



CINTACS

Cincinnati Section of the American Chemical Society

Celebrating Over 125 Years of Chemistry in Cincinnati!

Message from the Chair: Back to the roots - How did they do it?



Dear Friends and Colleagues

We had a wonderful first meeting of the year at Mount Saint Joseph University. Dr. John Layman, from Procter and Gamble, described research on dissolution recycling of polyolefins. It was refreshing to be able to socialize and learn together once again. The discussion after the presentation was as lively as ever and featured both in person and Zoom attendees.

Through COVID-19, we have witnessed how society has benefited from the latest techniques in medicine, chemistry, and many other disciplines. People purchase a lateral flow-assay in a drug store around the corner or queue up for a drive-thru polymerase chain reaction virus test. The public had a chance to hear that fighting the disease includes tools like PCR, sequencing of different strains of the virus, engineering the structure of the virus spike protein for better recognition by the immune system, and encoding these blueprints in mRNA vaccines. The regular pace of scientific publications was not able to keep up with the flood of new research, and news from pre-prints were even discussed in the mass-media.

Modern day chemists have an arsenal of multi-letter acronym, hyphenated high-tech instruments, tools, models, and supercomputers at their disposal. A tour de force like we just witnessed, and many other modern innovations would not be possible otherwise. And yet, sometimes, it is intriguing and beautiful to see much simpler techniques solving technical problems. Looking back in history, it is inspiring to see the minimalistic means the founders of our discipline used. Still, they defined the principles of chemistry, made ground-breaking discoveries, and invented technologies. The [ACS logo adopted in 1908](#) speaks to the roots of the discipline. It features Justus von Liebig's 1831 *Kaliapparat*, a device is used in elemental analysis. It captures and quantitatively determines the amount of carbon dioxide generated in the oxidation of an organic compound.

The Oesper Collections in the History of Chemistry is a new ACS National Historic Chemical Landmark. An event on March 15th will celebrate its dedication (see below for details). The collections of apparatuses, artifacts, books, prints, and photographs provide a view on the history of our subject. The event will include a presentation on "The Legacy of Professor Ralph E. Oesper" by Professor and curator William B. Jensen and remarks by 2022 ACS President Angela K. Wilson.



Peter Koenig, PhD
Chair of the Cincinnati Section of the ACS

ACS National Chemical Historical Landmark Dedication: Oesper Collection

The University of Cincinnati is hosting a dedication and celebration of the Oesper Collections in the History of Chemistry as an American Chemical Society National Historic Chemical Landmark.

The event takes place on Tuesday, March 15th in Room 502 of Rieveschl Hall at the University of Cincinnati from 7:00-9:00 pm. It will include a presentation on Ralph Oesper as well as an open house tour of the Oesper Museum, Rare Book, Journal, and Print Collections.


Please see the [invitation](#) by Dr. Anna Gudmundsdottir, Professor and Interim Head, Department of Chemistry. The event is open to the public and an [in-person RSVP](#) is requested for planning purposes. Please visit the Cincinnati ACS website for [Zoom registration](#).

The American Chemical Society and the University of Cincinnati Department of Chemistry
extend an invitation to attend a special event celebrating the designation of the

**OESPER COLLECTIONS IN THE HISTORY OF CHEMISTRY as a
ACS NATIONAL HISTORIC CHEMICAL LANDMARK**

Tuesday March 15, 2022 / 7:00 - 9:00 pm / 502 Rieveschl Hall, University of Cincinnati



Ralph Edward Oesper
(1886-1977)

PROGRAM

- *Opening & Greeting:*
Dr. Peter H. Koenig, Chair Cincinnati Section of ACS
- *Introduction of Honored Guests:*
Dr. Anna Gudmundsdottir, Chair UC Chemistry Department
- *"The Legacy of Ralph Oesper" & Acknowledgement of Coworkers:*
Dr. William B. Jensen, Oesper Professor Emeritus
- *Remarks:*
Dr. Angela K. Wilson, 2022 National ACS President
- *Presentation & Unveiling of the Commemorative Plaque:*
Dr. Diane Grob Schmidt, 2015 National ACS President
- *Closing Announcements:*
Dr. Bruce S. Ault, Distinguished Teaching Professor Emeritus

RSVP at www.surveymonkey.com/r/63BJC22

Refreshments Provided. Open House Tours of the Oesper Museum, Rare Book, Journal, and Print Collections. **Event open to the Public.**

Meeting: Celebration of the Cincinnati Chemical Technician and Chemist of the Year



Hold the date for our March 31st (date changed) meeting celebrating the chemical technician and chemist of the year. The event will take place at Miami University and will feature a presentation by the chemist of the year. The winners and further details for the event will be announced in early March.

Nominations for Excellence in Teaching Awards



Cincinnati Section of the American Chemical Society has an award for "Excellence in Teaching" honoring chemistry teachers in high school and science teachers in elementary and middle school. Do you have an outstanding teacher you would like to nominate? Please submit your nomination by March 16th. Click [here](#) for more details.

Learning Opportunity



Through the next months, ACS Career pathways is offering a range of workshops for early career chemists. Topics for [upcoming classes](#) include networking, interviewing, careers in industrial chemistry, and salary negotiation.

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- March 15 **Oesper Library National Chemical Landmark Dedication**
University of Cincinnati
- March 16 Nominations due: Excellence in Teaching Awards
- March 21 **Meeting: Chemist of the Year, Technician of the Year**
Miami University
- April 28 **Awards night**
Northern Kentucky University