

SILICON VALLEY CHEMIST

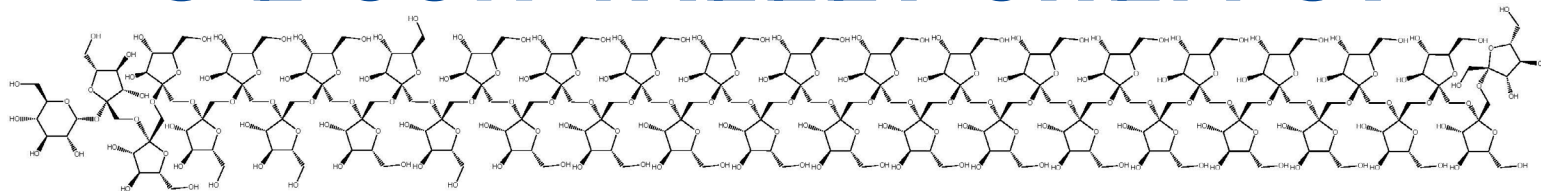


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Improving All Lives Through Science:
The Case for Fundamental Research, Public Policy, and Advocacy

Wayne Elfed Jones Jr., current Chair of the ACS Board of Directors and recently retired Professor of Chemistry & Materials Science, and Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, University of New Hampshire.

Sponsored by the **Stanford Chemistry Department**

October 8, 2026, 3:00 pm-4:20 pm, In-person, Stanford University, Sapp Center for Science Teaching and Learning, Sapp Lecture Hall (STL 114), 376 Lomita Dr, Stanford, CA 94305

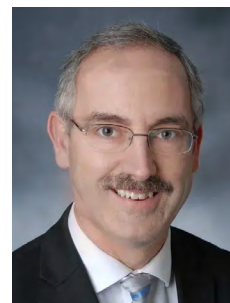
Abstract

Curiosity-driven, fundamental research fuels breakthrough technologies and lifesaving therapeutics—with chemistry at the center of it all. Yet, as scientists, we face a critical challenge: public trust in science is at a historic low, and the policy decisions shaping research funding and implementation are evolving rapidly. How do we as researchers bridge the gap between bench science and societal impact?

Join us for an engaging discussion on the interplay among fundamental research, public policy, and national advocacy. Drawing on the history and modern initiatives of the American Chemical Society (ACS), this talk highlights how scientific societies advocate for the research enterprise and how individual researchers can

directly influence policy. You will gain insight into the changing landscape of science funding and regulation, as well as concrete tools, fellowships, and advocacy networks designed to help scientists translate their passion for chemical research into real-world policy outcomes.

About the Speaker



Wayne E. Jones Jr. has served as a chemistry faculty member and researcher for 35 years, recently retiring from his position as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of New

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Science for Everyone
Tactile Braille Periodic Table at Stanford

Date: Thursday, October 8, 2026, 5:00 - 7:00pm

Location: Stanford University, Sapp Center for Science Teaching and Learning, Sapp Auditorium, 376 Lomita Dr, Stanford – [View map](#)

RSVP to attend: [RSVP Form](#)

An initiative of the ACS Committee on Chemists with Disabilities (CWD), this represents the first of fifty states' permanent university installations of the tactile table in the US.

The event will highlight how access to science can strengthen trust and expand science education for everyone. Meet leaders and members of the American Chemical Society, Silicon Valley ACS Local Section, Stanford Chemistry Department, Center for STEM Mentorship, and others committed to accessible science.

For more information, see the [webpage for this event](#).

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Hampshire. He earned a B.S. from St. Michael's College in 1987 and a Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1991. He has been a member of ACS since 1989.

He currently serves as Chair of the ACS Board of Directors, leading the Board in its responsibility as the Society's legal representative and overseeing the administration of its property, funds, and affairs. As a Director-at-Large, he helps provide fiduciary oversight, strategic direction, and governance on behalf of the Society and its members. [Learn more](#)

Contributors to this Issue

Grace Baysinger

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2026 Election of SVACS Officers, Councilors, Alternate Councilors for 2027

Voting Period: November 2-13, 2026

Silicon Valley ACS members will receive an email notification to cast their votes online.

To help you be more informed when you receive this notification, a sample ballot is shown below. Please also see [duties](#) for each position. Biographies and candidate statements will be posted by October 26, 2026, on the [Silicon Valley ACS website](#).

The ballot will include these open positions:

- **Chair-Elect** (3-year commitment: Chair-elect 2027, Chair in 2028, and Immediate Past Chair in 2029)
- **Secretary** (2-year term, 2027-2028)
- **Councilor** (2 open positions for 3-year terms, 2027-2029)
- **Alternate Councilor** (2 open positions for 3-year terms, 2027-2029)

How to petition to be on the ballot:

Prior to October 15, 2026 any member or affiliate of the Section may, in writing or from the floor at a meeting to conduct governance business, nominate additional candidates for office, provided that the candidates are members of the Section, and the nomination is seconded by another member or affiliate. Nominations shall be equally valid as those from the Nomination Committee. All candidates nominated shall have indicated willingness to serve if elected. Written petitions can be sent to the Chair of the Nominations Committee, [Natalie McClure](#). You may also contact Natalie with questions.

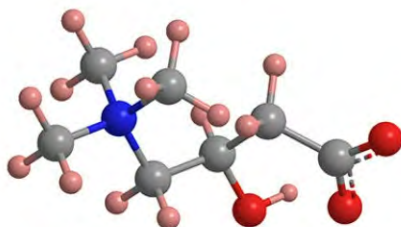
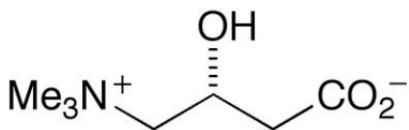
A petition must include the following: name of the proposed candidate, the proposed position, and the name and ACS membership numbers for both the candidate and the person who is seconding the nomination. All petitions must be submitted by October 14, 2025, to [Natalie McClure](#).

ACS is your Society! Voting in an ACS Election is one of many ways to engage and stay connected. The ability to vote in ACS Elections is granted to all ACS regular members who are on standard or premium packages. Society Affiliates cannot vote in ACS Elections, serve in national volunteer roles or hold an elected ACS office. Undergrad Members of the Society cannot serve in national volunteer roles or hold elected office within ACS. [Learn more](#)

CHEMISTRY

Quiz

Your body produces me, but you may need or want more of me.
What molecule am I?



Answer

Chair's Message

Natalie McClure

Welcome to a new school year. September always seems more like the start of the year than January to me since so much gets added to the calendar. And Silicon Valley ACS also has some interesting events to add to your calendar.

On October 8, 5-7 PM, the Stanford Chemistry department and the Silicon Valley ACS section will be holding reception to celebrate the installation of the Tactile Periodic Table that was completed at the Western Regional meeting. This event will include a dedication ceremony at Stanford's SAPP center, where the Tactile Periodic table will be displayed. Wayne Jones, ACS president will attend. Other dignitaries have been invited. This is the first permanent installation of a Tactile Periodic Table, and is the beginning of a program developed by Michael Fricke, Maria Dulay and the Chemists with Disability Committee. The goal is to have a similar Periodic Table installed in all States. Wayne Jones will also present a lecture titled "Improving All Lives Through Science: The Case for Fundamental Research, Public Policy, and Advocacy" at the SAPP Lecture Hall, 3-4 PM. Both events are open to ACS members. Please see: <https://chemistry.stanford.edu/events/improving-all-lives-through-science-case-fundamental-research-public-policy-and-advocacy> AND <https://chemistry.stanford.edu/events/science-everyone-tactile-braille-periodic-table-elements-stanford>

San Jose State University will be hosting Dr. Cristina Padilla, a Clean Laboratory Chemist at the International Atomic Energy Agency as the Lecturer from the Jean Dreyfus Lectureship for Undergraduate Institutions. She will give a series of lectures and the public is invited to a seminar on Wednesday, October 7 at the Student Union Theater from 6:30-7:30 pm entitled "Designing a Life in Science: How Purpose Shapes a Career" <https://www.sjsu.edu/chemistry/seminars/jean-dreyfus-lectureship.php>

These both should be excellent events and I hope you can join us at one or both of them.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

All Times Given are Pacific Time Zone

- September -

- Sep 12** **A City on Mars: Can We Settle Space, Should We Settle Space, and Have We Really Thought This Through?**
Dr. Kelly Weinersmith, Adjunct Professor at Rice University
Sponsored by California ACS Women Chemists Committee and AAUW California
10:30 am-12:30 pm, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)
[Download Flyer \(PDF\)](#)
- Sep 16** **AI-Guided Molecular Design: From Biological Programming to Drug Discovery**
Sponsored by ACS Webinars and ACS Publications
8:00 am-9:30 am, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)
- Sep 16** **Careers in Higher Education: An ACS Career Pathways Virtual Workshop**
Sponsored by ACS Careers
9:00 am-10:30 am, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)
- Sep 17** **Sizing Things Up: Polymer Characterization by Size Exclusion Chromatography**
Sponsored by ACS Webinars and ACS Polymeric Materials: Science and Engineering (PMSE) Division
11:00 am-12:30 pm, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)
- Sep 20-25** **Bay Area Light Sources Joint Users' Meeting**
Hosted by SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory
In-person at SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, 2575 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park, California, 94025
\$495 for general attendees, \$99 for students/postdocs
[Learn more and register](#)
- Sep 23** **Making Chemistry Happen: CTP Career Journeys**
Sponsored by ACS Webinars and ACS Committee on Chemical Technical Professionals
9:00-10:00 am, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)
- Sep 24** **The Sulfur Solution: New Chemistry for Recyclable and High-Performance Polymers**
Sponsored by ACS Webinars and ACS Division of Polymer Chemistry
11:00 am-12:30 pm, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)
- Sep 28** **The TG2/LRP1 Pathway: A Remarkable Mechanism for Antigen Presentation and More**
Prof. Chaitan Khosla
Sponsored by Stanford Department of Chemistry
3:00-4:00 pm, In-person, Stanford University, Sapp Center Auditorium (STLC 111), 376 Lomita Drive, [Learn more](#)
- Sep 28** **ACS Spring 2027 Meeting Abstract Submission Deadline**
Sponsored by American Chemical Society
Meeting is in New Orleans, LA, March 21-25, 2027.
[Learn more and submit an abstract](#)
- Sep 30** **Nanotecnología en la Agricultura del Futuro: Diseño y Desarrollo de Nanoherbicidas Inteligentes**
Sponsored by ACS Webinars and Sociedad Química de México
11:00 am-Noon, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)

- October -

- Oct 1** **Project Management Essentials for Scientists: ACS Virtual Office Hours**
Sponsored by ACS Careers
9:00 am-10:30 am, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)
- Oct 1** **Who Will Win the #ChemNobel? Predicting the 2026 Nobel Laureate(s) in Chemistry**
Sponsored by ACS Webinars and Chemical & Engineering News
11:00 am-Noon, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)
- Oct 2** **Bay Area Chemistry Symposium (BACS)**
Merck Research Labs, South San Francisco
Registration is full, apply to waitlist, [Learn more](#)
- Oct 5** **Silicon Valley ACS Executive Committee Meeting**
Sponsored by the Silicon Valley ACS local section
7:00-8:30 pm, hybrid event, free, guests welcome:
[contact Chair](#) to attend
- Oct 7** **Designing a Life in Science: How Purpose Shapes a Career**
Cristina Padilla, International Atomic Energy Agency and 2026 Jean Dreyfus Lecturer for San Jose State University
6:30 pm-7:30 pm, In-person, SJSU Student Union Theater, One Washington Square, San José, CA 95192 (see [map](#)), [Learn more](#)
- Oct 8** **Improving All Lives Through Science: The Case for Fundamental Research, Public Policy, and Advocacy**
Wayne Elfed Jones Jr., current Chair of the ACS Board of Directors & recently retired Professor of Chemistry & Materials Science, Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs, University of New Hampshire
Sponsored by Stanford Department of Chemistry
3:00 pm-4:20 pm, In-person, Stanford University, Sapp Center for Science Teaching and Learning, Sapp Lecture Hall (STL 114), 376 Lomita Dr, Stanford, [Learn more](#)
- Oct 8** **Science for Everyone: Tactile Braille Periodic Table of Elements at Stanford**
Sponsored by Stanford Department of Chemistry and Silicon Valley ACS, ACS National, ACS Committee on Chemists with Disabilities (CWD), and Center for STEMM Mentorship at Stanford
5:00-7:00 pm, in-person, Stanford University, Sapp Center Auditorium (STLC 111), 376 Lomita Drive, [Learn more and RSVP](#)
- Oct 9** **CRB60: A Symposium Celebrating Carolyn Bertozzi's Legacy and Impact on Chemical Biology**
Sponsored by Stanford Sarafan ChEM-H
9:00 am-6:30 pm, In-person at Paul Berg Auditorium, \$25, [Learn more and register](#)
- Oct 17** **Bay Area Science Festival 2026**
11:00 am-4:00 pm, in-person at UCSF Mission Bay Campus, Koret Quad, Free, [Learn more](#)
- Oct 18-24** **National Chemistry Week: Theme is Chemistry Under Construction**
Sponsored by American Chemical Society
[Learn more](#)

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

All Times Given are Pacific Time Zone

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Oct 20-21 **Introductory Overview: Polymers in Advanced Semiconductor Technologies**

Sponsored by Gold Gate Polymer Forum, 1.5-day live virtual short course

Regular registration rate ends Oct. 5, 2026, at 8:00 pm

[Course info & registration](#)

Oct 22 **Surface Chemistry of Supplementary Cementitious Materials: A Key Lever in Cement Decarbonization**

Sponsored by Southern California Section ACS

3:00 pm-4:00 pm, online, free, [registration required](#)

Oct 24

National Chemistry Week Celebration 2026

Sponsored by Silicon Valley ACS and San Jose Public Library

11:00 am-2:00 pm for kids ages 5-12. In-person at the Martin Luther King Library, Children's Room, 1st Floor, 150 E San Fernando St, San Jose, free, no registration required, [Learn more](#)

Oct 26

Strategies and Methods for Chemical Synthesis Inspired by Complex Natural Products

Prof. Richmond Sarpong, University of California, Berkeley

Sponsored by Stanford Department of Chemistry

3:00-4:00 pm, in-person, Stanford University, Sapp Center Auditorium (STLC 111), 376 Lomita Drive, [Learn more](#)



Bay Area Science Festival (BASF) 2026

Saturday, October 17, 2026, 11am-4pm, UCSF Mission Bay Campus, Koret Quad. Free.

“Celebrate the Bay Area's scientific wonders at this free event. One Incredible Day. 125 hands-on science experiments, live performances, and games and activities for curious science-lovers of all ages. Silicon Valley ACS participates in this event! Be sure to check out the [Bay Area Science Festival website](#).

BASF inspires and amazes. On October 17, BASF takes over UCSF's Mission Bay campus for one incredible day of celebration of science! Here are some previews from the hosting [UCSF Science and Health Education Partnership](#).



Walk through a larger-than-life set of inflatable lungs, build an air powered rocket, and assist with a real shark dissection. Perhaps you'll fly radio balloons that can beacon their location and orbit the Earth, immerse yourself in the sounds of humpback whales, or build earthquake-resistant structures out of household items. These are just a few of the exhibits that you'll be talking about with family and friends after attending this year's Festival!

Like last year, come to *Science in 3 Minutes* where UCSF grad students attempt to explain their complex research in 3 minutes or less. Join a live-recorded episode of [That's Absurd, Please Elaborate podcast](#). A new outdoor stage will feature Wild Science from Tree Frog Treks and a magic show in collaboration with Quest Science Center, among other science fun on stage. Keep your eyes on social media for the latest updates to plan your day."

Silicon Valley ACS Wins Two ChemLuminary Awards

Watch video of Fall 2026 Board of Directors Open Meeting and ChemLuminary Awards



Silicon Valley and California Sections Receive a ChemLuminary Award.



Outstanding Regional Meeting — Innovative Programming (Sponsored by ACS Committee on Meetings & Expositions). This award recognizes outstanding performance in organizing and hosting a regional meeting. Winner: Western Regional Meeting (WRM 2025) which was co-organized and hosted by the Silicon Valley and California Sections in October, 2025.

Best New Senior Chemists Activity within a Local Section (Sponsored by ACS Committee on Senior Chemists). This award recognizes local sections for their efforts to increase the participation of senior members and to encourage innovative activities at the local level. Winner: California and Silicon Valley Sections.

Eefei Chen created two posters for the Silicon Valley Section to display at the ChemLuminary Awards:



ChemLuminary Poster Hostesses with the Mostesses



Join or Renew Your ACS Membership Today and Save 20%

**BECAUSE PEOPLE
LIKE YOU CREATE
GREAT CHEMISTRY**

You Belong Here



The ACS is offering a special discount for new and renewing members to become a part of the world's largest chemical society, where you can access a wealth of resources, networking opportunities, and professional development tools. Whether you're a seasoned professional or just starting out, ACS has something to offer. Don't miss out on a limited-time offer until 11:59 PM ET on December 11, 2026. Join or renew your membership today and take advantage of a 20% discount on the standard or

premium membership package.

How to redeem your discount:

1. Visit <https://membership.join.acs.org>
2. You will be prompted to log in using your ACS ID (username/password). If you don't have one or forget your login, click the appropriate link on the login page.
3. On the Review step of the application, enter the following code to apply the discount to your ACS dues: CGW20

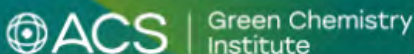
[Learn more about ACS Membership](#)

[Download 2026 Guide to ACS Membership \(PDF\)](#)

Green Chemistry & Engineering Conference

June 7-10, 2027. Minneapolis, MN

Call for Symposia



You are invited to submit session proposals to the 31st Annual Green Chemistry & Engineering Conference to be held June 7-10, 2027 in Minneapolis, MN. Submissions centered around the theme "Driving Responsible Consumption & Production Through Sustainable Chemistry & Engineering" are due October 13, 2026.

[Learn more and submit a symposium](#)

ACS Spring 2027 Meeting

Abstract Submission Deadline is September 28th

The ACS Spring 2027 Meeting is in New Orleans, LA, March 21-15. Share your research, expand your network, and connect with the community driving global innovation.

[Submit an Abstract](#) | [View Symposia Topics](#) | [Explore New Orleans](#)



JACS Symposium Series

"In 2026, the American Chemical Society commemorates its 150th anniversary.

To mark this historic milestone, ACS Publications presents the JACS Symposium Series: eight exclusive, international, in-person events to inspire researchers worldwide.

Showcasing the high-quality science and renowned experts published across the portfolio of ACS journals, these events unite the brightest minds in chemistry."

Currently, a [video archive](#) of the JACS Symposium that took place at the ACS Fall 2026 Meeting is available to people who registered for the Fall ACS Meeting.

[Learn more](#) and [watch videos on demand](#) from earlier JACS Symposium Series events on the ACS Publications website. Talks given at the ACS Fall 2026 Meeting will be posted here as well.

As a prelude to her presentation at the ACS Meeting, Carolyn Bertozzi talked about the birth of bioorthogonal chemistry.



[Watch Video on YouTube](#)

Birth of Bioorthogonal Chemistry | JACS Symposium Speaker Carolyn Bertozzi | ACS 2026 Fall

"Bioorthogonal chemistry, or the study of chemical reactions without disrupting biological systems, has hundreds of applications from plant biology to neuroscience. Yet it all stemmed from one issue. Dr. Carolyn Bertozzi reflects on her journey of pioneering bioorthogonal chemistry and the wondrous research that came after."

The ACS at 150 A History Book



"This commemorative volume brings together personal reflections and essays from ACS Divisions, past and present ACS CEOs, and other voices that have shaped our recent history."

[Download \(PDF\)](#)

Fueling Your Scientific Future ACS Grants Apply Now

ACS PrepareCTP Grant

Purpose: This grant provides funding to U.S.-based two-year colleges to expand student access to training, career pathways, and employer connections.

Amount: Up to \$20,000 **Deadline:** September 23, 2026

ACS Graduate Student Success Grant

Purpose: To support graduate students (M.S. and Ph.D.), within one year of degree completion, whose education and training have been disrupted by any unforeseen circumstance that puts degree completion at risk, including funding lapses, project changes, or lab transitions. This one-year award, the ACS Graduate Student Success Grant, will enable students to complete their degree programs. The grant seeks to lower the risk of a declining number of U.S.-trained chemists with advanced degrees, thereby preserving the strength and continuity of the scientific community.

Amount: \$25,000 **Deadline:** October 2, 2026

Early Career Postdoctoral-Faculty Bridge Grant

Purpose: This award provides a post-doctoral fellow/associate or faculty who have started

Chemical Education Xchange (ChemEd X) Expands Its Higher Education Resources

By Jack Barbera, ACS Division of Chemical Education



"*ChemEd X* is a premier online platform for chemistry educators, providing high-quality, peer-reviewed, actionable content for high school and college-level instructors. At ChemEd X, you can Xplore classroom-ready resources, Xperience peer community talks and blogs, and Xtend your professional reach. Our goal is to connect, support, and elevate the teaching and learning of chemistry. Join us in making chemistry teaching more collaborative and meaningful as we Xplore, Xtend, and Xperience together."

ChemEd X is Expanding its Higher Education Resources: ACS Division of Chemical Education news, August 17, 2026

"One of my goals as Editor-in-Chief of the *Chemical Education Xchange* (ChemEd X) is to expand its resources to meet the needs of chemistry educators in higher education.

This expansion began with the hiring of Dr. Colleen Kelley (U. Arizona, retired) as the new Associate Editor for Higher Education. Since April, Colleen has been working on reinstating our **ChemEd X Talks** series, which will be held at 7pm (Eastern) on the second Tuesday of each month (September thru May). See our [Events page](#) for a full listing of the fall speakers and to register for

each talk. In addition, our editorial team is working on building out a series of **ChemEd X Collections** focused on higher education specific content. The Collections currently under development are those focused on introductory/general chemistry, organic chemistry, upper-division chemistry, and teaching assistant training/mentoring.

I'm also very excited to announce a new collaboration between ChemEd X and the *Chemistry Education Research (CER) committee* of the ACS Division of Chemical Education. Together we will build the *ChemEd X Methods Resource Hub*. The CER committee will invite individuals to write concise, peer-informed reviews of foundational and emerging methodological resources drawn from education, psychology, sociology, and related fields. The ChemEd X editorial team will work with the CER committee to build out the Resource Hub in order to archive these resources and to share them widely. ChemEd X has supported this CER committee initiative by hiring Dr. Elizabeth Day (U. Texas – El Paso) as the new Associate Editor for Chemistry Education Research.

If you have ideas for how ChemEd X can serve the higher education community, please reach out to Jack Barbera, eic@chemedx.org."

their position no earlier than August 2025 who plans to launch an independent research career in academia, funds to support a post-doctoral associate/fellow for two years once their new research group is launched. **Amount:** \$125,000 **Deadline:** September 18, 2026

Principal Investigator Development in Sustainability Grant

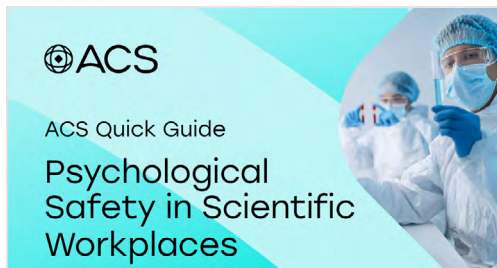
Purpose: This award will provide funding to early or mid-career investigators to spend 6-12

months in the laboratory of a private company, a national laboratory, or an academic laboratory in a different institution, with the goal of establishing robust collaborations across industry-academia or across disciplines and taking advantage of the mentorship of a faculty member distinct from their prior mentors.

Amount: \$50,000 **Deadline:** September 18, 2026

For additional opportunities, browse all [ACS funding and awards](#)

New ACS Quick Guides For Advancing Inclusion and Belonging



Read ACS Quick Guide: Psychological Safety in Scientific Workplaces (PDF)

"Safety in scientific workplaces has traditionally emphasized physical health and well-being. While this is still essential, effective scientific work also depends on psychological safety, which is the ability to speak up, ask questions, raise concerns, and address emerging problems or hazards without fear of exclusion. In collaborative, complex, and often high-stakes scientific environments, psychological safety supports learning, sound decision-making, and responsible research practices."



Read ACS Quick Guide: Inclusive and Safe Lab and Field Cultures (PDF)

"When people feel respected, supported, and empowered to contribute, they are more likely to ask questions, raise concerns, and share information that helps address or prevent unsafe conditions."

A safe working environment relies on shared responsibility among all members of the research team. From visiting students and technicians to postdoctoral researchers and Principal Investigators (PIs), everyone must work together to recognize hazards, assess and minimize risks, and prepare for emergencies and other issues as they may arise."

[View more Resources and Learning Guides](#)



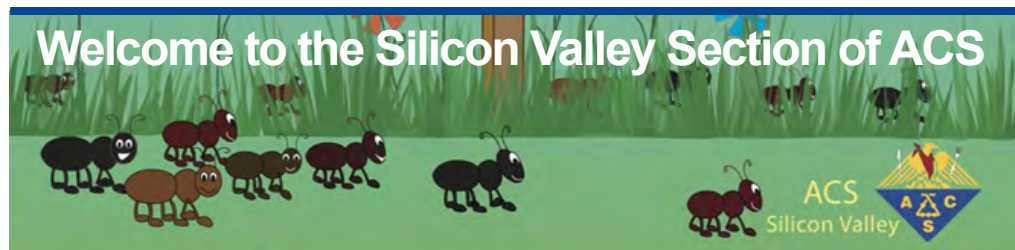
SciMix Chocolate Raffle at ACS Fall 2026 Meeting in Chicago

By Howard Peters

At the SciMix evening of ACS National meetings, the ACS Division of Chemistry and the Law (CHAL) used to display on posters legal decisions about how the law affects the chemical enterprise. Very few attendees stopped by.

Then CHAL switched their display to posters about chocolate years ago, handing out chocolate pieces chopped off a 10-pound chocolate bar. If you stayed to the "bitter" end, there was a free raffle for even more chocolate, including another 10-pound bar.

Chocolate sells! And the bait-and-switch works, too. The accompanying photos were taken at the ACS Fall 2026 meeting in Chicago of Mr. & Mrs Chocolate - AKA Howard and Sally Peters - and the enthused raffle winners.



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 our newest scientists - students. As a welcoming gesture, the SVACS Executive Committee offers new members free attendance at a catered SVACS event.

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 at a local 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

Jehad Abed
Guljannat Ablat
Yousif M. Alkhulaifi
Pedro Valentin Andrade-Dominguez
Saikat Banerjee
Corinne Beinat
Yoko J. Bian

Erin Tsai-Ning Chang
Daniel Hutton
Kanika Jain
Justin Lake
Kim Le
Levi Daniel Palmer
Jeremiah Ratliff

Paul Harry Sampson
Brandon Wang
Sam Webb
Alyssa Yao
Kun Yuan
Claudia Zielke

Report from the ACS Fall 2026 Meeting

Chicago IL, August 23-27, 2026

The Fall 2026 ACS National Meeting took place under sunny skies and comfortable temperatures at Chicago's McCormick Convention Center. More than 13,000 attended from 85 countries, including over 4,500 first-time attendees. Enjoy [this description](#) of the meeting's many angles from C&E News reporter Sara Cottle.

ACS Council Meeting

The ACS Council met on Wednesday, August 26, with 442 out of a possible 470 eligible Councilors in attendance - 298 in-person and 144 online.

Details can be found [on-line in Councilor Talking Points](#).

Some of their actions taken by the Council are summarized below.

Elections were held to fill open positions on elected committees of Council:

- Council Policy Committee (CPC)
- Committee on Committees (ConC)
- Committee on Nominations and Elections (N&E)

Fall elections for national ACS positions were preceded by a "Catalyze the Vote" webinar featuring the President-Elect Candidates on September 10, 2026. [A recording will be available](#).

The ballot will open on September 14 and close on October 9. Members are encouraged to check their spam folder if they do not receive an electronic ballot on September 14.

An ACS Lifetime Membership was launched, priced at \$2,000 and with limited availability during the pilot phase.

An ACS Graduate Student mentorship program will launch in 2027.

The ACS remains at a steady membership core count of approximately 99,000 Members and Society Affiliates, with a noticeable decline in 2026 to the Regular member population, primarily in the United States. A total of paid and unpaid memberships reached 277,000 in 2026 vs. 246,000 individuals in 2025.

A new Division Liaison program has been launched by the Division Activities Committee (DAC) to increase interconnection between DAC and Divisions.

The Committee on Chemistry and Public Affairs (CCPA) reported an increase to 10 public policy fellow positions. Councilors were encouraged to: 1) connect members to Act4Chemistry and the Government Affairs webpage; 2) help identify rapid-response chemistry experts across divisions, Local Sections, and other ACS networks; and 3) bring forward local stories to district directors and the Government Affairs team to help ACS communicate to legislators how federal policy affects ACS members, research programs, students, institutions, companies, workforce

development, communities, and regional economies.

ACS Board of Directors Meeting

The ACS Board of Directors met August 21-22, 2026. Their actions ([on-line in Councilor Talking Points](#)) included:

The advance member registration fee for the 2027 ACS Spring and Fall meetings will be \$649 for in-person;

\$1 million in funding for ACS Graduate Student Success Grants supporting Masters and PhD students within one year of degree completion and facing unforeseen circumstances will be distributed by December 31, 2026.

For more details about the Council Meeting, please see:

[Councilor Talking Points: Summary of governance Issues and Actions](#) (PDF)

[American Chemical Society Fall 2026 Meeting, Council Agenda, August 26, 2026](#) (PDF)



Guiding Principles of Responsible Chemistry

"Guided by IUPAC's mission as a global organization that provides objective scientific expertise and develops the essential tools for the application and communication of chemical knowledge for the benefit of humankind and the world, chemists should practice:"

	► Responsible Innovation		► Safety, Security & Sustainability
	► Ethical Behaviour		► Inclusivity, Equity & Belonging
	► Communication & Collaboration		► Equitable Access
	► Integrity & Accuracy		► Convergence Across Disciplines

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Antibody–drug conjugates for cancer treatment



Silicon Valley
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What are antibody–drug conjugates?

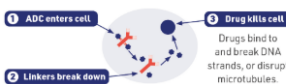
Antibody–drug conjugates (ADCs) combine an antibody – a large protein that attaches to targets on the outside of cells, – with a drug that kills cells. Linking molecules connect the antibody and the drug, stopping the drug from acting until it reaches its target: cancerous cells.



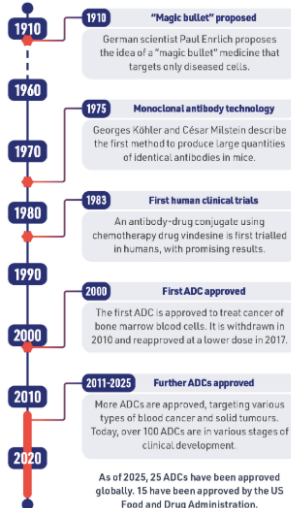
Antibodies bind to antigen targets on cells. The antibodies in antibody–drug conjugates have targets found in higher quantities on cancer cells than normal, healthy cells.



Once bound, the antibody–drug conjugates move inside the cell. Conditions in the cell, such as low pH or enzymes, break down the linker and release the drug, which kills the cell.



A short history of antibody–drug conjugates



The future of antibody–drug conjugates

Improving targeting

Producing ADCs which specifically target mutated proteins on cancerous cells may improve their effectiveness and reduce toxicity. Bispecific ADCs could also achieve this by targeting two different target molecules or cells.



Improving attached drugs

The drugs attached to the antibody could be modified to be more potent. Additionally, ADCs with more than one drug attached could improve efficacy and combat drug resistance.



Moving away from antibodies

Future treatments could combine cancer drugs with peptides, short chains of amino acids, instead of antibody proteins. The smaller conjugate could penetrate cells more effectively, delivering more cancer drugs to cancerous cells.



www.compoundchem.com

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2026
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2026–2027
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2026
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