DEAR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE ILLINOIS HEARTLAND LOCAL ACS SECTION:

I would like to take this opportunity to greet all of the local ACS membership. It has been an honor to serve as the Chair for the Illinois Heartland Section of the ACS for the past year and to continue as the Past-Chair for 2013. The greatest perk of this position has been the opportunity to visit many locations within the local section and meet so many of the welcoming people who make up our local section.

As a part of my duties as Chair of the local section, it has been my pleasure to attend a series of seminars from chemists from our own section. During the spring of 2012, Dr. Melinda Baur (Illinois Wesleyan University), Dr. Edward Remsen (Bradley University), Dr. Jun-Hyun Kim (Illinois State University) and Dr. Helen Hoyt (Knox College) all presented seminars. What was particularly interesting about this group was they are all Assistant Professors. They have a variety of backgrounds and experiences and it was a pleasure to hear about the directions their work is taking them in. Dr. Lisa Szczechura also presented a seminar in the spring in association with her being awarded the Local Section Chemist of the Year. An equally interesting group presented in the Fall, John Goodell (Illinois State University), Mark Berhow (NCAUR), and Lena Yurs (Illinois Central College). The interests presented were diverse and fascinating. Chemistry is alive and vibrant in our Section!

Last but certainly not least, a special thank you to all of the local section members who donate so much time...
and energy to raising the profile of chemistry/chemists in our section, state and beyond. I will not try to acknowledge all those who commit time in this venue because in doing so I will miss discussing the efforts of so many others. The cumulated efforts of all of the volunteers is humbling and inspiring to behold. It is through your volunteer efforts that the central nature of our science will become how society views our profession. I would like each of you to know that your efforts are first of all noticed, and secondly, that they are appreciated. (“It’s the action, not the fruit of the action, that’s important. You have to do the right thing. It may not be in your power, may not be in your time that there’ll be any fruit. But that doesn’t mean you stop doing the right thing. You may never know what results come from your action. But if you do nothing, there will be no result.” – Mahatma Gandhi)

You my friends, are doing the right thing! Thank you for making our local section so strong!

Richard Nagorski
Illinois State University

FEBRUARY 19
Dr. Teresa Tarbuck
Visiting Assistant Professor of Chemistry, Bradley University
“Illuminating Surface Properties with Molecular Spectroscopy”
Location
7:30 PM
245 Olin Hall
Bradley University

APRIL 16
Dr. Cary Supalo
Assistant Professor of Chemistry Education, Illinois State University
TITLE TBA
Location
7:30 PM
121 Science Laboratory Building
Illinois State University

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
American Chemical Society
Illinois Heartland Section

Announces the presentation of the

2012 Chemist of the Year Award to
Gregory Cote
National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research

“I Never Met A Carbohydrate I Didn’t Like”

Also to be honored
2012 Collegiate Scholars
Neil Baldwin (IWU), Nhi N. Bui (Knox), Jordan Hinman (Bradley), Joshua Hinman (Bradley), Brandon Nelson (ISU), Wade Wilson (ISU)

Tuesday, March 5, 2013
Banquet and Seminar
Riverfront Gateway Building, Peoria, IL

Schedule
5:30 pm Cocktail Hour (cash bar)
6:30 pm Dinner
8:00 pm Seminar

Dinner $25/person ($15 for students) payable at the door
RSVP to Rick Nagorski by February 28, 2013
(309) 438-8978, rnagor@ilstu.edu (preferred)

With choice of menu item:
Chicken Breast with Plum and Dijon Sauce, BBQ Beef Brisket,
Baked Fish with Sweet Chili Sauce, or Vegetarian Option
Local Section Boasts Two National Earth Day Poetry Contest Winners!

The Local Section is proud to have two national winners in the Chemists Celebrate Earth Day (CCED) 2012 National Illustrated Poem Contest. **Anna Rosenberger**, a 7th grader at Rolling Acres Academy, was the first place winner of the 6th-8th grade category. **Nidhi Suthar**, a 10th grader at Dunlap High School, was the second place winner of the in the 9th-12th grade category. Thanks to Susan McCormick (NCAUR) for organizing the contest. **See Page 8 for details about the 2013 contest**

![Anna Rosenberger's artwork](image1)

**Anna Rosenberger**, First place in the 6th-8th grade category.

![Nidhi Suthar's artwork](image2)

**Nidhi Suthar**, Second place in the 9th-12th grade category.
Don't pollute the Earth. So pick up some cans, all you need to do is use your hands you get a penny every can you pick up. Don't pollute the Earth and speak up.

Sunsets add color to our sky. Pollution needs to be waved, good-bye. It's easy not to waste. This issue must be faced.

Go Green
Recycle, recycle, we can reuse it, from our head to our toes. We can reduce it, collect all that trash, stop running out all that gas, polluted air is not good for the babies. Recycle, recycle, it is amazing.

Reduce, reuse, recycle
Authors: Myra and Anna Childs
Illustrator: Myra Kinnon Childs
SUPER GREEN KIDS!

Page title:

On this beautiful planet.

There are two who strive to stop the evil forces

Of littering.

Day and night they strive

To save the world.

But you don't have

To be a superhero

To be super green!

"Recycle!"

A Tree Drama

Eating green can be a dance.

Trees take in carbon dioxide and release oxygen.

It helps them breathe. Without the trees

For some there is no chance at all.

I love the earth green as green, when

I am mean, so let the earth be clean

or I'll be very mean.

Keep the air fresh,

And clean up your mess.

And recycle, recycle, recycle.

It is very easy.

And it will keep the skies blue,

So recycle, recycle, recycle.

Keep the air fresh,

And clean up your mess.

And recycle, recycle, recycle.

It is very easy.

And it will keep the skies blue,

So recycle, recycle, recycle.
A Call to Reclaim

To protect what beauty remains
We must clean the human stain.
If we cease the abuse
And respect what we use.
This earth is still ours to reclaim.

One Little Action
(Four Verses)

Recycling
Value the gifts of our planet,
A little change can make a huge difference.
Something that is junk can become valuable again.

Recycling saves natural resources.
Makes the world a better place.
One little action can change the universe.

I compost my food to break it all down.
If you GO GREEN, I will not frown!
In goes my dog’s poop,
My garden needs just one scoop.
All this recycling makes me dance like a clown.

You should recycle
Recycling helps the earth.
So please recycle.
The Illinois Heartland Section of the American Chemical Society (ACS) is sponsoring an illustrated poem contest for students in Kindergarten - 12th grade.

Prizes will be awarded!

Contact: Susan McCormick (Susan.McCormick@ARS.USDA.GOV)

Winners of the Illinois Heartland illustrated poem contest will advance to the ACS National Illustrated Poem Contest!

Write and illustrate a poem using the CCED theme, “Our Earth: Handle with Care!”
Your poem must be no more than 40 words, and in the following styles to be considered:

- Haiku
- Limerick
- Ode
- ABC Poem
- Free Verse
- End Rhyme
- Blank Verse

Possible topics related to Chemists Celebrate Earth Day include:
- Green chemistry and sustainability
- Recycling aluminum, glass, paper, and plastic
- Clean air, carbon footprint, and fuel emissions
- Plant, photosynthesis, and composting
- Water conservation and purification
- Any other relevant topics

Entries will be judged based upon:
- Relevance to and incorporation of the theme
- Word choice and imagery
- Colorful artwork
- Adherence to poem style
- Originality and creativity
- Overall presentation

Contest Rules:
- Poems must conform to a particular style. No poem may be longer than 40 words.
- The topic of the poem and the illustration must be related to the CCED 2013 theme, “Our Earth: Handle with Care!”
- All entries must be original works without aid from others.
- Each poem must be submitted and illustrated on an unlined sheet of paper (of any type) not larger than 11” x 14”. The illustration must be created by hand using crayons, watercolors, other types of paint, colored pencils or markers. The text of the poem should be easy to read and may be printed with a computer, before the hand-drawn illustration is added, or the poem may be written on lined paper which is cut out and pasted onto the unlined paper with the illustration.
- Only one entry per student will be accepted.
- All entries must include an entry form.
- All illustrated poems and/or digital representations of the poems will become the property of the American Chemical Society.
- Acceptance of prizes constitutes consent to use winners’ names, likenesses and entries for editorial, advertising and publicity purposes.
Our bodies defend themselves in many different ways to prevent us from getting sick. One way our noses keep allergens like pollen, spores, and dust out of our lungs is with a sticky, slimy substance called mucus. When you breathe in through your nose, allergens like pollen and dust get stuck in the mucus and become trapped. In this activity, you will make a slimy substance very similar to mucus, and sprinkle it with glitter to imitate the way that allergens are trapped.

**Materials**
- Measuring spoons (1/2 teaspoon and teaspoon)
- Zip-closing bag (snack size)
- Water
- Clear gel glue
- Food coloring
- Measuring cup (1/4 cup)
- Marking pen
- Disposable plastic cup (3 oz.)
- Disposable plastic spoon
- Borax
- Glitter
- Metric ruler

**Procedure**

### Making Slime

1. Pour 2 teaspoons of water and 1 teaspoon of clear gel glue into a zip-closing bag.

2. Seal the bag completely. Squeeze the bag between your fingers until the contents are thoroughly mixed.

3. Open the bag and add two drops of food coloring.

4. Repeat step 2.

5. Use the marking pen to label the cup “borax solution”.

6. Pour 1/4 cup of water into the plastic cup.

7. Make a borax solution by adding 1/2 teaspoon of borax to the water in the cup and stirring with the plastic spoon until most of the borax dissolves.

8. Open the zip-closing bag and add 1 teaspoon of the borax solution to the glue mixture.

9. Repeat step 2.

10. Open the bag and remove the slime. How does it feel? Roll the slime into a ball and measure the distance in centimeters (or inches) from one side of the ball to the other (width). Write your answers in the “What Did You Observe?” section.

11. Stretch your ball of slime as far as you can and measure its length in centimeters (or inches). Write your answer in the “What Did You Observe?” section.
Trapping “Allergens”
(NOTE: First two steps are not necessary if glitter glue was used.)

1. Put all of the slime back in the zip-closing bag and add 1/4 teaspoon of glitter.

2. Repeat step 2 from the section above.

3. Open the bag. Remove and examine the contents. Does the glitter stick to the slime? Write your answer in the “What Did You Observe?” section.

4. Pour any extra borax solution down the drain, and throw away the rest of the materials. Do not try to pour the slime down the drain. Throw it in the trash instead. Thoroughly clean the work area and wash your hands.

NOTE: Glitter slime should be stored in an airtight container to prevent it from hardening. Hardened glitter slime can be washed out of clothing or carpet with warm soapy water.

Where’s the Chemistry?

The glue and water mixture contains long chains of a polymer called polyvinyl acetate. When you add the borax solution, it links the long polymer chains together, changing the liquid into a slimy glob. When you add the glitter to the slime, it stays there and does not easily come back out.

The slime is like mucus that we find in our bodies. Our natural mucus contains sugars and proteins, which are also polymers. Mucus protects many other parts of your body. The inside of your stomach is completely coated with it. If there were no mucus to protect your stomach, the powerful acids used to digest your food would digest your stomach too.
What Did You Observe?

Describe how the slime feels:

- Width of ball of slime ________________ cm
- Length of stretched slime ______________ cm

Does the glitter stick to the slime?
The American Chemical Society develops materials for elementary school age children to spark their interest in science and teach developmentally appropriate chemistry concepts. The Activities for Children collection includes hands-on activities, articles, puzzles, and games on topics related to children’s everyday experiences.

The collection can be used to supplement the science curriculum, celebrate National Chemistry Week, develop Chemists Celebrate Earth Day events, invite children to give science a try at a large event, or to explore just for fun at home.

Find more activities, articles, puzzles and games at www.acs.org/kids.

Safety Tips

This activity is intended for elementary school children under the direct supervision of an adult. The American Chemical Society cannot be responsible for any accidents or injuries that may result from conducting the activities without proper supervision, from not specifically following directions, or from ignoring the cautions contained in the text.

Always:

- Work with an adult.
- Read and follow all directions for the activity.
- Read all warning labels on all materials being used.
- Wear eye protection.
- Follow safety warnings or precautions, such as wearing gloves or tying back long hair.
- Use all materials carefully, following the directions given.
- Be sure to clean up and dispose of materials properly when you are finished with an activity.
- Wash your hands well after every activity.

Never eat or drink while conducting an experiment, and be careful to keep all of the materials used away from your mouth, nose, and eyes!

Never experiment on your own!

For more detailed information on safety go to www.acs.org/education and click on “Safety Guidelines”.
The Illinois Heartland ACS connects chemistry to the community! We are committed to building bridges with community partners to leverage scarce resources and maximize service to members and the community.

We are the ACS!

The Illinois Heartland American Chemical Society has 240 chemists, chemical engineers, and educators in a 10 county area in central Illinois, including Peoria, Bloomington-Normal, Henry, Jacksonville and Galesburg. We are the local chapter of the world’s largest volunteer, professional organization, the American Chemical Society (ACS). We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. We invest in our local community by providing science education opportunities through seminars, meetings, workshops, summer internships, competitions, special activities, and partnerships with other non-profit, volunteer or professional organizations. Almost all events are free and open to the public.

Our Vision

The Illinois Heartland American Chemical Society is building a sustainable, high achievement organization of networked, caring professionals following a shared vision. The Illinois Heartland ACS is recognized and respected as an effective advocate for the chemical sciences and provides outstanding service to its members. Illinois Heartland ACS members are committed, informed, and effective leaders. Illinois Heartland ACS education programs enhance knowledge by generating, sharing and making information available to the community. Illinois Heartland ACS is a sought-after source of knowledge and objective information by researchers, educators, and the public.

Illinois Heartland ACS 2012 Officers

Thank you for your service!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chair</th>
<th>Dr. Richard Nagorski</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Illinois State University</td>
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<td>Chair-Elect</td>
<td>Dr. Derek Behmke</td>
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