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Chemistry for Life™

SCALACS

November/December 2018

A Joint Publication of the Southern California and
San Gorgonio Sections of the American Chemical Society

Southern California Section



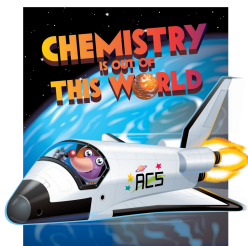
**Announcing the 2018
Agnes Ann Green Award Recipient for
Distinguished Service
to the Section:
Michael Morgan**

See Page 3

**High School Chemistry Teachers Meeting
November 3, 2018
Occidental College**

See Page 4

San Gorgonio Section



**Family Science Festival!
Saturday, November 3, 2018
Mt. San Antonio College**

See Page 13

**Annual Meeting and Chemistry
Career Workshop**

Saturday, November 17, 2018

See Page 14

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SCALACS

A Joint Publication of the
Southern California and San Gorgonio Sections of the
American Chemical Society

Volume LXXIII

November/December 2018

Number 7

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Belmont

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Pappatheodorou, Eleanor Siebert,
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Simpson

TABLE OF CONTENTS

So. Cal. Chair's Message	2
So. Cal. Meetings & Information	3-6
IP Law	7
Thank You Volunteers!	8-9
This Month in Chemical History	10-11
S. G. Chair's Message	12
S. G. Meeting Notices	13-15
Index to Advertisers	16
USPS Statement of Ownership	16
Chemists' Calendar	bc

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Southern California Section



Chair's Message

Great Chemists for All
Seasons!

I am simultaneously amazed and pleased how much time, effort, and passion our local section members devote to doing Great Chemistry! I am reminded of a quote from the World War II hero and California native James Doolittle – "There's nothing

stronger than the heart of a volunteer." SCALACS members continue to live up to this even in a time with increasingly busy schedules and other distractions.

It is our honor to recognize Michael Morgan who is the 2018 recipient of the Agnes Ann Green Distinguished Service Award. Michael is an inspiration in and out of the classroom. He has served as SCALACS chair and for many years has facilitated the annual meeting for high school chemistry teachers. The next meeting is on Saturday November 3rd at Occidental College.

Thank you all for an extremely successful nano Western Regional Meeting on October 27th. We had over 200 in attendance with 54 student research posters. We had six breakout sessions featuring topics such as solar chemistry and space materials. SCALACS members Michael Morgan, Chanda Strom, Barbara Sitzman, and Debbie Bennett facilitated sessions. Brian Brady gave a plenary talk about propellant chemistry. We had amazing support from Eleanor Siebert, Nancy Paradiso, Chris Brazier, and Thomas Matthew. Caltech's Beckman Institute and Division of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering provided all the basics for us including a wonderful facility, chairs & tables, and poster boards. If you would like to learn more about the meeting a .pdf of the program is available on the SCALACS website. Finally, I would like to thank the co-chair for this meeting Dr. Phil Hampton from CALPACS who worked with us on this very successful inter-section collaboration.

I wish you all the best for a great holiday season. During a reflective moment in the waning days of 2018 consider joining us in 2019 for all of the wonderful activities that Krishna Kallury (Chair 2019) has in store for us.

Good Health and Prosperity in 2019!
Bob de Groot
rdegroot@oxy.edu

Southern California Section



Announcing the 2018 Agnes Ann Green Award Recipient for Distinguished Service to the Section: Michael Morgan

We are pleased to announce that Michael Morgan has been selected to receive our Section's Agnes Ann Green Award. Details about the dinner will be announced on our website.

Biography: Michael Morgan is currently the Honors and Advanced Placement Chemistry teacher at Francisco Bravo Medical Magnet High School. He received his degree at UC Santa Cruz under the direction of Professor Frank C. Andrews. Since UCSC he has become heavily involved in the field of Chemical Education serving twice as a fellow of the Institute for Chemical Education at the University of Wisconsin working for Professor John W. Moore.

For many years Mr. Morgan wrote a regular column entitled "Ideas From the Coast" for the now defunct journal "Connecting with Chemistry" and in 2015 he became a featured contributing author for the journal ChemEdx.org. He has served as a member of the editorial board for the Journal of Chemical Education: Software. Over the past 25 years he has presented over 100 workshops, conferences, and lecture demonstration shows on topics ranging from "Chemistry in our Everyday Lives" to "Chemical Philately: A Perforated History of Chemistry."

Since the early 1990's Mr. Morgan has been working with the ACS in a variety of activities. On the national level he serves on the advisory board for the ACS Chemistry Clubs program and is also a member of DIVCHED's "Precollege Chemistry Committee". He currently plans and hosts the AACT's yearly "Update for Chemistry Teachers" meeting held at Occidental College. He serves on the SCALACS Executive Committee and was Chair of the Southern California Section in 2016. He has also chaired the Education Committee for several years coordinating the annual High School Teachers Meeting, the Paul Shin Memorial High School Teacher of the Year Award and co-hosting the Educational Awards Banquet.

In the last three years he has served AACT as a Regional Representative, been a candidate for President, and presented workshops at the National level for AACT. Mr. Morgan has been the recipient of the Southern California ACS Teacher of the Year Award and has received the 2013 Western Regional Award for Excellence in High School Teaching.

Southern California Section

2018 Occidental College High School Chemistry Teachers Meeting

**This is a meeting for Chemistry Teachers
by Chemistry Teachers!**

November 3, 2018

Occidental College
1600 Campus Road
Los Angeles, CA 90041
Mosher Room 1

**Registration opens at 8 AM, Program 9 AM to 3 PM,
Lunch Included
Free parking on campus**

**Featuring presentations by:
Steve Sogo from Laguna Hills High School, Mario Martinez from
SOCES and Michael Morgan from Bravo High School
and more...**

The fee is \$30 (nonrefundable) payable to SCALACS. Pre-service teachers can attend for just \$5! Paypal registration is now available. To register and pay by Paypal, please go to <https://goo.gl/forms/xcYxZU1XiYVgFJsV2>. Please remember that your registration is not complete until you pay. You will receive a confirmation from Paypal.

Reservations can be made via email to Nancy Paradiso at office@scalacs.org. The registration link is available on our website, www.scalacs.org. Questions about the program or to volunteer to give a presentation, contact Michael A. Morgan (Education Chair) at mmorgan@lausd.net.

**Sponsored by the Southern California Section of the
American Chemical Society and the
Occidental College Department of Chemistry**

Southern California Section



Call for Nominations 2018 Richard C. Tolman Medal

The Tolman Medal is awarded each year by the Southern California Section of the American Chemical Society in recognition of outstanding contributions to chemistry. These contributions may include achievements in fundamental studies; achievements in chemical technology; significant contributions to chemical education; or outstanding leadership in science on a national level. The nominee need not be a Southern California resident; however, most of the award-related accomplishments must have been made in this area.

The Southern California Section of the American Chemical Society and the Tolman Award Committee are now seeking nominations for the **2018** award. There is no official nominating form for this award; nominations are accepted from any member of this section or of neighboring sections. The nomination package should include:

- an up-to-date curriculum vitae or resume of the candidate
- letters of support from colleagues in the profession describing the candidate's major achievements
- if the candidate is being considered for outstanding teaching, letters of support from former students should be included.

Please submit nomination packages electronically to the Chair of the Tolman Committee at office@scalacs.org. Rather than submitting copies of publications, a list of representative publications would suffice. ***The deadline for receipt of nominations is December 15, 2018.*** Inquiries should be directed to the Chairperson via e-mail at office@scalacs.org. A list of winners appended here demonstrates the caliber of awardee sought by the committee.

1960 William G. Young	1980 Herbert D. Kaesz	2000 William A. Goddard III
1961 Anton B. Burg	1981 Paul D. Boyer	2001 Peter M. Rentzepis
1962 Ernest H. Swift	1982 Donald T. Sawyer	2002 Robert H. Grubbs
1963 W. Conway Pierce	1983 James N. Pitts	2003 Arie Warshel
1964 A.J. Haagen-Schmidt	1984 Donald C. Cram	2004 Christopher Reed
1965 Thomas Doumani	1985 Arnold O. Beckman	2005 Fred Wudl
1966 Arthur W. Adamson	1986 M. Frederick Hawthorne	2006 G. K. Surya Prakash
1967 Ulric B. Bray	1987 Clifford A. Bunton	2007 Barbara Finlayson-Pitts
1968 Francis E. Blacet	1988 John D. Baldeschwieler	2008 Joan S. Valentine
1969 Robert Vold	1989 Mustafa A. El-Sayed	2009 Richard B. Kaner
1970 Robert L. Pecsok	1990 Linus Pauling	2010 Dennis Dougherty
1971 Roland C. Hansford	1991 George A. Olah	2011 Karl O. Christie
1972 James Bonner	1992 Peter C. Ford	2012 John E. Bercaw
1973 Howard Reiss	1993 Charles L. Wilkins	2013 Mark E. Thompson
1974 John D. Roberts	1994 Jacqueline K. Barton	2014 William J. Evans
1975 Corwin Hansch	1995 Christopher S. Foote	2015 Michael E. Jung
1976 F. Sherwood Rowland	1996 Larry R. Dalton	2016 Paul S. Weiss
1977 Sidney W. Benson	1997 Ahmed H. Zewail	2017 Jeffrey I. Zink
1978 Thomas C. Bruice	1998 Kendall N. Houk	
1979 Harry B. Gray	1999 Peter Dervan	

Southern California Section

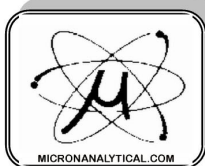
Second Call for Nominations Paul Shin Memorial High School Chemistry Teacher of the Year Award

If you know of a local high school chemistry teacher who is making a difference, please make the effort to show how important his/her work is to you and the students. Self-nominations from those who feel they fit the requirements are accepted as well. It's teachers like the recipients of this award who make learning chemistry rewarding. Plus, there is a financial component of \$500. The \$500 will be an unrestricted award directly to the teacher. The winner of the Section Award will also be entered at the National ACS level for the James Conant Bryant Award and the Western Regional High School Teacher of the Year Award. Having won a previous award does not necessarily exclude a nominee; however, the nomination would need to be based on different criteria than the first award.

Nomination Package should include: Biographical sketch of nominee with date of birth, list of any publications, statement (no more than 1,000 words) of nominee's achievements as a high school chemistry teacher including quality of teaching, effective methods, nominee's ability to challenge and inspire students, extracurricular work (science fairs, clubs, etc.). Seconding letters are not essential, but up to five may be included.

Nominating documents should be submitted via email to office@scalacs.org. Note that signed documents that have been scanned are acceptable.

The deadline for nominations is **November 15th, 2018**. Please feel free to contact Michael Morgan of the Educational Affairs Committee at mmorgan@lausd.net if you have any questions.



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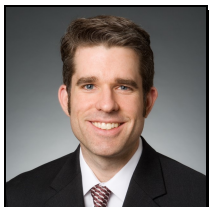
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Insights Into IP Law

Keith Orso*, Irell & Manella LLP
KOrso@irell.com

The “public use” of an invention prior to the filing of a patent application can constitute “prior art” that prevents the issuance of a patent or renders the claims of any resulting patent invalid. The idea is that the invention is abandoned to the public upon such use, and once abandoned, the invention cannot then be withdrawn from the public domain.

Last month, this column contemplated whether the unrestricted use of a concealed invention—for example, a small element like a spring hidden in a larger article such as a corset—can constitute a “public use.” The question this month is what happens when public use of a potential invention is necessary in order to test whether there is anything worth patenting?

In 1848, Samuel Nicholson constructed a 75-foot stretch of pavement comprising wooden blocks and gravel over which melted tar or pitch was poured to provide a permanent and durable wooden pavement protecting against the slipping of horses’ feet, against noise, against unequal wear, and against rot and consequent sinking from below. Mr. Nicholson laid the pavement at his own expense on a public avenue in Boston called “Mill-dam,” and visited the site almost daily to examine the pavement. He would often walk over the pavement, with his cane in hand, striking the pavement with the cane and assessing its condition. Over time, he asked a nearby toll collector many questions about the pavement and how travelers liked it.

Six years after installing the pavement, Mr. Nicholson applied for a patent. The patent issued, and when Mr. Nicholson filed a patent infringement suit, the defendant contended that the invention was invalid for prior public use. The case made its way to the Supreme Court, which acknowledged that that the use of the pavement in question was undoubtedly public in a sense, but nonetheless concluded that it was not a “public use” within the meaning of the patent laws.

The evidence showed that Mr. Nicholson merely laid the patch of pavement as an experiment to test its usefulness and durability. The Court observed that the nature of street pavement is such that it cannot be experimented upon satisfactorily except on a highway, which is always public. The court wrote that use of an invention by the inventor himself, or of any other person under his direction, by way of experiment, could not be regarded as a public use even though the public may be incidentally deriving benefit from it. The Court found Mr. Nicholson’s delay in filing for a patent to be occasioned by a bona fide effort to bring his invention to perfection, or to ascertain whether it will answer the purpose intended, and upheld his patent.

* The author earned engineering and chemical engineering undergraduate and graduate degrees, and is a patent attorney and partner at the law firm of Irell & Manella LLP. This column does not constitute legal advice and does not necessarily reflect the views of the firm or its clients.

Southern California Section

Thanks to all 2018 Volunteers

The many programs and services that your Section provides are accomplished by the volunteers of the various committees. We would like to acknowledge and thank all of you who volunteered your time and talents during this year.

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Chair Elect: Krishna Kallury

Secretary/

Treasurer: Barbara Belmont

Elected Members of Executive

Committee:

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Krishna Kallury
Derek Marin
Thomas Mathew
Morgan McCarthy
Edye Udell

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Sofia
Papatheodorou
Eleanor Siebert
Barbara Sitzman

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Ana Gamboa
Ralf Haiges
Veronica Jaramillo
Tom LeBon
Alexandros Oxyzolou

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John Pollard, University of Arizona
Jeffrey Zink, UCLA

nWRM Speakers:

Brian Brady
Lawrence Wade
Maria Drout
Tom Traeger
Stephen Edberg
Michael Morgan
Debbie Bennett
Barbara Sitzman
Chanda Strom
Gerald Voecks

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Magdalena Serrano
Elizabeth Shokoya
Shannon Yang
Leslie Ortiz (CSUN)

Educational Affairs—H.S.

Teacher of the Year

Michael Morgan,
Chair
Alexander Alschuler
Richard Erdman
Larry Walker

Teacher's Meeting

Michael Morgan,
Chair
Deborah Bennett
Chris Craney
Richard Erdman
Larry Walker

(Continued on Page 9)

Southern California Section

Thank You List (Continued from Page 8)

High School Olympiad

Gerald Delker, Chair
Henry Abrash
Barbara Belmont
Deborah Bennett
Ben Ku
Michael Morgan
Eleanor Siebert
Barbara Sitzman

Community Activities:

NCW, CCED & nWRM

Robert de Groot, Chair
Henry Abrash
Jackie Barton
Barbara Belmont
Debbie Bennett
Brian Brady
Chris Brazier
Randy Burg, Spectrum
Bonnie Charpentier
Chris Craney
Gerald Delker
Dennis Dougherty
Jenny Du, CalPACS
Harry Gray
Phil Hampton, CalPACS
Rick Jackson
Veronica Jaramillo
Derek Marin

Community Activities: (Continued)

Thomas Mathew
Michael Morgan
Jean Osterman, CalPACS
Sofia Pappatheodorou
Armando Rivera
Justin Russak, CalPACS
Eleanor Siebert
Barbara Sitzman

Organizations

Supporting Section

Community Activities:

ACS Office of Science
Outreach
Beckman Institute,
Caltech
Division of Chem. &
Chem. Engrg., Caltech
Spectrum Chemical
California Science
Center—Evelyn Serrano

ACS Student Chapters:

- MSMU
- CSUDH
- ELAC
- Pasadena City College
- Occidental College

Nominations & Elections

Bob de Groot, Chair

Project SEED

Frank Gomez, Chair
Michael Hayes
Robert Vellanoweth
Xin Wen
Kirsten Woo, MASS
High School

Publication Committee

Harold Goldwhite
Bruce Liu, SG
Keith Orso
Eleanor Siebert

Social Media

Debbie Bennett

Tolman Award

Dr. Frank Gomez,
Chair. Confidential
committee, but you
know who you are!

Webmaster

Barbara Belmont

It takes a lot of people's time and efforts to make our programs work. We as a Section, and the community at large, sincerely appreciate the dedication of these people and invite you to participate if you haven't already! This Section would be nothing without your volunteer efforts.

We tried to get everyone on the list, if we missed you, please accept our thanks for a job well done!



This Month in Chemical History

Harold Goldwhite, California State University,
Los Angeles
hgoldwh@calstatela.edu

In recent columns I mentioned my recent purchase of a textbook, "Kane's Chemistry edited by Draper" published in 1845. I also described the careers of these two eminent mid-19th. century scientists. In this column I will conclude the examination of chemistry in 1845 as described in the 700 pages of small print in this comprehensive text.

One of the more challenging questions of mid-19th. century chemistry was that of chemical affinity. Why do certain substances react together while others are completely indifferent? Beginning in the 18th. century chemists including Geoffroy and Bergman had compiled extensive lists of substances in order of their affinity – their reactivity – towards a standard reagent. Elaborate examinations had been made of many acid/base reactions; reactions of metals with acids etc. The compiled results were used to construct large Tables of Affinities which were as prominent in lecture rooms of the 18th. century as are Periodic Tables today. There was much discussion as to whether affinities were absolute, or affected by external parameters such as temperature and concentration. Berthollet was one of the team of scientists and archaeologists that was brought to Egypt by Napoleon early in the 19th. century after his campaign in that country. (This was the birth of modern Egyptology). Berthollet made an interesting observation on the shores of the saline Lake Natron. He found deposits of sodium carbonate. The rocks surrounding the lake were limestone, calcium carbonate. Berthollet knew that in the laboratory if solutions of sodium carbonate and calcium chloride were mixed a precipitate of calcium carbonate was formed. On the shore of Lake Natron he observed the reverse reaction; the calcium carbonate of the limestone had reacted with the sodium chloride of the saline lake water to produce an evaporated deposit of sodium carbonate on the lake shore. Berthollet looked for other examples of similar

(Continued on Page 11)

This Month in Chemical History

(Continued from Page 10)

phenomena and in his book “Essai de Statique Chimique” he argued that affinity could not be absolute but might well depend on concentration. He had a glimmer of the Law of Mass Action, which was not announced for another 50 years, but his work was largely ignored.

Kane’s book concedes that “the chemical action of two bodies does not arise simply from their chemical affinities, but results from the combined influences of heat, electricity, cohesion, and other physical agencies ...”. The remarkable discoveries of electrochemistry, unknown, of course, to Berthollet when he wrote his Essai, had shown how electricity could overcome even the strongest affinities. There are many admiring references to Berthollet’s work in Kane’s chapter on affinity, but Berthollet’s stance rejecting the Law of Definite Proportions (Constant Composition) – which deserves a whole column to itself – led to much of his other work being neglected.

Kane’s “Elements of Chemistry” is a comprehensive text, and a third of the book covers subjects related to organic chemistry. Space and time do not permit a full examination of this material, but let me give you an idea of the subjects covered. They include what we would now call biochemistry. Thus we have chapters on carbohydrates and their decomposition by acids and alkalis; the alcoholic and acetic fermentations; essential oils, camphors, and resins; saponifiable fats and oils; organic acids (which do not pre-exist in plants [! HG]) including tartaric, citric, malic etc.; coloring matters; vegetable alkalis [alkaloids]; the decomposition of wood; and animal chemistry.

If the mid-19th. century student studied and mastered this text he (or, in a regrettably few cases she) would have a far- ranging understanding of contemporary chemistry, and be ready to move into a chemically-related profession.

San Gorgonio Section



Chair's Message

Congratulations to Dr. Ernie Simpson on receiving the 2018 Western Regional E. Ann Nalley Award for Volunteer Service to the ACS!

Congratulations to Mt. SAC and UCI on receiving the 2018 Western Region Partners for Prosperity and Progress (P3) Award!

2018 has been a great year for the ACS San Gorgonio Section. Besides the above awards, we also held several successful events. In addition, we have been experimenting on utilizing social media for improving communications. I am truly thankful to our board members Dr. Dennis Pederson, Dr. Eileen DiMauro, Dr. Ernie Simpson, Dr. David Srulevitch, and Ms. Emily Viggers. I also want to thank Mr. Tarquinius (Tark) Bunch, Dr. Jingsong Zhang of UCR Chemistry Department, Dr. Jefferson Wang of Western University of Health Sciences, and many other friends for their strong supports.

The holiday season is around the corner and we still have two more important events to go this year.

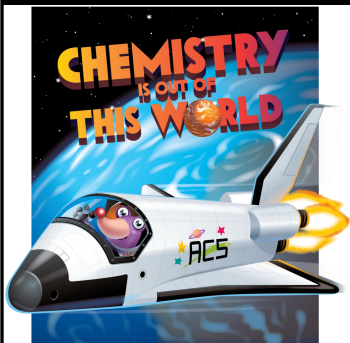
- Family Science Festival, Saturday, November 3rd, Mt. San Antonio College
- Annual Meeting and Chemistry Career Workshop, Saturday, November 17th at UCR

It is also the time to elect new section officers. At this time, we still have the following two positions without candidates.

- Chair-Elect
- Secretary

Please contact us if you are interested in these two or other positions. Please cast your vote as well. If you need more information, please follow us via the follow channels.

(Continued on Page 15)



**Mt. San Antonio College
Chemistry Department
Presents**

Family Science Festival!

**Saturday, November 3, 2018
10:00 AM to 2:00 PM**

**Mt. San Antonio College
Natural Sciences Complex
(Buildings 7, 60, 61)**

**FREE Science activities, games and crafts
for the whole family!**

**Hands-on Activities! Chemistry Demonstrations!
Meek Museum Tours! Science Exploratory Center
Tours! Robotics Demonstrations!**

Parking: Park in Lot D. Purchase a parking permit for \$4 from the dispenser.

Directions and Map: www.mtsac.edu/maps

Questions: Contact Jenny Leung, 909-274-6311 or jleung@mtsac.edu.

San Gorgonio Section

San Gorgonio Section Annual Meeting and Chemistry Career Workshop

**Saturday, November 17, 2018
12:00 – 3:30 p.m.**

Chemical Sciences Bldg, Room 231

University of California, Riverside
900 University Avenue
Riverside, CA 92521

In addition to our normal annual meeting activities, this year's program will include a workshop focused on some of the career opportunities available to chemistry graduates. Representatives from areas such as environmental, pharmaceutical, and forensics will be available to talk with students. Students also will be given insight into resume writing and job interviewing. During the annual meeting Manny Medrano, our Project SEED participant this year will describe his project and we will discuss the future of this successful program. The Chemistry program at UCR continues to expand and an update will be given. The upcoming election for 2019 officers will be discussed and additional nominations solicited. Food (sandwiches, fruit, cheeses, water, and soda) will be provided. There will also be drawings for a variety of door prizes. Come help celebrate this year and help plan the new year!

Program Agenda:

Welcome

Chemistry Career Workshop 12:00 – 1:30 pm

Lunch Break 1:30 – 2:00 pm

Annual Meeting 2:00 – 3:30 pm

Manny Medrano, Project SEED participant

What's new in Chemistry at UCR

Overview of planned 2019 Section activities

High School National Chemistry Olympiad

Project SEED

National Chemistry Week

Celebration of the 70th Anniversary of the San Gorgonio Section

(Continued on Page 15)

San Gorgonio Section

Annual Meeting (Continued from Page 14)

Brainstorming: What are possible future directions and activities for the Section?

Upcoming election of officers for 2019

Adjournment

Reservations: Please RSVP to dpedersn@csusb.edu, **no later than** Wednesday, November 14. There is no cost, but we need to know how much food to buy! We must also submit names of anyone who will need a parking pass for the meeting.

Parking: The UCR Chemistry Department will pick up the parking cost for participants at this meeting; THANK YOU! Carpools are encouraged. Get to the campus and go to the information kiosk at the main entrance on West Campus Drive. Tell the parking person that you are a participant in the ACS meeting in the Chemical Sciences Bldg and obtain a parking permit and directions to the meeting site, the Parking Lot where you are to park, and a campus map.

Directions: UCR is located off the 215/60 freeways in Riverside at the University Avenue exit. Consult the campus website for a detailed area map, showing various ways of getting to the campus. <http://campusmap.ucr.edu/imap/index.html>.

Chair's Message (Continued from Page 12)

- LinkedIn Group: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/13509132>
- Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/SGSACS/>
- Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/306580863196707/>

Last but not the least, I wish everyone happy holidays and prosperous new year!

-Bruce Liu, Chair
cell: 515-306-6855,
email: bruce@acbscitech.com

San Gorgonio Section

INDEX TO ADVERTISERS

American Research & Testing _____	16
Mass-Vac, Inc. _____	ifc
Micron Inc. _____	6
Spectrum Chemical _____	17

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***IMPORTANT
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Contains Dated Meeting Announcement

PERIODICAL

Bi-Section Chemists' Calendar

For more information on these events, please check our website at
www.scalacs.org

November

- 3 SC High School Teacher's Meeting at Occidental College—
see page 4
- 3 SG Family Science Festival at MtSAC—see page 13
- 17 SG Annual Meeting and Chemistry Career Workshop—see page 14

Happy Holidays!

Hope to see you at an event in 2019!