER PANEL WATCH PARTY!**

Calling all community college and transfer students  
interested in chemistry-related fields

A panel of 4 professionals representing a diversity of work  
settings who started their higher education journeys at  
community colleges will be Zoomed to on-campus watch parties



**MAGI YASSA**, Materials Chemist, National Lab  
**RICKI MENARD**, Chemical Technician, Industry  
**DAVID SANTIAGO**, Graduate Student  
**LISA OLSHANSKY**, Associate Professor

**Monday, 16 March 2026 4:30 - 6:30 pm PDT**

**Registration required for this free event**

**CAN'T MAKE IT TO THE WATCH PARTY?**

**Register and get the link to join us on your own by Zoom**

For more information and to register, click here  
or scan QR code



Paving the Path is a SVACS program that supports  
community college students who are majoring in chemistry-related  
fields and planning to transfer to 4-year colleges.

*Download and share the flyer*

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<https://www.siliconvalleyacs.org/events/>

All Times Given are Pacific Time Zone

## - March 2026 -

- Mar 4** **How to Build Smarter Polymer Nanocomposites**  
Co-sponsored by ACS Webinars and ACS Division of Polymer Chemistry  
11:00 am-12:30 pm, Online, Free, [Available on-demand](#)
- Mar 5** **Careers & Internships at U.S. National Laboratories (ACS Virtual Office Hours)**  
Sponsored by ACS Careers  
9:00-10:30 am, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)
- Mar 5** **Navigating Career Disruption: Reframe, Adapt, and Reengineer**  
Sponsored by ACS Webinars and ACS Women Chemists Committee  
11:00 am – Noon, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)
- Mar 6** **Codemaker: CRISPR's Origins and Applications (The 52nd Annual Linus Pauling Lectureship)**  
Jennifer Doudna, Ph.D.  
Sponsored by Stanford Department of Structural Biology  
4:00-5:00 pm, Stanford University, Sapp Center Auditorium (STLC 111)  
[Learn more](#)
- Mar 8** **Risk Management in the Research Lab - ACS CHAS Workshop**  
Sponsored by ACS Division of Chemical Health & Safety  
12 pm to 3:30 pm, Online, \$25/participant, [Registration required](#)
- Mar 9** **Silicon Valley ACS Executive Committee Meeting**  
Sponsored by the Silicon Valley ACS local section  
7:00-8:30 pm, Hybrid & in-person, Free, Guests welcome:  
[contact Chair](#) to attend
- Mar 11** **Teaching Forensic Chemistry from a Mastery Perspective (AACT Webinar)**  
Sponsored by American Association of Chemistry Teachers  
4:00-5:00 pm, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)
- Mar 16** **Paving the Path: Virtual Career Panel & Watch Parties for Community College & Transfer Students in Chemistry-Related Fields**  
Sponsored by Silicon Valley ACS  
4:30-6:30 pm, Hybrid, Free, [Registration required](#) | [Download flyer](#)
- Mar 18** **Careers in Industrial Chemistry - Identifying Your Role in the Value Chain (ACS Careers Pathway Virtual Workshop)**  
Sponsored by ACS Careers  
9:00-10:30 am, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)
- Mar 18** **Using Spreadsheets to Explore and Make Sense of Data (AACT Webinar)**  
Sponsored by American Association of Chemistry Teachers  
4:00-5:00 pm, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)
- Mar 19** **Turning Waste into Warning: Early Disease Detection through Rapid GC-FID Analysis of SCFAs**  
Sponsored by ACS Webinars and ACS Office of Career and Professional Education  
11:00 am-12:15 pm, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)
- Mar 19** **ECO-BIOMAXX: Biobased, Biodegradable Polyurethane Platform**  
Rao S. Bezwada, PhD, Founder & CEO, Bezwada Biomedical LLC  
Sponsored by Golden Gate Polymer Forum  
5:30-6:30 pm, Online, \$0/\$5 donation, [Registration required by March 18 at 1:00 pm](#)
- Mar 22-26** **ACS Spring 2026 National Meeting – Collaborate, Innovate, Transform**  
Atlanta, GA & Digital, [Learn more and register](#)
- Mar 26** **Reinventing the Way We Break Down Plastic Waste (SLAC Public Lecture)**  
Sponsored by SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory  
7:00-8:00 pm, Hybrid, Free, [View online or register to attend in person](#)
- Mar 29** **Empowering Academic Researchers to Strengthen Safety Culture (ACS CHAS Workshop)**  
Sponsored by ACS Division of Chemical Health & Safety  
11:30 pm to 2:30 pm, Online, \$25/participant, [Registration required](#)

## - April 2026 -

- Apr 6** **Silicon Valley ACS Executive Committee Meeting**  
Sponsored by the Silicon Valley ACS local section  
7:00-8:30 pm, Hybrid & in-person, Free, Guests welcome:  
[contact Chair](#) to attend
- Apr 22** **Hierarchical Materials Through 3D Printing & Molecular Design**  
Prof. Emily Davidson, Princeton University  
Sponsored by Golden Gate Polymer Forum  
5:30-6:30PM; [Registration required](#) for Zoom link.

## ACS Celebrates 150 Years

Did you know ACS turns 150 in 2026? These videos are part of a yearlong series shaped by the American Chemical Society's (ACS) enduring core values — passion for science, inclusion and belonging, lifelong learning, and sustainability — celebrating the ACS' 150th anniversary featuring ACS members from around the world. Learn more at <https://www.acs.org/150>

### Chemistry is Everything: 150 Years of the American Chemical Society



[Watch video on YouTube](#)

"ACS is a nonprofit organization established by a congressional charter in 1876. Since then, ACS has supported and connected scientists from around the world and fostered innovation in chemistry. Together, we will envision the future and celebrate 150 years of chemistry all year long."

### Why integrity matters in science



[Watch Video on YouTube](#)

"Mireille Kamariza, Ph.D., witnessed the impact of tuberculosis and health inequities up close growing up in Burundi. Now as an Assistant Professor of Bioengineering at UCLA creating diagnostics for infectious diseases, she knows exactly how essential it is to conduct research, communicate science, and distribute technology with integrity."

## ACS150 Celebrations and Special Events at the ACS Spring 2026 Meeting

- **ACS150 Keynote Speaker Announced:** Dr. Omar Yaghi, the 2025 Chemistry Nobel Prize Awardee, highlights Organic Chemistry and AI for Our Planet, shares the experiences that led to his Nobel Prize, and discusses the impact ACS has had on his career. All Keynote Events are available to view on the virtual platform for digital meeting attendees.



- **Special Events:**
  - ACS Exposition 150th Anniversary Activities and Giveaways
  - ACS150 Networking Celebration at the ACS Connect Happy Hour
  - Special Opening Session Honoring ACS 150th Anniversary
  - Daily ACS150 Programming in the ACS Expo Theatres
  - ACS150 International Welcome Reception

- **ACS 150 Anniversary Community Service Project:** ACS is partnering with the West Atlanta Watershed Alliance for the first-ever ACS Spring Community Service Project. This experience, part of ACS sesquicentennial celebrations, honors scientists' long-standing commitment to advancing environmental preservation. [Watch the video](#) to learn more about how this immersive experience will bring together chemists, engineers, students, and local leaders to explore how chemistry can heal communities and ecosystems in West Atlanta.



- **ACS150 Mole Squad Member Pins – Collect All Three!** To mark the ACS 150th anniversary, a limited-edition series of three exclusive member pins features iconic mole characters like you've never seen them before. Plan to visit the [Member Lounge](#) in Atlanta to add these limited-edition pins to your collection.



## ACS Fellows Nominations Open February 23 to April 23, 2026



"The American Chemical Society (ACS) Fellows Program was created by the ACS Board of Directors in December 2008 to recognize members of the ACS for outstanding achievements in and contributions to science, the profession, and the Society. Read more about the program purpose [here](#).

The ACS Fellows Program is moving to a new online nomination platform that will provide an enhanced user experience and increase long-term system stability. Due to this transition, the nomination window for the 2026 Class of ACS Fellows will be open from February 23 to April 23, 2026. Until the new platform launches, we encourage you to utilize the [online nomination template](#) to prepare your materials for submission. If you have any questions, please reach out to [fellows@acs.org](mailto:fellows@acs.org).

The 2026 Class of ACS Fellows will be announced in C&EN in July 2026 and celebrated at ACS Fall 2026 in August 2026 in Chicago." [Learn more and watch the 'How to Webinar for Nominators' Video](#) | [View slides](#)

# Apply for a 2026 CSA Trust Grant

**Deadline: April 17, 2026**



The Chemical Structure Association (CSA) Trust is an internationally recognized organization that promotes the critical importance of chemical information to advances in chemical research. In support of its charter, the Trust has created a Grant Program and is now inviting the submission of grant applications for 2026.

## Purpose of the Grants

The Grant Program was created to fund the career development of young researchers who demonstrate excellence in their education, research or development activities that are related to the systems and methods used to store, process and retrieve information about chemical structures, reactions and compounds. One or more Grants is awarded annually up to a total combined maximum of ten thousand U.S. dollars (\$10,000). Grantees have the option of payments being made in U.S. dollars or in British Pounds equivalent to the U.S. dollar amount. Grants are awarded for specific purposes, and within one year each grantee is required to submit a brief written report detailing how the grant funds were allocated. Grantees are requested to recognize the support of the Trust in any paper or presentation that is given because of that support.

## Who is Eligible?

Applicant(s) in the early stages of their career who have demonstrated excellence in their chemical information related research and who are developing careers that have the potential of a positive impact on the utility of chemical information relevant to chemical structures, reactions, and compounds, are invited to submit applications. Applicants must be within five years of obtaining their PhD. Note that proposals from those who have not received a Grant in the past will be given preference. While the primary focus of the Grant Program is the career development of young researchers, additional bursaries may be made available at the discretion of the Trust. All requests must follow the application procedures noted below and will be weighed against the same criteria.

## Which Activities are Eligible?

Grants may be awarded to acquire the experience and education necessary to support research activities, e.g., for travel to collaborate with research groups, to attend a conference relevant to one's area of research (including the

presentation of an already-accepted research paper), to gain access to special computational facilities, or to acquire unique research techniques in support of one's research. Grants will not be given for activities completed prior to the grant award date. Funding for 2026 will not be extended

beyond December 31, 2026.

## Deadline for Applications

The deadline for the 2026 Grant applications is April 17, 2026. Successful applicants will be notified no later than May 30, 2026.

[Learn more and apply](#)



## ACS Fall 2026 Meeting in Chicago Abstract Submissions are Open

**Deadline: March 30, 2026**

“The *ACS Fall 2026 Meeting* will be held in Chicago, IL, and digitally from August 23 – 27, 2026. ACS is now accepting abstracts for #ACSFall2026. [View symposia topics and submit an abstract](#). Registration and housing open in May 2026.

This is a chance to share your research with the chemistry community. It brings together chemistry professionals, educators, and students worldwide to discover and share research, network, and advance careers. These meetings are an excellent opportunity for professionals and students to showcase their work and connect with colleagues in all areas of chemistry.”

## The Question No One Taught Scientists to Answer



[Watch video on YouTube](#)

“After a devastating personal loss, industrial chemist John Warner began asking questions his education had never addressed: How do we understand whether something might be carcinogenic? How do we know what harm a new molecule might cause?”

This video explores how green chemistry emerged from those unanswered questions — and why it remains essential to building safer technologies.”

# ACS Chemical Health & Safety Division Workshops in March



Peer-Led  
Workshops



ACS Committee  
on Chemical Safety

ACS Chemical  
Safety Programs

## Risk Management in the Research Lab: RAMP Workshop Sunday, March 8, 2026, 3:00 - 6:30 PM ET

### Led by:

**Antigoni Konstantinou,**  
University of Connecticut  
**Omowunmi Rebecca Aworinde,**  
Michigan Technological University

### Target Audience:

This **virtual** workshop is primarily geared toward frontline researchers at academic institutions.

- **Graduate students, postdoc scholars, undergraduate students**

### Workshop Goals:

- **Educate** participants about the importance of RAMP risk assessment
- **Guide** participants to **practice using RAMP** throughout a handful of case studies
- **Supply participants with resources** to improve the incorporation of risk assessment into their everyday research life.



<https://RAMPworkshopMarch2026.eventbrite.com>

\$25 per participant

Register by  
February 28

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

*Learn more and register for this workshop*



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

### 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



Register by March 26, 2026

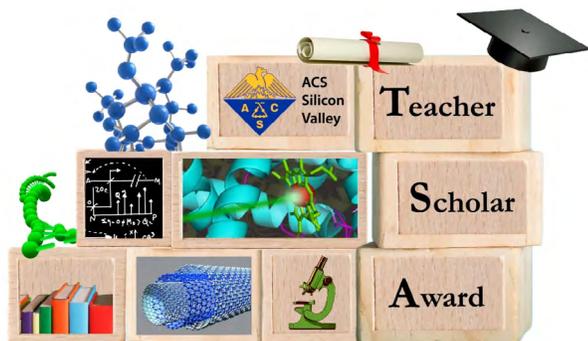
Find more information at <https://dchas.org/>

*Learn more and register for this workshop*

# Call for Nominations

## Community College Teacher-Scholar Award

Deadline: April 1, 2026



*Recognizing community college science teachers who go above and beyond to inspire and support their students to pursue a career in science.*

The Silicon Valley ACS Teacher-Scholar Award honors community college faculty who demonstrate excellence in teaching, mentoring and scholarship or who make impactful contributions to their communities through outstanding leadership and service.

The annual SVACS Teacher-Scholar Award spotlights the impactful

contribution that California community colleges make to furthering the future of chemistry by supporting our next generation of scientists. Almost 51 percent of graduates of the California State University (CSU) system and 29 percent of the University of California (UC) system transferred from a California community college. The majority of these students come from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, for whom effective instruction is essential.

Initiated in 2008, the SVACS Teacher-Scholar Award was the first award of its kind to recognize specifically community college science educators. The rarity of an award in this category and the abundance of qualified candidates catalyzed our expanding eligibility beyond our immediate region to include chemistry faculty from any of the 116 California community colleges. The monetary award includes funds for travel to a chemistry-related event.

SVACS encourages all readers to identify and nominate qualified community college faculty. Nominations are being accepted through April 1, 2026.

More information and an online nomination form can be found on the [Silicon Valley ACS Teacher-Scholar Award](#) page.

## SAGE: Science Accelerating Growth and Engagement Camp at SLAC

<https://sage.slac.stanford.edu/>

Application Period: February 24 - March 16, 2026



“The SAGE Mission is to engage curious and passionate students in STEM and empower them to explore a wide range of possibilities for their future. SAGE Camp at SLAC is a FREE one-week residential/overnight camp for high school girls and boys from all backgrounds.

**When:** From June 21 to June 27th, 2026

**Where:** SLAC (Stanford Linear Accelerator National Lab) and Stanford campuses in Menlo Park and Palo Alto

**How:** Students apply online via [Kaleidoscope platform](#)

**Application period:** From February 24th to March 17th

SAGE Camp is the first step in a student's [SAGE Journey](#) – a path to explore exciting careers that impact the world. That journey is supported by the SAGE community via post-camp events and programs. SAGE Camp at SLAC is one of three SAGE Camps at National Labs in the Bay Area and one of seven SAGE Camps at National Labs in the country.”



# Science Advocacy

Speak Up for Science. Our Voice, Our Future.

ACS advocates for evidence based policies, robust R&D investment, and the future of the chemistry enterprise. Find out what ACS is doing to influence policy and how you can take action.



## ACS Policy Position Statements: Policies Updated in 2025 and Input Requested for Policies Expiring in 2026

**Deadline: June 2, 2026**

“The purpose of ACS position statements is to communicate ACS’s stance on a topic by addressing policy areas that are important for the chemical (and broader scientific) enterprise. Statements also serve to articulate the organization’s broader perspective, inform public discourse, and guide actions across ACS’s public affairs efforts. ACS’s 23 position statements are reviewed on a staggered 3-year cycle.

The American Chemical Society updated eight of its 23 policy statements in 2025. These statements reflect ACS’s official positions on important issues and provide a way to help address national and global challenges. ACS committees, along with member input, help develop the statements, which are then approved by the ACS Board of Directors.”

Statements reviewed and updated in 2025 were:

- [Science Education Policy](#)
- [Chemical Risk Assessment and Regulatory Decision Making](#)
- [Global Climate Change](#)
- [Ensuring Access to High-Quality Science](#)
- [Forensic Science](#)
- [Proposal Peer Review: Ensuring High-Quality Science](#)
- [Safety in the Chemistry Enterprise](#)
- [Employment Non-Discrimination](#)

[Read more in this C&EN article](#)

### ACS Committees Seek Member Input on Position Statements

“Eight ACS position statements are set to expire at the end of 2026.

We draw on the expertise of the ACS community and encourage members to review the expiring statements and offer their thoughts and comments to the ACS committees considering revisions, as well as provide input on other statements that should be developed or changed.

All feedback should be submitted by June 1. The responsible parties revise and reconcile any recommendations by the August national

meeting. Any feedback received after this date will be considered but potentially not included.

All suggestions will be reviewed by position statement writing teams and ACS Government Affairs staff members, and relevant edits will be included amongst the proposed updates. Once reviewed by a writing team, position statements are reviewed by the relevant governance committees before finally being approved by the ACS Board of Directors.

**The following are links to the statements up for review:**

- [A Competitive US Business Climate](#)
- [Intellectual Property](#)
- [Science and Technology in the Budget](#)
- [Visas for Scientific Collaboration and Academic Study](#)
- [Critical Materials](#)

- [Sustainability and the Chemistry Enterprise](#)
- [Freedom of International Scientific Exchange](#)
- [Environmental and Community Health and the Chemical Enterprise](#)

**Comments and suggestions on any of these topics should be submitted to: [policy@acs.org](mailto:policy@acs.org)**

If you’re interested in getting involved with this policy review process, [please follow this link](#) to learn more and see how you can contribute your expertise to this important advocacy tool. Visit [ACS’ Science Advocacy](#) page to learn more other advocacy efforts underway at ACS and how you can get involved.

If you are interested in participating more directly in the broader ACS governance process, please visit this page about [ACS National Committees](#) and fill out the [Committee Preference Form](#) to be considered.”

### Call for Nominations

## 2026 Abraham Ottenberg Service Award Silicon Valley ACS Local Section

**Deadline: May 31, 2026**

The *Ottenberg Award* is presented annually to a member of our local section for outstanding service to the section.

Nominations include the nominee's biography, description of the service(s) for which the member is nominated, and a discussion or evaluation of the service to be recognized by the award. Nominations are not retained for subsequent years, but re-nominations are accepted for consideration. Previous recipients are not eligible to receive it again.

Please send your nomination by May 31, 2026 to [PFrusch@aol.com](mailto:PFrusch@aol.com) or by postal mail to:

Chair, Ottenberg Award Selection Committee  
Silicon Valley Section  
American Chemical Society  
P.O. Box 395  
Palo Alto, CA 94302-0395

# ACS Committees Need You!

ACS welcomes all members on Standard and Premium packages to serve on non-elected committees!

Learn more about how ACS Committees fit into the Society's governance structure and how YOU can become involved.



## Interested in Serving on an ACS National Committee in 2027?

**Deadline: July 6, 2026**

The process for selecting *ACS Council-related committee* appointments for 2027 is now underway. If you are interested in serving on an ACS Committee, please complete the [online committee preference form](#), which allows you to indicate your committee interests, background, and relevant experience.

The form is available at <http://www.cmte.acs.org> and will remain open through July 6, 2026.

As you submit your preferences, please keep the following in mind:

- Individuals completing a term or reaching a committee's statutory limit are strongly encouraged to submit the form to reaffirm their interest in continued service.
- Your ACS membership must be in good standing to complete your committee preferences.
- Please select only those committees for which you can actively engage and attend meetings, whether virtually or in person. ACS committees are working committees; attendance (virtually or in-person) and participation at committee and subcommittee meetings are important.
- Most initial appointments are one year, non voting associate positions. Associates must submit the form each year to be considered for reappointment.

- Consultants are appointed for one year terms and must have a clearly defined role or project.

- Associates and consultants participate fully in discussions and subcommittee work but do not vote on official committee motions.

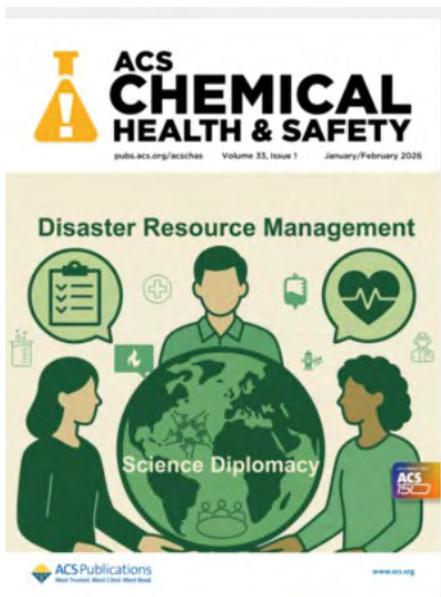
As part of the appointment process, the Committee on Committees (ConC) seeks broad representation across the Society. Diverse backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives help ensure ACS remains effective and forward looking.

All preference submissions are reviewed by ConC as it prepares recommendations during the ACS Fall Meeting. Final appointments are made by the ACS President and/or Board Chair in late fall. While not all applicants can be appointed, each submission will receive full consideration.

If you need assistance, please contact the Office of the Secretary at [secretary@acs.org](mailto:secretary@acs.org). Thank you for your interest and for your service to the Society.

Sincerely,

Brian Mathes, Chair, ACS Committee on Committees (ConC) and  
Carmen Valdez Gauthier, Chair, Committee Appointment Systems Improvement (CASI) Working Group



## ACS Chemical Health & Safety Journal

**As of January 2026, all articles are free to read and free for authors to publish open access**

*ACS Chemical Health & Safety* reports on chemical safety, security, risk assessment and management, incident case studies and hazard warnings, and other influential safety topics.

As of January 1, 2026, all articles published in ACS Chemical Health & Safety are **Diamond Open Access** – entirely free to read and free to publish, with all associated costs covered by the American Chemical Society. Read more about this change to journal:

*Editorial by Editor-in-Chief, Mary Beth Mulcahy*

*About the Journal*

*ACS Open Science*

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## Coke Just Revolutionized Coke



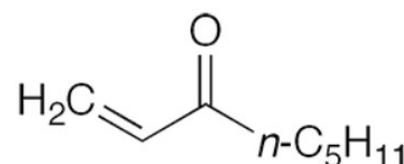
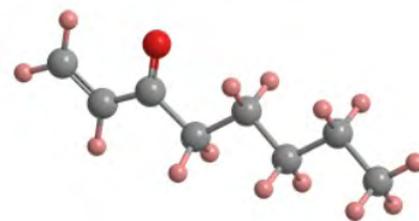
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"In a [previous Reactions episode](#) about Mexican Coca-Cola, our host, George, made a bold claim: that Mexican Coke contains no unhydrolyzed sugar. Two chemistry professors challenged us on that claim, so George visits their lab to run definitive tests on their high-end instruments. During which, he unwittingly discovers that Coca-Cola may be keeping a major achievement secret."

CHEMISTRY

## Quiz

You might smell me if you cut yourself.  
What molecule am I?



Answer

## Welcome to the Silicon Valley Section of ACS



Each month, our Silicon Valley local ACS section receives a spreadsheet from national ACS with the names of members new to our section. The members are either new to ACS, have transferred in from other areas, or are the newest chemists - students. As a welcoming gesture, the SVACS Executive Committee offers new members free attendance at a catered SVACS event. Come join us at our in-person gatherings. To register as our guest for a catered event, [contact us](#) directly to receive complimentary admission for you and a friend.

Join us for an outreach activity, like judging a science fair, proctoring the high school Chemistry Olympiad, or participating in National Chemistry Week hands-on experiments.

**The Silicon Valley local section is a volunteer organization.**

**Attend an event, volunteer to help, and get to know your local fellow chemists!**

### New SVACS Members

Gretchen Cefalu  
Jonathan Fajen  
Ethan Guo  
Evelyn Harrington  
Hannah Holmes  
Dylan Hwang  
Bo Jiang

Shaoxin Li  
Alexander Phineas  
Maschino  
Samantha Meyer  
Nicole Nava  
Thomas Paul  
Thu Phan

Elisia A. Ragaller  
Yashas Rajendra  
Emilio Romo  
Hance Su  
Jinheng Xu  
Xianhuang Zeng

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# How is alcohol-free beer made?



ACS Local Section  
Silicon Valley

P.O. Box 395, Palo Alto, CA 94302

Contact us: <https://www.siliconvalleyacs.org/about/contact/>

Website: <https://www.siliconvalleyacs.org/>

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**Alcohol-free beer**

Alcohol-free beer varies in alcohol content, as the definition of "alcohol-free" varies in different countries.

≤0.05% ≤0.5%

Low alcohol beers are also common. In the UK beers with an alcohol percentage above 0.5% but below 1.2% can be termed low alcohol.

**Fermentation-free**

Brewers can eliminate the alcohol-producing fermentation stage by not adding yeast to the wort. This means that they must add flavour compounds usually produced during fermentation using additives, often resulting in dull flavour.

**Dilution**

Brewers use extra malt and hops during brewing to produce a concentrated beer.

After fermentation, brewers add water to dilute the beer to the required concentration.

Brewers adjust the acidity of the beer by adding organic acids then carbonate it.

**Lactic acid**

**Dealcoholisation**

Brewers can brew beers as normal, then remove the alcohol after. There are several ways of doing this.

**Distillation**

Heating beer removes alcohol which boils at a lower temperature than water. But this also removes flavour. Vacuum distillation reduces the temperature at which alcohol boils, preserving more flavours.

**Water** Boils at 100°C **Ethanol** Boils at 78.4°C

**Membrane filtration**

Some brewers use membranes that let water and alcohol through but not flavour compounds. They then add the water back in to the beer.

**Beer** → **Alcohol-free beer**

**Limiting fermentation**

Other brewers modify fermentation to reduce the alcohol content of the resulting beer.

**Special yeasts**

Some brewers use particular strains of yeast which cannot ferment maltose, the principal sugar in wort, and produce little alcohol.

**Maltose**

**Cold contact fermentation**

Fermentation at low temperature produces little ethanol but does produce some flavour compounds.

**Other methods**

Other methods include limiting fermentable sugars in wort or removing yeast before too much alcohol has been produced.

www.compoundchem.com

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**Chair-Elect**  
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**Secretary**  
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**Councilors**

2026  
2026  
2026  
2025-2026  
2026-2027  
2024-2026  
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2024-2026  
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2025-2027  
2025-2027  
2026-2028  
2026-2028

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Karan Dikshit  
Amanda Nelson  
Jigisha Shah  
Ihab Darwish  
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Jose Ramirez  
Maria Dulay  
Maureen Scharberg

### Newsletter

**Editor**  
**Sr. Assoc. Editor**

2026  
2026

Grace Baysinger  
Jane Frommer

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