American Chemical Society
Susquehanna Valley Section

NOVEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

MONTHLY DINNER MEETING:

The four hundred and eighty-seventh meeting of the Susquehanna Valley Section of the American Chemical Society will be held on Wednesday November 11, 2026, at 7:00 pm in Heim Building Room G09 on the campus of Lycoming College. The speaker is Dr. Arthur McClelland of Analog Devices Incorporated. The presentation will be preceded by a dinner at 5:00 pm at the Bullfrog Brewery in downtown Williamsport. Please RSVP to Debbie Smith (570 321-4180) by noon on Tuesday, November 10th if you plan on attending the dinner.

Chasing Rainbows or Adventures with Raman Spectroscopy

Arthur McClelland, Ph.D.
Analog Devices Incorporated



ABSTRACT: Discover the vibrant history and evolving future of Raman spectroscopy, a technique born in 1923 using sunlight and glass photographic plates, which has transformed into a cornerstone of modern analytical science. This broad, introductory talk will trace the journey of optical spectroscopy from its foundational roots in Bangalore, India, through the laser revolution of 1960, to today's cutting-edge integration with data science and advanced computing.

Drawing from 15 years of experience managing the optical microscopy and spectroscopy facility at Harvard University's Center for Nanoscale Systems, I will share unique insights from a diverse portfolio of real-world research projects. The presentation will explore how Raman spectroscopy solves vastly different scientific puzzles, spanning from art analysis to tracking the protein folding mechanisms that lead to cataracts, and mapping live cells via bio-

imaging. Finally, the talk will offer a forward-looking perspective on where the exciting frontier of optical spectroscopy is heading next. Designed for a general scientific audience, this presentation highlights why a century-old technique remains one of the most dynamic and vital tools in modern industry and academia.

BIOGRAPHY: Dr. Arthur McClelland earned a Ph.D. in Applied Physics from the University of Michigan in 2009, conducting research within the Department of Chemistry under Dr. Zhan Chen. Following a postdoctoral fellowship at Northeastern University with Dr. Paul Champion, he spent 15 years running the shared optical microscopy and spectroscopy lab at Harvard University's Center for Nanoscale Systems. In the spring of 2026, he transitioned to industry, joining the Garage at Analog Devices Incorporated, where he currently works as a deep tech optical sensing researcher.

DINNER:
The dinner will be held at 5:00 pm at the Bullfrog Brewery in downtown Williamsport. Please call Debbie Smith (570 321-4180) by noon on Tuesday, November 10th if you plan on attending the dinner.

Bullfrog Brewery:
229 W 4th St, Williamsport, PA 17701
https://bullfrogbrewery.com

DIRECTIONS TO LYCOMING COLLEGE:
GPS address of the entrance to the Lynn Lot: 124 Washington Blvd, 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 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/Lynn Science Center parking lot will be the first right.

From I-180/US-220: Take exit 26, Basin Street. Stay in the right lane and continue onto Basin Street, going straight at the traffic light until you reach the stop sign. Turn left onto East Fourth Street. Go to the first traffic light, then turn right on to Mulberry Street. At the next traffic signal, turn right onto Washington Boulevard. Entrance to the Heim Building/Lynn Science Center Parking lot will be the first right. Proceed straight after entering the main doors of the Lynn Science center into the Heim Building. Heim G09 is downstairs on the ground floor.

Find further directions and a campus map here.

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 the person indicated on the site. Questions may also be directed to the Local Section Councilor.

2026-27 UPCOMING LOCAL SECTION MEETINGS:

November 11th, 2026 @ Lycoming College
January 2027 Executive Board Meeting

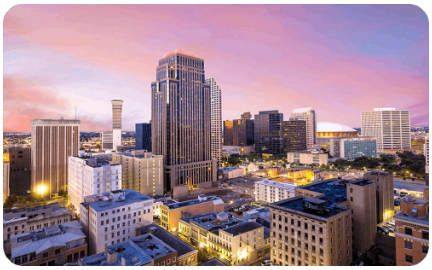
OPEN POSITIONS IN THE LOCAL SECTION:

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:

- Susquehanna Valley Local Section Chair-Elect
  This three-year position is the usual office taken on by local chemists who want to begin to become more involved in the local section.
- 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.
- CMA (Committee on Minority Affairs) Chair
  Help increase the number & participation of racially & ethnically underrepresented scientists in the Society and its governance.
- 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.
- 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.
- CCEW (Chemists Celebrate Earth Week) Coordinator
  Help promote the positive role that chemistry plays in protecting our planet.

If you are interested in learning more about these volunteer activities, please contact the section Councilor (Donald Mencer, donald.mencer@wilkes.edu).

NATIONAL ACS MEETINGS:



Spring 2027 ACS National Meeting

The Spring 2027 national meeting will be a hybrid event.

The meeting will be held 21 – 25 March 2027, and the in-person event will take place in New Orleans, Louisiana.

See the website for more information.

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/membership.html

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 advocacy website.

Joining the ACS' grassroots legislative advocacy network, ACT4CHEMISTRY 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 X account, or email advocacy@acs.org.

Act4Chemistry Advocacy Issues. To take action go to the website
https://www.acs.org/policy/memberadvocacy.html

Susquehanna Valley Section Web Page: svs-acs.org. Please send any comments about the monthly newsletter to your Local Section Secretary, Sydney Bachman, sydney.bachman@stellantsystems.com