



American Chemical Society Susquehanna Valley Section

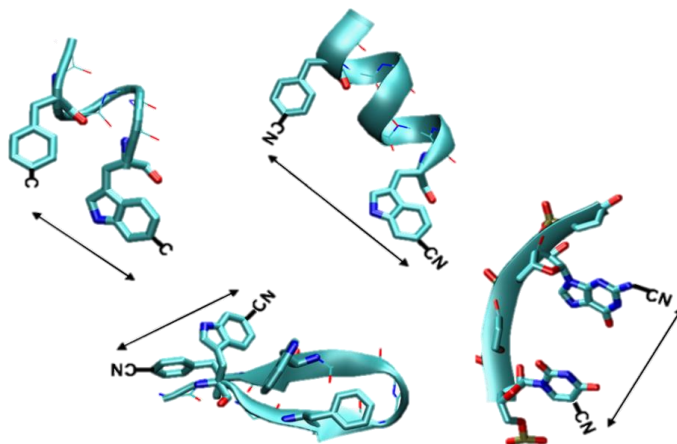
FEBRUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER

SVS wishes all of its members a Happy New Year. The four hundred and fifty seventh meeting of the Susquehanna Valley Section of the American Chemical Society will be held on Wednesday, February 12th, 2020 on the campus of the University of Scranton. The meeting will begin at 7:00 PM in the Loyola Science Center (LSC), room 433 and will be preceded by a dinner at 5:30 PM at Trax Bar and Kitchen. The speaker will be Dr. Matthew Tucker of University of Nevada, Reno.

“Mapping Structure and Dynamics with Site-Specific Vibrational Probe Pairs via 2D IR Spectroscopy”

Dr. Matthew J. Tucker
Associate Professor of Chemistry
University of Nevada, Reno

Two-dimensional infrared (2D IR) vibrational probe pairs provide structural maps for uncovering conformational dynamics associated with active biomolecules, providing insight into molecular movements leading to their functionality along equilibrium and non-equilibrium pathways. Well-positioned probe pairs can simultaneously detect the dynamics within two different regions and measure distances in places where biological function takes place. Up until this point, a systematic study of a variety of 2D IR probe pairs, including labelled amides, cyano- modes, and azido- modes have provided structural tools with many different metrics. The associated mechanisms of coupling will be discussed for each coupled pair. Applications of these probe pairs to different chemical ecology problems will also be highlighted.



BIOGRAPHY OF DR. TUCKER

Matthew Tucker, Ph.D. received his B.S. in Chemistry with Honors from The University of Scranton in 2000, while also majoring in Philosophy and minoring in Mathematics. Dr. Tucker received his Ph.D. in Chemistry from The University of Pennsylvania in 2006 in the laboratories of Prof. Feng Gai. He continued working as a post-doctoral scholar and then as a research specialist at the same university in the laboratories of Prof. Robin Hochstrasser. Dr. Tucker joined the University of Nevada, Reno in 2013. Now an Associate Professor, Dr. Tucker and his group of physical chemists and biophysicists study a broad range of biophysical topics, with a special interest in fast structural motions during different events in folding and function. Utilizing and developing an assortment of laser spectroscopic techniques, they aim to provide detailed mechanistic insight into how biological molecules adopt their native conformations and interact, from the fastest events in structural change to the interactions involved in recognition, aggregation, and protein function.

DINNER: The meeting will be preceded by dinner at 5:30 PM at [Trax Bar and Kitchen](#) (700 Lackawanna Ave. Scranton, PA 18503 inside the Radisson). Dinner will be ordered from the menu and entrees average \$15/person. If you are interested in attending the dinner, please RSVP to Nicholas Sizemore by email (nicholas.sizemore@scranton.edu) or phone (570) 941-5971 by Friday, February 7, 2020.

DIRECTIONS TO UNIVERSITY OF SCRANTON:



From I-81 Exit 185 (Central Scranton Expressway) to the Loyola Science Center (#45) (GPS Address: 252 Monroe Ave. Scranton, PA 18510). Follow signs to campus (on right). Before the first traffic signal, turn sharply right onto Madison Avenue. Make the first right onto Linden St. There is street parking on Linden St. and Monroe Ave, as well as at the Radisson (left off of the Central Scranton Expressway) for those attending dinner. It is suggested to enter through the atrium entrance on Monroe Ave (#43). To the right of the atrium is a glass staircase and elevator. The lecture room (LSC 433) is on the 4th floor to the left of the staircase and elevator, on the right side of the hall. See their [website](#) for more details.

SECTION NEWS:

2020 LOCAL SECTION ELECTION:

All active ACS members should have received a ballot to elect calendar year 2020 Susquehanna Valley Section officers. All ballots received by Friday February 7th will be counted. Any questions can be directed to the section secretary, Ron Supkowski, King's College 131 N River St Wilkes-Barre PA 18711, 570-208-5900x5733, ronaldsupkowski@kings.edu.

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, February 29th at Susquehanna University and Region 2's competition (the eastern half of the SVS section) will on Saturday, February 29th at Wilkes University. For more information visit the websites at <http://www.pjas.net/region5> or <http://www.pjas.net/region2>.

MARM2020:

MARM 20/20



Save The Date

The 48th Mid Atlantic Regional Meeting (MARM) will be held June 12, 2020. The meeting is hosted by the New York Local Section of the American Chemical Society. Check the website, <http://marm2020.org>, for more information.

Also, consider nominating someone for the following awards. Nomination information can be found at marm2020.org/Events.

Award	Deadline
The Stanley C. Israel Regional Award for Advancing Diversity in the Chemical Sciences	March 15
ACS Division of Chemical Education (CHED) Middle Atlantic Region Award for Excellence in High School Teaching	April 20
E. Emmet Reid Award in Chemistry Teaching at Small Colleges in the ACS Mid-Atlantic Region	April 20
E. Ann Nalley Middle Atlantic Region Award for Service for Volunteer Service to the American Chemical Society	April 20

OPEN POSITIONS IN THE LOCAL SECTION:

Do you want to use your talents to help other chemists in the Susquehanna Valley section? Listed below are examples of positions that need to be filled by willing individuals along with websites that give organizing ideas:

- YCC ([Younger Chemists Committee](#)) Chair
Help empower younger chemists – those under the age of 35 or just getting started in their careers – to participate in programs that enhance chemistry and enhance their professional development
- WCC ([Woman Chemists Committee](#)) Chair
Help attract, retain, develop, promote, and advocate for women to positively impact diversity, equity and inclusion in the Society and the profession
- Project SEED ([Summer Experiences for the Economically Disadvantaged](#)) Coordinator
Coordinators are responsible for establishing programs, identifying mentors, recruiting students, fundraising, and organizing activities such as field trips
- CMA ([Committee on Minority Affairs](#)) Chair
Help increase the number & participation of racially & ethnically underrepresented scientists in the Society and its governance
- CH&S ([Chemical Health and Safety](#)) Committee Chair
Help provide authoritative technical resources and mentorship in chemical health and safety for all
- SCC ([Senior Chemists Committee](#)) Chair
Help improve communication among senior chemists, increase the number of senior chemists' groups and the level of their engagement within local sections, and encourage the involvement of senior chemists in programs focused on K-12 education, undergraduate networking, and mentoring
- CCEW ([Chemists Celebrate Earth Week](#)) Coordinator
Help promote the positive role that chemistry plays in the protecting our planet (recyclable plastics, cleaner-burning fuels, phosphate-free detergents, environmental monitoring, and green chemistry initiatives).

If you are interested, contact the section Chair (William Dougherty, doughertyw@susqu.edu), Secretary (Ronald Supkowski, ronaldsupkowski@kings.edu) or any member of the Susquehanna Valley Section leadership team ([executive committee](#), [committee chairs](#), [liaisons](#)).

2020 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 9th and 13th. Upon passing the Qualifying Exam, the participating student becomes eligible to take the National Chemistry Olympiad Exam, which will be administered on Saturday April 18th at Bucknell University. If you have a student who is interested in participating, please contact Patrick Martino (patrick.martino@bucknell.edu) before March 2nd. For more details see the [local website](#) and [national website](#).

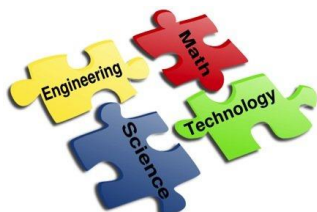
2020 SVS HIGH SCHOOL CHEMISTRY EXAMS:

Save The Date!

The examination will be held on Saturday April 4, 2020 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](#).



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

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:

<https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/policy.html>

To find out how to become more active in ACS advocacy activities, see the website:

<https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/policy/memberadvocacy/advocacy-tools.html>

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:

<https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/membership-and-networks/acs/join.html>

NATIONAL MEETINGS:

Spring 2020 ACS National Meeting

Registration is open for the 2020 spring national meeting with the theme "Macromolecular Chemistry: The Second Century." The meeting will be held in Philadelphia, PA from March 22 – 26. See the [website](#) for details.

Fall 2020 ACS National Meeting

There is a call for papers for the fall 2020 national meeting, "Moving Chemistry from Bench to Market." The meeting will be held in San Francisco, CA from August 16 – 20. Most divisions have submission deadlines of Monday April 6th. See the [website](#) for details.

BCCE 2020

The 26th Biennial Conference on Chemical Education will be held at Oregon State University in Corvallis, Oregon July 18 – 23. See the [website](#) for more details.

Susquehanna Valley Section Web Page: <http://departments.kings.edu/SusquehannaValleyACS>

Please send any comments about the monthly newsletter to Ron Supkowski, Section Secretary

King's College 131 N River St Wilkes-Barre PA 18711

ronaldsupkowski@kings.edu
