



American Chemical Society Susquehanna Valley Section

FEBRUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER

SVS wishes all its members a Happy New Year. The four hundred fiftieth meeting of the Susquehanna Valley Section of the American Chemical Society will be held on Wednesday, February 13th, 2019 on the campus of King's College. The meeting will begin at 7:00 PM in the Fitzgerald Room of the Sheehy-Farmer Campus Center and will be preceded by a 5:30 PM dinner in the same room. The speaker will be Dr. Sherri C. Young of Muhlenberg College.

“Anti-Inflammatory Drug Derivatives for Potential CNS Delivery”

Dr. Sherri C. Young
Assistant Professor
Chemistry Department
Muhlenberg College

One of the biggest challenges facing CNS drug discovery is the limited number of bioactive molecules with suitable brain bioavailabilities. To address the low brain exposures inherent to non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), we designed a series of NSAID derivatives linked to the N-benzylamide moiety, selected because of its hydrophobic and aromatic nature. These molecules were isolated in moderate yields using a straightforward three-step synthesis, with a microwave-accelerated bimolecular nucleophilic substitution as the key step. All compounds exhibited sufficient stability in PBS (pH 7.4), and they have physicochemical properties consistent with brain-penetrable molecules. These molecules have the potential to target the inflammatory pathology of various CNS diseases and disorders.

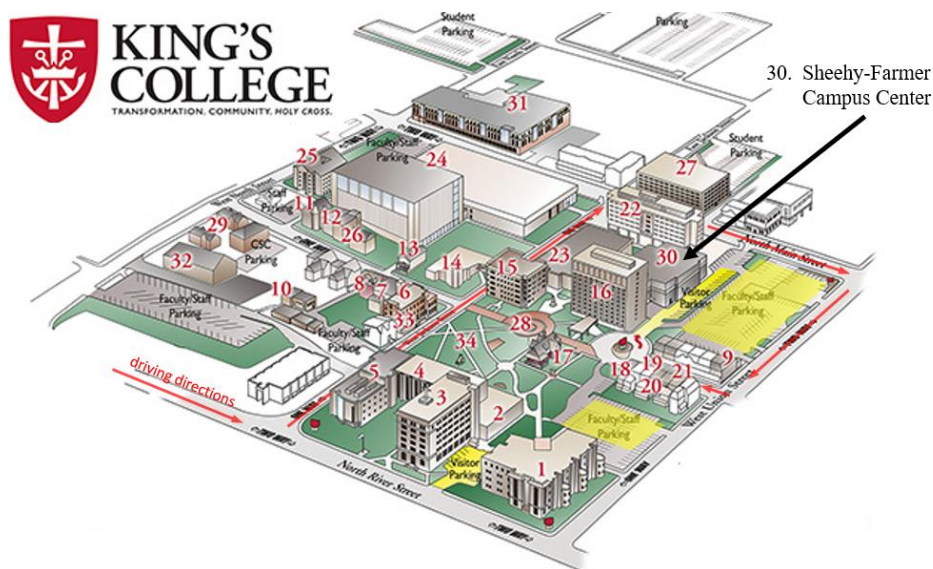
Sherri C. Young, Ph.D., graduated with a B.S. in chemistry from Albright College in 2007. As an undergraduate student, Sherri worked with Dr. Christian Hamann to study keto-enol equilibria using NMR spectroscopy and with Dr. Robert Rapp, Professor Emeritus at Albright, to study a novel heterocyclic rearrangement mechanism. Sherri then entered graduate studies at Lehigh University where she worked with Drs. Ned Heindel and Robert Flowers on an interdisciplinary and collaborative project involving the design of topical mustard gas treatments. After obtaining a Ph.D. in chemistry from Lehigh in 2012, she started a Visiting Assistant Professor position at Muhlenberg College and a tenure-track position at Muhlenberg in August of 2014.

DINNER: 5:30 PM in the Fitzgerald Room of the Sheehy-Farmer Campus Center at King's College. The dinner will be a buffet and cost \$15 payable by cash or check made out to "King's College." Please call or email reservations to Ron Supkowski (ronaldsupkowski@kings.edu or 570-208-5900x5733) by Monday, February 11. Include any dietary restrictions with your reservation and we can attempt to be accommodating.

DIRECTIONS TO KING'S COLLEGE:

Address: 133 N River St. Wilkes-Barre PA 18711

- From Route I-81, take Exit 170B which will put you on Route 309 North.
- Follow Route 309 and take exit 3 (Wilkes-Barre/Plains).
- Turn left off the exit ramp onto North River Street. Proceed about 1.5 miles, and you will see the Luzerne County Courthouse on your right. Continue through the light at the courthouse.
- Turn left at the next street, West Jackson Street. There is no traffic light at West Jackson Street, so do not go as far as the next light.
- Go through the stop sign, and at the first traffic light turn right onto North Main Street.
- Turn right at the next light onto West Union Street.
- Proceed to the next light and turn right onto North Franklin Street.
- The Visitors Lot is located to your right off the cul-de-sac.
- The lots colored yellow also have limited parking available.



For additional directions, visit kings.edu/aboutkings/resources/directions

SECTION NEWS:

2019 LOCAL SECTION ELECTION:

Congratulations go to William Dougherty of Susquehanna University for being elected Chair-Elect for the 2019 calendar year. The section thanks Nicola Edwards of Misericordia University for her work as 2018 section Chair and her transition to Immediate Past-Chair.

2019 PENNSYLVANIA JUNIOR ACADEMY OF SCIENCE (PJAS):

The local PJAS regions will be holding their annual high-school science competitions. PJAS is always looking for local science professionals to volunteer to judge the STEM projects of the area's 7th through 12th grade students. Region 5's competition (the western half of the SVS section) will be Saturday, March 2nd at Susquehanna University and Region 2's competition (the eastern half of the SVS section) will on Saturday, March 2nd at Wilkes University. For more information visit their website at pjas.net/region5 or pjas.net/region2.



2019 CHEMISTRY OLYMPIAD:



U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad

Chemistry Olympiad Qualifying Exams will be administered to participating Juniors and Seniors by their Chemistry teachers between March 4th and 8th. Upon passing the Qualifying Exam, the participating student becomes eligible to take the National Chemistry Olympiad Exam, which will be administered on Saturday April 27th at Bucknell University. If you have a student who is interested in participating, please contact Patrick Martino (patrick.martino@bucknell.edu). For more details see the [local website](#) and [national website](#).

2019 SVS HIGH SCHOOL CHEMISTRY EXAMS:

Save The Date!

The examination will be held on Saturday April 6, 2019 at six colleges throughout the region. Two distinct exams are given: Exam A for students in their first year of study in chemistry, and Exam B for students in an advanced high school chemistry course. For more information, please see the website, departments.kings.edu/SusquehannaValleyACS/services/HS_exams



MARM2019:



The 47th Mid Atlantic Regional Meeting (MARM) will be held May 30-June 1, 2019. The meeting is hosted by the Maryland Local Section of the American Chemical Society. Check their website, marm2019.org, for more information.

Also, consider nominating someone for the following awards see marm2019.org/awards for details:

- **The ACS Division of Chemical Education (CHED) Middle Atlantic Region Award for Excellence in High School Teaching**
- **E. Emmet Reid Award in Chemistry Teaching at Small Colleges in the ACS Mid-Atlantic Region**
- **Partners for Progress and Prosperity (P3) Region Award**
- **E. Ann Nalley Middle Atlantic Region Award for Service for Volunteer Service to the American Chemical Society**

LOCAL STEM COMPETITIONS:

A list of all STEM competitions for high school students is posted on our [website](#). If you have any questions about the contests or have suggestions for others, please contact either the person indicated on the site or the section webmaster, Ron Supkowski at ronaldsupkowski@kings.edu or 570-208-5900 x5733



CERM 2019:



The 50th Central Regional Meeting (CERM) will be held June 4 - 8, 2019. The meeting is hosted by the Midland Local Section of the American Chemical Society. Check their website, acscerm2019.org, for more information.

NATIONAL ACS NEWS:

ACS LEGISLATIVE ACTION NETWORK:

Legislation that may impact the chemical enterprise comes before Congress on a regular basis, and the ACS is committed to keeping its members informed and encouraging them to weigh in on high-priority issues. To see the position of the ACS on many legislative issues visit the ACS LAN website: acs.org/content/acs/en/policy.

To find out how to become more active in ACS advocacy activities, see the website: acs.org/content/acs/en/policy/memberadvocacy/advocacy-tools.

To join ACS' grassroots legislative advocacy network, ACT4CHEMISTRY, which will allow you to stay up to date on policy issues and contact legislators on behalf of chemistry and chemists, go to their website, follow the [Act4Chemistry Twitter](#) account, or email advocacy@acs.org.

JOIN THE ACS:

If you know of anyone who would benefit from being a member of the American Chemical Society, please direct them to the membership website: acs.org/content/acs/en/membership-and-networks/acs/join.

NATIONAL MEETINGS:

Registration is now open for the 2019 spring national meeting in Orlando, FL from March 31 – April 4. See the [website](#) for details.

The 2019 fall national meeting will be held in San Diego, CA from August 25 – 29. The call for papers is now open with most divisions having a deadline of Monday, March 18th. See the [website](#) for further details.