

SILICON VALLEY CHEMIST

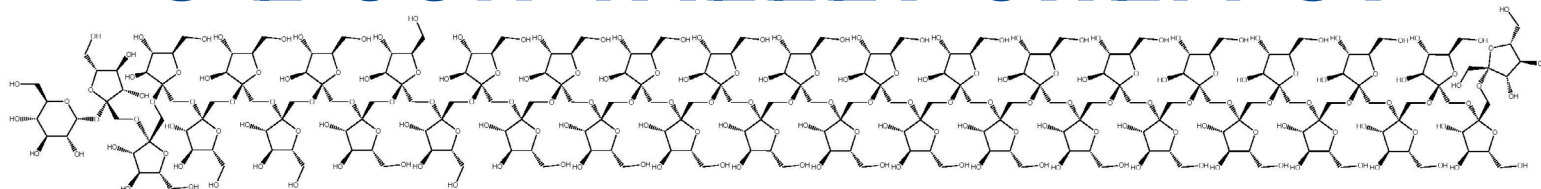


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Silicon Valley American Chemical Society 2024 in Review

Paving the Path
Silicon Valley ACS
2024 Year-in-Review

NATIONAL CHEMISTRY WEEK
October 20-26, 2024 #NationalChemistryWeek

ACS FALL 2024
CELEBRATING CHEMISTRY | AUGUST 18-22 | DENVER, CO

BACS
October 2024
BAY AREA CHEMISTRY SYMPOSIUM
connecting industry + academia

PopUp Chemistry

SVACS Annual Picnic 2024
award ceremony, BBQ, & beer/wine tasting

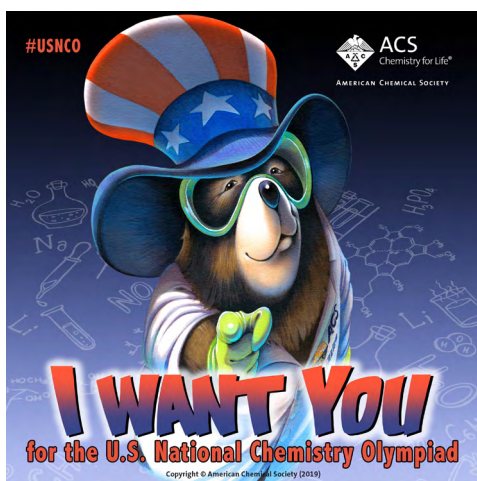
ChemLuminary Awards

Cynthia & Bruce Maryanoff - Mosher Award, 2024

ACS Silicon Valley

SVACS 2024 in Review

When	What	SVACS newsletter coverage	Read more
January	<i>Kid Makers: Pop Up Chemistry</i> <i>Mosher Award presented to Drs. Cynthia & Bruce Maryanoff</i>	<i>January 2024</i>	<i>Photos & write-up</i>
February	<i>Kid Makers: Pop Up Chemistry</i>		
March	<i>Synopsys Championship Science Fair and SVACS Awards</i> <i>P.I.E.F.E.S.T. 3rd Annual Pasifika STEM Fair</i>	<i>March 2024</i> <i>April 2024</i>	<i>Science Fair Awards</i> <i>Photos</i>
April	<i>Hartnell College Spring 2024 Career & Resource Fair</i> <i>Chemists Celebrate Earth Week - Martin Luther King Library</i> <i>Chemists Celebrate Earth Week - Salinas Community Workshop</i> <i>High School Chemistry Olympiad National Exam</i> <i>Chemists Celebrate Earth Week Illustrated Poem Contest</i>	<i>May 2024</i> <i>April 2024</i> <i>June 2024</i> <i>June 2024</i>	<i>Photos</i> <i>Photos</i> <i>Illustrated Poem</i>
June	<i>Silicon Valley ACS & Golden Gate Polymer Forum Annual Joint Seminar</i> <i>Kid Makers: Pop Up Chemistry</i>	<i>June 2024</i>	<i>Innovations in Materials</i> <i>Design for Kidney Dialysis,</i> <i>from Lab Bench to Patient</i>
July	<i>Tech Trek</i> <i>Annual ACS Silicon Valley Picnic and Awards</i> <i>The 2024 Ottenberg Award to Madalyn Radlauer</i>	<i>June 2024</i> <i>July 2024</i> <i>August 2024</i>	<i>Photos</i> <i>Photos</i>
August	<i>SVACS Wins ChemLuminary Award at ACS National Meeting in Denver</i> <i>Science Fair David Parker Award Recipients Celebrated at Santa Clara Fire Dept.</i>	<i>September 2024</i> <i>October 2024</i>	<i>Nomination</i>
September	<i>Kid Makers: Pop Up Chemistry for Middle School Scientists</i>		
October	<i>Paving the Path Career Panel: Community College Student to Successful Scientist</i> <i>National Chemistry Week, Salinas Community Science Center, Salinas</i> <i>National Chemistry Week, Martin Luther King Library</i> <i>National Chemistry Week Illustrated Poem Contest</i> <i>SVACS Salute to Excellence Award to Bridget Kowalczyk</i> <i>Bay Area Chemistry Symposium</i>	<i>October 2024</i> <i>December 2024</i> <i>October 2024</i> <i>December 2024</i> <i>October 2024</i>	<i>Photos & write-up</i> <i>Write-up</i> <i>Picture Perfect Chemistry</i> <i>About ACS Salute to</i> <i>Excellence Award</i> <i>5th Annual BACS</i>
November	<i>Kid Makers: Pop Up Chemistry for Middle School Scientists</i>		
December	<i>Kid Makers: Pop Up Chemistry for Middle School Scientists</i>		



National High School Chemistry Olympiad: Key Dates

The *U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad (USNCO)* program is a multi-tiered chemistry competition for high school students. ACS has sponsored the program since 1984. To be eligible for participation, all students must register before January 17. Nominees for the National Exam will be selected based on their results in their local competition. See [ACS USNCO website](#) for study aids and past exams.

Key Dates:

December 16, 2024

January 17, 2025

March 1-23, 2025

March 15, 2025

April 5, 2025

June 1-14, 2025

July 5-14, 2025

USNCO Coaching - Student Application | [Application Form](#)

[Student Registration Closes](#) | [Registration Form](#)

Local Qualifying exam period in schools

Exam for students whose schools don't offer the program

National Exam, Las Positas Community College

Study Camp

International Chemistry Olympiad

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

All Times Given are Pacific Time Zone

- January 2025 -

- Jan 11** **Kid Makers: Pop Up Chemistry**
Sponsored by Silicon Valley ACS & 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](#)
- Jan 13** **Strategies to Discover, Design, and Synthesize Unnatural Bioactive Peptides**
Dr. Carly Schissel, University of California, Berkeley
Sponsored by Stanford Chemistry Department
3:00-4:00 pm, Sapp Center Auditorium 111, 376 Lomita Dr.,
Stanford Univ., [Learn more](#)
- Jan 15** **Finding Your Path: Evaluating and Introducing Yourself - A Career Pathways Virtual Workshop**
Sponsored by ACS Virtual Career Services
9:00-10:30 am, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)
- Jan 16** **Chromatography Skills You Need to Get Hired and Promoted**
Sponsored by ACS Webinars and ACS Office of Career and Professional Education
11:00 am-12:15 pm, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)
- Jan 16** **Polyelectrolyte Complex Scaffoldings for Wet Adhesives and 3D Bioprinting Inks**
Prof. Samanvaya Srivastava, UCLA Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering
Sponsored by Golden Gate Polymer Forum (GGPF)
6:00-7:00 pm, Online, Free, [Registration required by 1:00 pm on January 15th](#)
- Jan 19** **Investigating Plant Terpenoid Metabolism and Bioproduct Applications**
Prof. Philipp Zerbe, UC Davis
Sponsored by California ACS Section
11:30 am-2:00 pm, Hybrid Event: In-person \$20 for lunch reservation (\$10 students) at North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Ave, Berkeley. Online free, [Learn more and register](#) | [Download flyer](#)
- Jan 22** **From Stardust to Life: The Chemistry of Habitable Worlds**
Sponsored by ACS Webinars and ACS Division of Physical Chemistry (PHYS) Astrochemistry Subdivision
Noon-1:00 pm, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)
- Jan 23** **Scientific breakthroughs and emerging trends to watch in 2025: Expert webinar and panel**
Sponsored by CAS
7:00-8:00 am, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)
- Jan 23** **Innovating Everyday Chemicals with Green Chemistry: More Sustainable Lubricants, Solvents, and Fertilizers**
Sponsored by ACS Webinars and ACS Green Chemistry Institute
11:00 am-12:30 pm, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)
- Jan 23** **Microbes Mining Minerals: A New Route to Plant Cultivation**
Dr. Jocelyn Richardson
Sponsored by SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory
7:00-8:00 pm, Hybrid Event, Free, [Learn more and Register](#)

- Jan 30** **Simple Steps to Update Your Will and Leave Your Legacy**
Sponsored by ACS Webinars and ACS Office of Philanthropy
11:00 am-Noon, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)

- February 2025 -

- Feb 3** **[Materials Chemistry Seminar, Student Hosted Colloquium]**
Prof. Samuel Stupp, Northwestern University
Sponsored by Stanford Chemistry Department
3:00-4:00 pm, Sapp Center Auditorium 111, 376 Lomita Dr.,
Stanford Univ., [Learn more](#)
- Feb 3** **Silicon Valley ACS Executive Committee Meeting**
Sponsored by Silicon Valley ACS Section
7:30-9:00 pm, Hybrid Event, Free, Guests welcomed: [contact Chair](#) to attend
- Feb 6** **Skydiving Into Retirement: ACS Virtual Office Hours**
Sponsored by ACS Virtual Career Services
9:00-10:30 am, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)
- Feb 6** **Steeped in Science: The Chemistry Inside Your Perfect Cup of Tea**
Sponsored by ACS Webinars and ACS Division of Agricultural and Food Chemistry
11:00 am-12:15 pm, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)
- Feb 8** **DNA-mineral interactions at the molecular level: implications for bacterial evolution and ecological inference**
Prof. Karina Krarup Sand, University of Copenhagen
Sponsored by Women Chemists Committee, California ACS Section
10:30 am-Noon, Online, Free, [Registration required](#) | [Download flyer](#)
- Feb 9** **RAMP in the Research Lab: An ACS CHAS Peer-Led Workshop**
Sponsored by the ACS Division of Chemical Health & Safety
11:00 am-2:30 pm, Online, \$25/participant, [Registration required](#)
- Feb 11** **Accelerating Equity in Science: Networking Event of the Cal Local ACS Section & Partners**
Sponsored by California ACS Section and IUPAC
5:00-8:00 pm, Hybrid Event, Free, [Learn more and register](#)
- Feb 12** **CHIPS-funded Program for Advanced Metrology of Semiconductor Packaging Materials**
Stian Romberg, PhD, Materials Science and Engineering Division, National Institute of Standards and Technology
Sponsored by Golden Gate Polymer Forum (GGPF)
Details TBA, check back at <http://www.ggpf.org>
- Feb 13** **Plastics Circularity: Origins and New Developments in Recycling**
Sponsored by ACS Webinars and Science History Institute
10:00 am-11:15, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)
- Feb 19** **What Every Industrial Chemist Should Know: Ethics and Legal Considerations**
Sponsored by ACS Webinars, ACS Committee on Ethics, and ACS Division of Chemistry and the Law
11:00 am-Noon, Online, Free, [Registration required](#)



Judges Needed for Local Science Fairs in 2025

by Susan Hines and Natalie McClure

If you are reading this newsletter, you are likely interested in science in our community. How about encouraging our middle and high school students to participate in the world of STEM – science, engineering, math, and science? It takes just one day of your time to judge at a local science fair – and all but one (San Mateo

STEM Fairs) are in person. The following science fairs need category awards judges, especially in the areas of biology, chemistry, microbiology, and all areas of informatics. All of them are qualifiers for the California State Science Fair and either the Broadcom Masters (middle schoolers) or the International Science and Engineering Fair, ISEF (high schoolers).

To join our SVACS special award team of judges at the Synopsis Championship on March 13, 2025 in San Jose, contact us. We welcome participants from all chemistry-related fields.

No matter which fair(s) you choose, please volunteer now!

- **Santa Cruz County STEAM Expo**, March 8, 2025, Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds
- **San Mateo County Office of Education STEM Fair**, March 15, 2025, virtual format
- **Synopsis Championship**, Santa Clara County, March 13, 2025, San Jose Convention Center
- **Alameda County Science and Engineering Fair**, March 15, 2025, Chabot College, Hayward Campus
- **Golden Gate STEM Fair**, Cancelled for 2025

CAS Future Leaders - Call for Applications



CAS Future Leaders for 2024

Join a group of exceptional Ph.D. students and postdoctoral scholars from around the world to take the next steps in your leadership journey. [Learn how to apply](#) and submit your application for the 2025 CAS Future Leaders program by **Sunday, January 26, 2025 at 9:00pm Pacific Time**.

Why you should apply

- **Advance your career and make meaningful impacts in science:** The CAS Future Leaders program supports the growth of science leadership among early-career scientists. Since 2010, the program has awarded Ph.D. students and postdoctoral scholars opportunities to learn leadership skills, engage in scientific discourse, and connect with peer scientists and innovators from around the world.
- **Learn:** Get exclusive leadership training from industry experts and learn how CAS connects the world's scientific knowledge.
- **Engage:** Share your latest discoveries to advance scientific knowledge at the American Chemical Society fall meeting.
- **Connections:** Network to make meaningful connections with peer scientists and innovators from around the world.

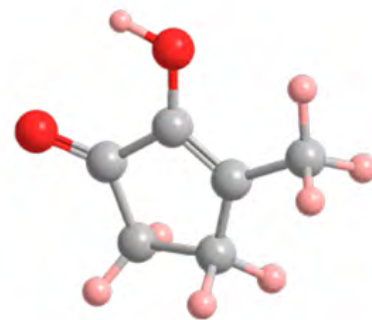
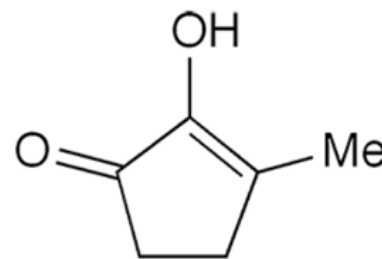
2025 Program Benefits

Expense-paid trip to ACS CAS Headquarters in Columbus, Ohio August 11-16, 2025
Expense-paid trip to ACS Fall 2025 National Meeting in Washington, D. C. August 17-21, 2025
\$1,000 USD
3-year ACS membership
Profile featured in C&EN (see the 2018, 2019, 2022, 2023 , and 2024 articles)
Complimentary registration for the ACS meeting
Opportunity to present your research at the ACS meeting
Complimentary registration for an ACS Professional and Leadership Development course at the ACS meeting
Lifetime membership in the CAS Future Leaders Alumni Community

CHEMISTRY

Quiz

I might wind up on your morning pancakes. What molecule am I?



Answer

ACS Green Chemistry Institute

29th Annual Green Chemistry & Engineering Conference

Good Health & Well-Being Through Sustainable Chemistry

PITTSBURGH, PA | JUNE 23-26, 2025



The ACS Green Chemistry Institute invites you to submit abstracts for the **29th Annual Green Chemistry and Engineering Conference**. This premier event, dedicated to advancing sustainable practices in chemistry and engineering, takes place June 23-26, 2025. We are seeking innovative and impactful research that falls into one of our technical session topics. Please submit your abstracts by February 17.

Important Dates

- Jan. 2: Abstract submission opens
- Feb. 17: Abstract submission closes
- Feb. 18: Early registration and housing open
- Apr. 30: Early registration closes
- May 1: Regular registration opens
- May 19: Rooming block deadline

About GC&E: The GC&E Conference, hosted by the ACS Green Chemistry Institute, is the premier global event for green chemistry and engineering. As the first and longest-running conference on this topic, GC&E attracts scientists, educators, industry professionals, and advocates to explore advancements, share best practices, inspire innovation, and build community dedicated to sustainable solutions.

Each year, the conference evolves, incorporating new ideas while maintaining its 28-year legacy. Its vision is for green and sustainable chemistry to be integral to all scientific endeavors, providing solutions that balance human well-being with planetary health. For this reason, the 2025 conference theme will be Good Health and Well-Being Through Sustainable Chemistry to align with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 3.

GC&E 2025 will showcase innovative research and cross-cutting topics in green and sustainable chemistry and engineering, with an emphasis on symposia that highlight our theme "Good Health and Well-Being", such as medical breakthroughs, new technologies, and efforts to eliminate or reduce hazardous chemical pollution promoting longer and healthier lives.

United Nations SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



[Enlarge Image](#)

The Strange Chemistry of Mexican Coca-Cola A Reactions Video

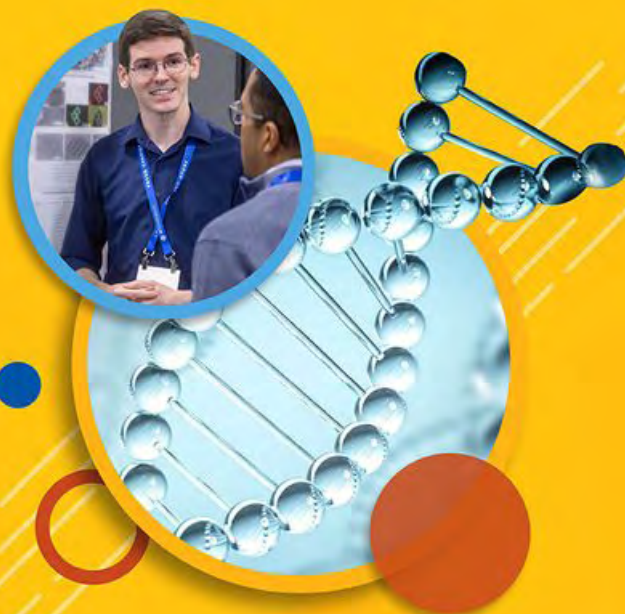


[Watch on YouTube](#) | [View sources](#)

[View more Reactions: Chemistry Science Videos – Uncover the Chemistry in Everyday Life](#)

ACS SPRING 2025

MARCH 23-27 | SAN DIEGO #ACSSPRING2025



Pushing Boundaries Solving global challenges

Get ready to learn, network with industry and academia

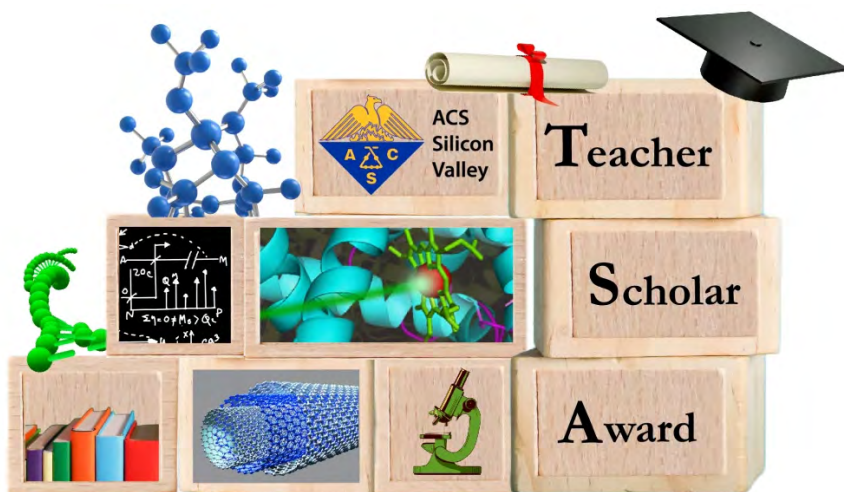
San Diego, CA & Virtual | March 23-27

Early bird registration ends January 15!

[Learn more and register](#)

Call for nominations Community College Teacher-Scholar Award

Deadline: March 1, 2025



Recognizing community college science teachers who go above and beyond to inspire and support their students to pursue a career in science.

The Silicon Valley ACS Teacher-Scholar Award honors community college faculty who demonstrate excellence in teaching, mentoring and scholarship or who make impactful contributions to their communities through outstanding leadership and service.

The annual SVACS Teacher-Scholar Award spotlights the impactful contribution that California

community colleges make to furthering the future of chemistry by supporting our next generation of scientists. Almost 51 percent of graduates of the California State University (CSU) system and 29 percent of the University of California (UC) system transferred from a California community college. The majority of these students come from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, for whom effective instruction is essential.

Initiated in 2008, the SVACS Teacher-Scholar Award was the first award of its kind to recognize specifically community college science educators. The rarity of an award in this category and the abundance of qualified candidates catalyzed our expanding eligibility beyond our immediate region to include chemistry faculty from any of the 116 California community colleges. We are soliciting nominations through March 1, 2025, and encourage all readers to identify and nominate qualified community college faculty.

More information and an online nomination form can be found on the [Silicon Valley ACS Teacher-Scholar Award](#) page.

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.

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

Haley Adamic
Nitish Agrawal
Travis William Bainbridge
Rio DelMoral
Erik Genet
Ashesh Ghosh
Daud Gill
Kaitlyn Johnson

Weifeng Lin
Dan Marquess
Daniel P. Marron
Stuart Mcnelles
Paige Morihara
Akinori Okano
Kieran Orr
Ayush Pandey

Kevin Rodriguez
Guanghu Tong
Ryo Wakabayashi
Dedi Wang
Yuan Wang
Jinping Yang
Rui Yang
Yue Yang

ACS Fellows Program Nominations

Open February 1 - April 1, 2025



“The American Chemical Society (ACS) Fellows Program was created by the ACS Board of Directors in December 2008 to recognize members of ACS for outstanding achievements in and contributions to science, the profession, and the Society.

Nominations for the 2025 Class of ACS Fellows will be open from February 1 to April 1, 2025.”

[Learn more and watch the ‘How to Webinar for Nominators’ Video](#)

[View slides](#)



OUR COMMITMENT

Improve all lives through the transforming power of chemistry

OUR VISION

A world built on science

OUR MISSION

Advance scientific knowledge
Empower a global community
Champion scientific integrity



ACS Strategic Plan 2025-2029

CORE VALUES



Passion for Science

We believe chemistry drives scientific discovery and innovation.



Inclusion and Belonging

We create environments where people from diverse backgrounds, cultures, perspectives, and experiences thrive.



Lifelong Learning

We promote equitable access to science education, resources, and career pathways.



Sustainability

We embody safe, ethical, and responsible practices.



STRATEGIC GOALS

Elevate the Reputation of Science

Communicate the positive impact of chemistry on society to strengthen public trust in science.

Empower Scientists

Foster accessible science education and continuous learning to enable all people to make informed decisions and address global challenges.

Enhance Community Engagement

Connect members and all people interested in the chemical sciences and build synergy to enrich our diverse community.

Deliver Innovative Solutions

Drive ACS content and services to maximize influence and value to the global scientific enterprise.



As approved by the ACS Board of Directors on 12/6/24

American Chemical Society | strategy.acs.org

ACS Strategic Plan 2025-2029: [View online](#), [download PDF](#), or [download Powerpoint](#)

ACS Publications Releases 2024 Diversity Data Report

Now in its fourth year, this annual report highlights ACS Publications' ongoing DEIR efforts and provides a demographic overview of author, reviewer, editorial, and Editorial Advisory Board communities. This data serves as a critical tool for identifying opportunities to enhance representation and assessing the effectiveness of targeted strategies aimed at addressing inequity within ACS journals. It ensures ACS journal communities are reflective of the global nature of science.

[Learn more and read the full report](#)
[Download report \(PDF\)](#)



Fluorinated "forever chemicals" and where to find them



ACS Local Section
Silicon Valley

P.O. Box 395, Palo Alto, CA 94302

What are fluorochemicals?

Fluorochemicals are organic (carbon-based) compounds that contain fluorine atoms in place of hydrogen atoms.



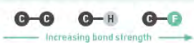
These compounds are often referred to as "per and polyfluoroalkyl substances", or PFAS. The fluorinated chain repels water and fats, while the atoms at the end of the molecule mix with them. This allows these molecules to act as surfactants, helping water and oils mix.

Key uses of PFAS

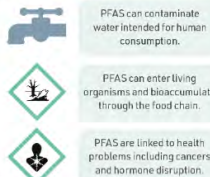


PFAS issues and alternatives

The bond between carbon and fluorine atoms is very strong and stable. Because of this, PFAS don't break down easily and can accumulate, posing potential problems for human health and the environment.



Key PFAS concerns



PFAS alternatives

Use of PFAS in cosmetics is nonessential, making them easy to remove. For other uses, substitutes are needed. Hydrocarbon-based surfactants such as sodium alkyl sulfate can be used in fluorine-free firefighting foams, and cerium oxide can be used in membranes for hydrogen production from water.

Selected per and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)

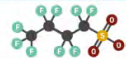
KEY: ● Carbon ● Oxygen ● Sulfur ● Fluorine ● Hydrogen

Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFDA)



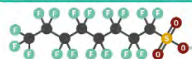
PFDA was used to make fluoropolymers for non-stick cookware, electronics and clothing. Its production and use is now banned worldwide with some exceptions.

Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS)



Manufacturers use PFBS as a replacement for perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) in water and stain repellent coatings for fabrics. It's also used in firefighting foams.

Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)



PFOS was used in stain repellents, fire-fighting foams and semiconductor manufacture. It has been phased out, banned or restricted in most countries.

Perfluorodecanoic acid (PFDA)



Used in textile treatments for outdoor clothing and water-resistant protective equipment, as well as in non-stick coatings and electronic component manufacturing.

Polytetrafluoroethene (PTFE)



More commonly known as Teflon®. Used to make non-stick pans, in waterproof clothing and some dental floss. Breaks down and releases PFDA at very high temperatures.

Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS)



Manufacturers use PFHxS as a surfactant in cleaning agents and surface treatments for textiles. It is also used in the production of firefighting foams.

European Innovation Council Co-funded by the European Union © Andy Brunning/Compound Interest 2024 for ANEMEL, a project funded by the European Innovation Council. Shared under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives licence

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

Sign up: [Newsletter](#)



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Silicon Valley ACS Executive Committee

2025 Section Officers	Chair	2025	Amanda Nelson	
	Chair-Elect	2025	Natalie McClure	
	Past-Chair	2025	Todd Eberspacher	
	Secretary	2025-2026	Jigisha Shah	
	Treasurer	2024-2025	Ihab Darwish	
	Councilors		2023-2025	Ihab Darwish
			2023-2025	Madalyn Radlauer
			2024-2026	Grace Baysinger
			2024-2026	Natalie McClure
			2025-2027	Linda Brunauer
Alternate Councilors		2025-2027	Jane Frommer	
		2023-2025	Kristin Schmidt	
		2023-2025	Laura Yeager	
		2024-2026	Karan Dikshit	
		2024-2026	Howard Peters	
Newsletter		2025-2027	Eefei Chen	
		2025-2027	Jose Ramirez	
		2025	Grace Baysinger	
	Editor	2025	Jane Frommer	
	Sr. Assoc. Editor	2025		

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