

OCTOBER 2018

SECTION ELECTIONS

2019 SECTION ELECTION VOTING INSTRUCTIONS

The election for officers of our local ACS Section will be conducted electronically. The ballot will be sent to the email address you provided to ACS in your "Yellow Book" member registration. You will receive an e-mail with a link to a survey hosted at www.SurveyMoz.com. Simply follow the link to see the ballot where you can vote for each position. The voting process is very straightforward and will take about one minute. Note that the ballot does have the option for write-in candidates, per our bylaws.

For those members who do not have an e-mail address registered, you will receive a paper ballot with a printed 2018 fall newsletter. The candidate biographies are provided in this newsletter which is also available on our website. Ballots will be sent out by November 1, 2018 and votes must be received by November 15, 2018.

PLEASE VOTE ONLINE
YOUR PARTICIPATION IS APPRECIATED!

 **BALLOTS DUE**
NOVEMBER 15th



CHEMISTRY CLUB RECEIVES NINTH ACS OUTSTANDING AWARD

Chem Club members' Magic Show highlights outstanding club activities.

LA GRANDE, Ore. (EOU) – For the *ninth* year in a row, the American Chemical Society has recognized Eastern Oregon University's student chapter with an outstanding award for their activities during the 2017-18 academic year. Members of EOU's chapter will travel to Orlando in March 2019 to receive the award at the ACS National Meeting. The club received glowing reviews based on the report that was submitted to ACS in May 2018. Reviewers commended the chapter for their "excellent balance of service, professional development, and chapter development" and for "exceeding all expectations for service not only to their own university community, but also to the wider surrounding community by providing events for a very diverse audience".

The Chapter also excelled at engaging its members through professional activities, including hosting two **Program-In-A-Box** webinars and other speakers; participating in activities organized by the Richland Section; and attending the ACS National Meeting in New Orleans where students presented their research posters, engaged in networking opportunities, and attended numerous events geared towards undergraduate students. The trip was in part supported by the Richland Section.

MEMBER WINE SOCIAL

NOVEMBER 16 - 6PM *Richland Community Center*
500 Amon Park Dr.

The Richland Section Fall Social has traditionally been a time for Section members to socialize and honor the 50 year ACS members. We will do that, but much more too! Join us for an enjoyable evening with wine and light hors d'oeuvres that also includes:

Celebrate Fifty Year ACS Member Gayle Broom

Senior Chemist Roundtable

Special Talk presented by PNNL Chemist John LaFemina

Research Posters presented by Eastern Oregon University Students



PRESENTING THE 2019 SLATE OF CANDIDATES

CHAIR-ELECT *Sandy Fiskum*



Sandy is a Richland native. She graduated from Washington State University in 1981 with a BS in Chemistry. She started her career at Lawrence Livermore (National) Laboratory (Livermore, CA) as an analytical chemist (primarily in the Plutonium Facility). In 1990 she started working at

Battelle Pacific Northwest (National) Laboratory as a Senior Research Scientist in radio-analytical chemistry. Sandy's experience at PNNL evolved into many projects including cesium ion exchange and sludge leach testing, K Basin and tank waste sludge characterization, tank waste simulant development, and later, experience in project management.

Sandy has worked closely with the Richland local section for about 8 years. She has volunteered 4 years as the local section treasurer (2015 – 2018) as well as the NORM2018 treasurer. She has also supported the section as the newsletter editor and public relations co-chair (2011 – 2014). Sandy also volunteers her time to several student outreach activities (organizing the Nuclear Science Merit Badge, Lewis and Clark Science Club chemistry month and various science nights) and was awarded the 2014 ACS Richland Section Outreach Volunteer of the Year. Sandy would be delighted to bring her talents in service to the local ACS section as the chair elect. She looks forward to the opportunity to help steer the Richland Local Section to contribute to the broader community in chemical education and enhance the ACS presence in the broader community.

SECRETARY *Shirmir Branch*



Shirmir Branch is a Chemist at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. She joined the Nuclear Chemistry & Engineering group at PNNL from the University of Cincinnati in 2018, where she received her PhD in analytical chemistry. The focus of her research at PNNL involves technetium

synthesis and detection in tank waste, mercury separation in Hanford waste, and molten salt chemistry and spectroscopic monitoring development. She has been a member of the American Chemical Society since 2009 and has participated in national, regional, and local meetings as a presenter and event organizer. She has been involved in the local Richland section since 2016 and has participated in several outreach events with the Tri-Cities. She is founding member of the local Women Chemists Committee and currently serves as the mentoring chair.

CHAIR-ELECT *Mariefel Olarte*



Mariefel V. Olarte is a Chemical Engineer at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. She joined PNNL from the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta where she finished her Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering. The focus of her research was in base-catalyzed

depolymerization of lignin and the subsequent catalytic upgrading of lignin-derived compounds to produce renewable hydrocarbon. She also has an MS in Paper Science and Engineering (Chemical Engineering) from GaTech. She worked in aqueous phase reforming of actual biomass as well as hydrolysis of biomass as a means of fractionation. Currently, her research focus at PNNL is the thermochemical processing of biomass, involving chemical analysis, catalyst characterization and development as well as process development. She has been a member of the American Chemical Society since 2006 and has participated in national conferences as an oral presenter, session chair and symposium co-organizer. She served as Richland Section Secretary in 2018. She had served as secretary of the Filipino-American Association of Tri-Cities from 2012 – 2014.

TREASURER *Deepika Malhotra*



Deepika Malhotra grew up in a city located on the foothills of Himalayas in northern India named Chandigarh. She received her Ph.D. from University of Louisville, Kentucky in Organic Chemistry in 2014 and then joined Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL). She is currently a Scientist in Applied Synthetic

Chemistry Group and her research at PNNL is focused towards designing and synthesis of modular solvent for CO₂ capture and acid gas separations. She has been member of American Chemical Society and has participated in national/local conferences as an oral presenter, session presider and has co-organized symposium. She was fundraising Chair for American Chemical Society 73rd Northwest Regional Meeting (NORM) held at PNNL in June 2018. She is actively involved with the local Richland ACS section and serving as membership committee chair. Given the opportunity she will be delighted to serve the local section as treasurer and contribute to the overall success and growth of the organization.

PLEASE VOTE ONLINE



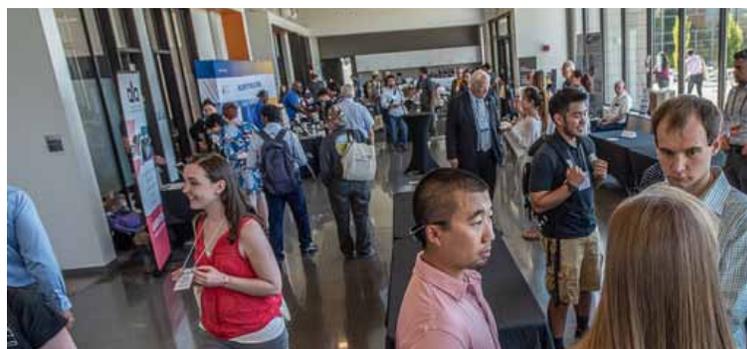
BALLOTS DUE
NOVEMBER 15th

NORM 2018 IS NOW HISTORY

Organizing and running a regional meeting has to be one of the biggest tasks a local section can undertake. The numbers speak for themselves: 613 registered attendees (largest NORM meeting in at least 2 decades); 391 presented abstracts, including 91 posters from both undergraduates and professionals, and 25 vendors in the exhibition. The special tours and events, Regional award presentations - including our own Anna Cavinato - recipient of the ACS Northwest Region E. Ann Nalley Award for Volunteer Service, and Pre-College Teachers and career workshops and you begin to get an idea of the scope of the operation. Many of us hiked up Badger Mountain and heard geochemists speak about the unique topography of the region. We hosted Innovation programming and networking events thanks to support from many ACS Technical Divisions; honored and welcomed Women Chemists and Senior Chemists; and celebrated the chemistry of the Region - including tours of LIGO, B Reactor and the Environmental Molecular Sciences Laboratory (EMSL).

We were more than honored to host 8 members of the ACS Board of Directors, including ACS President Peter Dorhout, who provided monetary support targeted to younger chemists and their participation in the meeting. The Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, our Platinum Sponsor, was more than generous in providing professional accommodations and technical support in the brand new Discovery Hall - a premier technical meeting destination in Tri-Cities. We thank Director Steve Ashby and ACS Past-President Allison Campbell for their support of this technically robust and well-attended meeting. The Richland Section would also like to thank ACS headquarters staff for their meeting planning assistance.

A final report is being prepared and will be available by year's end on the Richland Section website. A short selection of photos from the meeting are included here, but see the full photo archive at <https://flic.kr/s/aHsmejXfGy> & <https://tinyurl.com/NORM2018Richland>



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ACS RICHLAND SECTION PLANNING - AND PARTICIPATION!

SURVEY MONKEY TOPIC:

Local Facilities Tours

LIGO, The Reach, Local Winery or Brewery

The Local Section is considering organizing tours of facilities that might be interesting to our members (e.g., LIGO, The Reach, a local winery or brewery). If you are interested in participating in a tour, please complete a brief, two-question survey so we can gauge overall interest and focus our efforts on the most popular facilities. Please take a minute to complete the survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RLSTours>



UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 1

SECTION ELECTION BALLOTS DISTRIBUTED

A ballot will be distributed to your email by November 1. Response is required by November 15. Questions can be submitted directly to Ram Devanathan, (509) 371-6487

NOVEMBER 15

SECTION ELECTION BALLOTS DUE

Contact Ram Devanathan, (509) 371-6487

NOVEMBER 16

ANNUAL MEMBER RECOGNITION SOCIAL 6-8PM

Richland Community Center, 500 Amon Park, Richland, WA



STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT FUNDED

ACS Richland Recognized

Volunteer Opportunities for Local Section Governance

The Richland Local Section was recently recognized by the Committee on Local Section Activities (LSAC) as a "well-organized and high functioning local section." As part of that recognition, the ACS Board of Directors will be providing funding for us to conduct a 1.5-day Strategic Planning Retreat (SPR) in 2019. ACS has been facilitating SPRs for several years; this will be the first for our local section!

We don't have a date yet, or a target number of attendees, but if you are interested in getting more involved in Local Section governance, and helping set the Richland Local Section's vision for the future, contact Kristin Omberg Kristin.omberg@pnnl.gov.

More information on the ACS SPR process is available at:

<https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/careers/leadership/strategic-planning-retreat-faq.html>

LOCAL WOMEN CHEMISTS & MESA



The local Women Chemists Committee will be teaming up with MESA (Mathematics Engineering Science Achievement) at PNNL to host the **2019 Expanding Your Horizons Conference**, tentatively set for early February 2019. Here, local female middle school students will have the opportunity to learn about various STEM professions through hands-on workshops led by female professionals, and increase their awareness of STEM majors in higher education. Stay tuned for more information about this event. Questions can be directed to wcc.richland@gmail.com. Please contact us now if you are interested in volunteering!

UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ALWAYS AVAILABLE AT <http://acs.labworks.org>