CHEMISTRY AND THE LAW
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Chemistry and the Law NEWSLETTER

CHAIR'S MESSAGE

MATTHEW HLINKA

It is both an honor and a pleasure to write to you as I begin my two-year term as Chair of the Chemistry and the Law Division. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve this Division and to work alongside such an engaged and accomplished community.

Before looking ahead, it is important to recognize what we are building upon. The past year was an exceptionally productive one for the Division, thanks in large measure to the thoughtful stewardship and steady leadership of our immediate Past Chair, Richard Bone. Under Richard's guidance, the Division strengthened its outreach to potential and existing members, maintained a strong presence at our national meetings, and increased CHAL's profile within ACS. His commitment of time, energy, and vision has left the Division well positioned for continued success, and I know I speak for many in offering him our sincere thanks.

As we turn toward the year ahead, I am excited about the opportunities before us. One of my central goals as Chair is to build on the priorities we collectively identified at our Strategic Planning

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Retreat last fall: (1) growing and retaining membership through increased engagement with stakeholders, (2) providing diverse programming that broadly engages across the entire ACS community, and (3) enhancing collaboration by partnering with internal ACS units and external organizations on legal issues. The intersection of chemistry and law touches an ever expanding range of issues—from regulation and policy to litigation, ethics, and emerging technologies—and we want to ensure that our Division reflects the full breadth of professionals engaged in this work. To that end, one of the major initiatives that began at the end of 2025 and will extend into 2026 and beyond is the formation of a new Forensics Subdivision to give professionals interested in and engaged in this discipline a permanent home within ACS to network and program.

We are also focused on diversifying and expanding our programming at national meetings. Our aim is to offer sessions that are timely, interdisciplinary, and responsive to the evolving challenges facing chemists, lawyers, policymakers, and regulators alike. By continuing to offer a broad menu of topics and formats, we hope to create programming that is both intellectually rigorous and practically valuable for our existing and prospective members.

Finally, we recognize that one of the greatest strengths of the Division is the network it provides. In the coming year, we plan to increase opportunities for meaningful connection—through social gatherings, collaborative events, and other networking initiatives that foster mentorship, professional development, and collegial exchange.

I look forward to working with our executive committee and members as we pursue these goals together. Your ideas, participation, and engagement are essential to the Division's continued vitality, and I encourage you to get involved in whatever ways you can.

Thank you for your continued commitment to the Chemistry and the Law Division. I am excited for what lies ahead.

Matthew Hlinka
CHAL Chair, 2026-27

ACS MEETINGS – PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

Highlights of the Upcoming Spring 2026 Meeting

Please join us in Atlanta, Georgia at the 2026 ACS Spring Meeting from March 22-26, 2026. Our primary programming is on Tuesday, both morning and afternoon (March 24). We'll be located in Room B209 of the Georgia World Congress Center. On Sunday morning, we are jointly hosting a virtual session with the Division of Small Chemical Business (SCHB) on international business and IP considerations. During our Monday lunch period, CHAL will be hosting our annual Careers in Chemistry & the Law lunch panel in Room B208 of the Georgia World Congress Center. On Wednesday morning, we are jointly hosting with the Division of Biochemical Technology (BIOT) a session on advances in biotech patent law in Room B302 of the Georgia World Congress Center. With such a broad array of programming in our "hot topics" session (Tuesday), international business and IP considerations (Monday morning), and

biotech (Wednesday morning), we think there will be something of interest to almost everyone in our division, as well as across ACS.

The other highlight of our time in Atlanta together is the CHAL Reception, which will be jointly hosted with the Division of Chemical Health and Safety (CHAS), SCHB, and the Cannabis Chemistry Subdivision (CANN). We will be at *Ray's in the City*, located a short walk from the Georgia World Congress Center, on Monday evening from 5:30-8:00 pm.

Additionally, the Graduate Student Symposium Planning Committee (GSSPC), which is an initiative of the Division of Chemical Education (CHED) is hosting a Graduate Student Symposium on Tuesday morning in Room B312 of the Georgia World Congress Center. CHAL is a Gold Tier Sponsor and will have a table set up during the coffee social from 8:00-8:20 AM. While this event does clash with our CHAL programming, we hope that you will be able to stop by, say hello, and attend some of the planned talks.

As any of you who have attended an ACS meeting recently will be aware, there are a lot of other networking opportunities throughout the meeting. Please stop by our station at **ACS Connect**, on Sunday evening, and our booth at Division Row at **SciMix** on Monday evening.

Reflections on the Fall Meeting Washington, D.C. August 2025

CHAL had an impressive line-up at the Fall meeting this year. Programming was offered on schedule with symposia on Monday and Tuesday in the categories "Hot Topics in Chemistry and the Law," "Chemistry Inside the Beltway," and "International Aspects of Intellectual Property Law." We also held a joint symposium on Thursday with CINF. Held in memory of Andrew Berks, who helped to organize the symposium before his passing, it featured programming on "Patents, Chemical Information, and AI."

We hosted our traditional CHAL reception on Monday evening at Yardbird, which was generously sponsored by Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner. At the reception, we awarded the Roger Middlekauf Award to former CHAL chair Andrew Berks (posthumously). We also awarded the Howard and Sally Peters award to Bonnie Carpenter and Lee Latimer. It was great to see so many of you there.

We also had brisk attendance at the division's poster at Division Row on Monday evening. The ACS Divisional Activities Committee organized a Wednesday morning visit to the USPTO in Alexandria, VA. There was also a Town Hall on Tuesday afternoon related to PFAS (Per-Fluorinated Alkylated Substances) and a Wednesday Expo event on innovation.

2026 Regional Meetings

CHAL is increasing its visibility at the many ACS Regional meetings.
In May, CHAL will have a presence at the Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting (MARM) in Hershey, Pennsylvania. Howard and Sally Peters will give a talk on chocolate and may have an exhibit table.

In November, CHAL will be contributing to the South Eastern Regional Meeting (SERMACS)

in Memphis. Ram Sabnis will be presenting a workshop, "Chemical Patents Workshop: Intellectual Property for Chemists."

We look forward to hearing more about the outreach accomplished at this meeting and we are interested in any additional regional meeting opportunities.

Call for Abstracts: 2026 Fall Meeting, Chicago

ACS is returning to Chicago for the Fall meeting this year. CHAL has secured 3 symposium programming slots, including one joint symposium, for the following topics:

- Hot Topics in Chemistry and the Law
- Forensic Chemistry: Promise & Developments
- Ethics in Publishing (co-hosted with CINF, ETHX, and PROF)

Please submit abstracts for any of these sessions online via the ACS "maps" system. The deadline for abstract submissions is March 30, 2026.

CHAL also expects to expand its footprint in Chicago with sponsorship of an innovative programming session on "wearable sensors", and – potentially – a debate in the Expo theater. More details on the latter item to follow.

DIVISION NEWS

Leadership updates

We are pleased to announce our new leadership transitions for 2026. Matthew Hlinka and Gabriel Ferrante have transitioned to Chair and Chair-Elect, respectively, while Richard Bone assumes the role of Immediate Past Chair. Yoko Bian takes over as Program Chair. Jonathan Kennedy will begin a new term as Treasurer. Miho Kaneko continues as Secretary. Jim Carver continues as Councilor and Justin Hasford steps into the Alternate Councilor role. Thank you to all of our outgoing leadership for your hard work and stewardship.

CHAL has continued with its monthly video-call format (formerly a telecon!) for keeping the division leadership and other willing volunteers involved with the division's updates and ongoing work. We thank the many of you who have attended so far this year. If you want to be added to the invite list for our next meeting, please reach out to chemistryandthelaw@gmail.com.

Forensics Subdivision

CHAL recently voted in favor of launching a new Forensics Subdivision (FORS). We have seen significant energy and enthusiasm among young scientists—many of whom are ACS members—for forensics as a scientific pursuit, as a career, and a calling. But until now, programming for forensic chemists has been dispersed throughout several different divisions—including several recent and well-

attended CHAL symposia—and there has not been any single home or meeting place for them within ACS that would make it easy to forge new connections. Bringing forensics professionals together in a single organized unit, under the umbrella of an already-existing and established division with which there is already a close relationship, is a natural next step and one that we anticipate will serve to grow and enhance both CHAL and ACS membership.

We are planning to host a series of kick-off meetings and events, including a Forensics symposium, for the Forensics Subdivision at the Fall 2026 meeting in Chicago. Please stay tuned as these plans continue to solidify!

2025 CHAL Strategic Planning Retreat

In August, we held our first CHAL Strategic Planning Retreat in many years. Two facilitators provided by ACS – Larry Krannich and Martha Lester – guided the eleven participants through a one-and-a-half-day meeting. Among our key achievements, we developed a new Vision Statement ("Connecting scientists with the many facets of the law") and Mission Statement ("Bringing scientists and legal professionals together to learn, share, and explore how law impacts science and how science impacts law"), which were both later endorsed by the executive committee. We also agreed on key division priorities for the upcoming years, including (1) growing and retaining membership through increased engagement with stakeholders, (2) providing diverse programming that broadly engages across the entire ACS community, and (3) enhancing collaboration by partnering with internal ACS units and external organizations on legal issues. We thank CHAL members Howard Peters, Sally Peters, Justin Krieger, John Landells, Holger Tostmann, David Herman, Lisa Balbes, and Larry Furan for participating in person and offering their time and ideas to this event. CHAL leadership was represented by Richard Bone, Matt Hlinka, and Jim Carver.

2026 Divisional Activities Committee Strategic Planning Retreat

In February of 2026, the Divisional Activities Committee (DAC) held a strategic planning retreat in Washington, D.C. CHAL was chosen by DAC to represent ACS's small divisions and I attended on CHAL's behalf. The retreat was very productive and I appreciated the opportunities to participate in DAC's discussions and to provide the perspective of CHAL and the other small divisions. I was able to share some of CHAL's concerns, including challenges with maintaining and increasing membership, and pain points, including inefficiencies in the day-to-day duties of division membership.

I have been very encouraged by DAC's renewed efforts to help divisions in meaningful ways, and the retreat only reinforced my optimism. DAC has several initiatives planned and DAC's leadership is committed to seeing them through to completion. For example, by the end of 2026, DAC wants to roll out a Value Proposition package with marketing and branding materials that divisions can use to quantify the benefits that members receive from joining a division. The hope is that this will help with recruiting new members and retaining members. DAC also wants to build a communications platform that would let divisions and officers connect with

each other and to facilitate discussions about best practices and common problems. Many attendees also expressed a desire for a "toolkit" to help divisions maximize their capabilities. Common requests included better membership roster management, website hosting and maintenance help, social media help, marketing materials help, mass email tools, and written manuals with officer best practices that can be handed down to incoming officers. DAC is working to find solutions to some of those pain points.

2026 ACS Leadership Institute

At the end of January 2026, Richard Bone (immediate past chair) attended the ACS Leadership Institute (LI) in Atlanta, Georgia. This is an annual retreat that ACS hosts for new leaders across ACS's many constituent groups – principally divisions, local sections, and committees. It provides a great opportunity for those entering their roles to network with other volunteers across the Society and learn how to get the most out of their limited terms in those positions. CHAL has been able to send a division officer to this event in most years; it is a very focused way to get to know other chemists from all walks of life, and to learn about the different challenges that each of them faces in managing volunteer-based communities.

Richard attended the Programming track, which picked up from the "future of meetings" workstream (that concluded in 2025). This year's session created a space for division programming chairs to brainstorm ideas for joint programming next year. It was an opportunity to reconnect with some familiar faces from last year's workstream, as well as to make some new contacts from other divisions. There is a lot of energy around joint programming, though it should be acknowledged that the impetus for collaborative programming has come from ACS's drive to reduce the overall footprint of the Spring and Fall meetings: fewer days of programming, and few tracks in parallel, hence fewer half-day sessions allocated to most divisions.

One other positive feature of the LI is the strong in-person turnout from ACS leadership: President Hernandez, President-Elect Christina Bodurow, and CEO Al Horvath, as well as former President Bill Carroll, were all present and mingling with attendees at various times.

2026 International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF)

The 2026 International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) will take place May 12–13, 2026, in Phoenix, Arizona. The ISEF is an annual science fair held in the United States and is widely considered one of the most prestigious pre-university scientific and engineering research competitions in the world. Each year, approximately seven million students from 75 countries participate in affiliated local, regional, and national fairs that serve as feeders to ISEF, with roughly 1,800 finalists advancing to the international competition. Finalists compete for scholarships, tuition grants, internships, and grand prizes. CHAL member Howard Peters is organizing a judging event at ISEF and CHAL will participate as a Special Award Organization thanks to a generous financial grant from the Peters-Bhatt STEM family.

2025 Annual Report

I am pleased to report that the Division's annual administration and financial reports were timely submitted to ACS last month. Thank you to Jonathan Kennedy and Richard Bone for assistance with this important annual duty of the division's leadership. In the coming months, ACS's review team will evaluate our submissions and provide constructive feedback and suggestions for further action by the Division.

International Matters

CHAL has many members based outside of the United States. Several participated in our programming on aspects of international IP law during the Fall 2025 meeting, and we will welcome several more at the Atlanta meeting. Last year, we received outreach from a sister organization, the Royal Society of Chemistry's Law Group, in the UK. We have informally committed to sharing news updates with the RSC's law group, and their Chairman, Andy Nicoll, will be in Atlanta and presenting during CHAL's Tuesday afternoon session. Further information about the group can be found on their website: https://members.rsc.org/site/content/Community/InterestGroups/LawGroup.aspx?formlink=interest_groups_search.

CHAL Members in the News

CHAL member **Ram Sabnis** was recently appointed to the ACS Senior Chemists Committee. Ram was also awarded a Certificate of Appreciation for his contributions to the ACS U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad.

If you are a member of CHAL and would like a recent achievement or recognition to be mentioned in the newsletter, please reach out to us at chemistryandthelaw@gmail.com.

CHAL's Outreach to ACS Governance

We are once again in the season during which ACS members can register their interest in serving on one of ACS's governance committees (by filling out the Committee Preference Form, see https://www.acs.org/about/governance/committees.html). CHAL has historically had deep connections with ACS governance.

Communications Lead?

CHAL would benefit immensely from having a "communications lead", to handle publicity for our various events, on the website, on LinkedIN, and via email. The exact scope of such a role will require some discussion. If you are interested in taking on such a role, or helping to shape it, please reach out to us at chemistryandthelaw@gmail.com.

Get involved!

Finally, we would welcome anyone interested in getting involved with the running of the division to join our monthly teleconferences (actually, video-calls on the Google Meet platform), usually on the third Monday of the month (except where holidays conflict). Please

reach out to chemistryandthelaw@gmail.com for details.

TRIVIUM

Last fall's *trivium* looked at an obscure item from the world of forensics. In this issue, we look at how the cure for scurvy was discovered and then forgotten.

Few stories are as scientifically intriguing—and professionally humbling—as the saga of scurvy. A condition now understood as a prolonged deficiency of ascorbic acid (vitamin C), scurvy ravaged sailors for centuries, causing anemia, gum decay, impaired wound healing, and eventually death. An estimated two million sailors died between the time of Columbus's transatlantic voyage and the mid-18th century—more than naval battles, shipwrecks, storms, and all other diseases combined. The tragedy of scurvy is not that its cure was hard to find, but that it was found early, misunderstood, and repeatedly lost.

Today, even schoolchildren can explain the cure for scurvy. But the era's doctors and scientific thinkers lacked the chemical knowledge necessary to even conceive of a nutritional-deficiency disease, much less solve it. Even if the concept of vitamins had been familiar, vitamin C would be a tough one to figure out. Humans—along with guinea pigs, fruit bats, and a few monkeys—are the only mammals that can't make their own vitamin C. Even identifying dietary sources of vitamin C is non intuitive without chemical knowledge. Cabbage and broccoli are excellent sources. Eggs and cheese don't have any. There are large amounts in liver and kidneys but not in muscle meat, reflecting vitamin C's association with metabolically active tissues rather than structural protein. Pears and bananas contain very little, but many citrus fruits are very high in vitamin C. Further complicating the problem, vitamin C is readily oxidized in the presence of copper ions, like those found in the big copper cooking vats used on ships. Proposed causes ranged from imbalances of humours and blocked perspiration to laziness, homesickness, moral failure, damp air, and even the absence of dry land—prompting some ships to carry barrels of soil from home.

The turning point came in 1747. James Lind, a Scottish naval surgeon aboard the HMS Salisbury, conducted what is now regarded as one of the first controlled clinical trials. At the time, 80 of the ship's 350 crew members were afflicted with scurvy. Lind selected 12 sailors with comparable symptoms and divided them into six treatment pairs, administering prevailing remedies such as vinegar, seawater, cider, and, notably, oranges and lemons. After six days of treatment, the pair who received oranges and lemons made a miraculous recovery and the HMS Salisbury was out of fruit, which was rather unfortunate for everyone else aboard.

Lind's trial design was strikingly modern for the time, with controlled conditions, multiple interventions, and direct comparisons. Unfortunately, Lind didn't seem to fully appreciate his own discovery. In 1753, Lind published A Treatise of the Scurvy, which, while thorough, buried the citrus experiment in a dense, encyclopedic work that contained page after page of speculative and unfounded theories. Moreover, Lind recommended boiling the citrus juice into a syrup to preserve it. Lind

must never have tested his own citrus syrup because, if he had, it would not have worked because the long boiling process destroys the vitamin C. Lind's discovery was largely ignored by society.

A few decades later, a doctor, Sir Gilbert Blane, experimented with fresh lemon juice and found that it worked. Blane was the doctor to the future King George IV, and the credibility of a royal doctor was enough to catch the eye of the British Navy. Following Blane's teachings, the British Navy started to grow huge quantities of lemons on the island of Sicily. By the early 1800s, the British Navy had eliminated scurvy, and the British fleet's ability to keep its ships at sea for longer gave it a sudden and striking advantage over its rivals. The Navy now had a cure—but no understanding of the mechanism behind it. That distinction would prove fatal thanks to a pair of 19th-century developments.

The high demand for Sicilian lemons created a lucrative industry on the small island. Enterprising local criminals recognized that lemon production required large investments and several years to bear fruit, making farms vulnerable to vandalism and theft. This led to the formation of the Sicilian Mafia—yes, that Sicilian Mafia—which forced farmers to pay protection money or face financial ruin. This development motivated the British Navy to seek an alternative source of citrus fruits. They looked to a British colony and began sourcing West Indies limes as a replacement for the Sicilian lemons. A daily dose of lime juice became synonymous with the British Navy, eventually birthing the nickname "limeys."

But limes contain substantially less ascorbic acid than lemons, and the juice was often stored for long periods, further degrading its vitamin content. Consequently, the British Navy was relying on insufficient precautions against scurvy. This deficiency remained hidden for decades because of another development: the switch from sailing ship to steamships. The steamships traveled faster (minimizing the length of time sailors were at sea) and needed to stop for fuel (when they would load up on fresh, vitamin C-containing foods). Sailors were still not getting scurvy, but it was not because of the lime juice. This all culminated in a series of failed polar expeditions in the late 1800s. In 1875, the British Navy dispatched two ships to find the North Pole. This expedition was much longer than the average steamship journey and much of the crew developed scurvy. A rescue party reached them and administered lime juice. But it didn't work. The ships withdrew and the failure of the expedition and the apparent return of scurvy were national embarrassments for Britain.

By unlucky coincidence, right as the public was losing faith in the lime juice cure, a rival hypothesis emerged. Biologists were beginning to develop the theory of germs and the theory that scurvy was caused by a toxin produced during bacterial decomposition termed "ptomaine" began to take hold.

In 1911, the British explorer Captain Robert Falcon Scott set out for the South Pole. Scott was a meticulous planner who paid special attention to the quality of his provisions. Scott was also concerned about scurvy and sought the latest advice from doctors and other Arctic explorers. The advice he received was consistent—scurvy is an acidic condition of the blood caused by ptomaines in tainted meat. Armed with this false

knowledge, Scott settled on the rations for his crew: biscuits, dried meat (carefully inspected by Scott for signs of rot), sugar, butter, tea, and cocoa. These provisions contain no vitamin C.

Scott set out with 16 men on November 1, 1911. His plan was to lay depots along the route and send groups of men back at intervals until he was left with three companions that would reach the South Pole. The journey would take several weeks.

As Scott sent back his men in stages, each group had a progressively harder time making it back to camp. The leader of the last group developed severe scurvy and became incapacitated. He only narrowly survived after one of his companions marched thirty miles to summon a rescue party. Scott, oblivious to these developments, pressed onwards.

Scott's fate is well-known thanks to his detailed journal. He reached the Pole and began a return journey that became increasingly desperate as he and his companions became weak and their wounds would not heal. The men developed frostbite and were waylaid by a terrible blizzard eleven miles short of the final depot. The three men froze to death in their tent in late March 1912.

The discovery of vitamin C was accidental. Norwegian scientists Axel Holst and Theodor Frolich were studying beriberi (another nutritional deficiency disease) in pigeons. When they decided to switch to a mammal model, they serendipitously chose guinea pigs, one of the few animals that requires vitamin C in its diet and is capable of developing scurvy.

The guinea pigs were given a diet of pure grain and quickly sickened and died of a disease that closely resembled human scurvy. Armed with a simple animal model for scurvy, the scientists quickly established that scurvy was a deficiency disease after all and identified the cure as a small molecule present in lemon juice, cabbage, and several other foods. In 1932, Szent-Györgyi definitively isolated ascorbic acid.

Today, scurvy is rare, largely confined to extreme dietary deprivation, and vitamin C is ubiquitous in nutritional science and synthetic chemistry. But the story of its discovery—and rediscovery—remains an important reminder of how scientific knowledge can be forgotten when results outpace understanding. And for chemists, the lesson is stark: empirical success without mechanistic understanding is fragile knowledge.

COUNCILOR'S REPORT

Dr. James Carver

The Spring ACS Meeting (2026) is scheduled for Atlanta, Georgia from March 22-26, 2026. This meeting will again be a hybrid meeting. Most of the governance function will be available on a hybrid basis. Technical presentations will be from Monday through Thursday with Sunday being a day of networking meetings.

This year marks the 150th anniversary of our American Chemical Society! The #ACS150 Team is coordinating several celebrations at this spring meeting in Atlanta and throughout the year. Mark your calendar for our virtual anniversary party on our Founding Day, April 6, 2026, perhaps broadcast from our headquarters

in Washington, DC. ACS Publications is staging nearly monthly JACS150 symposia throughout the world, including jointly with the Chinese Chemical Society (CCS) in Chongqing, China, and at the Korean Chemical Society (KCS) in Jeju Island, Korea, in April. Divisions are invited to join the fun and stage events at many gatherings throughout the year. Check out acs.org/150, where you can find support and inspiration for your activities, and details on events hosted by your fellow members.

For 2026, the following were elected during the fall elections:

- **President:** Rigoberto Hernandez
- **President-elect:** Christina C. Bodurow
- **District II Director:** Kimberly Agnew-Heard
- **District IV Director:** Lisa Houston
- **Directors-at-Large:** Malika Jeffries-EL and Will Lynch

The Nominations for 2027:

For President-elect:
- John Adams
- Lisa McElwee-White
- Mary Virginia Orna
- Laura Sremaniak

For District III Director:
- Mukund Chorghade
- Bonnie (Helen) Lawlor
- Carl Piccenatto
- Stephanie Watson

For District VI Director:
- Anna Cavinato
- Timothy Long
- Orlando Rajos
- Jeannette Van Emon

For Director-At-Large:
- Michael (Mick) Hurrey
- Beth Lorsbach
- William Provine
- Carolyn Ribes

Petitions Before Council

- Changes to the name and duties of the "The Committee on Budget and Finance" to "The Committee on Financial Affairs." The Committee on Fiscal Affairs would enhance their focus on governance engagement and support.
- A petition to establish the formation of a new International Chemical Sciences Chapter (ICSC) to be known as the Sri Lanka International Chemical Sciences Chapter.
- A petition to change the name and duties of the Committee on Public Relations and Communications to the Committee on Communicating Chemistry.
- The activities of the Society Committee on Publications will be reassigned to an Advisory Board reporting to the Governing Board on Publications.
- A petition to change the duties of the Committee on International Activities will come before Council.
- A new Professional Employment Guidelines will be offered for approval.
- Some changes in Local Section Territories will come before Council.
- Approval for the Charter of new International Chemical Sciences Chapters will come before Council.

The Fall Meeting of the ACS will be held in Chicago, August 23-27, 2026.

Currently Planned Meetings:

Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting (MARM) May 17-19 Hershey, PA; Local Host Section Susquehanna Valley

Northwest Regional Meeting June 28-July 1 Boise, ID; Local Host Section Snake River

Midwest Regional Meeting (MWRM) October 25-27 Manhattan, KS; Local Host Section Kansas State University

Southeastern Regional Meeting (SERMACS) November 4-7 Memphis, TN; Local Host Section Memphis

Southwest Regional Meeting November 8-11 Fort Worth, TX; Local Host Section Dallas-Fort Worth

Central Regional Meeting November 15-17 Covington, KY; Local Host Section Cincinnati

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References, including internet sites, cited as bibliography or for general interest, are intended for readers' convenience only, and are not endorsed as to opinions or for detailed accuracy or timeliness, which are the responsibilities of the authors and publishers of those references. Internet site citations were thought to be timely within a few weeks before this newsletter would be fixed for publication; however, some may have become stale. Mention of publications, products, or services is intended for readers' convenience only and not as commercial endorsement. Discussion of legal issues is for information and educational purposes and is not legal advice; legal advice should be sought from licensed lawyers formally consulted for that purpose. Readers' comments are welcome and future articles from them are invited -- especially to broaden the range of topics and viewpoints -- address all inquiries to **chemistryandthelaw@gmail.com**.

CHAL
PROGRAMMING AND EVENTS AT SPRING 2026 MEETING

Sunday March 22

ACS Ignite: Global Digital Ventures – Business Models and IP Across Borders
Jointly Hosted with Division of Small Chemical Business (SCHB)
8:30am - 10:35am EDT
Virtual Meeting (Digital Session)

8:30am - 8:35am EDT
Introduction

8:35am - 9:00am EDT
Scientist to entrepreneur transition – applicable across the different levels of start-ups
Dick Co, Argonne National Laboratory
Rachel Harris, Argonne National Laboratory

9:00am - 9:25am EDT
Building Beyond the PhD: Co-founder Dynamics and Team Assembly for Research-Based Ventures
Asutosh Upadhyay, FortyTwo.VC

9:25am - 9:50am EDT
Protecting Intellectual Property – An Introduction for Entrepreneurs
James Masters, Finnegan Henderson Farabow Garrett and Dunner LLP
Eric Romeo, Goodwin Law

9:50am - 10:15am EDT
Plug and Play Tech Center – Open Innovation
Greg Stillman, Plug and Play Tech Center

10:15am - 10:35am EDT
Panel Discussion

ACS Connect Happy Hour
6:00pm - 7:00pm EDT
A2- Exhibit Hall
(Georgia World Congress Center)
CHAL Will Have a Table

Monday March 23

Careers in Chemistry & the Law
12:00pm - 1:00pm EDT
Room: B209 (Georgia World Congress Center)

CHAL/CHAS/SCHB/CANN Reception
Jointly Hosted with Division of Chemical Health and Safety (CHAS), Division of Small Chemical Businesses (SCHB), and Cannabis Chemistry Subdivision (CANN)
5:30pm - 8:00pm EDT
Ray's In The City, 240 Peachtree St. NE, Atlanta, GA 30303

Sci-Mix
8:00pm - 10:00pm EDT
B3/B4 - Exhibit Hall (Georgia World Congress Center)
CHAL Will Have a Table on Division Row

Drug repurposing: Opportunities, navigating patentability challenges, strategic IP protection, and regulatory approval pathways |
Poster Board #618
Varun Reddy Chinneddula, Suven Life Sciences Limited

Tuesday March 24

Hot Topics in Chemistry & the Law

8:00am - 11:20pm EDT

Room: B209 (Georgia World Congress Center)

8:00am - 8:30am EDT

Quantifying the US illicit fentanyl crisis

Donna Nelson, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

9:00am - 9:30am EDT

Uncovering experimental clues through the role of chemistry in Combining the analysis of latent fingerprints and debris investigations

Kerri Taylor, Columbus State University

10:20am - 10:50am EDT

Ongoing efforts to eradicate chemical weapons globally

Diane Karloff, Government of the United States of America

10:50am - 11:20am EDT

Drug repurposing: Opportunities, navigating patentability challenges, strategic IP protection, and regulatory approval pathways

Varun Reddy Chinneddula, Suven Life Sciences Limited

Graduate Student Symposium

CHAL is a Gold Tier Sponsor

8:00am - 11:15am EDT

Room: B312 (Georgia World Congress Center)

8:00am - 8:20am EDT

Coffee Social

CHAL Will Have a Table

8:30am - 9:00am EDT

ChemFinity Technologies: Unlocking domestic critical mineral recovery from waste

Maria Paley, Adam Uliana, Ever Velasquez, Andrew VanderWeide

9:00am - 9:30am EDT

Opportunities and challenges in starting a small chemical business: What we've learned along

Kristin Di Bona, Caleb Hill

9:30am - 10:00am EDT

NSF I-Corps: Hydrogen generation through integrated sustainable electrolysis

Sajid Bashir, Jingbo Liu, Paul Robinson

10:15am - 10:45am EDT

Establishing Drax Therapeutics, Inc. — origin, challenges, and future opportunities

Tom Driver

10:45am - 11:15am EDT

Organic electrosynthesis: Reaction development and industrial applications

Song Lin

Hot Topics in Chemistry & the Law

2:00pm - 4:50pm EDT

Room: B209 (Georgia World Congress Center)

2:00pm - 2:30pm EDT

Prior art searching in the age of AI: Case studies of contemporary technologies in the chemical IP space

Abigail Oelker, Exponent Inc

2:30pm - 3:00pm EDT
European Patent Office's new standard for submitting post-filed evidence in light of G2/21
Andy Nicoll, Elkington and Fife LLP (UK)

3:00pm - 3:30pm EDT
Intellectual property law and cosmetics chemistry: A well-blended primer
Marisa Sanders, Morrison & Foerster LLP

3:50pm - 4:20pm EDT
Patentability of isotopically substituted molecules
Richard Bone, Genentech Inc

4:20pm - 4:50pm EDT
Patent law perspectives on repurposing non-oncology drugs for cancer treatment
Alicja Urbaniak, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences College of Medicine

Graduate Student Symposium

CHAL is a Gold Tier Sponsor
2:00pm - 5:00pm EDT
Room: B312 (Georgia World Congress Center)

2:00pm - 2:30pm EDT
Transformation from chemist to patent lawyer and the patent process for non-lawyers
John-Paul Cherry

2:30pm - 3:00pm EDT
Small business? SCHB can help!
Ariene Garrison, Jason Lye

3:00pm - 3:30pm EDT
Innovation: Growing discoveries through patenting and commercialization
Jason Lye

3:50pm - 4:20pm EDT
Case study in technology transfer: How studies of a bacterial efflux pump led to a commercializable platform for biomanufacturing
Daniele Ercek

4:00pm - 4:50pm EDT
Discussion Panel

Wednesday 25 March

BIOT X CHAL: Advances in Biotech Patent Law and Intellectual Propert

Jointly Hosted with Division of Biochemical Technology (BIOT)
8:00am - 11:20am EDT
Room: B302 (Georgia World Congress Center)

8:00am - 8:40am EDT
Batch process understanding refines process patent protection via natural-abundance stable isotopes
John Jasper, Molecular Isotope Technologies LLC

8:40am - 9:20am EDT
Patents vs. trade secrets: strategic IP protection for chemists
Rivka Monheit, Pabst Patent Group LLP

9:40am - 10:20am EDT
Preparing for life after launch: An overview of follow-on products and generic entry
Eric Romeo, Goodwin Law

10:20am - 11:20am EDT
Panel Discussion

DIVISION AWARDS

Nominations are sought for two awards that CHAL makes, periodically:

1. Roger D. Middlekauf Achievement Award
   The Roger D. Middlekauf Achievement Award, was created in 1990 to honor the early CHAL ExComm Member who incorporated CHAL in DC. It recognizes outstanding contributions and service to the Division. The most recent recipient of the Roger Middlekauf Award is Andrew Berks, who posthumously received the award in 2025.

2. The Howard and Sally Peters Award For Non-Traditional Careers In Chemistry
   This award was created in 2012 by the Division to recognize nontraditional careers in chemistry, in honor of chemists Howard and Sally Peters–long-term members of the Silicon Valley Local Section (formerly the Santa Clara Valley Local Section). Howard has laboratory research experience in high explosives at SRI International, Menlo Park and is now retired after a 30-year career as a patent attorney in the Silicon Valley. Sally has laboratory research experience at Geneva College, Beaver Falls, PA and the Department of Chemistry at Stanford University. She is now retired after 28 years as a chemical information specialist with XEROX PARC in Palo Alto, CA. The most recent recipients of the Howard and Sally Peters Award are Bonnie Carpenter and Lee Latimer, who received the award in 2025.

Please contact the Division Chair at chemistryandthelaw@gmail.com to make a nomination or for further information.

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