



American Chemical Society Susquehanna Valley Section

SEPTEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

The four hundred and thirty ninth meeting of the American Chemical Society, Susquehanna Valley Section will be held on Wednesday, September 13, 2017 at 7:30 pm in room 304 (Gallery Theatre) in the Elaine Langone Center (LANG) on the Bucknell University campus in Lewisburg, PA. The speaker will be E. James Petersson, Ph. D., Associate Professor of Chemistry, University of Pennsylvania. The talk will be preceded by a reception at 5:00 pm in LANG 241 AB and a dinner at 6:00 pm, in LANG 241 CD.

“Synthetic Protein Chemistry for the Study of Neurodegenerative Disease”

Dr. E. James Petersson
Associate Professor
Department of Chemistry
University of Pennsylvania



Protein motion underlies both proper function and disease in biological systems. Many signaling and transport proteins require complex rearrangements for function, and some proteins, such as amyloids, misfold into toxic conformations. Studying these protein motions not only aids our understanding of diverse biological phenomena, it also contributes to an important fundamental problem in biochemistry: understanding how motions propagate from one end of a protein to another. The Petersson laboratory is developing tools to address questions of how dynamic proteins mediate communication and how the cellular environment catalyzes protein misfolding, from detailed in vitro folding studies to modeling protein motion in living cells. These tools include novel chromophores, which we synthesize and incorporate into proteins through unnatural amino acid mutagenesis and synthetic protein ligation. This approach has provided insight into the role of alpha-synuclein aggregation in Parkinson's Disease and informs strategies for diagnosis and treatment.

BIOGRAPHY OF DR. PETERSSON:

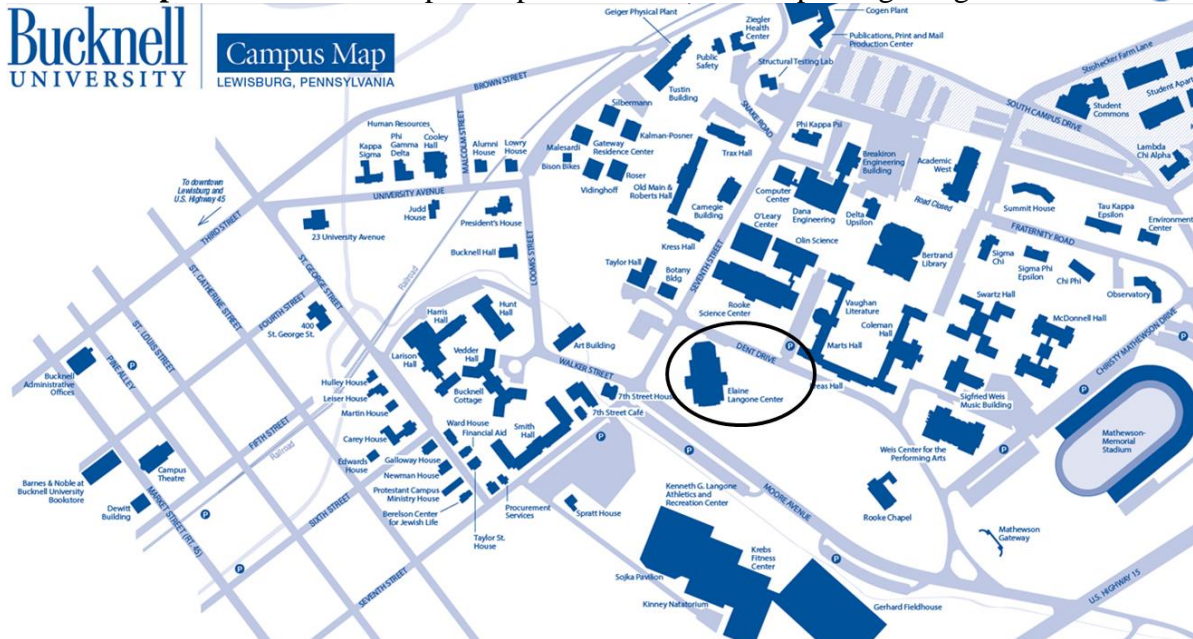
E. James Petersson was educated at Dartmouth College, where he worked in the laboratory of David Lemal, investigating the effects of fluorination on strained, cyclic systems. He then studied the physical organic chemistry of neurotransmitter/receptor interactions under Dennis Dougherty at the California Institute of Technology as an NIH Predoctoral Fellow. After obtaining his Ph.D. in 2005, he worked as an NIH Postdoctoral Fellow at Yale University with Alanna Schepartz, working toward the synthesis of protein-like molecules composed of building blocks other than α -amino acids. He was appointed as Assistant Professor in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Pennsylvania in 2008 and in the Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics group in the Perelman School of Medicine in 2013. In 2015, he was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor. Prof. Petersson's research focuses on the development of new methods for protein labeling with synthetic amino acids, and their application to studying protein folding and stability. This includes studying the molecular basis for the pathology of Parkinson's Disease, and generating stabilized peptides to be used as injectable therapeutics or imaging agents. His research has been recognized by several awards, including a Sloan Fellowship, an NSF CAREER award, recognition as a Searle Scholar, the Award for Early Excellence in Physical Organic Chemistry, and a Thieme Chemistry Journal Award. He has also served as a member of the ACS Biological Division Advisory Council, the 2016 NSF Committee of Visitors, and is currently an Editor of Science of Synthesis and an Advisory Board member for the Royal Society's Open Science initiative.

DINNER: The lecture will be preceded by dinner at 6:00 PM in LANG 241. Dinner will be buffet style, including a vegetarian option and desert. The cost will be \$15.00 per person. Those wishing to reserve a spot for dinner should contact Linda Godfrey by email (lgodfrey@bucknell.edu) by 3 pm Friday September 8. Payment for dinner may be in advance (check to Bucknell University Chemistry Department) or at the dinner.

DIRECTIONS TO BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY:

East of Lewisburg: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Interstate 80 West to Exit 210A2. Route 15 South3. At 11th traffic light (the first light after crossing Route 45 (Market Street)), turn left onto Moore Avenue. (Look for the Bucknell Athletic Stadium on the left.)	West of Lewisburg: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Interstate 80 East to Exit 210A2. Route 15 South3. At 11th traffic light (the first light after crossing Route 45 (Market Street)), turn left onto Moore Avenue. (Look for the Bucknell Athletic Stadium on the left.)
South of Lewisburg: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Take Routes 11&15 North2. When Routes 11 & 15 split, stay on Route 15 (Tedd's Landing is on your right; KMart on your left)3. Approx. 7 miles after Selinsgrove / Shamokin Dam, you'll come to a stop light. Bucknell is on your right. (Look for the Bucknell Athletic Stadium on right.)	North of Lewisburg: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Take Route 15 south2. Once past Interstate 80, turn left on Moore Avenue at the 11th traffic light (the first light after crossing Route 45 (Market Street)). (Look for the Bucknell Athletic Stadium on the left.)

Once on campus: Follow the campus map below to the visitor parking designated with a **P**.



Online campus maps can be found at <http://www.bucknell.edu/script/communication/map/>

SECTION NEWS:

2018 LOCAL SECTION ELECTIONS:

Nominations are due for the position of Chair-elect. If interested, please contact Dr. Ron Supkowski at ronaldsupkowski@kings.edu or 570-208-5900x5733.

2017 LOCAL SECTION AWARDS

50-Year ACS members

DR. WAYNE FELTY
DR. PAUL HARADEM
MR. JAMES POECHMANN

60-Year ACS members

DR. RAYMOND BORKOWSKI
MR. DELBERT CRAGLE
DR. OWEN FAUT
MS. JANET KOHLER

Joseph Priestley Service Award

DR. GENEIVE HENRY

Susquehanna University

David H. Frederick Memorial Awards in High School Chemistry

Exam A Winners

NICHOLAS JACOBSON	Lewisburg Area High School Teacher – Ms. Angela Gockley
EVAN STUTZMAN	Hughesville High School Teacher – Mr. John Tamblin
JACK LEIGHTCAP	Abington Heights High School Teacher – Ms. Carolyn Siwak
BRADY WHILDIN	Marian Catholic High School Teacher – Mr. Robert Valente
ISABELLA SALCI	Hanover Area Jr/Sr High School Teacher – Dr. Jocelyn Holodick-Reed

Exam B Winners

ZANE PATTERSON	Mifflinburg Area High School Teacher – Mr. Brian Landis
CALLISTA DYER	Milton Area High School Teacher – Ms. Faye Hinson-Santos
TYLER LEESER	Milton Area High School Teacher – Ms. Faye Hinson-Santos

Exam A Runners-Up

PATRICK MCCOOL	Old Forge High School Teacher – Mrs. Adrianna Rupprecht
ABIGAIL WATSON	Jersey Shore Area High School Teacher – Mr. Alex Hunter
EMMA NAGLE	Jersey Shore Area High School Teacher – Mr. William Ferguson
SEAN BUSH	Williamsport Area High School Teacher – Mr. Andrew Paulhamus
DAMIEN REESE	Williamsport Area High School Teacher – Mr. Andrew Paulhamus
DOMINIC HORN	Williamsport Area High School Teacher – Mr. Chase Smith
CHRISTOPHER BOWER	South Williamsport Area Jr/Sr High School Teacher – Mr. Matthew Easley
RHIANNON NEWCOMER	South Williamsport Area Jr/Sr High School Teacher – Mr. Matthew Easley
NATALIE ZEGLEN	Honesdale High School Teacher – Ms. Michelle Tonkin
JOSHUA KLINGER	Selinsgrove High School Teacher – Ms. Tracy Hepner
EVAN LONG	Bloomsburg Area High School Teacher – Mr. Todd Davis
FREDRICK MEJIA	MMI Preparatory School Teacher – Mr. Todd Ronc

Exam B Runners-Up

CHRISTOPHER TIMBLIN	Shikellamy High School Teacher – Ms. Yvonne Monahan
JUSTIN KELLER	Sunbury Christian Academy Teacher – Ms. Heather Keller
MEGAN DILLON	Scranton Preparatory School Teacher – Mrs. Jane Nagurney
ROBERT BUTWIN	Wyoming Area High School Teacher – Mr. Gordon Williams
ABIGAIL RAUP	Danville Senior High School Teacher – Ms. Deborah Slattery

Chemistry Olympiad Competitors

JONATHAN ROSS	Abington Heights High School Teacher – Ms. Carolyn Siwak
SPENCER GILBERT	Abington Heights High School Teacher – Ms. Carolyn Siwak
ABIGAIL PAUL	MMI Preparatory School Teacher – Mr. Todd Runco
DOMENICK VENDER	Honesdale High School Teacher – Ms. Michelle Tonkin
ANDREW MURPHY	Honesdale High School Teacher – Ms. Michelle Tonkin
BENJAMIN LIN	Lewisburg High School Teacher – Ms. Angela Gockley

College Award Winners

TYLER BEHRENT	Bloomsburg University
OLIVIA FRY	
ROSS PIRNIE	Bucknell University
RYAN ACOCELLA	King's College
SERENA SMOKER	Lycoming College
ALEXANDRA WAGNER	Misericordia University
COREY GALLIS	Scranton University
MEGAN WRIGHT	Susquehanna University
JARRET COLVIN	Wilkes University
DAVID HONTZ	

2017 – 2018 LOCAL SECTION MEETING SCHEDULE:

13-Sept-2017: Bucknell University	14-Feb-2018: King's College
4-Oct-2017: Wilkes University <i>FIRST Wednesday of October</i>	14-March-2018: Susquehanna University
8-Nov-2017: Lycoming College	11-April-2018: Marywood University
Jan 2018: Executive Board Meeting	May-2018: Awards Banquet

NATIONAL CHEMISTRY WEEK: October 22 –28, 2017



The Susquehanna Valley Section is once again collecting posters for this year's event. If you know of a student in K-12 who would like to participate please contact Patrick Martino at patrick.martino@bucknell.edu. The deadline for submissions is Friday, November 3. For further details, see the [website](#):

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 2018 spring national meeting will be held in New Orleans, LA from March 18 – 22. See the [website](#) for 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
