



American Chemical Society

East Texas Section

April 2015

Next Meeting (joint meeting with Northwest Louisiana Section)

Date: Thursday, April 16
Place: Noel Memorial Library
3rd Floor Atrium and Conference Area
LSUS

Dinner: 6:00 pm by Freebirds World Burrito (\$10/person, \$5/student)
Time: Speaker 7:00 P.M. (No charge for the talk)
Please make reservations by Wednesday, April 15 and specify either "dinner + talk" or "talk only" in the subject of your e-mail message to Dr. William Yu: wyu@lsus.edu.

Some Thoughts on Jobs and Careers in Chemistry

Dr. H.N. Cheng
USDA Agricultural Research Service
Southern Regional Research Center
New Orleans, LA

Abstract

Bobby Knight, the former coach of University of Indiana basketball team once said, "The key is not the will to win...everybody has that. It is the will to prepare to win that is important." Regardless of the career path you ultimately choose, it's important to bear in mind that the job market is changing and will continue to change. You need to acquire marketable skills and knowledge, target an area you will excel in, and grow and change in order to meet the needs of this dynamic job market. Above all, don't be complacent. Keep working and learning. In today's world, "job security" means your ability to get the next job. Some help is available from American Chemical Society (ACS), which has a lot of resources relating to job search and career development. If you are venturesome, you may also want to explore non-traditional careers for chemistry degree-holders. In this talk, the speaker will provide some advice and highlight some of the best practices in preparing for a career in chemistry in the future.

Time permitting, the speaker will also touch upon the international aspects of chemistry. With increasing globalization, there are many challenges and opportunities. It may be useful for you to re-examine your career and adapt your mode of operation in order to minimize the challenges and maximize the opportunities offered by the changing world.

Speaker Bio

H. N. Cheng obtained his B.S. from UCLA and his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He works as a research scientist at USDA Southern Regional Research Center in New Orleans, where he is engaged in improved utilization of agricultural products and byproducts. Prior to 2009, he was Senior Research Fellow at Hercules Incorporated in Wilmington, Delaware, where he held various R&D and managerial positions. He has authored or co-authored 190 papers and 25 patent publications. He has organized 28 symposia at national meetings since 1997 and has edited 11 books. Dr. Cheng is known for his research in polymer chemistry, renewable materials, biocatalysis, and polymer NMR. He was the recipient of Tillmans-Skolnick Award for Outstanding Service from the ACS Delaware Section (2006), Distinguished Service Award from ACS Polymer Chemistry Division (POLY) (2005), and ACS Delaware Section Award for research excellence (1994). He was elected an ACS Fellow (2009) and a POLY Fellow (2010).



Dr. Cheng is active professionally and has served in a large number of committees and task forces. He currently serves as Chair of the International Activities Committee at the ACS. He is also Chair of ACS Polymer Chemistry Division Workshop Committee, and Newsletter Editor and Member-at-Large of the ACS Louisiana Section, among other professional activities. In addition, he serves as a member of the Editorial Board of *Carbohydrate Polymers*, an associate editor of the *International Journal of Polymer Analysis & Characterization*, and a governing board member of the International Symposium on Polymer Analysis and Characterization.

Upcoming Dates

April	HN Cheng at Louisiana State University, Shreveport
August 16-20	Fall National Meeting, Boston, MA
September	Brian Salvatore at Panola College
October	Xiankai Sun at UT-Tyler
November	Jeff Gaffney at Texarkana College
November 4-7	Southeast/Southwest Regional Meeting, Memphis, TN
December 15-17	PacifiChem 2015, Honolulu, HI

Section Website is Live!!

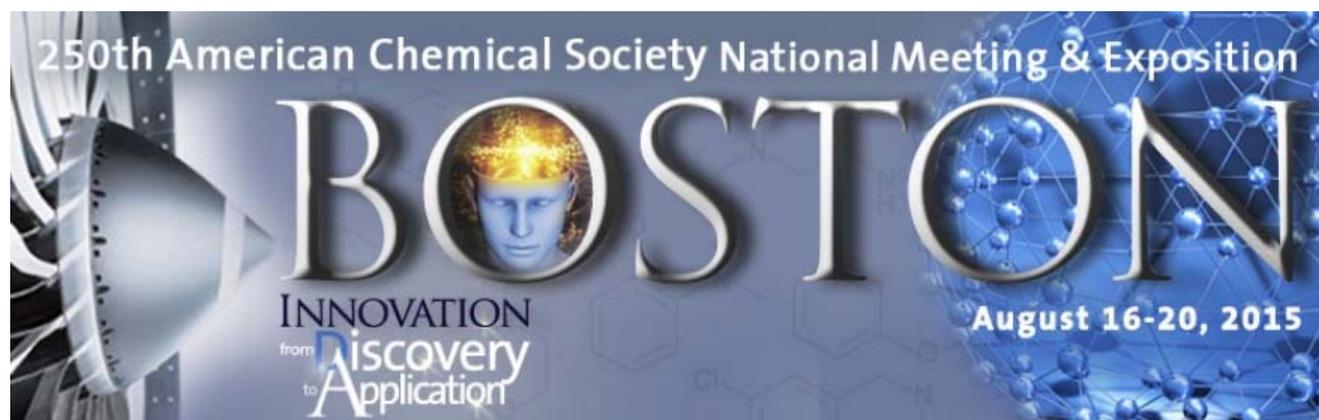
Check out the Section's website: <http://eastexasacs.sites.acs.org>

Attention High School Chemistry Teachers

The East Texas Section of the American Chemical Society is offering a limited number of grants to High School Chemistry teachers in our area. We have two different grant programs:

1. High School Chemistry Program that will fund up to \$500 for materials, chemicals or other resources for a chemistry-related project.
2. Chemistry Professional Meeting Support Program that will fund up to \$500 for meeting registration or housing at a professional meeting sponsored by a chemical society, or by a science-related society.

To receive the support applications (electronic format only) please contact Dr. Bruce Hathaway (BruceHathaway@letu.edu) the grants program committee chair.



Submission Now Open!

A Call for Papers for the fall 2015 ACS national meeting has been issued. ACS's online Meeting Abstracts Programming System ([MAPS](#)) is now open for Boston abstracts. View the online [Call for Papers](#) for a list of symposia from each participating division & committee.

Registration and Accommodations open mid-May



2015 Section Officers

Chair	Paul Zhang	pzhang@ana-lab.com
Chair-elect	Bruce Hathaway	BruceHathaway@letu.edu
Treasurer	Patti Harman	patricia.harman@texarkanacollege.edu
Secretary	Mike Sheets	mike.sheets@texarkanacollege.edu
Councilor	Mike Sheets	mike.sheets@texarkanacollege.edu
Alt. Councilor	Philip Verhalen	pverhalen@panola.edu
Webmarm	Kristin Butterworth	pkmb681@gmail.com

Upcoming ACS Webinars

April 2, 2015

Talking About Polymers, Detecting Explosives

<http://acswebinars.org/polymer-chemistry>

There are few things that you can do in life without using a polymer, yet many people could not tell you what they are and how they affect their lives. Tune in as Jennifer Novotney shares how to discuss polymers and the benefits of their applications as well as how they are synthesized with non-scientists. She will also share her research on how recent advances are providing new ways to detect explosives.

April 9, 2015

Active vs. Passive Voice in Scientific Writing

<http://acswebinars.org/active-passive>

"We applied an external magnetic field of 4 T while increasing the pressure to 300 kPa." or "An external magnetic field of 4 T was applied as the pressure was increased to 300 kPa."

Which is the better way to compose your research; the direct, bold language of active voice, or the objective, nuanced tone of passive voice? We've gathered two expert wordsmiths from the world of academia to share the pros and cons of each. Join us as Kristin Sainani and Celia Elliott present their cases on the best way to compose your writings and let us know which style you prefer.

April 16, 2015

Catching Errors: Peer Review and Retractions in Publishing

<http://acswebinars.org/catching-errors>

We have all seen the headlines where unintentional errors and falsified data have caused papers to be retracted. These instances can damage the reputation of the researchers, journals and institutions that are associated with the research. Join us as Dr. Charon Pierson and Dr. Ivan Oransky discuss the efforts that are being made to combat this issue and expose the bad research as well as what could be changed to improve the review process.

April 30, 2015

Picking the Right Screening Strategy

<http://acswebinars.org/drug-screening>

Screening strategies are chosen based on available knowledge and tools to identify molecules that can be optimized to medicines. Join Dr. David Swinney as he shares the pros and cons of different screening strategies including target-based and empirical/phenotypic-based.

About ACS Webinars™

ACS Webinars™ is a free, weekly online event serving to connect ACS members and scientific professionals with subject matter experts and global thought leaders in chemical sciences, management, and business. The ACS Webinars are divided into several series that address topics of interest to the chemical and scientific community; these series include careers, business and innovation, professional growth, joy of science, extreme chemistry, entrepreneurial initiative, green chemistry, and more. Each webinar is 60 minutes in length, comprising a short presentation followed by Q&A with the speaker. The live webinars are held on Thursdays from 2-3pm ET. Recordings of the webinars are available online and upcoming events are posted at <http://acswebinars.org/>.

How to Get to LSUS from:

I-20 from West (Dallas)

From I-20 take Exit 11 towards Alexandria (3132)

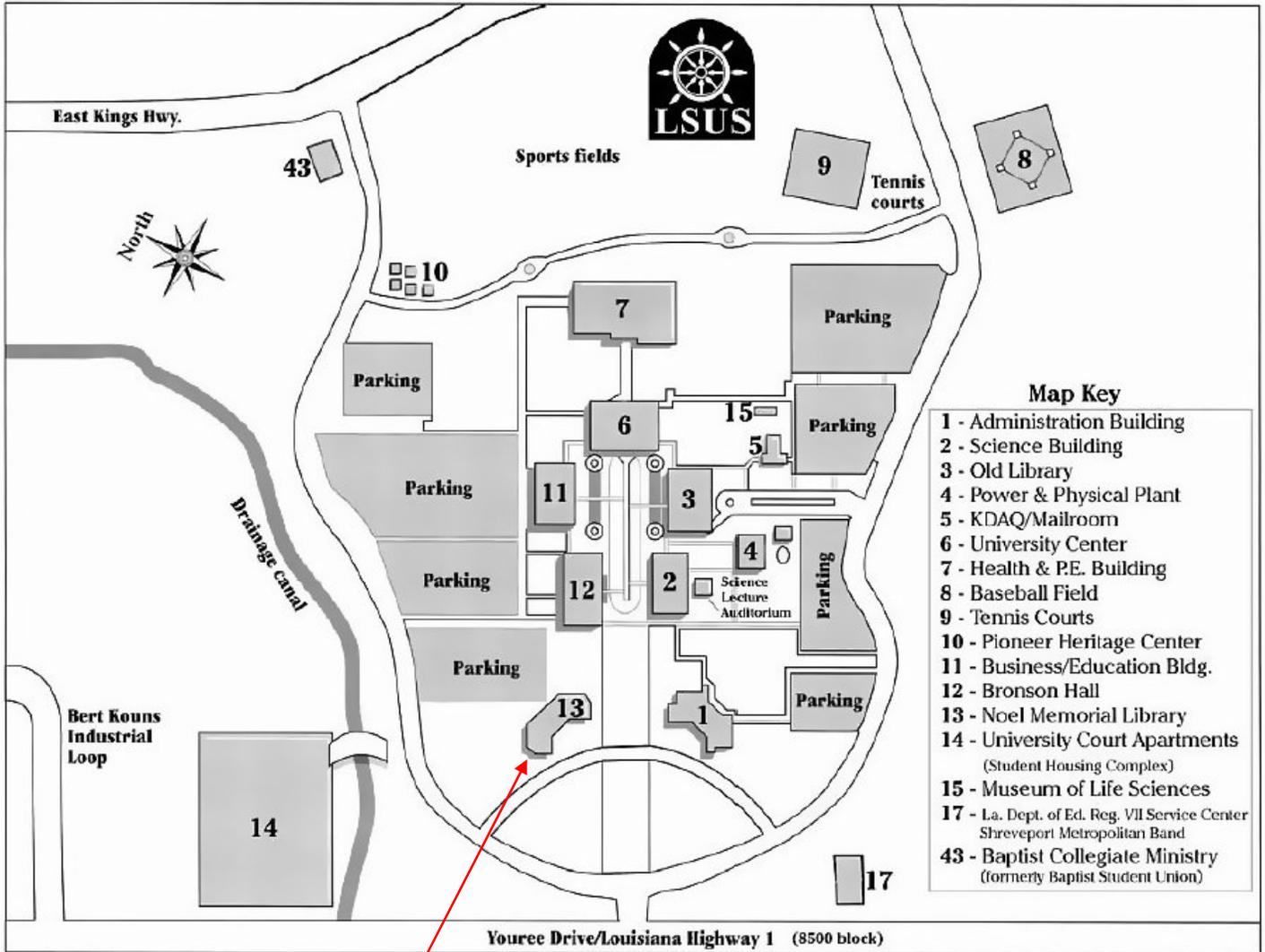
Go South until you come to a red light at Bert Kouns

Take a Left on to Bert Kouns

Go East until you get to Millicent Way

Take a Right at the Red Light

Stay on Millicent Way until you enter the University



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