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OCACS Elements

The Orange County Local Section wants to hear from you. If you would like more information about our section or how you or your company can contribute to our Section's efforts, please visit our website or contact us at OCACSChair@gmail.com.

Visit our Website



OCACS Executive Committee Update

The OCACS Executive Committee is meeting this Thursday night - February 8 - by phone. If you would like to participate, please E-mail Dr. Sandra Thompson ASAP at OCACSChair@gmail.com.

We will be reviewing February's activities, discussing upcoming events being planned by the Education Committee, and continuing to work on 2018 initiatives.

We are also pleased to announce that another Southern California local section is having a ["Sweet Wine Chemistry"](#) event on Friday, February 16.

We are going to be working on a set of questions for our 2018 California candidates that specifically target their views and votes on scientific issues. Our goal is to get all of the candidates on our California and Orange County ballot on the record, so that we can release a non-partisan science "checklist" to our section members in early October. We need people who want to do online research, candidate outreach, and data consolidation and analysis. The expected time commitment per person is 1-3 hours/month, depending on how active you want to be. The larger the committee, the more candidates we can get on the

record. If you want to join the team this year to work on this important survey/project, contact Dr. Sandra Thompson at OCACSCChair@gmail.com.

The content deadline for the March Newsletter is March 2.

Dr. Marcia J. Abbott will be our February Dinner Meeting speaker on February 15. Her talk entitled "Interleukin-15 As A Mediator of Skeletal Muscle Metabolism" will be given after dinner, which starts at 6:00 PM. If you want to attend the presentation only and not have dinner, you can join us for free. Please RSVP however, so that we can ensure we have adequate seating.



Recently it is proposed that alterations in the intracellular environment, in SKM cells, are the culprit for loss of SKM function. In this regard, studies have been launched to examine molecular contributors to the "quality" of SKM. Substantial evidence implicates mitochondrial activity as playing a primary role in maintaining SKM function. Therefore, it is essential to examine modulators of SKM mitochondrial function. SKM has been identified as an endocrine organ with the ability to secrete factors, termed "myokines," to exert beneficial metabolic effects on systemic tissues and on surrounding SKM cells. Indeed, many myokines have been identified and proven to play major roles in promoting mitochondrial processes in SKM cells. One myokine, interleukin-15 (IL-15), shows promise as a potential mediator of SKM function and mitochondrial activity. Although IL-15 has been strongly linked to SKM function, the mechanism by which it exerts its beneficial actions remains elusive.

Dr. Marcia Abbott completed her doctoral work at the University of Southern California (USC) in Los Angeles, CA in the Integrative and Evolutionary Biology Graduate Program. Dr. Abbott's research focused on the role of exercise and skeletal muscle contraction on fatty acid metabolism. Following graduation Dr. Abbott joined the Sul Lab at the University of California (UC), Berkeley in the Department of Nutritional Sciences and Toxicology, as a post-doctoral fellow. While at UC Berkeley, she carried out studies aimed at examining to role of lipases in regulation of obesity and insulin secretion. Following her time as at UC Berkeley, Dr. Abbott accepted a position as a Research Scholar in the Endocrine Research Unit, VA Medical Center, UC San Francisco. Her work at UCSF focused on the examination of potential regulators of mesenchymal stem cell commitment towards adipocyte lineages. In 2014, Dr. Abbott joined Chapman University in the Crean College of Health and Behavioral Sciences as an Assistant Professor. She is pursuing studies aimed at examining the role of skeletal muscle and its relation to obesity. Overall, Dr. Abbott hopes to contribute to the growing body of research aimed at preventing and/or treating obesity.

Please contact us as soon as possible to make a reservation to attend this presentation, but no later than noon on Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at ocacs@sbcglobal.net.

OCACS High School Chemistry Teacher of the Year Award - Submission Deadline - EXTENDED

The Orange County section of the American Chemical Society (OCACS) has initiated an [award for Chemistry Teacher of the Year](#), to be awarded for the second time in 2018.

The Orange County Chemistry Teacher for 2017 was Kelli Gaines of Trabuco Hills High School.



All nominees must be full-time teachers in Orange County at

either a public or private high school. It is not necessary to be a member of ACS to be eligible. Nominations may be submitted by teachers and administrators at High Schools in Orange County, CA (i.e. teachers may nominate their colleagues).

1. To nominate a high school chemistry teacher, select the Nominator button below, fill out the [Nomination form](#) and click Submit. The deadline for submission is midnight, **February 14, 2018**.
2. Nominees who have been officially advised by email from OCACS that they have been nominated for this Award should select the Nominee button below. Initial screening questions must all be answered and submitted online before midnight, February 4th, 2018.

All submissions will be screened by members of the OCACS Education Committee, and further information will be sought from finalists in order for us to make a final determination.

The award will be presented at the high school awards dinner in May, 2018. The winning candidate will be given a plaque, a year's membership in the American Association of Chemistry Teachers (AACT), and \$300.

If you have any questions about this award, please contact [Carol Grimes](mailto:cgrimes@gwc.cccd.edu) at cgrimes@gwc.cccd.edu



Don't miss our upcoming events and meetings and for more information, please visit our [website](#).

February 8: OCACS Executive Committee Meeting

February 14: Teacher of the Year Deadline

February 15: Dinner Meeting

February 16: ["Sweet Wine Chemistry"](#) Event

March 2: Newsletter Content Deadline

March 22: Environmental Committee Meeting

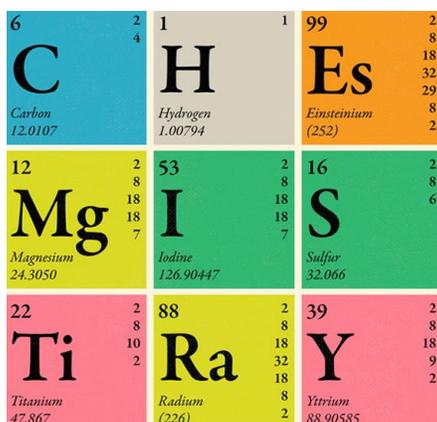
Environmental Committee

We had our first environmental committee meeting on January 25, 2018. Dr. Stephen Lyon gave an excellent presentation on his experience on constructed wetlands for the treatment of stormwater and wastewater, including the recent development on "floating wetlands" and "mobile wetlands".

Our next meeting will be held on March 22, 2018. The meeting will start at 7:30 pm at Kennedy/Jenks Consultants' Irvine Office (Note: New Location, TBA). Our speaker will be **Dr. Megan Plumlee, Director of Research at Orange County Water District**. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us for Dr. Plumlee's presentation.

If you want information about our Environmental Committee, please contact:





Get Involved & Support OCACS

If you want to network with over 1300 chemists in Orange County, host a technical tour, speak at one of our dinner meetings or science cafes, explore leadership opportunities, or advertise with our Section, please visit our [website](#) or E-mail us at OCACSLocalSection@gmail.com and OCACSChair@gmail.com.

We would love to hear from you!

OCACS Executive Committee

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