



**Richland Section Coffee Social for Section Volunteer Judges at the Mid-Columbia Science Fair
Thursday, March 14, 2019**

The Richland Section is looking for section members to assist in recognizing outstanding science projects from middle and high school students at the 2019 Mid-Columbia Science Fair held at the Columbia Center Mall in Kennewick. The Richland section has sponsored this event for over a decade as a part of our efforts to support student engagement in STEM education across the Columbia Basin. Continuing in our tradition, the section will be recognizing students who have demonstrated outstanding chemistry projects. The section will select the best middle school (grades 6-8) and high school (grades 9-12) student with a certificate of accomplishment and a \$50 cash prize. The section is asking for volunteers to donate a few hours of their time to support the young and creative students and encourage them towards a career in a STEM field. Those interested in judging can register for an age bracket of their choosing at: <https://www.midcolumbiasciencefair.org/judges-volunteer>

The section will again be hosting a coffee/scone social for all local section volunteer judges at 8 AM at the Starbucks kiosk inside the mall before judging begins at 8:30. We hope to see you there, thank you for your support!

Contact David Heldebrant david.heldebrant@pnnl.gov



In celebration of Women's History Month, the Richland Section of the Women Chemist Committee would like to invite you to join us for a two-part series focusing on the History of Hanford and the historical and current contributions of women to Hanford.



The first episode will be held on Friday, March 1st from 6 – 8 p.m. at the REACH Museum. Presented in partnership with the REACH, this event is open to the public and free to attend. We will feature talks by Dr. Michele Gerber and Cal Delegard, who will provide interesting insights on the history of the Hanford Site. Dr. Michele Gerber worked as a historian on the Hanford site and is the author of the book "On the Home Front: The Cold War Legacy of the Hanford Nuclear Site." Cal Delegard is a retired radiochemist who worked for over 32 years at the Hanford site and PNNL. Their presentations will be followed by a reception, during which the REACH exhibits will be open

for viewing. For more information on the REACH Museum and directions, visit <https://www.visitthereach.org>. Please contact Shirmir Branch Shirmir.Branch@pnnl.gov with any questions.

The second part in the series will be held on Thursday, March 21st at 5 p.m. at WSU Tri-Cities in the East Auditorium. This event will feature Northwest Public Radio correspondent Anna King, who will be discussing the "Daughters of Hanford" project, which focuses on the perspectives of women involved in the Hanford site operation and cleanup in a variety of different roles. Ms. King's presentation will be followed by a panel discussion featuring several of the "Daughters of Hanford," including time for audience questions. This event is presented in partnership with WSU Tri-Cities. Here's a link for more about the program: <http://www.daughtersofhanford.org/>

The Hanford Reach Interpretive Center



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INSIDE THIS ISSUE
2019 PROPOSED BUDGET
VOTE 3.11.19

Meet The New Section Officers
ACS Volunteer of the Year
Girls In Science
ACS Fellow Nominations Sought

VOTE ON THE RICHLAND SECTION 2019 BUDGET

The proposed 2019 budget is shown in the table at right. The Section Board believes this budget reflects the goals enumerated in our Section bylaws. Those are: the encouragement and advancement of chemistry in the broadest manner possible, the increase and dissemination of knowledge, the promotion of scientific interests and inquiry, the stimulation of professional interests, the fostering of chemistry literacy in the community, and education of its members.

The budget is submitted to the membership at this time for consideration, and will be voted on by the membership **electronically**. A ballot will be distributed to your e-mail by **March 1** via SurveyMoz. Response is required by **March 11**. Questions can be submitted directly to Deepika Malhotra deepika.malhotra@pnnl.gov

The large budget variance relative to previous years is driven by several factors:

1. Expanded support for the Women Chemists Committee and their support of Expanding Your Horizons (items 21n and 21o \$633)
2. Grants received in CY2017 were not expended and will be expended in CY2019 (21b and 21g \$1050)
3. Continued expectation to update local section appearance and activities (16b, 16c, 17a, 17d \$1400)
4. The strategic planning retreat where supporting funds were received in 2018 for expenditure in 2019 (\$3500)
5. New government affairs committee (\$500); expanded K-12 education outreach (\$600)

Proceeds from conducting the NORM2018 are coming soon; the best projection for proceeds is provided. The Richland Section is financially sound (assets projected to be ~\$59,000 in early 2019) and can easily absorb these costs.

PROPOSED 2019 BUDGET

REVENUES	2017 Final	2018 Final	2019 Proposed
(1) Annual ACS Allotment (plus dues)	\$8,184	\$7,805	\$7,768
(2) New member commissions	\$75	\$0	\$0
(3) Donations, contributions	\$0	\$0	\$0
3a) Bequests and/or trusts	\$0	\$0	\$0
(4) Rebate from ACS for Councilor travel expenses	\$2,389	\$2,457	\$2,900
(5) ACS Awards or Grants received (e.g., IPG)	\$1,050	\$1,600	\$0
(6) Program revenue (short courses, lecture series etc.)	\$0	\$0	\$0
(7) Local section dues, affiliate dues	\$1,502	\$1,529	\$1,500
(8) Interest, dividends	\$15	\$15	\$15
(9) Special events and activities	\$0	\$0	\$0
(10) Meals (include total meals in revenue)	\$0	\$0	\$0
(11) Other revenue (describe and itemize)			
a) AIChE contribution to summer picnic	\$0	\$0	\$0
b) Early bird discount for leadership training	\$250	\$250	\$250
c) NORM 2018	--	--	\$25,884
d) 2019 Strategic Planning Retreat (LSAC grant)			\$2,000
(12) TOTAL REVENUES	\$13,465	\$15,656	\$38,317
EXPENSES			
(13) Subsidies to subsections, topical groups, or affiliate groups	\$0	\$0	\$0
(14) Awards, scholarships, grants, etc.			
a) Travel awards for ACS student members	\$3,000	\$2,500	\$3,000
b) HS Teacher Grants	\$0	\$0	\$100
c) Outstanding Teacher Award	\$0	\$0	\$100
d) General Awards	\$270	\$168	\$300
e) Supplemental awards	\$100	\$0	\$250
(15) Administrative expenses (not including postage, printing, and shipping)	\$0	\$0	\$100
(16) Printing, publications, newsletters, meeting announcements, postage			
a) Newsletter	\$561	\$649	\$750
b) Public relations	\$0	\$0	\$300
c) Web update	\$0	\$0	\$400
d) Miscellaneous	\$0	\$10	\$50
(17) Local Meetings (include speakers' expenses)			
a) Speakers	\$0	\$0	\$300
b) ACS Picnic	\$291	\$224	\$300
c) ACS Annual social	\$891	\$1,251	\$1,400
d) Science Cafes	\$35	\$0	\$400
(18) Meals	\$40	\$100	
(19) Travel subsidies to Councilors	\$2,986	\$3,071	\$4,000
(20) Travel subsidy and fee for Local Section Leadership Conference	\$1,764	\$1,072	\$1,200
(21) Other expenses (describe and itemize)			
a) K-12 outreach	\$50	\$0	\$650
b) Grant (IPG Enhancing Presentation ... Asian Sci)	\$0	\$0	\$750
c) NCW	\$365	\$412	\$500
d) Olympiad	\$0	\$0	\$200
e) Science Fair and award	\$425	\$425	\$425
f) Girls in Science	\$500	\$500	\$500
g) Bridging the gap minigrant (communication equipment)	\$0	\$0	\$300
h) Diversity Affairs Committee	\$0	\$0	\$500
i) Boy Scouts Nuclear Science Merit Badge	\$75	\$0	\$75
j) Earth Day	\$197	\$147	\$200
k) Project SEED	\$900	\$2,500	\$900
l) Joint society meeting meeting	\$0	\$0	\$50
m) Career fair	\$2,400	\$0	\$0
n) Women Chemists Committee	\$0	\$217	\$600
o) Expanding Your Horizons	\$0	\$250	\$500
p) Government Affairs Committee			\$500
q) 2019 Strategic Planning Retreat			\$3,500
Summary	2017 Final	2018 Final	2019 Proposed
(22) TOTAL EXPENSES	\$14,810	\$13,437	\$23,200
(23) EXCESS (DEFICIT)	(\$1,345)	\$2,219	\$15,117

BUDGET VOTE 3.11.19

'19 OFFICERS & COUNCILORS

Meet your newly elected ACS Richland Section Officers and Councilors. They are volunteering their time and talents to help make this section the best it can be. Please help them in any way you can by volunteering your ideas and time to help our events succeed.



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ALT. COUNCILOR

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BUDGET VOTE 3.11.19

GREETINGS FROM NEW SECTION CHAIR



Dear Colleagues,

I'm honored to be the new Chair of the Richland Local Section! As a relative newcomer to the section (I moved here three years ago), I've been tremendously impressed by our volunteers, and I'm looking forward to getting to know more of you in 2019.

In recognition of the Richland Local Section's continued excellence, ACS's Local Section Activities Committee (LSAC) awarded us a grant to host a 1.5-day Strategic Planning Retreat this year. Most of the costs of the retreat will be offset by grants from LSAC and the ACS Board of Directors. Within the next two months, you should receive a survey asking you for input on the local section, and I'd appreciate it if you'd take the time to fill it out. It will help us identify our goals for the next three to five years so we can set priorities for budgets and activities. If you are interested in participating in the retreat, please let me know; it will be held April 13 and 14.

We will also be launching a Government Affairs Committee this year. I am a strong believer in ACS's advocacy activities. As scientists, we often feel like our work should speak for itself; but in a climate where science is increasingly politicized, it is imperative that we remind our elected officials that science is factual, it should be a priority, and we, as scientists, vote. ACS provides a wealth of advocacy resources and recently completed an effort to revise its advocacy and policy web sites to be more user-friendly. If you're interested in joining the Local Section Government Affairs Committee or participating in advocacy training, please let me know. All local section members are welcome and encouraged to get involved!

Finally, I'd like to remind you of a couple upcoming events. March is Women's History Month and our local Women Chemists Committee will be continuing its series on Hanford History with a "Daughters of Hanford" presentation and panel. And Chemists Celebrate Earth Day will be held in April. As we finalize dates and locations, we'll be sure to include them in the newsletter.

Wishing you a happy and productive 2019,

Kristin Kristin.omberg@pnnl.gov

FAREWELL FROM PAST SECTION CHAIR

Dear Colleagues,

I thank you for your support during my tenure as Section Chair in 2018. The Section officers exercised fiscal prudence and we managed to operate within our annual budget. The highlight of the year was our tremendously successful Northwest Regional Meeting (NORM 2018). Janet Bryant, Anna Cavinato, Dave Heldebrant, Sandy Fiskum, Steve Krogsrud, our Women Chemists Committee, and numerous unnamed volunteers deserve credit for taking NORM to new heights—and this is not a literal reference to the Badger Mountain hike. This was one of the largest NORM meetings ever. Its success bodes very well for the financial security of the Section and our ability to advance our education and outreach objectives. Thanks to the enthusiastic efforts of our volunteers, we conducted several activities in Eastern Oregon and Richland to bring the joy and wonder of Chemistry to our communities. We supported undergraduate students, held a picnic jointly with another professional society, sponsored the Mid-Columbia Science Fair, and celebrated the service of our senior members. Dr. John La Femina delivered an excellent talk at our Annual Social that led to his mentoring two students.

On a sad note, 2018 witnessed the passing of our dear friend Karen Grant, who stewarded the Chemistry program at Columbia Basin College over four decades. Karen developed outstanding research opportunities for students, guided a generation of volunteers, and was a tremendous asset to our section. We will greatly miss her graceful leadership.

I wish our Chair, Kristin Omberg, the very best for continued excellence. The Section is in great shape with with Kristin at the helm and with Deepika, Sandy and Shirmir to assist her.

Sincerely, **Ram**



NATIONAL CHEMISTRY WEEK SECTION ACTIVITIES

VOYAGE TO MARS

Richland Section members based in La Grande, Oregon celebrated NCW with two major outreach events. Program-In-A-Box, featuring "Voyage to Mars" attracted a large crowd that included students and faculty at Eastern Oregon University and community members. An outreach event dedicated to girls in grades 6th through 8th was also held on the campus of Eastern Oregon University on Saturday October 27. In its 18th year, Girls in Science attracted over 100 girls from 18 schools representing 13 cities in six Oregon counties and one in Washington. This year's challenge was to solve a mystery about a fish die-off in a hypothetical watershed. Girls rotated through activities in biology, chemistry, computer science and math which provided background knowledge and tests to determine the cause of the environmental disaster. An activity involving an oil spill cleanup utilized materials from one of the "Explore Science - Let's Do Chemistry" kits that the Richland Local Section was awarded by National Informal STEM Education Network (NISE).

Chemistry and biology activities revolved around water testing for heavy metals and other pollutants and identifying bacteria responsible for fish disease. Using math and computer science girls also learned how to model oxygen content of water at different temperatures.

At the end of the event girls received a t-shirt, NCW giveaways and copies of Celebrating Chemistry in English and Spanish. The event was made possible with help from many volunteers including STEM faculty, student clubs and community volunteers. The Northeast Oregon Area Health Education Center played a major role assisting with advertisement, registration, designing and producing the t-shirts and arranging for all logistics. In addition to our local section, Soroptimists International provided monetary support. Pictures of the event can be seen at: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1D1NB4-RTKEzlrIZq6PtvJffVEL8EZN_9?usp=sharing

The La Grande Observer also covered the event in a story that appeared in the Monday October 29 issue: <https://www.lagrandeobserver.com/home/6638508-151/girl-power>

FESTIVAL OF TREES



The EOU Chemistry Club participated in the Festival of Trees, a fundraiser organized by Soroptimists International where Christmas trees beautifully decorated by individuals or organizations are auctioned. This year the club was honored at the gala by EOU President Tom Insko and his wife Emily who decorated and donated a "Chemistree" to celebrate the club's accomplishments including receiving an ACS Outstanding Award (which will be presented at the ACS Spring meeting in Orlando). Two Chemistry Club members stood by the tree filling all kind of test tubes, flasks and graduated cylinders with dry ice. The tree was auctioned for over \$2,000!

The gala was followed on the next day by a Community Fair where several Chemistry Club members staffed a table of activities related to the National Chemistry Week theme "Chemistry is out of this world." Specifically, they had children make rockets using baking soda, citric acid and water and soap bubbles filled with carbon dioxide. The activities were very popular and exciting! We estimate several hundred children and their parents stopped by the table. Copies of *Celebrating Chemistry* in English and Spanish were distributed.

Periodically, the ACS offers a webinar on a general interest chemical topic. The webinar is aimed at collegiate-level students and above, though it may be appropriate for certain high school groups. The ACS Program-in-a-Box is the easiest event you'll

What is ACS Program-In-A-Box?

ever host because "it's all in the box." With very little effort (acquire the space and gather the crowd), you can host an energetic science event that engages chemistry students and early career chemists. To be notified when the next webinar will be held, just send an email to: multimedia@acs.org

GIRLS IN SCIENCE



Girls in Science attracted over 100 girls from 18 schools representing 13 cities in six Oregon counties and one in Washington. This year's challenge was to solve a mystery about a fish die-off in a hypothetical watershed. Girls rotated through activities in biology, chemistry, and computer science that revolved around water testing for heavy metals and other pollutants and identifying bacteria responsible for fish disease.

ACS VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR



Dr. Mariefel Olarte has been chosen as the Richland Section Volunteer of the Year of 2019. A chemical engineer working at PNNL, Dr. Olarte has been very active in the local section since arriving in the area. Dr. Olarte was one of the champions for setting up the Women Chemists

Committee in the Richland Section. This committee has led outreach activities to engage women, K-12 girls, and young professionals in chemistry and science. Dr. Olarte was one of the key volunteers behind the Second Annual Celebration of Science, hosted by Three River Science, on Saturday, April 21st, 2018 at the John Dam Plaza in Richland, WA. This family-friendly, festival style event celebrated the contributions of STEM based industries and professional organizations in the Mid-Columbia area. The Richland Section participated in this event by hosting

a booth which featured this year's theme for Chemists Celebrate Earth Week (CCEW), "Dive into Marine Chemistry." During the day, Dr. Olarte and her colleagues interacted with over 200 visitors to celebrate chemistry and share its contribution to the community. Dr. Olarte and her team displayed an ocean-in-a-bottle science demo to teach fundamental properties of solution density and encourage awareness of oil spills in the marine environment. The team also handed out various paraphernalia, including activity books, and cellphone microscopes. She also shared her professional experience with middle and high school students interested in pursuing careers in STEM fields. Additionally, Dr. Olarte served as the Section secretary in 2018.

**BUDGET
VOTE 3.11.19**

BUDGET VOTE 3.11.19

POINT TO PONDER

When choosing between two evils, I always like to try the one I've never tried before. – Mae West, American Actress

THANK YOU NOTES TO THE RICHLAND SECTION FOR ITS SUPPORT OF EASTERN OREGON UNIVERSITY'S "GIRLS IN SCIENCE" DAY



UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 1 6-8PM
HANFORD HISTORY - MICHELE GERBER & CAL DELEGARD
Reach Museum

MARCH 11
LAST DAY TO VOTE ON RICHLAND SECTION BUDGET
Contact Deepika Malhotra deepika.malhotra@pnnl.gov

MARCH 14 8AM
SCIENCE FAIR - SEEKING JUDGES
Richland Section Contact david.heldebrant@pnnl.gov

MARCH 21 5PM
DAUGHTERS OF THE HANFORD PROJECT - ANNA KING
WSU Tri-Cities East Auditorium

ACS FELLOW NOMINATIONS

The Richland Section is accepting nominations from the membership for "ACS Fellow". The ACS Fellows Program was created by the ACS Board of Directors in December 2008 to recognize members for outstanding achievements in and contributions to science, the profession, and the American Chemical Society. The Richland Section is allowed to officially support one nomination. Information about the program can be found at <https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/funding-and-awards/fellows.html>

If interested, please contact Janet Bryant, (509) 430-1730, or email at janetsbliss@hotmail.com.

HAIL & FAREWELL

The Richland Section would like to welcome the following new members: **Molly Blatz, Guosheng Li, Diamond Madden, Faith Nickerson, Patricia Paviet and Jacob Reynolds**. We look forward to seeing each of you at future Section functions.



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<http://acs.labworks.org>