

THE MIDLAND CHEMIST

A publication of the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society

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Chair Column

Jaime Curtis-Fisk, Chair, Midland Section ACS



What a wonderful time to be a part of the Midland Local ACS Section! Our efforts in sustainability, education outreach, and professional development have been recognized through the ChemLuminary awards, with seven of these prestigious honors being granted to our local section at the recent National ACS Meeting in Philadelphia, by far the most of any other local section!

This is a tremendous accomplishment for all of our local section leaders that design and implement the programs that earned us national recognition, all of the volunteers that power these activities, and our local members that make these events a success through your participation.

The most significant of these awards is the ChemLuminary for overall Outstanding Performance by a Medium Size Section, where we were recognized for the fourth year in a row. The ChemLuminary awards that we received include:

- Outstanding Performance by a Local Section – Medium Size Category Award
- Outstanding Leadership Development Program Award
- Outstanding Sustainability Activities

- Outstanding Community Involvement in Chemists Celebrate Earth Day
- Outstanding Kids & Chemistry Award
- Best Activity or Program in a Local Section Stimulating Membership Involvement
- Best Event or Activity Organized by, or Benefiting, the Applied Chemical Technology Professional Community

Please see also the accompanying article about the ChemLuminary Awards by Past-Chair Gina Malczewski on pages 5 to 6, and some photos from the awards event on page 6.

While looking back on our recent accomplishments may be gratifying, we also need to look ahead to keeping this momentum strong. The success of our local section depends on the involvement of our members, and a great way to get involved is through an elected position.

This fall we will be holding elections for 2017 board positions. If you are looking for a way to be engaged in your local scientific community, expand your network, or hone your leadership skills, please consider one of these positions. If you have any questions about the local section or our board positions please do not hesitate to contact me, or for information on the process of running for an elected position please contact Wenyi Huang. The open positions for next year include:

- Chair-elect (1-year term)
- Secretary (1-year term)
- Treasurer (1-year term)
- Chair, Nominations and Elections (1-year term)
- Councilor (3-year term)
- Alternate Councilor (3-year term)
- Directors (3 open positions, 3-year terms)

Please see also the accompanying Call for Nominations article by Wenyi Huang (Chair, Nominations and Elections) on pages 4 to 5.

Call for Abstracts for 2016 Fall Scientific Meeting

Michael Vagnini, Chair, 2016 Fall Scientific Meeting, Midland Section ACS

Mark your calendars for the Midland Section's 72nd Fall Scientific Meeting! This year's event – with a theme of *Solving Mysteries through Chemistry* – will be held on Saturday, October 22, at Saginaw Valley State University. For the first time in several years, there will be concurrent sessions of oral presentations, offering more local scientists and students the opportunity to present their work. The poster session is also being expanded, and the Mid-Michigan Technicians Group is hosting a networking reception following the main Fall Scientific Meeting event. Our keynote speaker will be Dr. Christopher S. Palenik, VP and Senior Research Microscopist at Microtrace.

Registration details will be announced soon, but we are now accepting abstracts for oral and poster presentations! Please e-mail abstracts to Peter Bai (PJBai@dow.com), indicating your preference for an oral or poster presentation. There are a limited number of oral presentation time slots, but all abstracts will be considered for the poster session. The abstract submission deadline for industry professionals was August 13,

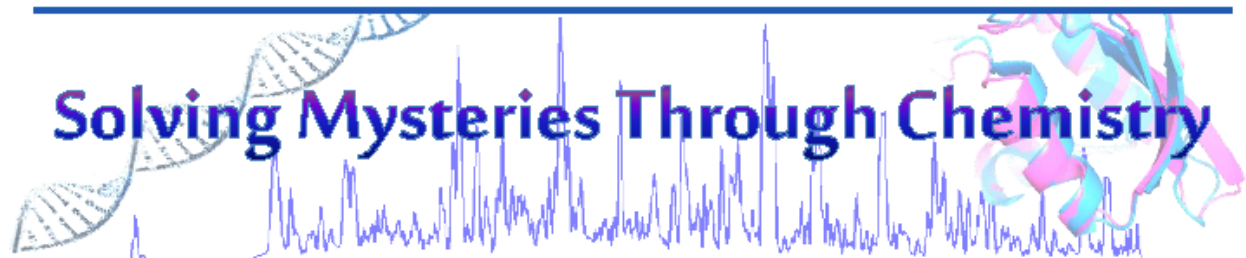
and the deadline for academic researchers and students is September 17. Please contact Fall Scientific Meeting Chair Mike Vagnini (MTVagnini@dow.com) with any questions.



ACS Fall Scientific Meeting

Saturday, October 22, 2016

Saginaw Valley State University, Curtiss Hall



New highlights for the 2016 meeting:

Expanded oral presentation sessions and a larger poster session!

More opportunities for industry professionals, academic researchers, and students to present in both formats.

Networking reception held with the Mid-Michigan Technicians Group!

Call for abstracts!

Deadline for industry professionals: August 13, 2016

Deadline for academic researchers and students: Sept. 17, 2016

E-mail PJBai@dow.com, indicating oral or poster presentation.

For any questions, please contact the Chair at MTVagnini@dow.com!



Keynote Speaker
Dr. Christopher S. Palenik
VP and Senior Research
Microscopist at Microtrace

MMTG Announces 25th Anniversary Celebration Event and Joint Symposium at 2016 FSM

Jeff Seifferly, MMTG Co-Chair

The Mid-Michigan Technician Group (MMTG), which is an affiliated group of the Midland Section of the ACS, is hosting a symposium at our local Fall Scientific Meeting (FSM) in celebration of our 25th year anniversary. Our symposium will run in parallel with the FSM program. This year's FSM theme is Forensics – *Solving Mysteries through Chemistry* – and is being held on October 22 at SVSU. We have chosen our Keynote Speaker, Christopher Palenik of Microtrace, a forensic analytical scientist.

Along with the symposium, we will feature a historical presentation on the inception of MMTG in 1991, including our mission and goals, the 13 ChemLuminary Awards MMTG has received to date, and detail the various awards we have given out, such as the Outstanding Chemical Technology Student Award. We will also

honor members of MMTG that have received awards as a Local Section Outstanding Chemical Technician or have won the National ACS Chemical Technician award (we have 6 ACS National awardees) at an award/celebration reception with MMTG member participants and local students enrolled in Delta College's Associate Degree programs (Chemical, Chemical Process, or Environmental Technology).

Our symposium/25th anniversary celebration is a joint effort by MMTG (industry technicians) and Delta's two-year Chemical Technology program. We will be partnered with Dr. Dave Baker of Delta College. He is the Chemical Technology program chair at Delta College and MMTG's liaison to the Chemical Technology students. He will be coordinating the student involvement in the symposium and celebration. We also hope to encourage the students and technicians to participate in the FSM afternoon poster session.

For more information, please contact Jeff Seifferly, 2016 MMTG Co-Chair, at jeff.seifferly@dowcorning.com or call 989-496-4239.

Call for Nominations for 2017 Officer and Director Candidates ***Wenyi Huang, Chair, Nominations and Elections Committee, Midland Section ACS***

Here is your opportunity to become more involved in your local ACS section! We need candidates to run for the following positions for 2017:

- Chair-elect (1-year term)
- Secretary (1-year term)
- Treasurer (1-year term)
- Chair, Nominations and Elections Committee (1-year term)
- Councilor (3-year term)
- Alternate Councilor (3-year term)
- Directors (3 open positions, 3-year terms)

If you are interested in running for any of these positions, or if you know of someone who might be interested, please contact Wenyi Huang at whuang1@dow.com or 989-636-5789. If you have any questions regarding the responsibilities of any of the positions listed above, please contact the current officers or Wenyi Huang. You are also encouraged to visit the Midland Section ACS website at www.midlandacs.org.

Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the September 12 Board meeting (MCFTA Board Room, 7:00 PM). Please be aware that the nominees will have to accept their nomination prior to the announcement from the floor. If you are not motivated to run for a board position, there are still many other interesting ways in which you can serve. Please contact the committee chairs or any board member for more information. The Committees are listed below.

Awards	Technology	Teacher Support
Chemistry Olympiad	Project SEED	Fall Scientific Meeting
Publicity	Finance	Program
Outreach/Kids and Chemistry	Midland Chemist	Silver Circle/Senior Chemists
Long Range Planning	Diversity and Multicultural Committee	Nominations and Elections
Historian	Women Chemists Committee	Membership

There are a variety of compelling reasons to take advantage of the chance to become involved as an officer, director, or committee leader/member for our award-winning Section – networking beyond your workplace, an opportunity to provide vision and voice to your local scientific community, and a chance to hone your interpersonal and leadership skills. Please consider getting involved with the Midland Section ACS.

Midland Section Wins Seven ACS ChemLuminary Awards for Outstanding 2015 Activities

Gina Malczewski, Past-Chair, Midland Section ACS

The 2015 ChemLuminary Awards were announced at the 252nd ACS National Meeting in Philadelphia, on Tuesday, August 23. These awards were based on activity descriptions given as part of the annual report and are decided by 19 Society Committees; section size is not a consideration.

The Midland Section ACS received more awards than any other section this year! And, this is the fourth year in a row that the Midland Section has been awarded for the best overall performance in its size category! The awards received and the events or accomplishments recognized included:

- **Best Event or Activity Organized by, or Benefiting, the Applied Chemical Technology Professional Community:** MMTG Lunch and Learn Session on Emotional Intelligence
- **Outstanding Community Involvement in CCED:** Earth Day Expo and Passport Program
- **Outstanding Sustainability Activities:** ACS Garden and Greenhouse (a tie with Dallas-Fort Worth and their project)
- **Outstanding Leadership Development Program Award:** Strategic Planning Event
- **Best Activity or Program Stimulating Member Involvement:** Madeline Jacobs visit to Midland
- **Outstanding Kids and Chemistry Award:** For all of the events sponsored by Kids and Chemistry in 2015
- **Outstanding Performance by a Local Section (Medium Size)** (There are 45 medium size sections in the ACS)

The following Midland Section ACS award entries, though not winners, were also recognized as finalists:

- **Most Innovative Activity in a Local Section for Senior Chemists:** Silver Circle Kick-Off Event
- **Outstanding On-going NCW Event:** Participation in GLBSEF and Education Day with the Saginaw Spirit
- **Outstanding High School Student Program Award:** Reaction Labs at Midland High School (Alka Seltzer, Diet Coke, and Mentos)
- **Most Innovative New Activity or Program:** Sci Pi Day Program at SVSU

Midland Section ACS member **Dave Stickles** and other Outstanding ACS Section Outreach Volunteers were honored, and **Joan Sabourin** (also a Midland Section ACS member) was recognized as a Fellow of the American Chemical Society.

Last year the Midland Section received three ChemLuminary Awards, including Outstanding Section in our size category. Our success would not be possible without our motivated volunteers. Thank you!

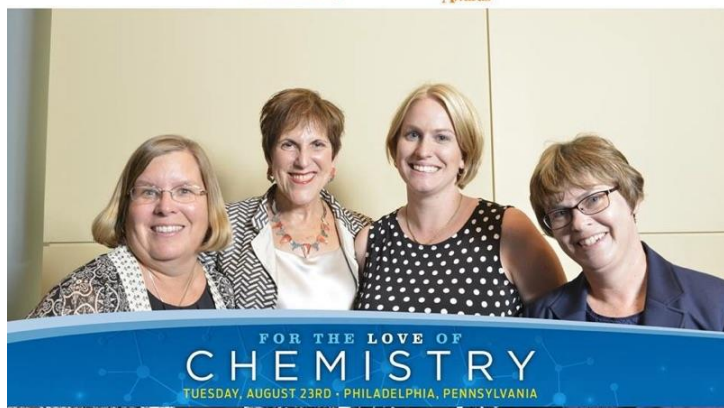
Photos from the ChemLuminary Awards Event

Steve Keinath, Co-Editor, The Midland Chemist



Left photo: Midland Section ACS leaders celebrating the fruits of their labor at the recent ChemLuminary Awards event, held at the Fall National ACS Meeting in Philadelphia. (Photo courtesy of Jaime Curtis-Fisk)

Right photo: Tom Lane, Ex Officio Director of the Midland Section of the ACS and a past National ACS President, congratulates Joan Sabourin, Retired Professor of Chemistry and Science Division Chair, Delta College, on her becoming a Fellow of the American Chemical Society. (Photo courtesy of Janet Smith)



Left photo (left to right): Janet Smith, Director; Madeleine Jacobs, Retired ACS Executive Director and CEO; Jamie Curtis-Fisk, Chair; and Tina Leaym, Councilor. (Photo courtesy of Janet Smith)

ACS Vote 2020 Task Force Seeks ACS Member Input

Tom Lane, Ex Officio Director, Midland Section ACS



COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS VOTE 2020 Task Force

The ACS Vote 2020 Task Force has been charged with:

- **Communicating** with Society stakeholders to seek input on what is working well, and what needs to be improved, in the process to elect the national leadership of the Society;
- **Seeking input** on modern methods of running elections that could be incorporated in the Society's national election processes; and
- **Establishing** and presenting to the Committee on Nominations and Elections a comprehensive set of proposals by Spring, 2017.

WE INVITE COMMENTS ON:

- Aspects of the current ACS National Election process that you like the most.
- One major change that you would like to see about the ACS National Election process.
- What you like about how other organizations and groups to which you belong (or have heard about) elect their leaders.
- What you expect to be different in the ACS National Election process in the future.

SEND YOUR THOUGHTS AND IDEAS TO: Vote2020@acs.org

2016 STEM Festival Hosted by Delta College, September 23-24

Cindy Drake, Delta College Coordinator and Liaison, 2016 STEM Festival

An incredible STEM opportunity – the Mind Trekkers powered Dow Great Lakes Bay STEM Festival for middle school students – will be returning for the 4th time to the Great Lakes Bay Region on September 23-24, 2016.

- Friday, September 23, will be for area middle schools to bus students to the event for two-hour sessions from 8:30 AM to 2:00 PM.
- Saturday, September 24, will be free and open to the public from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

As you know, STEM is an extremely diverse area of study that provides great job prospects, particularly in our area. As the Delta College Coordinator and Liaison for this event, I am working with Cody Kangas and his team from Michigan Technological University to bring the 4th and expanded version of the STEM Festival to Delta College this year.

The following links will provide you with some insights on what Mind Trekkers events are all about: <http://www.mindtrekkers.mtu.edu> and <https://www.facebook.com/MindTrekks>. And, to see pictures from last year's two-day event, go to: <http://www.delta.edu/science/sciencefestival>.

This event is brought to you by the generosity of the following sponsors:

- The Dow Chemical Company
- Mind Trekkers – Michigan Tech
- Delta College
- Midland Area Community Foundation

I am extremely excited to be a part of this event again this year and hope that you and others will join us in this “WOW” of a program. For more information, please contact Cindy Drake at cynthiadrake@delta.edu or 989-686-9433. Thank you.

HANTZ GROUPSM

Dow Chemical Workshops

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

- Thursday
January 26th, 2017
**Proactive Financial
Planning for 2017**
- Thursday
May 18th, 2017
**Retirement
Workshop**
- Thursday,
August 17th, 2017
Estate Planning

TO REGISTER:
Please Call Brett at
(989) 839-4916

NEXT SCHEDULED WORKSHOP:

TAX IMPACT ON BENEFIT ELECTIONS

OCTOBER 20, 2016 6:00 PM
MIDLAND COUNTRY CLUB

SPONSORED BY:
HANTZ FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.*,
Brett Gehringer & Andrew Borowiak

SPEAKER: Fred Lambert, CPA

Join us for a workshop that may help
Minimize taxes through proper Benefit Elections!

TOPICS TO BE COVERED:

- Health Insurance Options and tax impact
- 401(k) contribution options and tax implications
 - Pre-Tax, Roth, After-Tax
- Roth IRA's for high income earners
- Other benefit decisions

Open Forum for Q&A at conclusion

Refreshments will be provided

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Silver Circle Senior Chemists Host Summer Garden Picnic

Gina Malczewski, Past-Chair, Midland Section ACS

The Silver Circle (ACS Senior Chemist group) offered brats and grilled vegetables, along with salads and ice cream at an outdoor gathering held during the noon hour on Monday, August 8 at Creative 360 in Midland. The foods and infused drinks utilized produce from the community garden, which was showcased in a tour along with the Midland ACS recycled-bottle greenhouse. An ACS webinar on ice cream was shown indoors, along with a real-time experiment involving local fast- and slow-melting ice creams. It was a beautiful day and everyone enjoyed the mid-day summer respite!

This event is the first in a planned series of "Four Seasons" events being organized by the Silver Circle senior chemist group. Stay tuned for more information about an upcoming fall activity. If you have suggestions or questions, please contact Joan Sabourin (jmsabour2@gmail.com) or Gretchen Kohl (gretchen.kohl@att.net).



Michigan State University Midland Summer Research Program

Vickie Langer, Co-Editor, The Midland Chemist

A group of Midland-area high school students (Fall 2016 seniors) spent their summer break working on challenging research projects over the course of an eight-week, full-time, paid internship program at the MSU STEM Center on West St. Andrews Road in Midland. The student research interns were mentored by MSU scientists while conducting research in areas of chemistry and materials science. Additional information about the program may be found online at: <http://research.msu.edu/summer-research/>.

On the evening of August 18, a reception was held at the MSU STEM Center to celebrate the accomplishments of this outstanding group of students, as they presented interesting, concise overviews of their research projects, followed by a question-and-answer session and tours showcasing their laboratory operations. The research project titles are listed below, along with the associated mentor(s) and research intern names.

- **Timed-Release Miticides for Honey Bees by Attaching Natural Miticides to Polymers**
Preceptor: Edmund Stark, Ph.D., Research interns: Nicole Evans and Caroline Szabo
- **3D Printing Poly(lactic acid) (PLA)-Based Composites**
Preceptors: Robert Bubeck, Ph.D., and Tracy Zhang, Ph.D., Research interns: James Gustin and Kiley Mowry
- **Synthesis of Redox Shuttle Additives for Lithium Ion Batteries**
Preceptor: Adina Dumitrascu, Ph.D., Research interns: Brittney Duford and Matthew Lile
- **A Study of Fluoride Absorption from Groundwater**
Preceptor: Daniel Henton, Ph.D., Research interns: Samantha Damocles, Cara Spencer, and Melody Wang
- **¹⁹F-NMR Analyses of Fluoroaluminate Complexes**
Preceptor: Daniel Henton, Ph.D., Research interns: Elizabeth Fleming, Danny Kim, and Wade Winton



2016 MSU Midland Summer Research Program Interns (left to right):

Danny Kim, H. H. Dow High School
James Gustin, Midland High School
Wade Winton, H. H. Dow High School
Caroline Szabo, H. H. Dow High School
Melody Wang, H. H. Dow High School
Elizabeth Fleming, Bullock Creek High School
Nicole Evans, Bullock Creek High School
Cara Spencer, Midland High School
Brittney Duford, Midland High School
Kiley Mowry, H. H. Dow High School
Matthew Lile, Midland High School
Samantha Damocles, H. H. Dow High School

Greenhouse and Garden Update

Gina Malczewski, Past-Chair, Midland Section ACS

In 2015, a 6' x 8' x 10' greenhouse was built from recycled bottles by the Kids and Chemistry group (with the help of a few other friends, too) near the community garden at Creative 360 in Midland. This summer, we have been demonstrating ways to use the limited space in the greenhouse to grow produce. Stacked beds have been built inside with lumber and supplies purchased at great discount from Lowe's. These have been planted with various peppers, romaine lettuce, herbs, and tomatoes. A vermiculture (worm bed) unit was assembled with the assistance from folks from the SVSU greenhouse. The worm leachate (worm tea) is aerated with a solar-powered bubbler, and the "tea" is diluted and used for fertilizer. A solar panel on the roof of the greenhouse is powering a pump used in a hydroponic unit, where plants are growing in a medium of only water and nutrients. Topsy-turvy tomato plants hung from the roof beam further demonstrate how to creatively use the maximum space in the greenhouse. To date, the greenhouse has produced peppers, romaine lettuce, and tomatoes, and it will be even more useful when the outside weather gets colder.

Trellises for zucchini, cucumbers, pumpkins, and other plants were installed at the garden this year as well, and we have planted and/or maintained several planting beds producing at least four varieties of heirloom tomatoes (and other types of tomatoes, too), eggplant, peppers, various herbs, and corn. To date, we have donated over 170 lbs. of produce to the SAMS Emergency Food Pantry and to the Giving Care Network. Presentations about the chemistry involved in our efforts were made at the greenhouse to the participants of two Creative 360 summer camps.



Left: Looking through the open greenhouse door, seeing the planting beds and the topsy-turvy tomatoes. Right: Another view of the greenhouse (opposite the door side), showing the solar panel on the roof that runs the pump for the hydroponics bed. Next page, top: The pumpkin, cucumber, and zucchini trellis on August 26. (Photos courtesy of Gina Malczewski)



***The Midland Chemist* Trivia Challenge**
Vickie Langer, Co-Editor, The Midland Chemist

Our September trivia challenge question is: "What is the difference between silicon and silicone?"

Please submit your answer to the editors at newseditor@midlandacs.org, using the e-mail Subject header "September Trivia Challenge Answer". Your answer to the question should be simple and brief. A name will be drawn at random to receive an ACS Periodic Table pen, from among those submitting any correct answer. Please submit your trivia challenge answer no later than September 30.

14	28.086
3267	1.7
1412	
Si	
[Ne]3s ² 3p ²	
2.33	4

Information about the fascinating field of silicone chemistry may be found at the website: <http://www.dowcorning.com/content/discover/discoverchem/>.



Note: Any reader of *The Midland Chemist* may participate in the trivia challenge. Winners' names will be published in future issues of *The Chemist*, unless the winner prefers to remain anonymous (permission will be requested prior to publication).

List of Advertisers in this Issue

Hantz Financial Services, Inc. Page 8

Upcoming Dates, Events, and Other Updates

- September 12 (6:00 – 7:00 PM) – Midland Section ACS 100th Anniversary Celebration planning team meeting, MCFTA Board Room. For more information, or to volunteer, please contact Michelle Cummings at michelle.cummings@dowcorning.com or 989-496-4672.
- September 12 (7:00 – 9:00 PM) – ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via a WebEx conference call connection at [Midland Section WebEx Board Meeting](#), phone number: 866-299-7945, participant code: 9837036#.
- September 17 – Deadline for submission of abstracts from academic researchers and students for the 2016 Fall Scientific Meeting. Abstracts should be submitted by e-mail to PJBai@dow.com, indicating your preference for an oral or a poster presentation. For any questions, please contact Mike Vagnini (MTVagnini@dow.com), Chair, 2016 Fall Scientific Meeting.
- September 23 (8:30 AM – 2:00 PM) – 2016 STEM Festival, Delta College, open for area middle schools to bus students to the event for two-hour sessions. For more information, please contact Cindy Drake at cynthiadrake@delta.edu or 989-686-9433.
- September 24 (10:00 AM – 4:00 PM) – 2016 STEM Festival, Delta College, free and open to the public. For more information, please contact Cindy Drake at cynthiadrake@delta.edu or 989-686-9433.
- October 3 (7:00 – 9:00 PM) – ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via a WebEx conference call connection at [Midland Section WebEx Board Meeting](#), phone number: 866-299-7945, participant code: 9837036#.
- October 10 (5:00 – 6:30 PM) – Midland Section ACS 100th Anniversary Celebration planning team meeting, MSU STEM Center (1910 West St. Andrews Road, Midland). For more information, or to volunteer, please contact Michelle Cummings at michelle.cummings@dowcorning.com or 989-496-4672.
- October 20 (6:00 PM) – Hantz Group Dow Chemical Workshop, *Tax Impact on Benefit Elections*, Midland Country Club. Speaker: Fred Lambert, CPA. For more information, and to register for the workshop, please contact Brett Gehringer at 989-839-4916.
- October 22 (8:30 AM – 3:15 PM) – 2016 Midland Section ACS Fall Scientific Meeting, Curtiss Hall, Saginaw Valley State University. For more information, or any questions, please contact Mike Vagnini (MTVagnini@dow.com), Chair, 2016 Fall Scientific Meeting.
- October 22 – Mid-Michigan Technician Group (MMTG) Symposium and 25th Anniversary Celebration, to run in parallel with the 2016 Midland Section ACS Fall Scientific Meeting, Curtiss Hall, Saginaw Valley State University. For more information, please contact Jeff Seifferly, 2016 MMTG Co-Chair, at jeff.seifferly@dowcorning.com or 989-496-4239.
- November 7 (7:00 – 9:00 PM) – ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via a WebEx conference call connection at [Midland Section WebEx Board Meeting](#), phone number: 866-299-7945, participant code: 9837036#.
- November 14 (5:00 – 6:30 PM) – Midland Section ACS 100th Anniversary Celebration planning team meeting, MSU STEM Center (1910 West St. Andrews Road, Midland). For more information, or to volunteer, please contact Michelle Cummings at michelle.cummings@dowcorning.com or 989-496-4672.
- December 5 (7:00 – 9:00 PM) – ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via a WebEx conference call connection at [Midland Section WebEx Board Meeting](#), phone number: 866-299-7945, participant code: 9837036#.
- December 12 (5:00 – 6:30 PM) – Midland Section ACS 100th Anniversary Celebration planning team meeting, MSU STEM Center (1910 West St. Andrews Road, Midland). For more information, or to volunteer, please contact Michelle Cummings at michelle.cummings@dowcorning.com or 989-496-4672.

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