American Chemical Society
Susquehanna Valley Section

THIRD 2018-2019 SEASON NEWSLETTER
(end of October)

The four hundred and forty ninth meeting of the American Chemical Society will be held on Thursday, October 25th, 2018 in the Mary Lindsay Welch Honors Hall on the campus of Lycoming College. The meeting will begin at 7:00 PM and will be preceded by a dinner at 5:15 PM. The speaker will be Nobel Laureate Dr. Roald Hoffmann. The meeting will coincide with the 2018 Lycoming College Douthat Lecture Series.

“Chemistry’s Essential Tensions: Three Views of a Science in Culture”

Dr. Roald Hoffmann
Frank H.T. Rhodes Professor of Humane Letters Emeritus
Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY

In this generously illustrated lecture several views of chemistry will be presented, stressing its psychological dimension and its tie to the arts: First of all, chemistry is, as it has always been, the art, craft, business of substances and their transformations. It is now also the science of microscopic molecules, both simple and complex. And then there are people’s perceptions of chemistry—alternating between seeing the healing and the hurting aspects of this truly anthropic science. The underlying psychological tensions will be explored, as will the strong element of creation or synthesis in chemistry, which brings chemistry close to the arts.
BIOGRAPHY OF DR. HOFFMAN:

Roald Hoffmann was born in 1937 in Zloczow, Poland. Having survived the war, he came to the U. S. in 1949, and studied chemistry at Columbia and Harvard Universities (Ph.D. 1962). Since 1965 he is at Cornell University, now as the Frank H. T. Rhodes Professor of Humane Letters Emeritus. He has received many of the honors of his profession, including the 1981 Nobel Prize in Chemistry (shared with Kenichi Fukui).

“Applied theoretical chemistry” is the way Roald Hoffmann likes to characterize the particular blend of computations stimulated by experiment and the construction of generalized models, of frameworks for understanding, that is his contribution to chemistry. The pedagogical perspective is very strong in his work.

Notable at the same time is his reaching out to the general public; he participated, for example, in the production of a television course in introductory chemistry titled “The World of Chemistry,” shown widely since 1990. And, as a writer, Hoffmann has carved out a land between science, poetry, and philosophy, through many essays and three books, “Chemistry Imagined” with artist Vivian Torrence, “The Same and Not the Same and Old Wine” (translated into six languages), “New Flasks: Reflections on Science and Jewish Tradition,” with Shira Leibowitz Schmidt.

Hoffmann is also an accomplished poet and playwright. He began writing poetry in the mid-1970s, eventually publishing the first of a number of collections, “The Metamict State,” in 1987, followed three years later by “Gaps and Verges,” then “Memory Effects” (1999), “Soliton” (2002). A bilingual selection of his poems has appeared in Spanish. He has also co-written a play with fellow chemist Carl Djerassi, entitled “Oxygen,” which has been performed worldwide, translated into ten languages. A second play by Roald Hoffmann, “Should’ve,” has had several workshop productions since 2006; a new play, “We Have Something That Belongs to You,” had its first workshop production in 2009.

DINNER:

The lecture will be preceded by dinner at 5:15 pm in the Jonas Room of the Wertz Student Center at Lycoming College. Please call or email reservations to Debbie Smith (570-321-4180 or smithdeb@lycoming.edu) by October 16. The dinner will cost $12.50 with limited seating available.

DIRECTIONS TO DINNER PARKING:

The parking lot is at 124 Washington Blvd. Williamsport, PA 17701.

Follow From I-80, take U. S. Route 15 north. Travel approximately 15 miles to Williamsport. Continue over the Market Street Bridge (stay in left lane) and follow the signs for the Business District. Go to the fourth traffic signal and turn right onto Little League Boulevard. Go one block east and turn left at the stop sign onto Mulberry Street. At the next traffic signal, turn right onto Washington Boulevard. The entrance to the Heim Building parking lot will be the first right.

From I-180/US-220, exit onto Market Street (Exit 27A). Turn left from the exit ramp at the traffic signal and follow Market Street north into the city. Go to the third traffic signal and turn right onto Little League Boulevard. Go one block east and turn left at the stop sign onto Mulberry Street. At the next traffic signal, turn right onto Washington Boulevard. The entrance to the Heim Building parking lot will be the first right.
DIRECTIONS TO LECTURE PARKING:

The parking lot is at 280 E Willow St. Williamsport, PA 17701.

From I-80, take U. S. Route 15 north. Travel approximately 15 miles to Williamsport. Continue over the Market Street Bridge (stay in left lane) and follow the signs for the Business District. Go to the second traffic signal and turn right onto East 3rd Street. Go five blocks east and turn left onto Basin Street at the traffic signal. The parking lot for Honors Hall is immediately to the left.

From I-180/US-220, exit onto Market Street (Exit 27A). Turn left from the exit ramp at the traffic signal and follow Market Street north into the city. Go to the first traffic signal and turn right onto East 3rd Street. Go five blocks east and turn left onto Basin Street at the traffic signal. The parking lot for Honors Hall is immediately to the left.

Mary Lindsay Welch Honors Hall is located on the corner of East Willow and Basin Streets.

Detailed directions can be found at the following internet address:

https://www.lycoming.edu/admissions/visit/directions.aspx

A detailed campus map can be found at the following internet address:

https://www.lycoming.edu/admissions/ourcampus/campusmap.aspx
SECTION NEWS:

2019 LOCAL SECTION ELECTIONS:
Nominations, including self-nominations, are due for the position of Chair-elect. If interested, please contact Dr. Ron Supkowski at ronaldsupkowski@kings.edu or 570-208-5900x5733.

NATIONAL CHEMISTRY WEEK:
NCW 2018 is October 21 –27 and the theme is “Chemistry is Out of This World.” 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 Wednesday, October 31. For further details, see the website.

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 the website, https://marm2019.org, for more information.

MISERICORDIA UNIVERSITY LECTURE SERIES ON CLIMATE CHANGE:
The College of Arts and Sciences at Misericordia University is inviting a variety of environmental experts, including a Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow, a climate scientist, and a representative of Greenpeace U.S.A. to explore the science of climate change in a series of lectures entitled, "The Impact of Climate Change on Society." The events are free and open to the public.

Monday, Oct. 22
Richard Alley, Ph.D., the Evan Pugh Professor of Geosciences at Penn State University, "Finding the Good News on Energy, Environment, and the Economy,"

Wednesday, Nov. 14
Charlie Cray, political and business strategist for the U.S. office of the global environmental organization Greenpeace U.S.A., "As a Society, What Can We Do about Climate Change?"

For additional information about the lecture series, please contact Rita Molino at rmolino@misericordia.edu or 570-674-8184 or visit the website: https://www.misericordia.edu/cf_news/view.cfm?newsid=3055
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/acsmembership.html

NATIONAL MEETINGS:

The 2019 spring national meeting will be held in Orlando, FL from March 31 – April 4. See the website for details. Deadline for abstract submission for most divisions is Monday, October 29.

The 2019 fall national meeting will be held in San Diego, CA from August 25 – 29.

Susquehanna Valley Section Web Page: http://departments.kings.edu/SusquehannaValleyACS
Please send any comments about the monthly newsletter to Ron Supkowski, Section Secretary
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