

# SILICON VALLEY CHEMIST



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## SVACS Wins 2024 ChemLuminary Award for Outstanding Local Section Career Program



Sponsored by the ACS Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs, the Silicon Valley Local Section created a Career Panel and Networking event supporting community college and transfer students. The panel featured four scientists who started their higher education at community colleges, and was viewed on Zoom and at a watch party on the Hartnell College campus. The watch party model will be expanded to other community

*continued on next page*



The 5th annual **Bay Area Chemistry Symposium**, an ACS sponsored symposium for Synthesis and Design in Medicinal & Process Chemistry

<b>WHEN</b>	Friday, October 25th, 2024
<b>WHERE</b>	Robertson Auditorium, UCSF
<b>SUBMIT</b>	Abstracts for talks & posters today!

This symposium, unique to the Bay Area, will provide an ideal forum for students, postdocs, and industrial chemists to meet and exchange ideas covering themes in chemical biology, synthesis, and computational chemistry. The 2024 symposium will feature keynote seminars from leading local academics & industrial chemists, as well as short talks from students, postdocs, and industry researchers. A lively poster session promises a much-anticipated return to networking with local chemists through this opportunity to learn about cutting-edge chemistry across the Bay Area's outstanding institutions. Visit our website for more details: [bayareachemistrysymposium.com](http://bayareachemistrysymposium.com)

OUR 2024  
KEYNOTE  
ACADEMIC  
SPEAKERS



Prof. Noah Burns  
Stanford



Prof. Brian Shoichet  
UC San Francisco



Prof. Alanna Schepartz  
UC Berkeley

Last year's BACS was graciously sponsored by our

INDUSTRY  
SPONSORS





college campuses in the autumn.

See our newsletter article in *The Silicon Valley Chemist*, July 2024, pages 4-5 for details about this career panel and networking event (PDF)

View all 2024 ChemLuminary Award Winners

## New ACS Volunteer and Youth Protection Policy

Beginning September 1, 2024, the ACS new Youth Protection Policy takes effect. Adult ACS volunteers who will be interacting with children under the age of 18 at ACS events will need to follow the ACS Volunteer and Participant Code of Conduct and the Youth Protection Policy, which includes background checks. Please see more details below.

In December 2023, the ACS Board of Directors approved the *Volunteer and Participant Code of Conduct Policy*, effective May 1, 2024. In the policy, item 10 states that a background check may be required for some events.

Starting on September 1, 2024, the *Youth Protection Policy* will take effect, and it details the expectations for volunteers at ACS Youth Events. ACS has partnered with Sterling Volunteers to conduct all background checks. This policy applies to all adults volunteering at ACS Youth Events in the U.S.

With National Chemistry Week approaching, please share the *ACS Background Check link* with your volunteers as soon as possible. Events scheduled before the end of September have a grace period and are exempt from the new policy. However, it is imperative for volunteers to familiarize themselves with the process and request a background check soon. All volunteers for ACS Youth Events after October 1 must comply with the Youth Protection Policy—no exceptions. For more information:

- Please visit the [Youth Protection Policy webpage](#) for the tutorial video, procedural details, and FAQs.
- For questions about the background check process, contact Sterling Volunteers at [info@sterlingvolunteers.com](mailto:info@sterlingvolunteers.com).
- For policy-related inquiries, email [VolunteerPolicy@acs.org](mailto:VolunteerPolicy@acs.org).

Sincerely,

Mark O'Brien

Senior Portfolio Manager, Component Services  
American Chemical Society

September 21st, 2024  
The Lawrence Hall of Science, Berkeley

# DIVERSITY IN SCIENCE: BRIDGING COMMUNITIES THROUGH THE HISTORY OF AIDS RESEARCH



Join us for this Cal ACS and AWIS East Bay joint event featuring the documentary *Surviving Voices - Quilt Panel Makers*, which tells the untold story of the AIDS Memorial Quilt. Dr. Christoph Carter, Senior Director of Clinical Development at Gilead Sciences, will speak on HIV treatment and prevention research advances. The event includes brief talks by National AIDS Memorial management and ACS California Board Members, followed by a networking session. Don't miss this opportunity to connect and reflect on the intersection of science and societal impact.

Register now [here](#) (\$20 General, FREE for students).

All proceeds from this event will go to the [National AIDS Memorial](#).

A limited number of travel assistance funds are available for eligible students. Apply [here](#).

Questions? Email [taheri.atefeh@gmail.com](mailto:taheri.atefeh@gmail.com)

### Agenda:

- 12:30 - 1:00 PM: Registration and Welcome with Coffee/Tea
- 1:00 - 2:00 PM: Screening of *Surviving Voices - Quilt Panel Makers*
- 2:00 - 3:00 PM: Talk by Dr. Carter, Gilead Sciences
- 3:00 - 4:00 PM: Networking Session with Food and Refreshments

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<https://www.siliconvalleyacs.org/events/>

## - September 2024 -

**Sep 9-11** **Polymeric Foams and Latticed Architectures Enabling Dematerialization with Performance: A 2.5-day Virtual Short Course**  
Prof. Tim Long, Arizona State University; Prof. Bob Moore, Virginia Tech; Prof. Joe DeSimone, Stanford; Prof. Rayne Zhang, UC Berkeley  
Sponsored by the Golden Gate Polymer Forum  
Sept. 9-10, 8AM-5PM, Sept. 11, 8AM-1PM. Online, \$450 until 8/26; \$550 until 9/6 if space is still available. [Learn more and register](#)

**Sep 11** **What's New in CAS SciFinder**  
Sponsored by CAS  
2:00-3:00 pm, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)

**Sep 11** **Growing Chemical Businesses: Strategies for IP Protection**  
Sponsored by ACS Webinars and ACS Chemistry and the Law Division  
11:00 am-12:15 pm, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)

**Sep 12** **ACS Virtual Office Hours: Academia vs. Industry**  
Sponsored by ACS Careers  
9:00-10:30 am, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)

**Sep 12** **Drug Quality and Regulations 101: An Overview of the Pharma Industry, Drug Development, and QC Processes**  
Sponsored by ACS Webinars and ACS Office of Careers and Professional Education  
11:00 am-12:15 pm, Online Free, [Registration required](#)

**Sep 12** **The 34th First Annual Ig Nobel Prize Ceremony**  
Sponsored by Improbable Research  
Webcast 3:00-4:30 pm Pacific Time, [Learn more](#)

**Sep 14** **Designing Tomorrow**  
Prof. Julie Beth Zimmerman  
Sponsored by California Section ACS, Women Chemists Committee  
10:30 am-Noon, Online, Free, [Registration required](#) by Sept. 12th at Noon, [Download flyer](#) (PDF)

**Sep 14** **Kid Makers: Pop Up Chemistry**  
Sponsored by Silicon Valley ACS and Redwood City Public Library (RCPL)  
2:00-3:00 pm, In person for ages 9-12, RCPL Downtown Location, 1044 Middlefield Road, Redwood City, Free, [Learn more](#)

**Sep 18** **How to Find and Apply for a Chemistry Position in the Federal Government**  
Sponsored by ACS Career Pathways Virtual Workshop  
9:00-10:30 am, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)

**Sep 21** **Diversity in Science: Bridging Communities through the History of AIDS Research**  
Dr. Christoph Carter, Gilead Sciences and Quilt Panel Makers  
Sponsored by California ACS and AWIS (Association for Women in Science)-East Bay  
12:30-4:00 pm, Lawrence Hall of Science, Room 150, 1 Centennial Dr., Berkeley CA 94720, Cost \$20, Students Free, [Registration required](#), [Download flyer](#) (PDF), Student Travel Grant funds available: [Application form](#)

**Sep 25** **Innovation, Technology, and AI: Revolutionizing Peer Review & Publishing**  
Sponsored by ACS Webinars and ACS Publications  
8:00 am – 9:15 am, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)

**Sep 25** **"ChemHIST Talks" Two Talks from the ACS 2024 Fall Meeting**  
(1) Art and inspiration: Edouard Benedictus and the invention of laminated safety glass. Prof. Seth C. Rasmussen, North Dakota State University  
(2) Drug analysis in the early years of the Pure Food and Drug Act of 1906. Prof. Alice Haddy, University of North Carolina at Greensboro.  
Sponsored by the ACS History of Chemistry Division  
Noon-1pm, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)

**Sep 26** **Who Will Win the #ChemNobel? Predicting the 2024 Nobel Laureate(s) in Chemistry**  
Sponsored by ACS Webinars and Chemical & Engineering News  
11:00 am-Noon, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)

**Sep 28** **Lunch, Bocce, and Electrochemical Systems for Large-Scale Energy Storage**  
Nicholas Cross, Postdoctoral Researcher, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory  
Sponsored by California ACS  
11:30 am-2:00 pm, The Clubhouse at the Mission Peak Sportplex, 4020 Technology Place, Fremont, California 94538, Cost \$25/person (\$12.50/person for students and unemployed members), [Registration required](#) by September 14, [Download flyer](#) (PDF)

## - October 2024 -

**Oct 3** **Catalyze the Vote! Meet the 2025 ACS President-Elect Candidates**  
Sponsored by ACS Webinars, ACS Younger Chemists Committee, and ACS Committee on Nominations and Elections  
11:00 am-Noon, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)

**Oct 9** **Versatile and Sustainable Adhesives Derived from  $\alpha$ -Lipoic Acid**  
Sponsored by the Golden Gate Polymer Forum  
Prof. Phillip B. Messersmith, University of California-Berkeley & Lawrence Berkeley National Lab  
6:00-7:00 pm, Online, Free/\$5 Donation, [Registration required](#) by October 8 at 1:00 pm

**Oct 12** **Kid Makers: Pop Up Chemistry**  
Sponsored by Silicon Valley ACS and Redwood City Public Library (RCPL)  
2:00-3:00 pm, In person for ages 9-12, RCPL Downtown Location, 1044 Middlefield Road, Redwood City, Free, [Learn more](#)

**Oct 25** **Bay Area Chemistry Symposium**  
Sponsored by Silicon Valley ACS, California ACS, EWOC (Empowering Women in Organic Chemistry) NorCAL Chapter, plus many corporate sponsors  
UCSF Mission Bay, Robertson Auditorium  
Submit abstracts by the end of September | [Learn more](#)

# STANFORD CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT UPCOMING EVENTS

Subscribe to [This Week in Chemistry](#) to attend Stanford Chemistry events held in the [Sapp Center](#) that are also available via Zoom. TWIC is published on Fridays.

- |               |  |               |  |
|---------------|--|---------------|--|
| <b>Sep 24</b> | <b>Steering spin–valley polarizations through phonons and photons</b><br>Prof. Roel Tempelaar, Northwestern University<br>3:00-4:00pm, Stanford University, Sapp Center Lecture Hall 114<br><a href="#">Learn more</a>   | <b>Oct 2</b>  | <b>New Strategies for Stereoselective Radical Biocatalysis</b><br>Prof. Yang Yang, UC Santa Barbara<br>3:00-4:00pm, Stanford University, Sapp Center Lecture Hall 114<br><a href="#">Learn more</a>  |
| <b>Sep 25</b> | <b>Q&amp;A on Navigating Academic Careers in Undergraduate Education and Research</b><br>Prof. Grace Stokes, Santa Clara University; Prof. Gilles Muller, San Jose State University; and Prof. Resa Kelly, San Jose State University<br>3:00-4:00pm, Stanford University, Sapp Center Lecture Hall 114<br><a href="#">Learn more</a> | <b>Oct 7</b>  | <b>Student Hosted Colloquium Kickoff</b><br>Professor Matt Kanan, Stanford University<br>3:00-4:00pm, Stanford University, Sapp Center Auditorium 111<br><a href="#">Learn more</a>  |
| <b>Sep 26</b> | <b>Copper-protein interactions in degenerative diseases: From the brain to the lens</b><br>Prof. Liliana Quintanar Vera, Cinvestav<br>3:00-4:00pm, Stanford University, Sapp Center Lecture Hall 114<br><a href="#">Learn more</a>   | <b>Oct 14</b> | <b>Chemistry in art, art in Chemistry, and the spiritual ground they share</b><br>Professor Roald Hoffman, Cornell University<br>3:00-4:00pm, Stanford University, Sapp Center Auditorium 111<br><a href="#">Learn more</a>  |
| <b>Sep 27</b> | <b>NOBCChE Chemistry Seminar</b><br>Prof. Will Tarpeh, Stanford University<br>3:00-4:00pm, Stanford University, Sapp Center Lecture Hall 114<br><a href="#">Learn more</a>   | <b>Oct 15</b> | <b>Exploring and Manipulating Materials with Ultrafast Linear and Nonlinear Scattering and Spectroscopy Techniques</b><br>Prof. Michael Zürich, University of California, Berkeley<br>3:00-4:00pm, Stanford University, Sapp Center Lecture Hall 114<br><a href="#">Learn more</a> |

## National Chemistry Week 2024

“National Chemistry Week (#ACS\_NCW) is celebrated this year during the week of October 20-26, with the theme “Picture Perfect Chemistry.” Chemistry plays a crucial role in how photographs and images are created. The chemistry of

photography is based on photosensitivity and reactions with light. The chemical processes that create a traditional photograph start inside the camera with the absorption of photons. However, photochemistry alone is not able to

produce an image. Development is continued through chemical reactions. The structures of the chemicals involved are extremely important to the reactions that take place.

Today, modern technology called imaging uses things like sound waves, many types of light, and even streams of electrons to make images we can't see with our eyes alone. These tools assist with making the images we use for medicine, space exploration, research, and other areas. Similarly, through medical imaging, we can see inside the human body. Medical X-rays, CT scans, and MRIs allow doctors to look inside our bodies in ways never possible before. These techniques help researchers understand diseases and improve patient care.

On Earth and in space, observatories use different types of imaging. These inventions help us see deeply into the universe and better understand it.

[Explore the resources on our pages](#) to learn more about chemistry's contribution to photography and imaging, as we strengthen local communities and celebrate this year's National Chemistry Week together.”

The graphic features a dark blue background with various chemistry-related icons (flasks, beakers, cameras) in a lighter blue. In the center, the text "PICTURE PERFECT" is in white with a pink outline, and "Chemistry" is in large, colorful, bubbly letters. Below this, it says "October 20-26, 2024 #NationalChemistryWeek". At the bottom left is the ACS logo (American Chemical Society) with the tagline "Chemistry for Life". At the bottom right is the "NATIONAL CHEMISTRY WEEK" logo with a stylized figure holding a test tube.

## Reactions Science Videos

How a retracted paper affected the course of Alzheimer's research



[Watch Video on YouTube](#)

[Read Associated Article](#)

“In June 2024, a landmark Alzheimer's research paper was retracted due to fraud allegations. Did we waste billions of dollars and thousands of hours of scientists' time? Maybe not. There are now two potentially helpful drugs on the market targeting the subject of the paper: amyloid beta. This video breaks down the amyloid-beta hypothesis, the fraud itself and where we go from here.”

Don't drink raw milk. But what about raw milk cheese?



[Watch Video on YouTube](#)

[Read Associated Article](#)

“A lot of people on the internet have been telling our host Alex to drink raw milk. This is a bad idea — a particularly bad one actually. So, she wanted to make a video about why it's such a bad idea to consume raw milk, then she realized she's been eating raw milk without even knowing it via cheese. That's when things got complicated.”

## ACS National Council Meeting Fall 2024, Denver Colorado Selected Talking Points

The ACS National Council Meeting was held at the ACS 2024 Fall Meeting on August 21, 2024 in Denver.

The highlights below are excerpts taken from the Councilor Talking Points document. For more complete reporting, see [Councilor Talking Points: Fall 2024](#) (PDF), and [Council Agenda, Fall – August 21, 2024](#) (PDF).

- The ACS Fall 2024 National Meeting was held from August 18 – 22, 2024 in Denver, Colorado.
- National meeting attendance: As of August 22, there were 11,569 registrations: 10,245 in-person and 1,324 online.

### Council Actions

- Approved revised Academic Professional Guidelines to reflect shared responsibility and accountability with the academic institution, faculty, and other mentors in creating a safe environment, and the Chemical Professional's Code of Conduct.
- Approved a petition for Global Representation on Council.
- Approved the creation of the following International Chemical Sciences Chapters, subject to the concurrence of the ACS Board of Directors: Bangladesh, East and Northeast India, and West India.
- Approved a name change for the Committee on Technician Affairs (CTA) to the ACS Committee on Chemical Technical Professionals (CTP).
- The Committee on Younger Chemists (YCC), in celebration of their 50th anniversary, encourages early career chemists to join ACS. Through September, new members can join ACS for a 50% discount off their first year of annual dues by using discount code YCC24 when joining online.

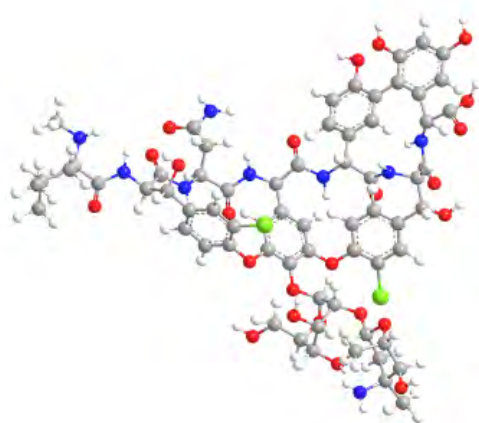
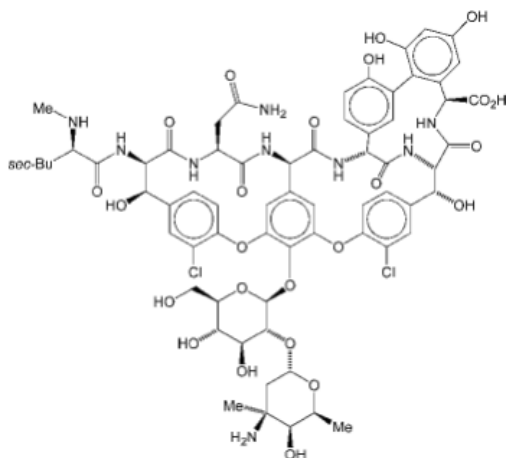
### Board of Directors Actions

- Voted to approve that the Arthur C. Cope Fund utilization be revised to include a two-year postdoctoral fellowship program to be awarded to Ph.D. candidates or postdoctoral researchers within their first two years of pursuing postdoctoral research in organic chemistry, providing support up to \$85,000 per year for two years, beginning in 2025.
- Voted to approve the use of \$10,000 from the 2024 Presidential budget to support the ACS Student Chapter Membership Campaign.
- Voted to approve the DEIR statement as modified during the meeting.
- Voted to approve the ACS nominee for the 2025 Perkin Medal.
- Voted to approve the appointment of an Editor-in-Chief of Organic Process Research & Development, and reappointment of several ACS journal editors.
- Voted to approve the advance member registration fee for 2025 spring and fall meetings: \$549 for in-person and \$249 for virtual.

### Reports

- ACS CEO, Albert Horvath, and his staff, reported on the evolution of membership engagement, planning for the 150th anniversary of ACS, the ACS Brand, financials, organizational objectives, and other ACS activities.
- ACS General Counsel, Tokè Vandervoort, provided an update on the Youth Protection Policy and Volunteer Background Check process. The communications will roll out to the ACS member community beginning on August 26, 2024. See the separate article on page 2 in this September 2024 SVACS newsletter.

## Molecule of the Week Update for Vancomycin



“Vancomycin<sup>1</sup> was the Molecule of the Week for **September 05, 2016**. It is an amphoteric glycopeptide antibiotic originally isolated from the soil bacterium *Amycolatopsis orientalis* in 1955. Vancomycin is mostly used to treat serious Gram-positive bacterial infections that do not respond to other antibiotics.

In August 2024, Lynette Cegelski, Paul A. Wender, and co-workers at Stanford University reported that enhanced versions of vancomycin are broad-spectrum antibiotics **effective against several otherwise resistant Gram-positive and Gram-negative pathogens**. The authors prepared conjugates of vancomycin with biguanide<sup>2</sup>, a small molecule with amine and imine functionalities. The successfully treated pathogens included vancomycin-resistant *Enterococcus* species, mycobacteria, and all of the pathogens in the virulent **ESKAPE** class.”

<sup>1</sup> CAS Reg. No. 1404-90-6.

<sup>2</sup> CAS Reg. No. 56-03-1.

## Welcome to the Silicon Valley Section of ACS



Each month, our Silicon Valley local ACS section receives a spreadsheet from national ACS with the names of members new to our section. The members are either new to ACS, have transferred in from other areas, or are the newest members - students. As a welcoming gesture, the SVACS Executive Committee offers new members free attendance at a catered SVACS event. Come join us at our in-person gatherings! To register as our guest for a catered event, **contact us** directly to receive complimentary admission for you and a friend. This month's picnic is one such opportunity to meet us. See page 1 for details.

We hope you will also join us for an outreach event, like judging a science fair, proctoring the high school Chemistry Olympiad or participating in a National Chemistry Week hands-on experiment event. The local section is a volunteer organization. Attend an event, volunteer to help, and get to know your local fellow chemists.

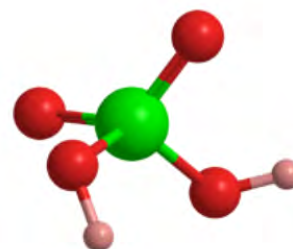
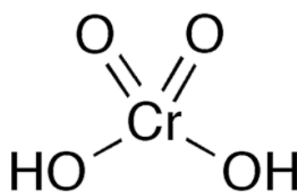
### New SVACS Members

Ivonne Jasmine Aguirre	Arely Martin Guijarro	Kimberly Nicole Ramirez
Saad Albawardi	Gabino Guzman	Jonathan Resendiz-Saavedra
Kayla Patricia Barker	Diego Guzman-Bermudez	Anne S. Robinson
Hannah Bartels	Pauline Haghazari	Nathan Alexander Rosales
Andres Zamudio Bucio	Juan Sebastian Hernandez Cifuentes	Luisana Salinas
Xinpei Cai	Henry Nguyen Huynh	Jeriel San Antonio Sevilla
Stephanie Margot Cervantes-Azpilcueta	Mariam Khvichia	Jie Shi
Rachel Anne Christian	Noe Lona	Yujia Sun
Yaneli Cordova Morales	Lizbeth Dayanara Lozano-Ruiz	Reika Tei
Lakshay Dheer	Juan Diego Madrigal	Andrea Gabriela Tinajero
Sam Fleischman	Jacob Angel Mejia	Ana Victoria Trujillo
Emely Elizabeth Flores	Bryanna Mendenhall	Lorena Lizeth Vargas
Sandra Yvonne Garibay Sanchez	Azucena Mendez-Gomez	Mo Wu
Eva Lizbeth Gonzalez	Jannet Anne Noriega	Fan Yang
Samantha Gonzalez-Leon	Joaquin Perez	Liwei Zheng
Sai Gourisankar	Edwin Perez Pulido	
	Alex S. Powers	

CHEMISTRY

Quiz

I'm nasty, but useful in the lab. What molecule am I?



Answer

## The chemistry of the smell of the sea

**GI COMPOUND INTEREST**

**Where does the smell of the sea come from?**

Much of the characteristic smell of the seaside stems from volatile organic compounds that contain sulfur. Some of these compounds are emitted by algae in the sea, as a result of enzymatic activity or bacterial action, while others can be emitted by decomposing seaweed on the beach itself.

**KEY:** ● Carbon ● Oxygen ● Sulfur ● Hydrogen

**Hydrogen sulfide**

**Seaweed death and sex**

Bacteria break down sulfates in decomposing seaweed, producing hydrogen sulfide. This gas is toxic in high concentrations. However, as hydrogen sulfide is produced naturally in the body, humans have mechanisms to break it down, so we can tolerate low concentrations.

Seaweed also contributes to the smell of the sea through the release of dictyopterene. Seaweed eggs release these pheromones to attract sperm.

**Compounds from algae**

Dimethylsulfoniopropionate (DMSP) is found in algae cells and acts as an osmolyte (it helps maintain cell volume and water levels). Enzymes and bacteria break down DMSP, producing dimethylsulfide (DMS), a major component of the smell of the sea. Algae is also the source of bromophenols that are key flavour compounds in seafood.

**DMS and clouds**

DMS also has a role in cloud formation. Less than 10% of the DMS formed in the ocean gets to the atmosphere. Chemical reactions in the air can break it down into aerosols (tiny particles of a solid or liquid suspended in air). Water vapour condenses around these particles, resulting in cloud formation. Other, non-DMS-derived aerosols also contribute, including dust and soot.

**1 DMS released** → **2 Aerosols form** → **3 Clouds form** → **4 Cooling effect**

[www.compoundchem.com](http://www.compoundchem.com) © Andy Brunning/Compound Interest 2024 | Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives license

[Download image \(PDF\)](#) | [Read associated article](#)

**ACS** Local Section  
Silicon Valley  
P.O. Box 395, Palo Alto, CA 94302

Contact us: <https://www.siliconvalleyacs.org/about/contact/>

Website: <https://www.siliconvalleyacs.org/>

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## Silicon Valley ACS Executive Committee

<b>2023 Section Officers</b>	Chair	2024	Todd Eberspacher	
	Chair-Elect	2024	Amanda Nelson	
	Past-Chair	2024	Natalie McClure	
	Secretary	2023-2024	vacant	
	Treasurer	2024-2025	Ihab Darwish	
<b>Councilors</b>	2022-2024	Linda Brunauer	2022-2024	Jane Frommer
	2023-2025	Ihab Darwish	2023-2025	Madalyn Radlauer
	2024-2026	Grace Baysinger	2024-2026	Natalie McClure
<b>Alternate Councilors</b>	2022-2024	Megan Brophy	2022-2024	Anais Nguyen
	2023-2025	Kristin Schmidt	2023-2025	Laura Yeager
	2024-2026	Karan Dikshit	2024-2026	Howard Peters
<b>Newsletter</b>	Editor	Grace Baysinger	Assoc. Editor	Jane Frommer

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