

THE MIDLAND CHEMIST

A publication of the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society

September 2026, Vol. 63, No. 9

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ACS Elections – Safe Sender Email Address Instructions

Vickie Langer, Co-Editor, The Midland Chemist

Editor's note: The information in this article is reprinted, in part, from an email communication that was sent to all ACS members from the ACS Committee on Nominations and Elections on Tuesday, August 25, 2026.

Dear ACS Member:

ACS has partnered with Survey & Ballot Systems (SBS) to administer the ACS 2026 Election. To ensure your election email arrives in your inbox on Monday, September 14, 2026, please add the following email address as an approved email sender: noreply@directvote.net.

Please see below the links to websites containing instructions on how to add recipients of email messages to the safe senders list:

For Outlook/Microsoft:

<https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/office/add-recipients-of-my-email-messages-to-the-safe-senders-list-be1baea0-beab-4a30-b968-9004332336ce>

For Gmail:

- On your desktop, log in to your Gmail account.
- Click the gear icon in the upper-right corner.
- Select See all settings.
- Click the Filters and Blocked Addresses tab at the top.
- Click Create a new filter.
- Enter the email address of the person you want to add to your safe senders list.

If you use another email provider and need instructions on how to add an email address to the safe senders list, please contact your email provider for more information.

If you do not receive your election email by Wednesday, September 16, please send an email to support@directvote.net.

Thank you.

ACS Committee on Nominations and Elections

Call for Nominations for 2027 Midland Section ACS Officer and Director Candidates

Ericka Bruske, Chair, Nominations and Elections Committee, Midland Section ACS

The strength and success of the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society (ACS) depend on the active leadership of its members. One of the most impactful ways to contribute is by serving in an elected leadership role. Whether you're looking to shape the future of our local scientific community, broaden your professional network, or develop leadership skills, we encourage you to consider running for an officer or director position in the upcoming 2027 elections.

Open Positions for 2027:

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

*Note: The Chair-elect position is a three-year commitment, progressing from Chair-elect (2027) to Chair (2028) and then to Past Chair (2029). The Chair and Past Chair roles are not subject to annual elections unless a vacancy occurs.

Why Run?

- Influence the direction of local ACS programs and initiatives
- Represent the voice of your peers in the scientific community
- Gain valuable leadership and organizational experience
- Collaborate with a passionate and diverse team of professionals

Position Descriptions:

Chair-elect

The Chair-elect shall serve as Acting Chair of the Section in the absence of the Chair. Additionally, the Chair-elect will succeed to the Chair of the Section in the following January (2028). They serve on the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee.

Secretary

The Secretary records the proceedings of the Section and its Executive Committee, maintains a list of members and associates, sends members and associates such notices as the business of the Section may require, and carries out all other duties outlined in the Society and Section bylaws.

Treasurer

The Treasurer shall assist in the preparation of an annual budget in cooperation with the Chair and Finance Committee. They shall also pay the bills, handle receipts, keep financial records, and report to the Board of Directors. Lastly, the Treasurer will prepare an annual report with the content and format required by the National ACS and file the IRS returns.

Chair, Nominations and Elections Committee

The Nominations and Elections Committee is charged with identifying qualified candidates for leadership positions in the Section and setting up and certifying the elections.

Directors

Directors are expected to attend Board meetings and to participate in the Board's deliberations. Directors should maintain an interest in local and national ACS affairs so that they can give informed consideration to the Section's issues. They should be alert to the needs and opinions of the Section membership. Three Directors must be elected to the Executive Committee, which may require attendance at additional meetings.

Councilor

The Councilor serves on the Board of Directors with knowledge on the bylaws and history of the Section to guide the Section toward the overarching goals of the Society. The Councilor is expected to attend Council meetings and Board meetings in order to act as a representative of the Section regarding Council business.

Alternate Councilor

The Alternate Councilor is expected to attend Board of Director meetings as a voting member and represent the Section in Council meetings if the Councilor is unable to attend.

How to Nominate or Learn More:

If you are interested in running or would like to nominate a colleague, please contact Ericka Bruske at ebruske@dow.com or reach out to any current officer. Additional information about the Midland Section ACS is available at www.midlandacs.org.

Construction Chemistry at Bay County Historical Museum, September 19

Gina Malczewski, Outreach Committee, Midland Section ACS

Please join us for a Construction Chemistry outreach activity at the Bay County Historical Museum, located at 321 Washington Avenue, in Bay City. You will learn (1) how construction materials are different, (2) which materials are better, and when and why, and (3) what makes a structure sturdy. The event is scheduled for Saturday, September 19, 2026, from 1:00 to 2:00 PM.

Activities being planned are recommended for ages 5 and up. Please sign up at [Construction Chemistry](#) as soon as possible but no later than September 17 since a maximum of only 35 attendees can be accommodated at this event.

For any questions, please contact Gina Malczewski at reginamalczewski@gmail.com.



Construction CHEMISTRY

Presented by the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society
at the Exhibit Celebrating
the 150th Anniversary of National ACS

Bay County Historical Society
321 Washington Ave, Bay City, MI 48708

September 19, 2026, 1-2 pm

FREE!
Recommended for ages 5 & up
PLEASE visit this QR code/link to SIGN UP by 9/17/26
Maximum 35

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0B45AEAB29A5F85-65652750-construction>

- **Hands-on investigation of:**
 - **How construction materials are different**
 - **Which are better and when/why**
 - **What makes a structure sturdy**

Let's build!

ACS
Chemistry for Life®

ACS Spring 2027 – Abstract Deadline, September 28

Steve Keinath, Co-Editor, The Midland Chemist

Editor's note: The information in this article is reprinted, in part, from an email communication that was sent to all ACS members from the ACS Spring 2027 Meeting & Exposition promotion team on Wednesday, August 12, 2026.

 **ACS Spring 2027**
New Orleans, LA | March 21-25
Share your research, expand your network, and connect with the community driving global innovation.
Registration opens December 2026
[View symposia topics](#)



Now is the time to submit abstracts for the ACS Spring 2027 Meeting & Exposition. This meeting event will be held in New Orleans, LA, March 21–25, 2027. **The deadline for abstract submissions is Wednesday, September 28, 2026.** Presenting at [ACS Spring 2027](#) connects you to thousands of scientific professionals and **ACS' 30+ program divisions.**

Consider submitting your abstract today to advance your career goals and position yourself as a leader in your area of specialization. We are now accepting abstracts for **#ACSSpring2027** under these and other ACS divisions:

- Agricultural and Food Chemistry
- Analytical Chemistry
- Biochemistry and Chemical Biology
- Biochemical Technology
- Business Development & Management
- Carbohydrate Chemistry & Chemical Glycobiology
- Catalysis Science & Technology
- Cellulose and Renewable Materials
- Chemistry & the Law
- Chemical Health & Safety
- Chemical Education
- Chemical Information
- Committee on Minority Affairs

[See the Full Symposia List Here](#)

ACS National Awards for 2026–2027 Nomination

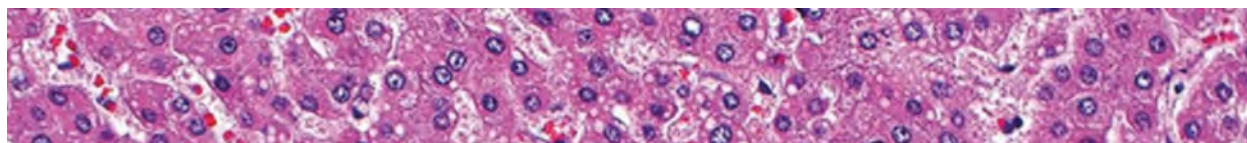
Allison Abdilla and Kajari Bera, Awards Committee Co-Chairs, Midland Section ACS

Editor's note: Several Midland Section ACS members have received various National ACS awards over the years. A list of past recipients may be found on pages 16 and 17 in the February 2026 edition of the newsletter at [The Midland Chemist – February 2026 \(midlandacs.org\)](#).

Now is the time to begin nominations for National ACS awards for 2026-2027 as most annual reviews have a deadline of around November 1, 2026.

Criteria and deadlines for the National ACS awards, and other grants and considerations, can be found at [National Awards - American Chemical Society](#).

The full list of National ACS awards by title can be found at [Awards by Title - American Chemical Society](#).



Call for Abstracts for the Great Lakes Microscopy Society Annual Meeting, October 9

Daria Monaenkova on behalf of GLMS

The Great Lakes Microscopy Society (GLMS) invites you to submit an abstract for the upcoming Great Lakes Microscopy Society Fall Meeting at Michigan Technological University.

This meeting provides an excellent opportunity to showcase your research, share ideas with fellow scientists and students, and connect with members of the microscopy and microanalysis community from across the Great Lakes region. Students are especially encouraged to participate. In addition to presenting your work, you may be eligible for student travel awards to help support attendance at the meeting. Monetary awards will also be presented for outstanding student presentations for both platform and poster presentations.

We welcome abstracts covering all areas of microscopy, microanalysis, imaging, and related fields. Whether your work is in materials science, biological sciences, chemistry, engineering, or another discipline that utilizes microscopy techniques, we encourage you to submit your research.

We look forward to receiving your abstract and seeing you at Michigan Tech for an engaging and rewarding scientific meeting! For submission details, deadlines, and meeting information, please visit the meeting website at [2026 GLMS Meeting](#). Please also see the meeting poster on the next page.



Great Lakes Microscopy Society Annual Meeting

Friday, October 9th, 2026
Michigan Technological University

Join us for the 2nd GLMS Annual meeting,
featuring platform presentations,
posters, vendor talks, and exhibits!



Michigan Tech

1400 Townsend Dr.
Houghton, MI
49931

Biological Sciences

Caryn Heldt (MTU)

Kevin Eliceiri
(U. Wisconsin, Madison)

Wei Zhang
(U. Minnesota)

Vendors

Anahita Pakzad
(Gatan/Ametek)

Platform & Poster

Awards

Poster:

1st - \$100

2nd - \$75

3rd - \$50

Fan Favorite - \$100 (x2)

Platform:

1st - \$150 (x2)

2nd - \$100 (x2)

3rd - \$75 (x2)

**Awardees MUST be
present for awards*

Materials Sciences

Sriram Vijayan (MTU)

Xiaobing Hu (Northwestern)

Chia-Hao Lee (Cornell)

Student travel
awards available!



Register

Questions? Send us a message!
greatlakesmicroscopy@gmail.com

MCFE

Materials Characterization
& Fabrication Facility

Midland Section ACS Luncheon at Bay County Historical Museum, October 9

Gina Malczewski, Outreach Committee, Midland Section ACS

Please join us for one of the last looks at the Midland Section ACS Historical Exhibit at the Bay County Historical Museum, located at 321 Washington Avenue, in Bay City, and enjoy a free lunch. (The Exhibit will be closing at the end of October 2026.) All ACS members and their guests are invited to explore the exhibit and then see a program retrospective during the lunch period.

Chemistry: Legends, Locals, & Lasting Impacts

Please sign up at [Lunch at the Museum Event](#) so that adequate food and drinks will be available. For any questions, please contact Gina Malczewski at reginamalczewski@gmail.com.



Bay County Historical Museum
321 Washington Ave
Bay City, MI

PLEASE sign up at
the link or by using
the QR code so
adequate food and
drink are available

<https://www.singupgenius.com/go/60B0B45AEAB29A5F85-66300253-lunch#/>



Lunch at the Museum Friday, October 9, 2026 11:30-1:00

ACS members and guests are invited to explore the Exhibit and see a program retrospective during a **free** lunch

On the Menu:

BBQ Pulled Pork
Vegetarian Chili
Salsa and Chips
-Veggies and Dip
Fresh Applesauce
Peach Cobbler
Date-Nut Chews
Beverages



The Exhibit will be closing
at the end of October!

After-Work Pickleball Social Event, October 15
Clare Leahy, Younger Chemists Committee, Midland Section ACS

The Younger Chemists Committee (YCC) of the Midland Section ACS is hosting an after-work pickleball social, and we'd love for you to join us. This event will be held Thursday, October 15, 2026, 5:30 to 7:30 PM, at the Greater Midland Tennis Center, 900 East Wackerly Street, Midland.

The event is free for everyone, all skill levels are welcome, and paddles and balls will be provided. Just bring water, court shoes if you have them, and a willingness to play a few games and meet people.

This event is meant to be low-key – a chance to get some exercise after work, hit a few balls, and connect with other local professionals. No experience is required.

Please **RSVP by Sunday, October 12**, so we can plan court space by clicking on the [ACS Pickleball Social](#) sign-up form.

Feel free to forward this announcement to any colleagues who might want to come. Thank you and we hope to see you on the court. For any questions, please contact Clare Leahy at cleahy@dow.com.



Fall-o-Ween Science at Bay County Historical Museum, October 24

Gina Malczewski, Outreach Committee, Midland Section ACS

Please join us for a Fall-o-Ween Science outreach activity at the Bay County Historical Museum, located at 321 Washington Avenue, in Bay City. You will *Learn about Leaves*, *Test aPeeling Apples*, and get *Pumped up about Pumpkins*. The event is scheduled for Saturday, October 24, 2026, from 1:00 to 2:00 PM.

Activities related to *All Things Autumn* are being planned and are recommended for ages 5 and up. Please sign up at [Fall-o-Ween Science](#) as soon as possible since a maximum of only 36 attendees can be accommodated at this event.

For any questions, please contact Gina Malczewski at reginamalczewski@gmail.com.



FREE!

FALL-O-WEEN SCIENCE

**Presented by the
Midland Section of American Chemical Society**

ACS
Chemistry for Life®

ACTIVITIES
With
ALL THINGS AUTUMN
Saturday Oct 24, 2026
1-2pm
Bay County Historical Society
321 Washington, Bay City, MI 48708
Recommended for ages 5 and up



**Save your spot—
Maximum 36!
Sign up at the
link/QR Code**



- Learn about leaves!
- Test aPEELing apples!
- Get Pumped about pumpkins!

**American Chemical
Society: Fall-o-WeeN**

Frankenstein Friday Outreach Event at CMU, October 30

Gina Malczewski, Outreach Committee, Midland Section ACS

The Midland Section ACS invites you to join the science outreach team for a number of spooky demonstrations and freaky sights at a *Frankenstein Friday* event on the campus of Central Michigan University on Friday evening, October 30, 2026. The event will be held at CMU's Rowe Hall 124, located at 600 East Bellows Street, Mount Pleasant, and runs from 4:00 to 7:00 PM.

Creepy, crawly things like spiders and other arthropods will be there. Construction chemistry will be demo'd as well as mentions of body reconstruction. Finally, elements of electricity (what brought Frankenstein to life) will be demo'd.

The event is free and has been very popular with kids for a number of years now. Sign-up is encouraged at [Frankenstein Friday](#). We hope to see you there if you think you are brave enough to show up.

For any questions, please contact Gina Malczewski at reginamalczewski@gmail.com.

The Midland Section of the American Chemical Society invites you to join us at

FRANKENSTEIN FRIDAY

OCTOBER 30, 2026
ROWE HALL 124

Central Michigan University, 600 E. Bellows St., Mount Pleasant, MI 48859
4-7 pm

Creepy, Crawly things! (spiders and other arthropods)
SCIENCE! (Construction Chemistry, including body reconstruction!)
ELECTRICITY! (what brought Frankenstein to life!)

← Sign-up encouraged

FREE!

NATIONAL CHEMISTRY WEEK

The poster features a purple background with green, bubbly text for 'FRANKENSTEIN FRIDAY'. To the left of the text are two black spiders hanging from thin vertical lines. To the right is a green-outlined illustration of Frankenstein's head with bolts in his neck. At the bottom, there is a QR code, a starburst saying 'FREE!', and the National Chemistry Week logo.

Career Mentoring Day at Delta College, November 11

David Baker, Chemistry Department, Delta College

Editor's note: Please note that the date, time block, and program format, in part, have been changed from an earlier announcement that appeared on pages 3 and 4 of the August 2026 issue of the *Midland Chemist*. The date has been moved back from September 23 to November 11; the time block has been shortened from 12:00-4:00 PM to 2:00-4:00 PM; and the scope has been narrowed to focus on career panel sessions.

Event co-organizers, Evan Waddell (e.waddell@dow.com) and Robin Stottlemeyer (rstottlemeyer@dow.com), are still looking for panel discussion volunteers, so please sign up at the Dow Volunteer Portal registration link below if interested. Please reach out to Evan or Robin at the email addresses above if you have any questions. Thank you.

Career Mentoring Day at Delta College – *Where Can Science Take You?*

Main Campus Building, D-Wing, Wednesday, November 11, 2:00-4:00 PM

Calling all chemical technologists, scientists, & researchers. Panel discussion volunteers needed.

Do you love your job as a scientist? Share your mentorship and knowledge!

The Delta College Chemistry Department is currently seeking technical professional volunteers to share their expertise, skills, and industry experiences with Delta College students at a panel discussion event on Wednesday, November 11, at Delta College's main campus in the D-wing, from 2:00-4:00 PM. This event offers Delta undergraduate chemistry and chemical engineering students a valuable opportunity to connect with area science professionals, gain insight into workplace expectations, and explore how their technical skills translate into real-world careers.

2:00-4:00 PM – Panel Discussion Sessions

Provide students with insight into where chemistry can take them through small group conversations, sharing insights on your core skills and profession.

Registered panelists will be scheduled for a 30-minute period between 2:00 and 4:00 PM. If you have a specific time preference, please reach out directly to Dr. David Baker at dbaker@delta.edu.

To sign up, register in the Dow Volunteer Portal by Wednesday, November 4:

https://www.cybergrants.com/pls/cybergrants/eg_signup_application.start_signup?x_gm_id=6334&x_organization_id=12758455&x_event_id=32686499&x_source_flag=EGD&x_style_id=



The History of the ACS Logo

Wendell L. Dilling, Past Midland Section ACS Chair, 2000

Editor's note: This article is reprinted, in part, from the Midland Section ACS 2019 Centennial Exhibit website.

The American Chemical Society (ACS) logo is the symbol of unity among the national sections of the society. The first official logo was designed by Tiffany & Co. and accepted by the ACS in 1908. The logo has remained relatively the same except for moderate changes in 1987 when the heading direction of the Phoenix was flipped and graphics simplified. Additionally, in 2008 the phrase, "Chemistry for Life" was adopted as the new tagline for the ACS and can often be found next to the logo. The Phoenix is typical of chemistry activity and emphasizes the birth of a new substance through energy.



This is a comparison of the old and new ACS logos from the March 27, 1987, issue of *Chemical and Engineering News* (p. 85).

The kaliapparatus in the bottom triangle of the logo is a laboratory device invented in 1831 by German chemist Justus von Liebig for the analysis of carbon in organic compounds. As carbon is the basis for countless chemical reactions, determining the exact amount of it makes the purpose of the kaliapparatus highly important. This tool would have been used by early chemists constantly and could even be considered a "founding tool" of chemistry.

The tool consists of a series of five glass bulbs containing a solution of potassium hydroxide [KOH], or caustic potash to absorb carbon dioxide [CO₂] formed upon burning test samples. Carbon content is calculated knowing the weight of the absorbed CO₂. This reaction is similar to the "magic breathalyzer" experiment of blowing one's breath containing CO₂ through a straw into a glass beaker containing a solution of calcium hydroxide [Ca(OH)₂], or lime water, which turns visibly cloudy with precipitation of calcium carbonate [CaCO₃]. The word *kali* derives from the Arabic *qalay*, "to roast in a pan," and *al-qalay*, "the roasted substance, i.e., alkali," the symbol for potassium is K (*kalium*).

The colors of the logo, gold and cobalt blue, symbolize fire and water, key components of chemistry. It is clear that the ACS logo was chosen deliberately and with care as it has stood as a symbol of continued commitment to modern excellence and traditional remembrance since its inception.



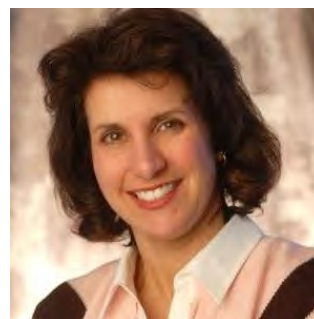
The currently used logo, designed and implemented in 1987, and then modified in 2008.

You Be the Solution: A National Competition that Uses Chemistry to Build Future Problem Solvers

Matt Masters, Senior TERC Specialist, Dow

The Chemical Education Foundation's (CEF's) **You Be The Solution (YBTS) Challenge** is a national STEM competition for students in grades 5 to 8 that combines chemistry, science, sustainability, and entrepreneurship. Teams of 3 to 4 students answer science-based challenge questions and develop innovative solutions to real-world community or environmental problems. Top teams advance through state and national competitions, competing for scholarships and national recognition. The Great Lakes Bay Region has hosted local YBTS events for several years, including recent competitions in Midland and Saginaw.

For Christine Brillhart, a science teacher at Jefferson Middle School and longtime YBTS advisor whose teams have earned top-five finishes at the national competition, the greatest benefit is the growth she sees in her students. "YBTS gives students opportunities to explore chemistry and real-world applications. Students act as employees of their own student-created company, solving community problems and presenting their solutions through professional business videos." She also values the leadership opportunities the program creates, noting, "My favorite part is stepping back into a mentorship role while watching them take complete control of their success."



Christine Brillhart

Brillhart emphasizes that the program is both accessible and easy for educators to implement. "The Chemical Education Foundation offers many resources, from practice challenge questions to activities that engage students in the study material. Organizers are quick to answer questions, and a teacher can enter many teams for free, making the program easy to run in a classroom."

The impact extends well beyond the competition itself. Brillhart recalls how one team's top-five finish at the National Competition inspired future participants to pursue the same goal. She also remembers watching students develop into confident communicators. "Their transformation was remarkable. They took the stage with bold confidence, clear delivery, and genuine excitement." Through experiences like these, students build leadership, teamwork, problem-solving, and communication skills that last far beyond middle school.

Are you interested in participating? The Great Lakes Bay Region is seeking additional teams for this year's You Be The Solution (YBTS) Challenge. Teachers, science clubs, STEM coordinators, administrators, and parents are encouraged to get involved. Participation is free, resources are provided, and students gain valuable experience in chemistry, innovation, and teamwork. The Chemical Education Foundation (CEF) is an independent nonprofit organization that collaborates with the ACS and ACS local sections through regional volunteers and shared support of STEM education initiatives. The challenge helps students connect chemistry concepts with real-world challenges while developing the skills needed for future STEM careers.

For more information about the Great Lakes Bay Regional Challenge, contact challenge organizers **Matt Masters** (mvmaster@svsu.edu) or **Junying Liu** (Cloris_liu@yahoo.com) or visit www.CEFinSTEM.org.

Added note: Christine Brillhart has collaborated with the Midland Section ACS and science education-minded members of the Midland local section over many years for the betterment of her students. In 2004, she was

recognized with the Midland Section ACS Outstanding Middle Level Science Teaching Award for her innovative approaches to teaching science to middle school students within the Midland Public Schools system.



The poster features a group of four diverse middle school students (two girls and two boys) wearing yellow shirts and lanyards, cheering with their arms raised. Above them is a large, faint graphic of a lightbulb with a gear-like base. The text 'CEF YOU BE THE SOLUTION CHALLENGE™ NATIONAL STEM COMPETITION' is prominently displayed in the upper center. Below the students, a pink banner reads '» CREATING EXCITING FUTURES IN STEM »'. The lower half of the poster has a dark blue background with a faint molecular structure pattern. It includes a hexagonal badge for 'GRADES 5-8' in the top right, a paragraph of text in the center, another hexagonal badge for 'TEAMS OF 3-4 STUDENTS' in the bottom left, and the slogan 'You Be The DIFFERENCE!' in the bottom center. The website 'www.CEFinSTEM.org' is at the very bottom.

CEF
YOU BE THE
SOLUTION CHALLENGE™
NATIONAL **STEM** COMPETITION

» CREATING EXCITING FUTURES IN **STEM** »

GRADES
5-8

As an educator, you know the power of
seizing the right moment to shape a student's future. The
CEF You Be The Solution Challenge™ creates that moment.
And it wouldn't be possible without the passion and
dedication of educators like you!

You Be The
DIFFERENCE!

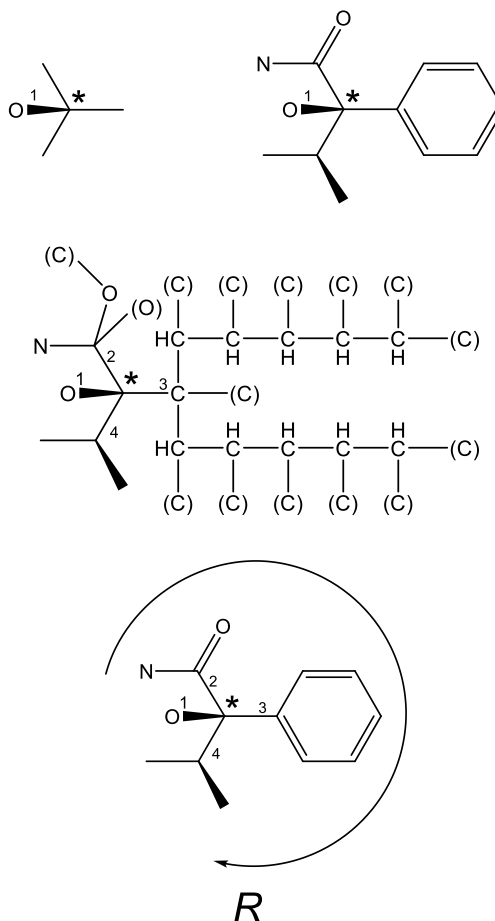
TEAMS OF
3-4
STUDENTS

www.CEFinSTEM.org

Wendell L. Dilling, Past Midland Section ACS Chair, 2000

The chemical structure shows a bicyclic system. It features a six-membered ring with a nitrogen atom at the top position, which is substituted with an isopropyl group. Two carbonyl groups (C=O) are attached to the ring, one adjacent to the nitrogen and another at the bottom-left. A phenyl ring is attached to the right side of the bicyclic system. A chiral center is indicated by an asterisk (*) on the carbon atom connecting the phenyl ring to the bicyclic framework. Stereochemistry is indicated with wedge and dash bonds at the ring junctions and the chiral center.

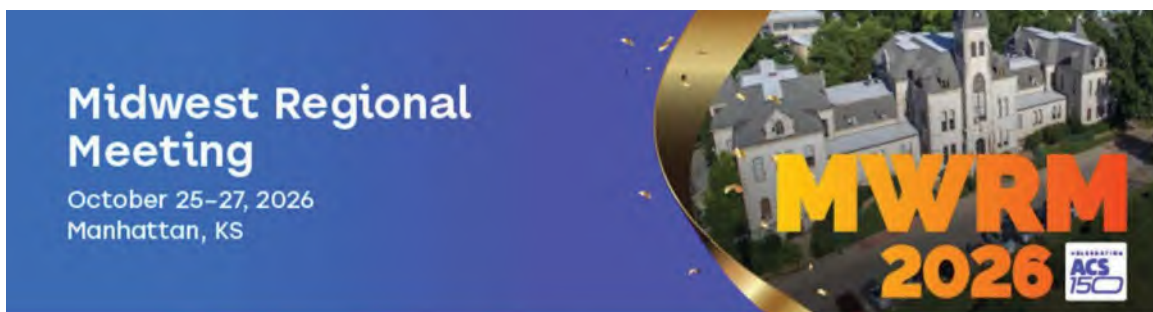
The solution to this puzzle can be understood by following the partial structures in order as follows:



ACS 2026 Midwest Regional Meeting (MWRM), October 25–27

Steve Keinath, Co-Editor, The Midland Chemist

Editor's note: The information in this article is reprinted, in part, from an email communication that was sent to all ACS members from the ACS Midwest Regional Meeting promotion team on Wednesday, May 20, 2026, and another email communication with updated information on July 27, 2026.



Midwest Regional Meeting October 25 - 27, 2025 | Manhattan, KS

The **2026 Midwest Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society (MWRM)**, hosted at Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas, will take place October 25–27, 2026, beginning at 2:00 PM on Sunday and concluding at 5:00 PM on Tuesday.

Join researchers, educators, students, and industry professionals from across the Midwest to share discoveries, exchange ideas, and showcase the impact of chemistry across diverse fields. MWRM 2026 will feature an exciting scientific program, including plenary and public lectures from two distinguished chemists:

Plenary Lecturer: Professor Geri Richmond, Ph.D. University of Oregon • B.S. Kansas State University • Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley • Honorary Doctorate, Kansas State University • 2013 National Medal of Science • 2018 Priestley Medal of the American Chemical Society

Public Lecturer: Professor Tom Kuntzleman, Ph.D. Wayne State University • B.S. Ed. Bloomsburg University • M.S. University of North Carolina, Greensboro • Ph.D. University of Michigan • 2022 YouTube Silver Creator Award • 2024 Helen M. Free Award for Public Outreach, ACS

Special Symposia and Workshops:

Science Writing Workshop (Sunday afternoon):

From Data to Story: Making Your Writing Clear, Compelling, and Memorable

Great science advances when scientists communicate effectively. This interactive workshop helps participants uncover and communicate the story behind their research so that others can understand, use, and cite it. Participants will learn how to move beyond presenting results to crafting clear, compelling narratives in their writing and, through hands-on exercises, will distill their work into core story elements and revise them for clarity and impact.

Presenter: Theresa Merrick Cassidy, Writing Center Assistant Director, Presidential Engagement Fellow

Science Leadership Panel and Discussion

Leap into Leadership

Many science professionals, educators, and aspiring leaders find themselves in leadership roles at different stages of their careers. Whether you are a high school teacher, undergraduate or graduate student, postdoctoral scholar, or an early- or mid-career professional, developing leadership skills is essential for success. This interactive workshop will feature a panel discussion with professionals from academia and industry who will share their leadership experiences, insights, and practical advice on navigating and excelling in leadership roles.

Moderator: Dr. Radhika Reddy Nareddy, Graduate Teaching Professor, Kansas State University

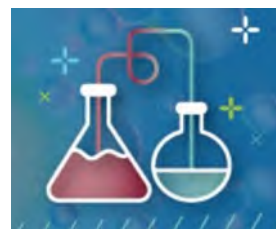
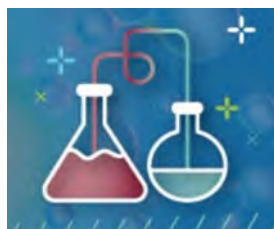
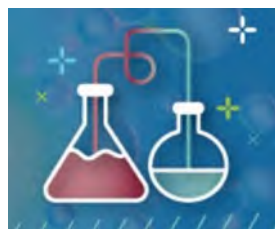
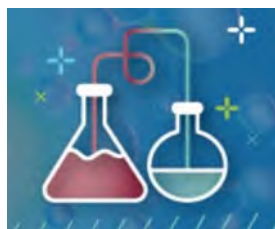
Symposia:

- Advancement in Electrocatalytic Materials
- Recent Progress in Electrochemical Sensing, Energy Storage, and Synthesis
- Advances in Catalysis and Methods for Organic Synthesis
- Synthesis and Applications of Functional Polymeric Materials
- Advances in Molecular Probes for Therapeutics
- Machine Learning for Computational Chemistry
- Super-Resolved Spectroscopy
- Chemistry Under Nanoconfinement
- Theory, Modeling, and Simulation of Biomolecular Systems
- Midwest Awards Symposium
- Undergraduate Research

Additional oral and poster sessions will cover **Organic, Inorganic, Analytical, Biochemical, Physical, Theoretical Chemistry**, and more.

Abstract submissions closed on July 27, 2026. We encourage you to share your latest research and join us in Manhattan, KS, for an engaging and inspiring regional meeting.

[Register Now for 2026 MWRM](#)



ACS 2026 Southeastern Regional Meeting (SERMACS), November 4–7
Steve Keinath, Co-Editor, *The Midland Chemist*

Editor's note: The information in this article is reprinted, in part, from an email communication that was sent to all ACS members from the ACS Southeastern Regional Meeting promotion team on Wednesday, May 20, 2026, and another email communication with updated information on July 17, 2026.



Southeastern Regional Meeting
Nov 4 - 7, 2026 | Memphis, TN

We are excited to invite you to participate in the **2026 Southeastern Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society (SERMACS)**, taking place in Memphis, Tennessee. This special meeting coincides with the 150th anniversary of the American Chemical Society, and we are celebrating with an exceptional scientific program, focused symposia, and a historic presidential panel.

Key Program Highlights:

- **Opening Ceremony, and Plenary Address by Dr. Anang Shelat of St. Jude**
- **ACS Southern Chemist Award Plenary Double Header** featuring: • **Henry Fritz Schaefer III** (2019 Awardee) • **Sue Richardson** (2020 Awardee)
- **Super Plenary Presidential Panel:** “Change in ACS, Bridging Past to Present to Future” with: • 2006 ACS President **Ann Nalley** • 2008 ACS President **Bruce Bursten** • 2024 ACS President **Dorothy Phillips** • 2025 ACS President **Rigoberto Hernandez**
- **Symposia topics** include Polymer Chemistry, Medicinal Chemistry, Artificial Intelligence in Drug Discovery, Environmental Chemistry, and Chemical Regulation. The full list of symposia is available on the SERMACS 2026 website.

Abstract submissions for all symposia closed on August 10, 2026.

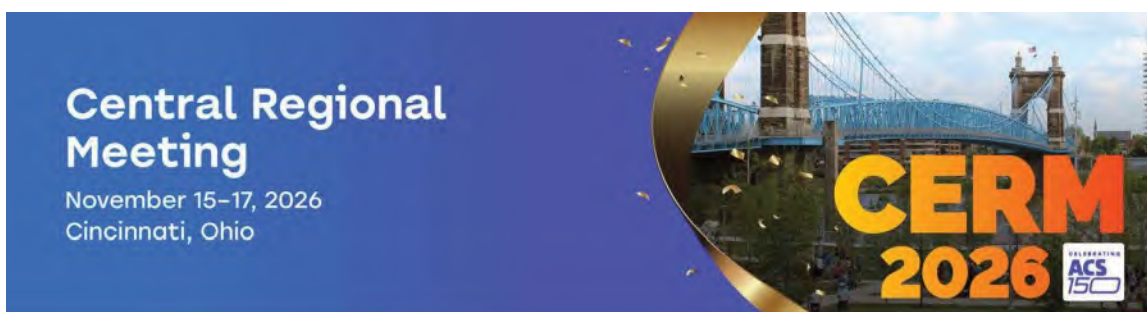
We invite you to join us in Memphis, TN, for an inspiring and memorable scientific gathering.



2026 ACS Central Regional Meeting (CERM 2026), November 14–17

Steve Keinath, Co-Editor, The Midland Chemist

Editor's note: The information in this article is reprinted, in part, from an email communication that was sent to all ACS members from the 2026 ACS Central Regional Meeting promotion team on July 8, 2026.



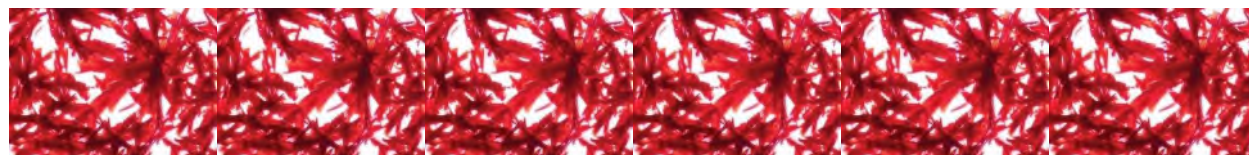
Central Regional Meeting November 15 - 17, 2026 | Cincinnati, Ohio

The **Central Regional Meeting 2026 (CERM 2026)** of the American Chemical Society will be held at the **Northern Kentucky Convention Center** in Covington, KY, from November 14–17, 2026, with technical sessions taking place November 15–17 and short courses on November 14. This year's theme, "**Chemistry Beyond Boundaries: Building Trust, Breaking Myths,**" highlights the critical role of chemistry in addressing global challenges while fostering transparency, collaboration, and trust across disciplines and communities. Join us for dynamic technical sessions, engaging poster presentations, and meaningful opportunities to connect with fellow chemists across academia, industry, and government.

CERM 2026 welcomes abstract submissions across a broad range of chemistry disciplines, with programming spanning more than 25 technical symposia and a dedicated poster session designed to promote collaboration and scientific exchange. The meeting will feature distinguished plenary and keynote speakers, including **Omar K. Farha** (Northwestern University), **Jie Xu** (University of Chicago), **Mickey Rogers** (U.S. Department of Energy), and **Paul S. Weiss** (UCLA), representing cutting-edge research in sustainability, AI-driven chemistry, science communication, and nanoscience. The awards banquet will feature a talk from **Sam Dinkins** (Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission).

Abstract submissions for all symposia closed on Monday, August 17, 2026.

We invite you to join us in Covington, KY, for an inspiring and memorable scientific meeting.



Upcoming Dates, Events, and Other Updates

- September 14 (7:00 – 8:30 PM) – Hybrid Midland Section ACS Board meeting, Rotunda Room, MSU St. Andrews, Midland (in person), and via a Microsoft Teams videoconference call connection at [September 2026 ACS Board Meeting Teams Link](#), Meeting ID: 938 247 692 044, Passcode: jJ34ZJ. **Please note: This Board meeting is being held on the second Monday of September, not the usual first Monday of most months, due to the Labor Day holiday.**
- September 19 (1:00 – 2:00 PM) – *Construction Chemistry*, Midland Section ACS outreach program, Bay County Historical Museum, 321 Washington Avenue, Bay City. Please sign up at [Construction Chemistry](#) as soon as possible but no later than September 17 since a maximum of only 35 attendees can be accommodated at this event. For more information, please see the program flyer on page 4 in this newsletter, or click on [Construction Chemistry](#). For any questions, please contact Gina Malczewski at reginamalczewski@gmail.com.
- September 28 – **Deadline to submit abstracts for ACS Spring 2027 Meeting & Exposition**, New Orleans, LA. For more information, please see the article on page 5 in this newsletter, and click on the [ACS Spring 2027](#).
- October 5 (7:00 – 8:30 PM) – Hybrid Midland Section ACS Board meeting, Rotunda Room, MSU St. Andrews, Midland (in person), and via a Microsoft Teams videoconference call connection at [October 2026 ACS Board Meeting Teams Link](#), Meeting ID: 938 247 692 044, Passcode: jJ34ZJ.
- October 9 (Save the Date) – Great Lakes Microscopy Society Annual Meeting at Michigan Technological University. **Abstracts are currently being accepted.** For details, please see the article on page 6, the meeting poster on page 7, and the website at [2026 GLMS Meeting](#).
- October 9 (11:30 AM – 1:00 PM) – Midland Section ACS Luncheon at Bay County Historical Museum, 321 Washington Avenue, Bay City. All ACS members and their guests are invited to explore the Midland Section ACS Historical Exhibit, *Chemistry: Legends, Locals, and Lasting Impact*, and enjoy a free lunch. Please sign up at [Lunch at the Museum Event](#) so that adequate food and drinks will be available. For more information, please see the program flyer on page 8 in this newsletter, or click on [Lunch at the Museum Event](#). For any questions, please contact Gina Malczewski at reginamalczewski@gmail.com.
- October 15 (5:30 – 7:30 PM) – After-work pickleball social event, hosted by Midland Section ACS, Greater Midland Tennis Center, 900 East Wackerly Street, Midland. No experience is required. Please **RSVP by Sunday, October 12**, so we can plan court space by clicking on the [ACS Pickleball Social](#) sign-up form. Feel free to forward this announcement to any colleagues who might want to come. For more information, please see the article on page 9 in this newsletter. For any questions, please contact Clare Leahy at cleahy@dow.com.
- October 24 (1:00 – 2:00 PM) – *Fall-o-Ween Science*, Midland Section ACS outreach program, Bay County Historical Museum, 321 Washington Avenue, Bay City. *Learn about Leaves, Test aPeeling Apples*, and get *Pumped up about Pumpkins*. Activities related to *All Things Autumn* are being planned and are recommended for ages 5 and up. Please sign up at [Fall-o-Ween Science](#) as soon as possible since a maximum of only 36 attendees can be accommodated at this event. For more information, please see the program flyer on page 10 in this newsletter. For any questions, please contact Gina Malczewski at reginamalczewski@gmail.com.
- October 25–27 (Save the Date) – ACS 2026 Midwest Regional Meeting, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS, featuring an exciting scientific program, plenary and public lectures, a science writing workshop, and oral and poster symposia. **Abstract submission closed on July 27.** For more

information, please see the article on pages 17 and 18 in this newsletter, or click on [2026 Midwest Regional Meeting](#).

- October 30 (4:00 – 7:00 PM) – *Frankenstein Friday*, Midland Section ACS outreach program, Central Michigan University, Rowe Hall 124, 600 East Bellows Street, Mount Pleasant. This event is free and has been very popular with kids for a number of years now. Sign-up is encouraged at [Frankenstein Friday](#). For more information, please see the program flyer on page 11 in this newsletter. For any questions, please contact Gina Malczewski at reginamalczewski@gmail.com.
- November 2 (7:00 – 8:30 PM) – Hybrid Midland Section ACS Board meeting, Rotunda Room, MSU St. Andrews, Midland (in person), and via a Microsoft Teams videoconference call connection at [November 2026 ACS Board Meeting Teams Link](#), Meeting ID: 938 247 692 044, Passcode: jj34ZJ.
- November 4–7, 2026 (Save the Date) – ACS 2026 Southeastern Regional Meeting, Memphis, TN, featuring an exceptional scientific program, focused symposia, a historic ACS presentational panel, and oral and poster sessions. **Abstract submission closed on August 10.** For more information, please see the article on page 19 in this newsletter, or click on [2026 Southeastern Regional Meeting](#).
- November 11 (2:00 – 4:00 PM) – *Career Mentoring Day* at Delta College – *Where Can Science Take You?*, located on the main campus in the D-wing, University Center. This program is being organized as a series of 30-minute panel discussions between 2:00 and 4:00 PM. Event co-organizers, Evan Waddell (e.waddell@dow.com) and Robin Stottlemeyer (rstottlemeyer@dow.com), are still looking for panel discussion volunteers, so please sign up at the Dow Volunteer Portal if interested. **Please note that the date, time block, and program format, in part, have been changed from an earlier announcement that appeared on pages 3 and 4 of the August 2026 issue of the *Midland Chemist*.** Please see the article on page 12 of this newsletter for details or to volunteer. For more information or any questions, please reach out to Evan Waddell (e.waddell@dow.com) and Robin Stottlemeyer (rstottlemeyer@dow.com). **To sign up, please register in the Dow Volunteer Portal by Wednesday, November 4:**
https://www.cybergrants.com/pls/cybergrants/eg_signup_application.start_signup?x_gm_id=6334&x_organization_id=12758455&x_event_id=32686499&x_source_flag=EGD&x_style_id=
- November 14–17, 2026 (Save the Date) – ACS 2026 Central Regional Meeting (CERM 2026), hosted by the Cincinnati Section of the ACS. The 2026 ACS CERM will be held at the Northern Kentucky Convention Center, in Covington, KY, serving the Greater Cincinnati region and the broader Central United States. Meeting theme – *Chemistry Beyond Boundaries: Building Trust, Breaking Myths*. **Abstract submissions closed on August 17.** For more information, please see the article on page 20 in this newsletter, or click on [Submit an Abstract for 2026 CERM](#).
- December 7 (7:00 – 8:30 PM) – Hybrid Midland Section ACS Board meeting, Rotunda Room, MSU St. Andrews, Midland (in person), and via a Microsoft Teams videoconference call connection at [December 2026 ACS Board Meeting Teams Link](#), Meeting ID: 938 247 692 044, Passcode: jj34ZJ.
- January 4 (7:00 – 8:30 PM) (Tentative) – Hybrid Midland Section ACS Board meeting, Rotunda Room, MSU St. Andrews, Midland (in person), and via a Microsoft Teams videoconference call connection at [January 2027 ACS Board Meeting Teams Link](#), Meeting ID: 938 247 692 044, Passcode: jj34ZJ.
- February 1 (7:00 – 8:30 PM) (Tentative) – Hybrid Midland Section ACS Board meeting, Rotunda Room, MSU St. Andrews, Midland (in person), and via a Microsoft Teams videoconference call connection at [February 2027 ACS Board Meeting Teams Link](#), Meeting ID: 938 247 692 044, Passcode: jj34ZJ.

- March 1 (7:00 – 8:30 PM) (Tentative) – Hybrid Midland Section ACS Board meeting, Rotunda Room, MSU St. Andrews, Midland (in person), and via a Microsoft Teams videoconference call connection at [March 2027 ACS Board Meeting Teams Link](#), Meeting ID: 938 247 692 044, Passcode: jJ34ZJ.
- March 21–25, 2027 (Save the Date) – ACS Spring 2027 Meeting & Exposition, New Orleans, LA. This meeting will be a hybrid in-person and virtual meeting. For more information, please see the information on page 5 in this newsletter or click on [ACS Spring 2027](#). **Please note: The deadline for abstract submissions is September 28, 2026.** Registration opens December 2026.
- April 5 (7:00 – 8:30 PM) (Tentative) – Hybrid Midland Section ACS Board meeting, Rotunda Room, MSU St. Andrews, Midland (in person), and via a Microsoft Teams videoconference call connection at [April 2027 ACS Board Meeting Teams Link](#), Meeting ID: 938 247 692 044, Passcode: jJ34ZJ.



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