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# The Minnesota Chemist

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Election Issue, October 2015

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## Greetings from the Chair

Dear Minnesota Chemists,

The election of 2016 candidates is underway. Below are the biographies and statements of the candidates that are running.

Paper ballots are being sent via mail. The paper ballot contains instructions on how to complete and submit the ballot.

Results of the election will be posted on the **NEW** MN ACS website (<http://mnacs.sites.acs.org/>) and published in the January 2016 edition of The Minnesota Chemist.

Dr. James Wollack  
Assistant Professor of Chemistry  
St. Catherine University  
MN ACS Chair



## Chair Elect

### Nicholas Schlotter

Biography: Nick is a native of Iowa and Minnesota. He earned his bachelor's degree at Carleton College (Magna cum Laude) in chemistry. Nick's graduate work was at Stanford University where he earned a master's degree in physics and a Ph.D. in chemistry. His graduate work investigated the vibrational spectroscopy of a constrained molecule in a molecular crystal (Raman at low temperature on tetraphenyl-group 14 compounds, C, Si) and the application of "diatomics-in-molecules" calculational methods to triatomic molecules. Following graduation from Stanford he was a "post-doc" at IBM in San Jose, CA where vibrational spectroscopy was used to look at polymer and molecular thin films. Later, he worked at Bell Labs (also Bellcore) on molecular films (spontaneous and Langmuir-Blodgett) related to electronic applications. Nick also has experience working in a small company (directing research on films for capacitors) and later as an independent consultant, and with his largest client, a medical device firm, he was involved in work on surface coatings for capacitor films. The thin film work, starting at IBM, was the foundation for the nanotechnology related topics that he is currently investigating at Hamline University, since 2000. (Superhydrophobic surfaces (and the intermolecular forces), CdSe quantum dots, Raman spectroscopy of molecular films, and graphene.) Nick has over 45

publications in journals and book chapters. Additional information can be found at:  
<http://www.hamline.edu/faculty-staff/nicholas-schlotter/>

Statement: I have been involved with the American Chemical Society since graduate school. While working in New Jersey I was the chair of a local section (Monmouth County ACS Chapter, New Jersey, 1991), then Executive committee member - 1994-97, and National Councilor - 1996-97. I have been a member of the Minnesota Section of the American Chemical Society since 1997.

I look forward to taking a more active role in our local section and hope to encourage more chemists to participate in the local section as well.



## Secretary

### **Natalie Olvera**

Natalie Olvera has recently joined the Analytical Department at H.B. Fuller as a Scientist III, specializing in GC-MS and LC-MS. She previously worked at the Masonic Cancer Center Mass Spectrometry facility. Natalie holds a Bachelors in Chemistry from the University of Minnesota. She is also a member of the Minnesota Mass Spectrometry Discussion group and frequently volunteers at Friends School of Minnesota. She joined the MN ACS this year and is eager to contribute to the local chapter as secretary.

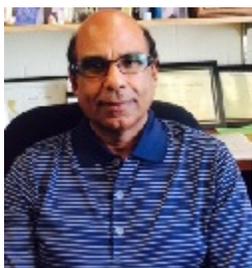


## Councilor

### **Marilyn Duerst**

Marilyn D. Duerst, retired as of May 2015 from her position as Distinguished Lecturer in Chemistry from UW-River Falls, where she taught courses for science, non-science, and education majors since 1981, advised the "Chem Demons" student outreach demonstration group, and secured two major NSF teacher enhancement grants involving ~250 teachers in 35 school districts, lasting 8 years.

As a Councilor, I have thoroughly enjoyed my work on the national Committee on Community Affairs (CCA), and served on National Chemistry Week (NCW) theme teams for 8 years, including 2011, the International Year of Chemistry. Beginning in 2014 I have been co-chair of the Program Promotion and Development subcommittee (PPD) of the CCA, and as such oversee NCW work through 2017. This year (2015) as the national theme team Chair for "Chemistry Colors Our World", I helped brainstorm ideas for articles, activities and a vision for the center-spread graphics for the NCW publication, which will be used in NCW outreach activities across the nation and abroad. I wish to continue this important outreach work and my involvement in the national governance of the ACS.



## Councilor

### **Ramesh Kumar**

Academic Record: Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry, Panjab University, Chandigarh (India), 1978; Ph.D. in Fluorine Chemistry with Dr. Jean'ne Shreeve, University of Idaho, 1981.

Professional Employment: 2015 American Chemical Society Fellow. A member of prestigious 3M Carlton Society (In the 113-year history of 3M, there have only been 179 scientists and engineers appointed to this group). 3M Corporate Scientist, highest technical position at 3M (2010 – present), Senior Division Scientist (2004 – 2010), Division Scientist (2000 – 2004), Senior Chemical Specialist (1994 - 2000), Research Specialist (1989 - 94),

Senior Research Chemist (1987 - 89), Materials Resource Division, 3M. Assistant Professor of Chemistry (1981- 87), Baldwin-Wallace University, Berea, Ohio.

Technical Contributions: My technical expertise is in the area of low surface energy materials used for Low Adhesion Backsizes for tapes and release liners. My contributions encompass silicone, hydrocarbon, and aqueous-based chemistries. The families of materials which I have developed provide unique differentiation to a large number of 3M's iconic pressure sensitive adhesive-based product platforms. Author of 52 issued patents protecting these contributions and published 27 journal articles.

Volunteer Service to the ACS Community:

Committee on patents and related matters+subcommittees (2012 – present), Local MN – ACS Awards Chair (2012 – present), Councilor and Alternate Councilor (2002 – present), MN- ACS nomination committee and Chair, MN –ACS student affiliate and student mentor (1997 – present), MN-ACS Chair, MN –ACS Executive Committee (1998- 2014).

As a councilor, I have been a strong advocate of council involvement in issues that matter most to our local section by participating in local as well as national ACS meetings. What matters most in our section is the interaction with communities in general and not just the “community involved in chemical enterprise”. This can be achieved by organizing technical talks that are of public interest. In 2013, I was able to invite a speaker in our regular local ACS meeting to give a talk on Practical Green Chemistry which was very well attended. Going forward I will continue to emphasize on emerging “Green Chemistry” field by inviting relevant speakers in our local ACS meeting. I will definitely stand for the positive things chemistry has done while honestly and openly accepting the negatives. I will continue to support and strengthen our public outreach programs (National Chemistry Week, Kids in Chemistry and the Chemistry Olympiad) to the public at large and attract best and brightest young scholars to chemistry and its related fields. I am in support of and already working (as is evident from organizing two mini-symposium in emerging technologies) on increased networking of Minnesota chemists from industry, academia and government to build a solid foundation for maintaining and building technical expertise within the state. The networking activity seems to be very useful for chemists who are looking for an employment in our region. I will participate and support in executing our local section's goals to serve key stakeholders (our section members, National ACS, local companies that employ chemists, undergraduate and graduate students) of our section. Also, I fully support investing in R&D related to sustainable materials.

Finally, I would be honored to continue to represent 2500 member Minnesota section at the National level.

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If you have content for The Minnesota Chemist, please send it to Becky Guza, Editor ([becky.guza@hbfuller.com](mailto:becky.guza@hbfuller.com))

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