Get involved and get the most out of your ACS membership

OCACS Elements

The Orange County Local Section wants to hear from you. If you would like more information about our section or how you or your company can contribute to our Section’s efforts, please visit our website or contact us at OCACSCChair@gmail.com.

Chair's Message: Looking Forward to Meeting with You!

Hello everyone! It is my great pleasure and privilege to serve the OCACS as Chair in the next two years. I am very excited to meet with everyone. Let me introduce myself briefly. My current day job is teaching chemistry and environmental engineering at California State University, Fullerton and University of California, Riverside. Although my primary field is water chemistry, I love all aspects of chemistry since I was a little boy. Chemistry still fascinates me!

There are so many exciting OCACS events happening in 2019. We are very fortunate to have so many dedicated volunteers who spend countless hours and days to plan and organize various activities for our members, peers, and general public, including:

- Monthly Dinner Meetings
- Environmental Group Meetings
- Younger Chemists Outreach Events
- National Chemistry Week at the Santa Ana Zoo
- High School Exams
- International Chemistry Olympiad
- Student Awards Dinners
- OC Science & Engineering Fair

You are invited to join our meetings and events! We are also planning to have
new OCACS events in 2019, such as Earth Week Workshop, Coffee and Chemistry Meetings, Women Chemists Seminars and Events. Please stay tuned and look for more information about our activities.

Encouraging the section members’ engagement and participation in the OCACS activities is one of my goals as the section chair. I would like to invite you to our website (https://ocacs.sites.acs.org/) to learn more about our section. If you’d like to be involved in any of our section committees, I strongly encourage you to review the committees webpage (https://ocacs.sites.acs.org/committees.htm) and contact the committee chairs directly. They will be very happy to hear from you. Also, if you are interested in learning about our executive committee or if you have any comments, questions, or suggestions, please contact me or any other executive board members (https://ocacs.sites.acs.org/executiveboard.htm). We will be very happy to hear from you!

Once again, I am looking forward to meeting with you soon!

Dr. Keisuke Ikehata
Chair, Orange County Section
American Chemical Society

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**Younger Chemists Committee Event at CHOC, February 19, 2019**

The YCC of OCACS has been organizing and executing chemistry events at the Children’s Hospital of Orange County clinic since July 2018. We bring supplies to the hospital to set up science experiments for patients and their families to boost their interest in science, especially chemistry. It is important for us to do experiments that can easily be re-created at home, so the children can further explore their curiosity. Some experiments include “Lava Lamps,” “Elephant Toothpaste,” and “Non-Newtonian Slime,” among many others.

If you are interested in joining the next YCC’s event at CHOC on Tuesday, February 19th, 2019 at 9:30 am, here is the sign-up genius link: https://www.signupgenius.com/index.cfm?go=w.ProcessCreate7&requesttimeout=360
Speaker:

**Dr. Maduka Ogba**  
Assistant Professor of Chemistry  
Chapman University

**Presentation:**

**Computational investigations into the mechanism of sulfur (VI) fluoride activation**

**Abstract:**  
Sulfur-Fluorine Exchange (SuFEx) chemistry is emerging as a promising type of click-chemistry to convert sulfur (VI) fluorides into a variety of sulfonylated compounds. Sulfur (VI) fluorides are particularly attractive compared to their chloride analogs due to the increased resistance to reduction, thermodynamic stability, and chemoselectivity. A key requirement for successful SuFEx chemistry is in the development of conditions conducive for activating the strong sulfur (VI) fluoride S-F bond. However, detailed exploration into the modes of S(VI)-F bond activation is in its infancy. In this talk, insights from computations into the activation of sulfur (VI) fluorides will be discussed.

**Biography:**  
Dr. Ogba joined the Chemistry and Biochemistry faculty at Chapman University in 2018. He conducted his Ph.D. at Oregon State with Prof. Paul Cheong, and his Robbins Postdoctoral Fellowship at Pomona College with Prof. Dan O’Leary. His research group at Chapman is invested in using computational techniques to unravel the underlying physical and chemical interactions governing molecular structure, reaction mechanisms, and selectivity in organocatalyzed reactions.

**Reservations:**  
All Reservations: Please contact us as soon as possible, but no later than noon on Monday, February 18, 2019 at OCACS@SBCGLOBAL.Net. Please indicate if you will be attending the dinner and program or the program only. Also, please list all names of attendees. Note if parking lot is full ask the valet staff where to park.

**Note:** OCACS pays the hotel based on the number of dinner reservations made. Your RSVP for dinner is a commitment to pay for dinner. Dinner cost is $30 for members and member’s significant others; $35 for non-members or those without reservations. There is no charge for attending the program only. However,
voluntary donations will be accepted to help defray meeting costs. The section’s address is OCACS, P.O. Box 211, Placentia CA 90871. The first five students who register for a meeting will receive a $10 discount.

## Education Committee Updates

The Education Committee (all who fit into the picture shown!) is busy at work planning the slate of spring activities.

- Chemistry Olympiad exams - 3/2/19 at Irvine Valley College; second round 4/27/19 at Vanguard University
- First Year Chemistry exam - 4/27/19 at CSUF
- College Awards dinner - 4/24/19 (in conjunction with the April OCACS meeting)
- High School Awards dinner - 5/21/19 (in conjunction with the April OCACS meeting)

If there are any members who would like to help proctor and grade the first Chem Olympiad exam at Irvine Valley College on 3/2/19, please contact Brent Shenton (bshentol@pylusd.org) to coordinate with him. We'll even pay your parking! Time commitment is 8 am to 11 am or noon (depending on your availability).

We can likewise use one more member in the morning of the 2nd round of the Olympiad at Vanguard University on 4/27/19. No grading is involved here, just proctoring. Time commitment is 8 am to 11 am. Again, contact Brent Shenton.

Help is always appreciated for the huge first year exam, 4/27/19, at CSUF. Time commitment is about 8 am – noon-ish. Or you can come to help with all the alphabetizing, sorting, paperwork from 11 till 12 or 1. Contact Sanda Sun at ssun@ivc.edu

If you are interested in joining the committee (meetings in Sept/Oct, Nov, Jan, March, June), please contact Carol Grimes at cgrimes@gwc.cccd.edu
Have you heard about pervious (permeable) concrete? Environmental Committee is planning an exciting Earth Week event in April 2019 by collaborating with the CSUF ACS Student Chapter (Chemistry and Biochemistry Club), YCC, and WCC. This event consists of an invited speaker, permeable concrete workshop, and more! Please contact Monica Gutfinger (monicagutfinger@gmail.com). We will have more information in our March Newsletter.

We will resume our bi-monthly environmental meetings in March. If you want more information about the environmental committee, please contact the committee chair Dr. Ganesh Rajagopalan (RGanesh@KennedyJenks.com).

1st Annual Orange County High School Chemistry Symposium at UCI, March 9, 2019

The High School Chemistry Symposium is an opportunity for high school teachers to share best practices with their peers. The 2019 symposium will feature 8 presentations by leading Southern California Chemistry Teachers,
focusing on:

- Teaching with Technology
- Inclusion of all Students
- NGSS Science and Engineering Practices
- Scientific Inquiry

The symposium will be held in Rowland Hall at UC Irvine on March 9, with presentations scheduled from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Registration for the event is limited to 36-participants, so please register early to secure a place. A fee of $20 will be collected from each participant, covering parking and lunch. In addition to the scheduled presentations, there will be numerous opportunities for networking among symposium participants.

Participants are expected to bring a web-capable device (laptop or tablet) to the symposium. Safety glasses are also recommended, as some of the presentations involve hands-on chemistry (safety glasses will be provided as needed).

Interested chemistry teachers should register at http://ocacs.sites.acs.org/hschemsymp.htm. For additional information, please e-mail Steve Sogo of Laguna Beach High School (ssogo@lbusd.org).

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YCC Chair Amanda Bjornstad Attended the ACS Leadership Institute in Atlanta, GA in January

The ACS leadership Institute was such a fun experience. It was wonderful to have an opportunity where I could mingle, learn, and network with leaders from around the country. The attendees were diverse and hearing their perspectives during the workshops was eye-opening. The workshops were productive, and I received many tips how to improve areas of weakness. My favorite workshop was about improving communication because the content was very applicable to ACS leadership roles and other parts of my life.

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Get Involved & Support OCACS

If you want to network with over 1300 chemists in Orange County, host a technical tour, speak at one of our dinner meetings or science cafes, explore leadership opportunities, or advertise with our Section, please visit our website or E-mail us at OCACSLocalSection@gmail.com and OCACSChair@gmail.com.

We would love to hear from you!
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