

Call for Papers for Spring 2019 ACS National Meeting in Orlando, FL

Abstracts for the spring 2019 ACS National Meeting for Orlando, FL for the Division of Environmental Chemistry will remain open through **October 29, 2018**. There are several exciting symposia being organized related to the thematic focus of the Meeting ‘*Chemistry of New Frontiers*.’ We invite you to submit your abstracts and participate at the national meeting that will be held in Orlando, FL on March 31- April 4, 2019. For more information, please visit <https://callforpapers.acs.org/orlando2019/ENVR>. Feel free to contact ENVR Spring Program Chair, Dr. Sherine Obare at sherine.obare@wmich.edu if any questions arise.

ACS-CEI Award for Incorporation of Sustainability into Chemical Education

Nominations are being sought for the 2019 ACS-CEI Award for Incorporation of Sustainability into Chemical Education. **Nominations are due Oct. 22, 2018**. This prestigious award recognizes individuals or groups who have made exemplary contributions to the incorporation of sustainability into chemical education. Both third-party & self-nominations are encouraged.

<https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/about/governance/committees/cei/sustainability-in-the-curriculum.html>

Call for Abstracts for LGBTQ+ Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Scholar Research Symposium

The ACS Division of Professional Relations (PROF) is hosting its third LGBTQ+ Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Scholar Research Symposium at the ACS National Spring Meeting in Orlando, FL. Contributed talks and posters from graduate students and postdoctoral scholars are sought for the symposium. The symposium will consist of scientific talks and poster presentations by graduate students and postdocs and will conclude with a panel discussion and a keynote presentation by Prof. Amanda Morris (Virginia Tech). Partial reimbursement of registration/travel expenses will be provided to the graduate student and postdoctoral scholar speakers. Abstracts are due **Oct. 29th**. For questions, contact GTCA Chair Mike Morris (morrisma@uci.edu).

Faces of ACS ENVR: George Cobb



ACSenvr

ACS fellow, former ACS ENVR Chair, & Chair of the Environmental Science Department at Baylor University



#ACSenvr

“Environmental concerns are one of the **major concerns** that the younger generations have. It seems that the environmental chemistry division would be a **place** where **younger chemists** could find a **home** and find some **interest** in the types of things that we do.”

GEORGE COBB

“*Faces of ACS ENVR*” is a series of profiles on scientists and leaders that have been impacted by the ACS Division of Environmental Chemistry (ACS ENVR). Our first profile covers George Cobb, Ph.D. who joined ACS ENVR in 1984 and has been an active member for over 30 years. He was the chair of the division from 2015-2017. Dr. Cobb is an ACS Fellow and Chair of the Environmental Science Department at Baylor University. ENVR Contributing Web Editor Michal Ruprecht spoke with Dr. Cobb about his early passion for science and his career in the ENVR.

Can you tell us a little bit about your roots and where you grew up?

Dr. Cobb: I was born and raised in South Carolina. I grew up in a little town of about 2,000 people called Clinton. I grew up in a family of educators and basically farming communities. I was fortunate to have many family members who were either teachers or science teachers or some relatively close cousins who were college professors. I was exposed to nature and science and math a lot when I was younger, and that's kind of how I got interested in this.

Tell us about your undergraduate experience. Did you go into college immediately majoring in Chemistry?

Dr. Cobb: I was pretty well decided as a Chemistry major. The college I went to had a lot of pre-med students, and I thought for about half a semester, “Well, maybe I would consider that,” but I never really seriously considered anything other than chemistry as a major.

When and why did you interested in Environmental Chemistry?

Dr. Cobb: I took an environmental chemistry course from the College of Charleston faculty member William Frank Kinard, Ph.D. Professor

Kinard was a great instructor. He not only taught me a lot about environmental chemistry that semester but he also gave me a research opportunity in his research group that really made me considering it in many positive ways. So, that was the turning point to go to environmental versus other things.

When did you end up joining the ENVR division?

Dr. Cobb: When I was in college, I didn't realize that there were divisions that had anything other than really the ACS bigger picture, so I didn't even think about divisions until I got into graduate school. The opportunity to interact with scientists that were doing cutting-edge research and having the opportunity to read their work or talk to them about what they were doing at the regional/national level was very beneficial.

How do you differentiate the ENVR division from other ACS divisions?

Dr. Cobb: Our focus is on chemistry that affects and hopefully improves the environment. Other divisions are focused on among the fundamental basic chemistry of how molecules assemble and/or how instruments function. For instance, if you're dealing with people in an industry, they may very much want to do everything they can to protect the environment. However, if they're making a product that has some small amount of a hazardous material that is being produced, they certainly want to get as much of that out of the environment as they can, but that simply may not be cost effective to get every atom out. Understanding some of the factors that influence how things are done, and the actual similarities in people who you might think have differing fibers, if you will, has been very important in my growth as just a person, but also interacting with lots of scientists and engineers within the division has really improved my ability to conduct science and ability to interact with people from vastly different disciplines.

When did you join the ENVR leadership team? Was mentorship one of your motivations?

Dr. Cobb: I really do think that mentoring students and giving them advice and interacting with them in positive, professional, and social activities is very important. Mentorship is always a driving factor, but it wasn't actually a factor in choosing to become part of the leadership of the division. I simply saw that there was a need. I felt like my students were getting a lot out of participating in the activities that ACS and the division had to offer, and I simply wanted to help out.

How has the division impacted you?

Dr. Cobb: First off, being in the leadership of any aspect of the ACS is very prestigious, and it's looked upon very favorably by employers. And that helped my career in ways I'm not sure I can quantify. Many activities that I have been able to enjoy internationally and I have in my research career are because of my involvement with the division. It's allowed me to sit back and take a more thoughtful view of other people's opinions and other people's perspectives on how to do things and the factors that influence the decisions that people have to make. Interacting with many scientists and engineers within the division has really improved my ability to conduct science and ability to interact with people from diverse disciplines. I can't emphasize enough the interactions with very well respected colleagues, much more respected than myself in the division who have helped me learn how to navigate different aspects of a professional career has been really valuable for me.

Where do you hope to see the ENVR in future?

Dr. Cobb: I would like to see the ENVR division continue to grow and attract young scientists. Environmental concerns are one of the major concerns that the younger generations have. It seems that the environmental chemistry division would be a place where younger chemists could find a home and find some interest in the types of things that we do. I also hope that the environmental division can work with other aspects of the ACS like the committee for environmental improvement and the Green Chemistry Institute to actually help develop and implement sustainable solutions for chemical processes going forward and products that can both benefit us and help protect the environment.

Visit acsenvr.com under "Resources" for more Faces/Legends of ACS ENVR.

Call for Nominations: Kavli Emerging Leader Orlando

The Kavli Foundation has agreed to sponsor *The Kavli Foundation Emerging Leader in Chemistry Lecture* through 2025, featuring two lectures at each ACS national meeting. The Kavli Foundation Emerging Leader in Chemistry Lecture is awarded to an outstanding chemical scientist who is less than 10 years past receipt of his or her Ph.D. and will be under 40 years of age as of Monday, April 1, 2019, the date of the lecture. The candidate is a distinguished younger scientist who is highly regarded by his or her peers for significant contributions to an area of chemistry or related multidisciplinary area of chemistry. The Multi-disciplinary Program Planning Group (MPPG) is pleased to host the lecture at the Spring ACS National Meeting in Orlando, FL. We invite ACS Divisions and Committees to submit candidate nominations. Please consider sending recommendations for this award. All ENVR nominations must be submitted by the Division after approval from the ENVR Chair. Nominations must be received at ACS by **October 31, 2018**. Send your nomination to ENVR Chair, Dionysios Dionysiou, dionysios.d.dionysiou@uc.edu.

ENVR Members Recognized as 2018 ACS Fellows

Congratulations to ENVR members Souhail R. Al-Abed (US EPA), Cathleen J. Hapeman (ARS USDA), and Melissa A. Pasquinelli (North Carolina State University) for their consistent contributions to the society and being ranked to the 2018 ACS Fellows.

Do You Want to Publish an Abstract for 2000 Experts in “Crop Protection Chemistry”?

The IUPAC International Congress on Crop Protection is the premier forum of international exchange of scientific information among crop protection chemists since 1967. The 14th edition organized by Ghent University will take place in **Ghent, Belgium on 19-24 May 2019**. This edition of the Congress will be unique because of (I) the focus on top keynote speakers, such as Sir Fraser Stoddart, the 2016 Nobel Laureate for Chemistry; (II) a program that is co-created with all the major players in crop protection, including state-of-the-art scientific advances, regulatory affairs, communication and public awareness; and (III) a focus on the next-generation of farmers and students via a dedicated youth summit and ‘agriprenurship program’. There is a reason the overall conference theme is “Crop protection: Education of the future generation”. So, you may share your research with the global crop protection community at this event via [abstract submission](#) on the [IUPAC 2019 website](#).

Planning for AIChE Workshop on Sustainability in Graduate Education? Travel Grants Available!

ENVR, in collaboration with AIChE, will provide up to \$250 travel/registration expenses reimbursement for Division members to attend the workshop "Graduate Education to Address Industrial Needs for Environmental Sustainability Chemical Industry."

Awards are available on a first come first serve basis. The workshop will take place during the AIChE National Meeting in Pittsburgh on **Nov. 1st, 2:30 pm–5 pm**. For more details, please visit <https://aiche.confex.com/aiche/2018/meetingapp.cgi/Session/40818>. The workshop will consist of presentations, small group breakouts for answering questions, and reports of small groups to the larger group. An expert will present on each of the topics (questions) to cue up the small group discussions. Major topics for Presentations and Small Group Breakouts will include:

- *What is the current and future state of environmental sustainability in the chemical industry for process development R&D and Product Development R&D*
- *What are the educational aspects to be included in Masters and Ph.D. programs?*
- *What is the potential role of regulation and government to encourage environmental sustainability?*

Contact Prof. Alexander Orlov (alexander.orlov@stonybrook.edu) for any questions related to participation and reimbursement.

Career Development Seminar in San Diego – Stay Tuned!

Planning to attend the fall 2019 ACS National Meeting in San Diego? Stay tuned for Sunday evening panel discussion on leadership/career development, jointly organized by ENVR and ACS Graduate and Postdoctoral Scholars Office (GPSO). Join the round-table discussion/networking with panelists from ENVR (Prof. Susan Richardson, Univ. of South Carolina and Prof. Alan Stone, Johns Hopkins Univ.) and GPSO. Questions? Contact Sophie Uchimiya, Sophie.Uchimiya@ARS.USDA.GOV.

Interested in Publication?

Royal Society of Chemistry is introducing “The Chemistry in the Environment.” A new book Series from the Royal Society of Chemistry delivering up-to-date and critical perspectives on the fate, behavior, and interactions of chemicals and pollutants in the environment. The books in this Series will be the ideal reference for academics, industrialists and postgraduates working in environmental chemistry, environmental engineering and remediation technology.

For more information, please visit:

<http://pubs.rsc.org/bookshop/collections/series?issn=2516-2624>

If you are interested in proposing a book or have suggestions for topics for us to cover, please get in touch with one of the Series board or the Commissioning Editor for more information on the proposal process. For more details:

<http://www.rsc.org/journals-books-databases/book-authors/propose-book-idea/>

Environmental Film Competition: Transformative Power of Film in Environmental Science

The ACS Division of Environmental Chemistry in collaboration with the ACS Committee on Environmental Improvement have been awarded an Innovative Project Grant (IPG) to host an Environmental Film Competition at the 258th ACS National Meeting & Exposition, August 25 - 29, 2019 in San Diego, CA.

This competition is open to anyone with creative ideas who desires to produce or direct an environmental film. Captivating stories are welcome that are entertaining, meaningful, create awareness, and connect viewers to emotions while presenting issues containing balanced perspectives, credible sources, and scientific accuracy.

The 2019 fall ACS National Meeting theme is **Chemistry of Water**; therefore, the film must focus on an environmental chemistry topic and consider the following categories:

1. Water's effect on land
2. Water's effect on people
3. Water's effect on chemistry
4. Environmental issues

The competition opens on *November 1, 2018* and closes on *May 31, 2019*. Visit the division website at www.acsenvr.com on November 1 for more information.

Boston Meeting Recap

The Division of Environmental Chemistry had 34 symposia incorporating 830 presentations from across the globe. The Boston meeting had the first-ever organized symposia on “Nanobubbles” and “Wastewater Based Epidemiology” among several others. In “Nanobubbles,” 20 speakers from the US, China, Japan, Canada, the UK, and South Korea presented and discussed the latest development on Nanobubbles and their unique interfacial characteristics along with their diverse applications in water or wastewater treatment. In “Wastewater Based Epidemiology” 17 speakers from the US, Belgium, Canada, and the UK presented the novel opportunities and challenges associated with determining consumption rate of drugs in community, utilizing trace levels of drugs in raw wastewater. Many thanks to the Fall 2018 national meeting program chair, Dr. Jillian Goldfarb, our dedicated team of symposium organizer volunteers, and our program sponsors, including Committee on Environmental Improvement (CEI),

Committee on Science (ComSci), Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC), Association of Environmental Engineering and Science Professors (AEESP), Society of Environmental Toxicologists and Chemists (SETAC), and several ACS divisions, for such an incredible program. ENVR hosted the ACS CEI open breakfast meeting and ENVR Division Reception, sponsored by Agilent Technologies.

Boston Certificate of Merit Recipients

Many congratulations to our outstanding first-time presenters at the Boston meeting. All winners will be posted on the division website soon. ENVR anticipates your continuous involvement in the division.

The Certificate of Merit award committee thanks all judges for their contribution of judging first-time presenters in Boston.

Have Something to Share?

If you have an important message to share with envirofACS members such as upcoming meetings, awards, hot-off-the-press findings, or would like to offer suggestions on how this newsletter or the division can better serve our community, please contact the editor of envirofACS newsletter Bikram Subedi (bsubedi@murraystate.edu) or Renyi Zhang (renyi-zhang@geos.tamu.edu) or ENVR business office director Peney Patton (division@acsenvr.com).