New scholarship available for cannabis chemistry

The Cannabis Chemistry Subdivision of the ACS's Division of Chemical Health & Safety has established the Cannabis Chemistry Subdivision Scholarship for Excellence to recognize contributions to the field of cannabis chemistry.

The scholarship is sponsored by Heidolph North America and will be awarded twice a year. The program is open to students, faculty, research staff, and industry professionals. Recipients will receive between $500 and $1,500 in travel funds to present their work at a symposium during the fall ACS national meeting.

“This scholarship will serve as a beacon and support for good science happening in the cannabis field around the world,” says Ezra Pryor, chair and cofounder of the Cannabis Chemistry Subdivision.

To apply for a scholarship, submit a résumé or curriculum vitae, along with an abstract of the work to be presented at the ACS national meeting, to Pryor at Ezra.pryor@gmail.com by March 30.—LINDA WANG

ACS Program-in-a-Box highlights sports chemistry

On Feb. 21, more than 200 groups from around the world, including ACS student chapters, local sections, and chemistry clubs, held watch parties as part of ACS's Program-in-a-Box live event featuring the chemistry of sports.

During the hour-long broadcast, attendees learned about the impact of chemistry on sports via video segments featuring subject matter experts. Attendees also participated in sports chemistry trivia and interacted on social media using the hashtag #acspib.

Claire Ortiz, founder and chief executive officer of Ortiz Industry, and Norman Wagner, chair of chemical engineering at the University of Delaware and founder of STF Technologies, took questions from the audience. Ortiz then shared how her company collaborated with Dow Chemical to design smart clothing that integrates body-monitoring sensors into textiles using conductive inks. And Wagner discussed the potential for the use of shear thickening fluids to make better protective equipment for athletes.

David Cowan and Liying Jiang of the Kings College of London’s Drug Control Centre described how analytical chemists maintain a level playing field for athletes through drug testing for the World Anti-Doping Agency.

The program is archived and available at goo.gl/8qqu4x.

The next Program-in-a-Box will take place on Oct. 24 and will highlight the chemistry of rocks and minerals, which ties in with this year’s National Chemistry Week theme. For more information, visit www.acs.org/pib.—RUSSELL SILBER, ACS STAFF

ACS to show short documentaries at SXSW

The American Chemical Society will be at the upcoming South by Southwest (SXSW) Conference & Festivals in Austin, Texas, in March.

ACS will have a booth in the expo hall and will be featuring three short-form documentaries telling the story of chemists and interdisciplinary teams working in environments including academia, start-ups, and big corporate research labs and how the work they are doing is improving safety, health, and the environment. The films aim to illustrate the importance of chemistry in innovation, and the cross-collaboration and inter-disciplinary nature of scientific endeavors today.

ACS will be premiering the videos on its new community engagement platform, the ACS Xchange, which is open to the public and offers tools such as one-click video conferencing, in-line commenting, and live event platforms. Sign up for the ACS Xchange at chemistry.breezio.com. The films will be available for viewing on the Xchange after March 12.—AMELIA GRANA, ACS STAFF

Announcements of ACS news can be sent to acsnews.cen@acs.org.