

THE MIDLAND CHEMIST

A publication of the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society

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Vote by October 31 for Midland ACS 2013 Board

Shawn Chen, Nominations and Elections Chair

Please visit this website to cast your vote: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2LYHBNB>

Each Midland ACS Section member may only vote once. By entering a member number and submitting the ballot, you are certifying under penalty of fraud that the input member number is your member number, and that you are voting freely and on your own behalf.

In order to vote, you must be a member or associate member in good standing with the ACS. Affiliates are ineligible to vote according to National ACS bylaws.

Vote for the candidate of your choice, selecting one for each office except as noted for director. Click "Submit" on the last page of the profiles to cast your vote.

Note that, of the director candidates, those with the top three highest vote tallies will be elected to three-year terms.

Member number is for verification of voter eligibility only, and will be removed from each ballot prior to the counting of votes in order to ensure voter anonymity.

If you have trouble finding your member number or encounter any other difficulty in voting, please contact Shawn Chen (Nominations and Elections Chair) at xchen4@dow.com, or Gina Malczewski (2012 Midland ACS Chair) at gina.malczewski@dowcorning.com.

Voting closes on October 31. You must vote by 11:59 PM on October 31 for your vote to be counted.

Announcing the 2012 Fall Scientific Meeting and Sci-Fest

The 2012 Fall Scientific Meeting will be held at Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU) on Saturday, October 20, 2012. The meeting theme is *Chemistry: From the Nano Scale to the Community Scale*. The day will start with a keynote presentation from Professor Gary Blanchard of Michigan State University. His address is entitled *Nanomaterials and their Potential for the Community: From Portable Power Generation to Chemical Sensing*. There will be two symposia, one on nanotechnology and the other on community based collaborations. These will be followed by lunch and a poster session.

New this year will be a teacher's workshop with a chemistry lab and demo exchange. Teachers from schools around the Midland Section can learn about safe, inexpensive, and easy experiments for their classrooms. The 2012 Sci-Fest event will also be held at SVSU that day with the theme of *Nanotechnology: The Smallest Big Idea in Science*. Volunteers are needed.

For more information and program updates, please see the FSM 2012 website at <http://midlandacs.org/index.php?page=fsm-home>. If you have any questions, please contact David Karpovich, 2012 Fall Scientific Meeting Chair, by phone 989-964-4349, or by email (dsk@svsu.edu).

ACS Midland Section to Host Free Seminar on Hydraulic Fracturing (Fracking) for Natural Gas Extraction

Midland Section of the American Chemical Society (ACS) will host a free seminar on hydraulic fracturing for natural gas extraction in Bay City Western High School on October 22 at 7 p.m. The seminar is free and open to the public. No registration is required.

Natural gas production from hydrocarbon rich shale rock formations, known as "shale gas," is one of the most rapidly expanding trends in onshore domestic gas exploration and production. Currently, fracking is the process used in 9 out of 10 natural gas wells in the United States. Michigan has a rich shale gas deposit. More than 12,000 gas wells in Michigan have been using fracking to extract gas.

Fracking is a controversial topic. The proponents believe that the technology has the potential to not only dramatically reduce our reliance on foreign fuel imports, but also to significantly reduce our national carbon dioxide emissions and accelerate our transition to a carbon-light environment. Opponents, however, are worried that the chemicals used in fracking may pose a threat to underground water and the surface environment. Some states banned fracking entirely.

Should Michigan expand hydraulic fracking? Or should we ban the practice? Jim Armbruster, senior geologist with Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, will explain. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Hydrogeology and Environmental Science from Central Michigan University in 1998 and has both private sector and government experience. He is a member of the American Institute of Professional Geologists, and sits on numerous in-house committees including the Hydraulic Fracturing Workgroup.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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Member Connection Update

Tina Leaym, Director

We heard you! Thanks to all who responded to the survey as the Midland Section streamlines our communication efforts. To maximize impact and minimize volunteer hours, it is clear that changes are needed. We all love *The Midland Chemist*, and we will continue to benefit from this vehicle with some exciting updates. Effective immediately we are moving to a more compact e-mail style format, and our publication schedule will be once a month. Stay tuned!

Special Note: The Section thanks Amy Tesolin-Gee, Steve Keinath, and Adrian Merrington for their countless hours of service as our communication specialists. We appreciate their excellent guidance as we re-shape our communication to fit member needs!

Call for Volunteers for 44th CERM

The 44th Central Regional ACS Meeting is being hosted by the Midland Section and will take place on the campus of Central Michigan University, May 15-18, 2013. The Midland Section last hosted the Central Regional Meeting in 2006 in Frankenmuth. In recent years, 600-1000 people have attended Central Regional meetings. Attendees are able to interact with a large number of other chemists from the region, which includes parts of Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania.

The organizing committee is actively seeking volunteers who are interested in helping with the planning of the 2013 Meeting. Volunteers are welcome in all areas, though we are particularly interested in identifying individuals who would be willing to assist with fundraising in the Midland area chemical community. Committees include technical program, poster session, treasurer, program book editor, awards, fundraising, undergraduate program, exposition, publicity, webmaster, education program, and social activities.

The theme is Building Blocks for a Sustainable World. Watch our website for more information: <http://www.2013cerm.sites.acs.org/> . Please contact Phil Squattrito (p.squattrito@cmich.edu or 989-774-4407) to volunteer or for more information.

MMTG Participates in Social, Educational, and Networking Events

Jeff Seifferly, 2012 MMTG Chair

Mid-Michigan Technician Group (MMTG) hosted a Princess Wenonah Cruise and membership drive in August. Nineteen members and five guests attended the 3-hour cruise of the Saginaw River and Saginaw Bay. We were able to circle around to see the newly-docked USS Edson Navy destroyer and were entertained by the 25c Beer Band.

MMTG partially covered the travel/registration costs for three MMTG members to attend the ACS Central Regional Meeting in Detroit, along with having two MMTG members—both ACS National Committee members—attend the ACS Fall National Meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

MMTG held its third “Lunch-and-Learn” of 2012 where members reviewed a DVD entitled “*A New Attitude – How to Achieve Personal and Professional Success by Keeping a Positive Mental Outlook.*” We learned the benefits of a positive attitude and how maintaining a constructive outlook helps in difficult situations. The program also discussed how to bounce back quickly from setbacks, turn a negative attitude around, and make the most of your job, relationships, and life.

World's Brightest Chemistry Students Convene for 44th International Chemistry Olympiad

Nearly 300 of the brightest young minds in chemistry from 72 countries convened at the University of Maryland on Sunday, July 22, for the opening ceremony of the 44th International Chemistry Olympiad (IChO). Dow is the sole corporate sponsor of this year's Olympiad, held in the U.S. for only the second time in the 44-year history of the event.

The opening ceremony marked the beginning of a week packed with examinations and lectures covering analytical chemistry, biochemistry, inorganic chemistry, organic chemistry, physical chemistry, and spectroscopy. Martin O'Malley, Governor of the State of Maryland, and Dr. Wallace Loh, President of the University of Maryland, were joined by Jerome Peribere, executive vice president of Dow and CEO of Dow Advanced Materials, in welcoming the competitors at the ceremony.

"Every Olympian in this room is gifted with a keen mind, or you would not be here today," said Peribere in his remarks to the competitors. "Each of you has the power to choose how you use your gifts to impact the future."

Dow announced in September 2011 that it is the sole sponsor of the 44th IChO. The sponsorship further expands the Company's mission to highlight the importance of chemistry and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) education. It comes on the heels of a successful year as a sponsor of the International Year of Chemistry and supports Dow's many education initiatives.

"As a global company with operations in more than 40 participating nations, the International Chemistry Olympiad is an outstanding opportunity to help inspire the next generation of scientists," said Andrew Liveris, Dow chairman and CEO. "With more than 95 percent of all manufactured products requiring some level of chemistry, highly educated and inspired scientists will help ensure a sustainable future for our Company, our planet and our communities."

Building on this tremendous opportunity to connect with chemistry students across the globe, Dow has launched a Facebook platform called Dow Solutionists in School. The purpose of this page is to build a community of students, educators, and influencers around an interest in chemistry and highlight the solutions and personal opportunities that a career in chemistry and a background in STEM education can provide. Visit the page at www.facebook.com/dowsolutionistsinschool.

For more information about Dow's sponsorship and the Olympiad, view the official press release <http://www.businesswire.com/news/dow/20110920005458/en> or visit <http://www.icho2012.org>.

Contact: Scott Thomas (sthomas@dow.com), Office of the Chairman & CEO, The Dow Chemical Company

In Past Issues of The Midland Chemist

Wendell Dilling, Director and Historian

40 Years Ago This Month

In *Report to the Midland Section, ACS Meeting – New York* by David C. Young, Fred C. Leavitt, and Linneaus C. Dorman, Midland Section Councilors: "The August 1972 meeting of the Council Committee on Professional Relations was dominated by discussions of the ACS's Guidelines for Employers. This document is used by this Committee as a basis for judging whether employers who have had major layoffs have treated chemists or chemical engineers involved in a professional manner. In addition, the Guidelines serve as a base in judging specific Membership Assistance Cases brought before the committee."

30 Years Ago This Month

In *“Olympics of the Mind” Replaces Science Quiz* by Joan M. Sabourin, O/M Chairperson: “The former Science Quiz program conducted by the Midland ACS has been replaced by a very exciting, creative venture. It is an interscholastic program known as the ‘Olympics of the Mind.’ The program provides creative problem solving in a competitive setting. It is currently operating in more than 1500 elementary and secondary schools throughout the country where students are challenged to ‘invent’ solutions to unique problems.”

20 Years Ago This Month

In *1992 Fall Scientific Meeting* by Steven A. Snow and Maris J. Ziemelis, General Co-Chairpersons, 1992 ACS Fall Scientific Meeting: "The Midland Section of the American Chemical Society would like to welcome you to the 48th ACS Fall Scientific Meeting. In choosing this year’s theme of “Communicating Science”, we are expanding beyond the traditional role of the meeting as an outlet for local ACS members to present their work. Through increased participation from area colleges, universities, as well as K-12 educators, we hope to provide a forum for exchange of scientific and educational information. Collectively, we are striving to promote the positive image of science within our communities and public at large through improved education.”

10 Years Ago This Month

In *Boston: A Rewarding Experience for the Section!* by Gretchen Kohl and Bob Howell, Section Councilors: "The big news, covered in detail in another article in this issue, is the Section winning five out of the six ChemLuminary Awards for which we were nominated. Just being nominated for outstanding performance is a feat. There are 189 local sections, and we’re glad to report that we continue to win more than our share, as would be determined by random statistics. This is the result of very hard work by many members of the Section, funding from The Dow Chemical Company and Dow Corning Corporation, and matching grants from ACS NCW. We were honored to accept two of these awards on behalf of the Section. It is very rewarding to be councilors for this Section, as its accomplishments are well-recognized by ACS staff, governance, and at events at these ACS meetings (even by MiliMole!), including recognition during the actual Council meeting.”

October hv

Dr. Pasquale Di Raddo, Department of Physical Science, Ferris State University
(PasqualeDiRaddo@ferris.edu)

*refracting
particled
streams of light
beaming through
densely packed
canopy
space so tight
in golden
reddish hues:
a weekend
afternoon
d-light.*

Upcoming Dates, Events and Updates

- October 20 (8:30 AM-2:00 PM) – Midland Section ACS 2012 Fall Scientific Meeting, Saginaw Valley State University. Theme: *Chemistry: From the Nano Scale to the Community Scale*. For more information, contact 2012 FSM Meeting Chair, Dave Karpovich, at dsk@svsu.edu or by phone 989-964-4349.

- October 20 (10:00 AM-2:00 PM) – 2012 Sci-Fest event, Saginaw Valley State University. Theme: *Nanotechnology: The Smallest Big Idea in Science*. For more information, contact Dave Stickles at dstick44@chartermi.net.
- October 22 (7 PM) – ACS Midland Section to Host Free Seminar on Hydraulic Fracturing (Fracking) for Natural Gas Extraction, Bay City Western High School. For more information, contact Gavin Lu at g.lu@dowcorning.com or by phone 989-496-5512. November 5 (7:00-9:00 PM) – ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via conference call at phone number: 866-299-7945, participant code: 9837036#
- December 3 (7:00-9:00 PM) – ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via conference call at phone number: 866-299-7945, participant code: 9837036#