



ACS-GHS November 2019 Newsletter

Upcoming Events

November 16th - Education Rainbow Challenge

November 17th - YCC Networking Brunch

[Check our website and below for details on these upcoming events.](#)

Call for Volunteers

We invite you to serve as a volunteer for the science demonstrations at the Education Rainbow Challenge (ERC) program. ERC promotes an interest in math and science for 3 – 5th grade elementary school children in the Houston area. Please use the link below to volunteer with us: [Sign-up form](#) Contact emeamba@yahoo.com for questions.

Saturday, November 16th
Frank Black Middle School
1575 Chantilly Lane
Houston, TX 77018

For this and other volunteer positions, see [our website](#). Interested in volunteering but don't know where to start? Email acs-ghs@acs-ghs.org or the GHS Volunteer Coordinator, Maryanne Mores at maryannemores@yahoo.com and we can get you started.

YCC Networking Brunch



Please join the YCC for networking and brunch. If you're looking to fill out your event passport, this event is the ACS-GHS November Networking Event (a.k.a. ACS-GHS November Networking Event in the Event Passport)

10am
Sunday, November 17th
Black Walnut Cafe
5512 Memorial Drive
Houston, TX 77007

Fall Career Fair



The ACS-GHS Fall Career Fair was held at the University of St. Thomas on the morning of October 5th. We kicked off the morning with a keynote talk by Paige Morse from Aspen Technologies, followed by a panel discussion on Women in Industry with panelists Lisa Houston (PAC LP), Valerie Lafitte (Schlumberger), and Shreya Shah (Syzygy Plasmonics). A second panel on Professional Development featured panelists Martin Van Sickels and Larry Kremer (Global Energy Mentors), J.C. Kuo (Chevron, retired), and Patricia McHenry (Covestro). Panel moderators Nikki Nguyen and Alison Tran kept the audience engaged and asked insightful questions of our panelists, and student attendees were encouraged to network with other participants, panelists, and our participating employers (Syzygy Plasmonics, Covestro, and PAC LP) about career paths and opportunities after the formal program.

Awards Dinner and Winners



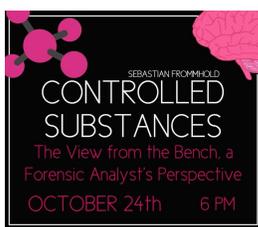
The 2019 ACS-GHS Awards Banquet was held at St. John's School on Saturday, October 19th. Approximately 85 people attended the event, which is held annually to celebrate Greater Houston Local Section Award winners, national and regional award winners, the 2019 High School Scholarship Award winners and their teachers, our 50- and 60-year members, and our volunteers. Awards presentations followed the dinner and guests were treated to a keynote presentation by Joe W. Hightower Award winner, Kenton Whitmire from Rice University. The Awards Committee is grateful for sponsorships from PAC LP, DCG Partnership, Shell, and Educational Innovations Inc. Congratulations to all the award winners on their achievements and thanks to all in attendance for sharing this special evening!

Hitting the Road with the Chemistry Career Roadshow



Dr. Javoris Hollingsworth, Chair of the GHS Minority Affairs Committee, shared this update on a new MAC program: Today (October 23rd) I really enjoyed speaking to the students at North Houston Early College High School as part of our Chemistry Career Roadshow, which is sponsored by the ACS-GHS Minority Affairs Committee. Through this event, talented students from under-served groups in STEM received the opportunity to learn about various careers they could pursue in chemistry and related fields. Special thanks to Usha Devathosh, Ed.D. and school administrators for allowing me and our amazing team of professionals to visit and share career insight. Also, thanks to the ACS Senior Chemists Committee for providing us a grant to support this great cause.

October Seminar: Sebastian Frommhold, Controlled Substances: A View From the Bench, a Forensic Analyst's Perspective



Our October seminar speaker was Sebastian Frommhold, a Forensic Analyst with the Texas Department of Public Safety. Mr. Frommhold spoke on the challenges of forensic drug analysis in a rapidly changing chemical and regulatory field, and the importance of understanding the advantages and limitations of your available analytical techniques.

This seminar was educational and entertaining but if you missed it, don't despair - the recording is available now on our [YouTube](#) channel!

National Chemistry Week: Children's Museum



We had a wonderful time with the kids at the Children's Museum of Houston on October 26th. Volunteers were from University of Houston, Texas Southern University and Rice University. We had 5 tables set up: Color Changes with Juices, Radish Writing, Candy Experiments, Play Doh (because kids!), a Theme table for Marvelous Metals, Slime Stations. The Theme table featured the properties of

metals which make up 80 percent of the Periodic Table. Properties such as thermal conductivity, electrical conductivity, ferromagnetism, malleability and ductility were featured with objects the kids and parents could touch and feel. Lots of children and families participated in our activities.

At 11am Houston City Councilwoman Karla Cisneros came by to present a proclamation from the Mayor's office declaring National Chemistry Week in Houston. The proclamation was read by Karla Cisneros and received by me and Crystal Young, GHS-ACS chairman.

Periodic Quilts of the Elements Silent Auction



A small group of GHS members participated in the 2019 Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure in support of breast cancer research on Saturday, October 5th. Under GHS Past Chair and team captain Catherine Faler, the team faced a warm autumn morning for the run and raised almost \$200 for breast cancer research.

ACS Spooky Adventures in Chemistry



This Halloween instead of passing out candy to my co-workers, I passed out hands-on chemistry kits for the parents to do at home. I wanted to raise STEM awareness in the community with hopes those participating will develop a passion for chemistry and other sciences. I selected the experiments from the ACS website, Classroom Science Activities for hands-on experiments for kids to explain complex chemistry. The kits contained food dye, cotton swabs, plastic pipettes and instructions to demonstrate interfacial tension. For more information to delight and amaze your friends and family, visit [here](#).

Volunteer Spotlight - Lisa Houston



Lisa Houston has been an active ACS volunteer for more than 25 years at all levels, including local section, technical division, regional meetings, and ACS national governance, and was recently elected to the ACS Board of Directors as District IV Director. With the Greater Houston Section, she has continued to focus on expanding our outreach and education efforts through the introduction of new activities such as our senior chemist outreach program. She has also been instrumental in recruiting a significant number of new volunteers to the local section board, and her organization skills are often called on when planning section events. In 2019, Lisa took on the role of GHS Awards Committee Chair and built a small team to solicit nominations for local and regional awards as well as plan the annual Awards Banquet. All of this has been accomplished while advancing her professional career to her current position as Business Segment leader for two portfolios at Petroleum Analyzer Company (PAC). We congratulate Lisa on her election to the ACS Board of Directors and thank her for her continued contributions to the Greater Houston section!

Chemistry Comic by Sidney Harris

LOUIS PASTEUR TELLS A JOKE...

HIPPOCRATES, TWO ALCHEMISTS, MARIE CURIE'S UNCLE, THREE WINEMAKERS, LAVOISIER, ARISTOTLE AND A TEN-YEAR-OLD BOY ARE BEING CHASED BY A MAD DOG DOWN A STREET IN AVIGNON...



The Pasteur cartoon can be commented in a humoristic way with the help of a French popular poet, Jacques Prévert. In this cartoon, Pasteur recites a nonsensical/humorous series of items. This is also what a French popular poet Jacques Prévert did in his poem *Inventaire (Inventory)*, where at the end of each incongruous list of entities, Prévert adds "un raton laveur", "a raccoon!" When someone utters a nonsensical list of unrelated items, one may add ironically (and may not be so kindly) "et un raton laveur," "and a raccoon!" So, I would have added to Pasteur's (and cartoonist Sidney Harris's) list: "and a raccoon!" You can hear Prévert at [Youtube](#) --- Jean-Marie Lehn, Université de Strasbourg (1987 Nobel Prize)

STAY CONNECTED

