



American Chemical Society

Nebraska Section Newsletter

<http://www.nebraska.sites.acs.org/>

AUGUST 2016

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From the Throne

In this issue, there are articles about...

Farewell Amanda!

Travel Grants Awarded

Upcoming 2016-2017 Local Section Meetings

Nebraska Section Outreach

Opportunities Await: Outreach Grants and Travel Awards

Martha Morton, 2016 ACS Nebraska Section Chair NEACSCChair@gmail.com

Farewell Amanda!

Nebraska Section ACS Chair, Amanda Glass, Assistant Professor at University of Nebraska – Kearney, accepted a position in Kansas City. Congratulations, Amanda! Martha Morton, Director of Research Instrumentation at University of Nebraska – Lincoln, moves from the Chair Elect position to the Chair position. To contact the chair, email neacschair@gmail.com.

Travel Grants Awarded

Several people in our section received travel grants to go to the National ACS Meeting in San Diego. These include:

- ◆ Raychelle Burks, who arranged a joint session between the Analytical and Chemical Information Division
- ◆ Hamid Lotfizadeh, Forouzan Aboufazeli, Ryan Carr, Gia Hoang received travel awards to present posters on their work at the National Meeting in San Diego.
- ◆ Martha Morton received a travel grant to attend the ACS Leadership Conference in Dallas in January.

Upcoming 2016-2017 Local Section Meetings

September 16-17, 2016

Mini-ACS Meeting in Kansas City! Career Panel, Poster Session, Linda Hall Library Tour, Short Grad Talks, BBQ Crawl and Brewery Tour

September 22, 2016

Wine Talk and Tasting by Ernie Simpson for the Lincoln Local Section (grape juice will be provided for those under 21)

October 11, 2016 Hamilton Hall Rm 548, University of Nebraska-Lincoln 6 pm

Program in a Box

The Chemists Code for Success: 3 Essential Skill Sets for Your Career



Professional Etiquette

Handling Failure

Time Management

Success is a journey, not a destination. We've all heard the phrase, but how do you apply it in life. Gather a group and join us to learn strategies and skills that will help you land your first job and keep advancing in your career.

November 2016

Election & Beer Brewing in Kearney

January 2017

Science Café on Women in Chemistry at the University of Nebraska State Museum at Morrill Hall

April 2017

Mini ACS conference at Henry Doorley Zoo

Upcoming Region V ACS events include the Midwest Regional ACS Conference in Manhattan, Kansas.

LiCor Visit

The Omaha Section and the Nebraska Section combined efforts and opportunity for members to visit LiCor in Lincoln on May 13, 2016. Thank You, LiCor!

Nebraska Section Outreach

Nebraska Section Outreach at Sci-Pop Interactive

Martha Morton, Barry Cheung, Jon Velasco, Thomas Smith, Kiyomi Deards and Ben Lundberg entertained 55 participants in the Sci-Pop Interactive with UNL Libraries and the Lincoln Children's Museum. Participants learned about polymers, made Slime and OOBleck.

Nebraska Section Outreach event for the Sovereign Native Youth Program

Mark Griep, University of Nebraska – Lincoln faculty member, worked with the Sovereign Native Youth Program, which is sponsored by the Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs. My outreach helpers were volunteers from the 2016 Chemistry Summer NSF Research Experiences for Undergraduates Program: Caleb Thompson (Chemistry REU); Sara Rubeck (Chemistry REU); Anne Heintzelman (Center for Nanohybrid Functionalized Materials REU); Katie Goerl (CNFM REU); Philip Yox (Chemistry REU); and Terianne Hamada (Chemistry REU). The outreach co-sponsors were the UNL Chemistry Department (van rental; posters; chemicals; apparatus) and the Nebraska Local Section of the American Chemical Society (plant matter; T-shirts for volunteers).

We offered a 5-part hands-on activity for these middle and high school students from across Nebraska. The five activities were: to extract the water soluble, colored material from indigenous Nebraska plants, most of which were used historically by Nebraska's Missouri River Tribes (Ho-Chunk, Omaha, Ponca, Pawnee) to dye fibers; to use those paints to draw the atomic structure of neon (10 protons, 10 electrons, 10 neutrons); to separate the pigments in those paints by paper chromatography; to measure the light-absorbing properties of the paints by spectroscopy; and to determine the amount of vitamin C in various fruit juices and energy drinks.

The students drew the atomic structure of neon because its symbol is Ne, which is the same symbol for Nebraska, and because the name of

our state is derived from the Otoe Indian name for the Platte River. Also, neon is the 10th element, which correlates with UNL being in the Big 10.



Outreach helper volunteers (L-R): Caleb, Mark, Sara, Anne, Katie, Philip, Terianne



Determining the vitamin C content in fruit juices and energy drinks



Grinding the plant material to make watercolor

Opportunities Await

Outreach Grants (Download the Application Form from the website):

Beginning in 2013, the Local Section has offered up to \$400 reimbursement to fund outreach activities related to two ACS sponsored events. Every group can apply for two grants per year.

- 1) Chemists Celebrate Earth Day (in late April) seeks to bring international focus to environmental causes, such as clean air, water, and energy. ACS offers events, contests, and educational resources for members, chemical educators, and chemistry enthusiasts to illustrate the positive role that chemistry plays in preserving the Earth.
- 2) National Chemistry Week (in late October, around Mole Day) encourages chemists and chemistry enthusiasts to build awareness of chemistry at the local level. Local Sections, businesses, schools, and individuals are invited to organize or participate in events in their communities with a common goal: To promote the value of chemistry in everyday life.

The criteria for receiving the grant are as follows (1) The applicant must be a member of the Nebraska Local Section. We strongly encourage Chemistry Clubs to offer these events. If your Club doesn't have any student members of ACS, please seek the endorsement from a Local Section member. If you don't know who they are, contact us and we'll notify the members nearest to you. (2) You must supply answers to the application below. Submit your application on a rolling basis to the Nebraska Local Section Chair Martha Morton at NEACSCChair@gmail.com.

Your application **must** include:

1. Applicant's Name (must be a member of the Nebraska Local Section).
 2. Email Address (for communication) and Mailing Address (to receive the check).
 3. Institutional Affiliation (Chemistry Club at XYZ; Faculty Member at ABC; other).
 4. Who is your outreach target (Middle School; High School; the Public; other).
 5. What sorts of activities you will do (gather ideas from the ACS website or local section members)
 6. Approximate Date of the Event.
 7. Where the event will take place (at JKL School; in the HYD Mall; other).
 8. How will your outreach target learn about the event (we'll coordinate with teacher Smith; we'll contact Principal Gonzales; other).
 9. Promise to have at least one planning meeting two days prior to the event to discuss the entire plan with all helpers. Discuss: Who will bring the materials; Who will do which activity (be sure to Practice the activity); Who will clean up [It helps to give helpers a T-shirt both as a gift and as a way to distinguish helpers from the participants during the event].
 10. Within a few days after the event, send a thank you to all helpers. Remind them to put this volunteer activity on their resume. Within one month after the event, send a short summary to the Chair of the Nebraska Local Section (how many helpers, how many participants, any feedback or thoughts). These will be edited for publication in the Nebraska Local Section Newsletter.
- 11. Send your itemized original receipts to the Nebraska Local Section to be reimbursed up to \$400.**

Travel Awards (Download the Application Form from the website)

As of 2012, the Local Section is offering travel awards to assist your travel to assist **undergraduate chemistry majors and chemistry graduate students, at the colleges and universities within our Local Section.**

The awards are for attendance at a regional or national ACS meeting to present research results. Submit your application on a rolling deadline to the Nebraska Local Section Chair Martha Morton at NEACSCChair@gmail.com with:

1. Applicant's name and contact information (must be a member of the Nebraska Local Section).
2. The regional or national ACS meeting, and the title and abstract of your presentation (poster or talk).
3. A summary of other available travel funds.
4. A proposed budget of \$350 or less.