

# THE MIDLAND CHEMIST

A publication of the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society

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## **American Chemical Society Names Fellows for 2013**

*Joan Coyle, American Chemical Society, Office of Public Affairs*

The American Chemical Society (ACS) has named the 2013 class of ACS Fellows, a prestigious honor bestowed upon 96 distinguished scientists who have demonstrated outstanding accomplishments in chemistry and made important contributions to the ACS, the world's largest scientific society. They represent 30 technical divisions, 49 local sections and 28 national committees, reflecting a wide range of disciplines and geographic locations.

"These extraordinary scientific leaders are producing off-the-scale results that are improving our lives each and every day," said ACS President Marinda Li Wu, Ph.D. "Their transforming work is vital in our efforts to overcome the many global challenges we now face. They are creating a future that offers the promise of expanded use of renewable energy, cures for cancer, diabetes and other devastating diseases, and accessibility to safe drinking water for all. In short, these Fellows are true visionaries who are making the world around us a far better place."

The 2013 Fellows were recognized at an induction ceremony on Monday, September 9, during the Society's 246<sup>th</sup> National Meeting & Exposition in Indianapolis, where each Fellow received a lapel pin and a certificate.

The ACS Fellows Program was created by the ACS Board of Directors in December 2008 "to recognize members of the ACS for outstanding achievements in and contributions to Science, the Profession and the Society." Fellows come from academe, industry and government.

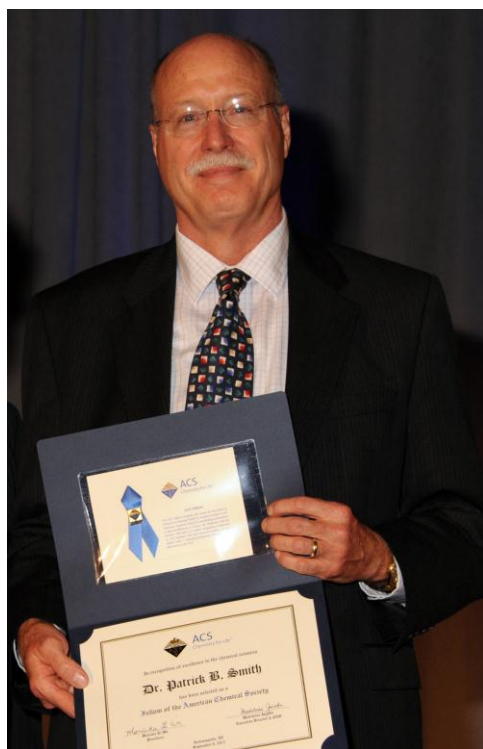
The official list of names of the 2013 ACS Fellows appeared in the [July 29, 2013, issue of C&EN](#). Click [here](#) for a list of all ACS Fellows (2009-2012) that can be organized by name, institution and state.

*Editor's note: Midland Section ACS member, Patrick Smith, was named as one of the 96 ACS Fellows in the 2013 class of National ACS fellows. Please see the follow-up article below.*

### **MMI Researcher, Patrick Smith, Earns ACS High Honor** ***Rusty Govitz, Communications Director, Michigan Molecular Institute***

Michigan Molecular Institute Research Scientist, Patrick Smith, has garnered many accolades in a distinguished career. The recognition Smith was given recently has to be near the top of the list.

Smith was included in the 2013 class of American Chemical Society Fellows at a ceremony in September in Indianapolis. The designation of ACS Fellow puts Smith, 63, in rarified air for an organization whose membership tops 163,000 globally; less than one percent are awarded the prestigious honor, according to Midland Section ACS Chair, Wayde Konze, who nominated Smith.



“This award is very selective and highly competitive,” Konze said. “These are awarded to scientists who have had extremely impactful careers, including several Nobel Laureates. Pat’s contributions to many programs at Dow Chemical, MMI and others have resulted in products being commercialized, and have helped to advance several areas of science in these organizations.

“He has also been an extremely gracious and purposeful mentor, enriching the career progressions of many other scientists in his career,” Konze added. “This, coupled with his strong passion and leadership in the ACS, both locally and nationally, made him a clear candidate for this award.”

Smith followed a 30-plus year career at Dow with a stint at Archer Daniels Midland Company. He joined MMI in 2010 with an eye toward establishing a new initiative - the institute's biobased materials division. Smith has been MMI's lead scientist in its partnership with Micromidas, Inc., a west coast-based company that converts low-value municipal waste into higher-value chemical building blocks and plastics.

“It’s an honor to join the distinguished list of ACS Fellows,” Smith said. “MMI is making real strides in this growing sector of polymer chemistry, and I’m proud to represent MMI in receiving this award.”

Among the other highlights in a career loaded with them, he authored the Sigma Xi Outstanding Research Publication for 1987; won the Midland Section ACS Award for Outstanding Achievement and Promotion of the Chemical Sciences in 1998; has served as Adjunct Professor at Central Michigan University since 1990; was awarded the Dow Chemical Analytical Sciences V. A. Stenger Award in 1984; and received the Dow Chemical Michigan Division Scientists Award in 1994. He has also co-edited two books on biobased materials.

## Chemical Processing of the Fall Harvest

*Dale LeCaptain, Advisor, CMU ACS Student Chapter*

The CMU and SVSU ACS student chapters applied for and were selected to receive a \$750 grant from the National ACS for two upcoming ACS local section events. The funded proposal for the two events sheds light on one of the largest economic sectors in Michigan – Agriculture – while engaging chemists at all levels (higher education, community college, and working professionals) in visiting and seeing some of the often overlooked places where chemists work.

The events are being coordinated by CMU, SVSU, and the Midland Section ACS Younger Chemists Committee (YCC). We are working on building the network between student chapters and the young professionals of the local section. To go one step further, we are also reaching out to Delta College for enhancing the local chemist network.

The two Fall Harvest events include:

- (1) Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup> afternoon tour of the Bay City Sugar Beet Plant. Sugar beets are a significant agriculture product of the Great Lakes Bay region. There is a lot of engineering and chemistry that goes into the process of converting sugar beets to crystalline sugar. The afternoon tour (2:00 to 4:00 PM) will be followed with an opportunity to engage the chemical professionals of the area in a social event as we will be touring and taking over the tap room of the Tri-City Brewing Company (4:30 to 7:00 PM) in Bay City. A trivia competition and varied activities are planned as we partner the diverse factions in attendance, from professionals to graduate students, undergraduates, and community college students.
- (2) A Saturday afternoon fall harvest tour to Uncle John's Cider Mill in St. Johns, MI, tentatively set for Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>. Apples as well as other fruits are very substantial parts of the Michigan agriculture economy. The Cider Mill tour will be followed by a tour of the Red Cedar Distillery in East Lansing (pending their reopening). Both of these businesses offer excellent opportunities to see agricultural products marketed at low end chemical processing (making and selling cider) and at high end chemical processing (manufacturing distilled spirits).

The planning, writing, and proposal submitting work for the Fall Harvest grant was done by Dale LeCaptain (Advisor, CMU ACS student chapter), Stephanie Brouet (Advisor, SVSU ACS student chapter), Heather Spinney (Chair, Midland Section ACS YCC), and Bernadette Harkness (Delta College Chemistry faculty member). The ACS student chapter Presidents, Katie Martin (CMU) and Alaina Nunn (SVSU), are gearing up for the on-the-ground logistics and planning. Special thanks also to the Midland Section ACS for their cost matching of portions of these two events.

Please plan to join us! Contact Dale LeCaptain at [lecap1dj@cmich.edu](mailto:lecap1dj@cmich.edu) with questions.

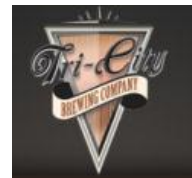
**Bay City Sugar Beet Plant Tour & Tap Room Trivia at Tri-City Brewing Company, November 8**  
**Dale LeCaptain, Advisor, CMU ACS Student Chapter**

**What:** Tour the Michigan Sugar Factory and see all of the engineering and chemistry used in the process of converting sugar beets to crystalline sugar.



Networking event and trivia competition at Tri-City Brewing Company, with FREE PIZZA.

**When:** Friday, November 8, 2013  
Michigan Sugar factory tour – 2:00 to 4:00 PM (Please sign up)  
Tri-City Brewing tour and trivia – 4:30 to 7:00 PM (and beyond)



**Travel:** CMU – Charter bus will meet in Parking Lot 49 before 1:15 PM (behind Education Building)  
SVSU – Carpool from \_\_\_\_\_ (reimbursements as needed)  
Delta College – Carpool from \_\_\_\_\_ (reimbursements as needed)

**Cost:** \$5 per person (All Delta College students are free)

**Trivia Contest:** Prizes from local businesses, etc. (Help needed!)

**Contact Information:**

CMU – Katie Martin ([marti3mc@cmich.edu](mailto:marti3mc@cmich.edu)), Dale LeCaptain ([lecap1dj@cmich.edu](mailto:lecap1dj@cmich.edu))  
SVSU – Alaina Nunn ([annunn@svsu.edu](mailto:annunn@svsu.edu)), Stephanie Brouet ([sbrouet@svsu.edu](mailto:sbrouet@svsu.edu))  
Delta – Bernadette Harkness ([bernadetteharkness@delta.edu](mailto:bernadetteharkness@delta.edu))  
YCC – Heather Spinney ([haspinney@dow.com](mailto:haspinney@dow.com))

**Event Sponsors:** Midland Section ACS YCC, and CMU and SVSU ACS student chapters

**Register Kids for Free Weekend Science Program at CMU in November**  
**Jason Suhr, Mid-Michigan Technician Group Chair**

Registration is now open for Weekend Science @ CMU Fall 2013, a free program where children in grades 3 through 6 collaborate with others and develop central scientific concepts and inquiry skills through engaging activities in science. This semester's dates and topics include:

- Saturday, Nov. 2 — The Science of Insects
- Saturday, Nov. 9 — The Science of Basic Electronics
- Saturday, Nov. 16 — The Science of Solids, Liquids and Gases
- Saturday, Nov. 23 — The Science of Cool

To learn more or to register, contact Kevin Cunningham at [cunni1kd@cmich.edu](mailto:cunni1kd@cmich.edu) or 989-774-4000, ext. 3386.

## 2014 Officers and Board Election Results

*Jaime Curtis-Fisk, Chair, Nominations & Elections Committee*

A summary of the results of this fall's election of the 2014 Officers and Board of the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society is reported below. A total of 111 valid ballots were received, representing about 16% of the eligible voters. This is a slight decrease from last year, but still demonstrated strong support by our local section to those who put the effort into running for a position on our board. Congratulations and welcome to the new 2014 Officers and Board members!

**Chair-Elect:**

Matt Grandbois

**Secretary:**

Gina Malczewski

**Treasurer:**

Anatoliy (Tony) Sokolov

**Chair, Nominations & Elections:**

Chelsea Quinn

**Councilor:**

Tina Leaym

**Alternate Councilor:**

Shawn Chen

**Directors (3-year terms):**

Wendell Dilling

Steve Keinath

Janet Smith

## Mastering the Molten: All About Glass-Blowing, November 22

*Gina Malczewski, Past Chair / Outreach*

**The Midland Section of the American Chemical Society,  
Mid-Michigan Technicians Group and  
The Jefferson National Junior Art Honor Society present:**

# Mastering the Molten: All About Glass-Blowing

**Jefferson Middle School, Theatre 209**  
800 W Chapel Lane, Midland, MI 48640  
**Friday, Nov 22, 2013**  
**6:30-8:30 pm**  
**FEATURING Tim Drier**  
**(30 yr of glassblowing experience)**

**FREE and open to the public**

**Handmade Christmas ornaments available**

**Learn about the chemistry and physics of glass**

**Live Demos!**

**Find out how color and shape are achieved!**

**SiO<sub>2</sub>**



## Announcing the 2014 ACS Central Regional Meeting

*Matt Grandbois, Secretary*



# 2014 ACS Central Regional Meeting



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**BRIDGING CHEMISTRY  
AND INNOVATION  
CERM 2014**

**WWW.ACSCERM2014.ORG**

**THE 45<sup>TH</sup> CENTRAL REGIONAL MEETING**

**OCTOBER 1-4, 2014**

DOUBLETREE BY HILTON  
PITTSBURGH - GREEN TREE

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**PLENARY SPEAKERS**

<p><b>VICKI H. WYSOCKI, PH.D.</b> THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY</p> 	<p><b>BRADLEY D. SMITH, PH.D.</b> UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME</p> 	<p><b>SARA E. SKRABALAK, PH.D.</b> INDIANA UNIVERSITY BLOOMINGTON</p> 
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**EXPOSITION AND TECHNICAL SYMPOSIA**

### Opportunity to Become a Science Coach

*Eva Li, Midland Section ACS Publicity Chair*

Share your expertise and enthusiasm for science with an elementary, middle, or high school teacher in your community by becoming an ACS Science Coach. In this year-long volunteer role, you'll work directly with a classroom teacher to support science learning. Together, you and the teacher will decide how to best combine your time and talents. If approved, ACS will donate \$500 to the school to support your efforts. Find out more at [www.acs.org/ScienceCoaches](http://www.acs.org/ScienceCoaches).

### Upcoming Dates, Events, and Other Updates

- November 8 (2:00-4:00 PM) – Michigan Sugar Company factory tour, 2600 South Euclid Avenue, Bay City. Contact Dale LeCaptain at [lecap1dj@cmich.edu](mailto:lecap1dj@cmich.edu) to sign up and for questions.
- November 8 (4:30-7:00 PM) – Tri-City Brewing Company tour and trivia competition social event, 3020 North Water Street, Bay City. Contact Dale LeCaptain at [lecap1dj@cmich.edu](mailto:lecap1dj@cmich.edu) to sign up and for questions.
- November 22 (6:30-8:30 PM) – *Mastering the Molten: All About Glass-Blowing* event, Jefferson Middle School, Theatre Room 209, Midland. Contact Gina Malczewski at [reginamalczewski@gmail.com](mailto:reginamalczewski@gmail.com) with questions or for more information.

- November 23 (tentative) – Uncle John’s Cider Mill (St. Johns) and Red Cedar Distillery (East Lansing) fall harvest tour event. Contact Dale LeCaptain at [lecap1dj@cmich.edu](mailto:lecap1dj@cmich.edu) to verify the date and time, to inquire about car-pooling options, and to sign up or for any questions.
- December 2 (7:00-9:00 PM) – ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via conference call at phone number: 866-299-7945, participant code: 9837036#.
- January 6 (7:00-9:00 PM) – ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via conference call at phone number: 866-299-7945, participant code: 9837036#.
- February 3 (7:00-9:00 PM) – ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via conference call at phone number: 866-299-7945, participant code: 9837036#.
- March 3 (7:00-9:00 PM) – ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via conference call at phone number: 866-299-7945, participant code: 9837036#.
- March 16-20 – 247<sup>th</sup> ACS National Meeting & Exposition, Dallas, TX. For more information, see [www.acs.org/content/acs/en/meetings/spring-2014.html](http://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/meetings/spring-2014.html).
- August 10-14 – 248<sup>th</sup> ACS National Meeting & Exposition, San Francisco, CA.
- October 1-4 – 45<sup>th</sup> ACS Central Regional Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA. For more information, see [www.acscerm2014.org](http://www.acscerm2014.org).