

# American Chemical Society Susquehanna Valley Section

### **MAY 2016 NEWSLETTER**

The four hundred and thirty first meeting of the American Chemical Society Susquehanna Valley Section will be our Annual Awards Banquet and will be held on Wednesday, May 4, 2016. With the presentation of various local section awards, the Annual Awards Banquet recognizes both aspiring and accomplished chemistry professionals in the area who have helped to promote chemistry, the chemical professions, and the section. This year's ceremony will begin at 5:30 PM at the Pine Barn Inn in Danville, PA. The speaker will be Dr. David Rovnyak from Bucknell University.

## "Footballs, tweeting, and more: Tackling controversies with chemistry"

Dr. David Rovnyak
Department of Chemistry
Bucknell University
Lewisburg, PA

How much can the pressure of a football change? What is the unexpected chemistry of ice skating? How fast can I really charge my cell phone? Using chemistry, we'll cut through these and other controversies and consider the unexpected ways that myths and misconceptions survive and are repeated. Along the way, these issues lead to reflection on how social media is driving the evolving perception of the chemical and scientific enterprise. As social media brings unprecedented public engagement with chemistry, the consequences range from greater wonder and understanding to deepening mistrust and confusion. In this evolving landscape, what tools best equip us to be citizen chemists in the evolving digital age?

A native of Charlottesville, VA, David Rovnyak is a Professor of Chemistry at Bucknell University. He obtained his Ph.D. at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and subsequently pursued work on a NIH research fellowship at the Harvard Medical School on protein structure determination technology. Research in his laboratory focuses on applying nuclear magnetic resonance to a variety of problems such as protein structure, guest-host complexation, and the search for metabolomic markers of disease. Other interests include science outreach, promoting undergraduate research, the maker movement and social media, and he can also be found as 'NMR\_guy' on twitter.

**DINNER:** Dinner will be buffet-style with a selection of entrees, side dishes, salad and dessert. The cost of the dinner will be \$20 by cash (preferred) or check, but is free for honored students (high school and college) and high school teachers. Please RSVP by Thursday, April 28 to Anne Szklarski at <a href="mailto:AnneSzklarski@kings.edu">AnneSzklarski@kings.edu</a> or 570-208-5900 x5737.

#### DIRECTIONS TO THE PINE BARN INN:

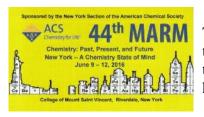
Address: One Pine Barn Place, Danville, PA 17821

#### **From I-80:**

Take the Danville exit 224 to PA-54 East which is Continental Blvd. In three miles turn left onto Bloom Street. Stay on Bloom Street; the Pine Barn Inn will be on your left in about half a mile.

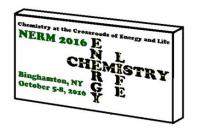
#### **SECTION NEWS:**

#### MARM 2016:



The 44<sup>th</sup> MARM is scheduled for June 9-12, 2016 and is being hosted by the New York Section of the American Chemical Society. It will be held at the College of Mount Saint Vincent, Riverdale, NY. Many of the sessions have been planned and listed; see their website for more details.

#### NERM 2016:



The 41<sup>st</sup> NERM is scheduled for October 5-8, 2016 and is being hosted by the <u>Binghamton Section</u> of the American Chemical Society. It will be held in downtown Binghamton, NY. They have made a call for papers with a deadline of August 8; see their <u>website</u> for more details.

#### MARM 2017:



The Susquehanna Valley Section is co-hosting MARM 2017 with the <u>Lehigh Valley Section</u>. It will be held June 4-6, 2017 in Hershey, PA. Interested symposia organizers should contact the program chair, <u>David Rovnyak</u>. For other volunteer opportunities and questions, please contact the meeting cochair, <u>Dee Casteel</u>.

#### **NATIONAL ACS NEWS:**

#### **ACT4CHEMISTRY:**

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. One of the main ways the ACS does this is through Act4Chemistry. To learn more please visit their website or email advocacy@acs.org.

#### **NATIONAL MEETINGS:**

The 2016 fall national meeting will be held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania from August 21-25. See the website for details.

#### SERVICE ON NATIONAL ACS COMMITTEES:

It is time to begin the process of making appointments to ACS Council-related committees for 2017. If you are interested in serving on an ACS Committee, the online committee preference form for committee assignments are now open from March 28-June 10, 2016 at <a href="https://www.yellowbook.acs.org">https://www.yellowbook.acs.org</a>.

While some committees require their members to be Councilors, many committees do not have a restriction for membership. Committees that are open to non-councilors are:

Committee on Analytical Reagents (CAR)

Committee on Minority Affairs (CMA)

Committee on Budget and Finance (B&F)

Committee on Nomenclature, Terminology and Symbols (NTS)

Committee on the Chemical Abstracts Service (CCAS)

Committee and Patents and Related Matters (CPRM)

Committee on Chemical Safety (CCS)

Committee on Professional Training (CPT)

Committee on Chemistry and Public Affairs (CCPA) Committee on Project SEED (SEED)

Committee on Chemists with Disabilities (CWD)

Committee on Public Relations and Communications (CPRC)

Committee on Community Activities (CCA)

Society Committee on Education (SOCED)

Committee on Environmental Improvement (CEI)

Committee on Ethics (ETHX)

Committee on International Activities (IAC)

Committee on Publications (PUBS)

Committee on Science (COMSCI)

Senior Chemists Committee (SCC)

Committee on Technician Affairs (CTA)

Women Chemists Committee (WCC)

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

- ACS committees are working committees; regular attendance and participation at committee and subcommittee meetings (almost always held at national meetings) are required and most important. Please make a committee preference only if you feel that you can attend and actively participate in a committee's meetings.
- Most initial appointments to committees are for non-voting associate positions. Associates are
  appointed for one-year terms and must also complete the preference form in order to seek
  reappointment on the committee in which they currently serve. Associates also are not eligible to vote
  on official committee motions, though they should actively participate in committee debates and
  subcommittee meetings, and assist the committee in other ways.
- It is helpful to list four of the committees on which you would prefer to serve. Please give reasons why you wish to serve on a particular committee and why you would be a good choice.
- Please complete the online selection process as soon as possible, but no later than June 10, 2016.
- Appointment letters for those chosen for committee service typically arrive in January of the year of the first term.

Susquehanna Valley Section Web Page: <a href="http://departments.kings.edu/SusquehannaValleyACS">http://departments.kings.edu/SusquehannaValleyACS</a>

Please send any comments about the monthly newsletter to Ron Supkowski, Section Secretary King's College 131 N River St Wilkes-Barre PA 18711 <a href="mailto:ronaldsupkowski@kings.edu">ronaldsupkowski@kings.edu</a>