

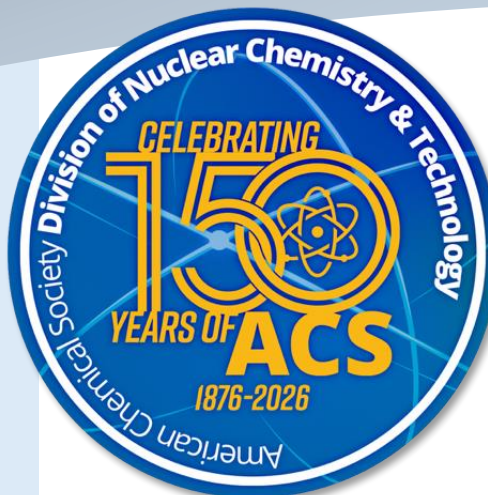


# NEWSLETTER

Division of Nuclear Chemistry and Technology

American Chemical Society

Apr-  
2026



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**Deborah PENCHOFF** (Spring)

**Sarah FINKELDEI** (Fall)

#### FROM THE CHAIR

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NORM

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JOB POSTINGS

## FROM THE CHAIR

The Spring 2026 ACS National Meeting was an exciting and energizing experience, and it was a pleasure to connect with so many familiar colleagues as well as new faces. Each day featured outstanding scientific talks and meaningful opportunities to build connections within and across our membership.

During the meeting, we celebrated several notable achievements within NUCL. **[Lynn Francesconi was recognized for receiving the 2024 Kinard Award](#)**, presented by the Division of Nuclear Science and Technology, and **[Henry VanBrocklin was honored with the 2026 G. T. Seaborg Award in Nuclear Chemistry](#)**—an ACS National Award sponsored by NUCL—during divisional symposia. We also paid tribute to Professor G. K. Schweitzer with a dedicated symposium recognizing his many contributions to the field.

One highlight of the meeting was the Young Investigators Symposium, where we introduced a new “Hot Seat” segment. This interactive format allowed attendees to get to know four scientists at different levels in their careers and learn about their journeys to their current positions. The session generated a great deal of positive feedback, and we hope to build on this success in future meetings. In addition, the HIPPO group hosted a lunch and meetup for those interested in radioisotope production, providing another valuable venue for discussion and networking.



As the NUCL representative, I had the honor of attending the ACS Awards Banquet on Tuesday evening to present Henry VanBrocklin with his award and to celebrate alongside the other 2026 ACS National Award recipients. During the ceremony, 2026 ACS President Rigoberto Hernández noted that Glenn T. Seaborg served as the 100th President of the ACS and that Henry received the G. T. Seaborg Award in Nuclear Chemistry during the Society's 150th anniversary year. Adding to this meaningful connection, Henry shared that he had met Seaborg earlier in his career and wore a Seaborgium pin while accepting the award.

The NUCL symposia I attended were exceptionally well received, with several sessions exceeding room capacity. It was especially encouraging to see trainees and principal investigators actively engaging with speakers through thoughtful questions and discussion. Sustaining this level of participation and enthusiasm is a key goal for NUCL moving forward.

Approximately 19 trainees received travel support to attend the Spring ACS meeting through funding provided by the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science for Isotope R&D and Production. I would like to extend a sincere thank you to Cathy Cutler and Daniel Felton for coordinating the disbursement of these funds. This generous support enabled many students to attend the meeting and fully participate in the activities offered by NUCL and ACS.

I look forward to the many NUCL activities planned in the months ahead and wish everyone success as they conclude the current academic term, begin the next quarter, or mark whichever milestones define their year. I hope to see many of you at the [Fall 2026 ACS National Meeting in Chicago this August](#).

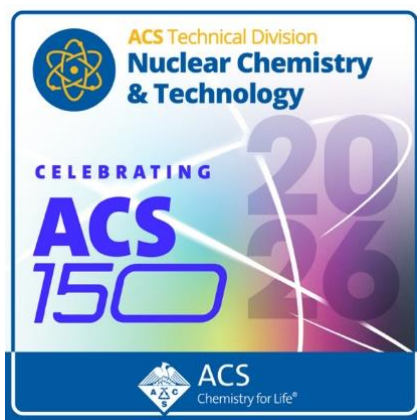
- *Dustin Demoin*



The presentation of the 2026 Glenn T. Seaborg Award for Nuclear Chemistry at the 2026 ACS National Awards ceremony during the spring meeting. From left to right, Rigoberto Hernández (2026 ACS President), Henry VanBrocklin (Awardee), and Dustin Demoin (representative of the award sponsor: NUCL Division). Read more about Henry [here](#).

Photo credit EPNAC

## ACS SPRING COUNCILOR'S MEETING



As ACS celebrates its 150th anniversary in 2026, the Society reports a strong financial position, ending 2025 with a net contribution from operations of \$50.7 million. This milestone year includes a global "[JACS150](#)" symposium series and a virtual anniversary party held on April 6, 2026. Significant governance shifts are also proposed, notably a petition to rename the Committee on Budget and Finance to the Committee on Fiscal Affairs to enhance its focus on governance engagement. At the same time, a new Board Finance Committee handles enterprise-level planning. Recent Council actions also included the establishment of the Committee on the [Advancement of LGBTQ+ Chemists](#) and the realignment of the Committee on Publications.

In leadership news, the Council selected the following nominees for the 2027 President-Elect: Lisa McElwee-White (U. of Florida) and Laura Sremaniak (NC State U). They will both be campaigning at the Fall ACS National Meeting and throughout the remainder of the year. Upcoming national meetings will tackle emerging technological and societal themes.

The Fall 2026 meeting in Chicago will pivot toward the next 150 years of the Society, supported by a long-term membership goal to reach 150,000 members and affiliates. The 2027 ACS President, Christina Bodurow, is also planning high impact

additions to the 2027 National meetings including: Medicine, Energy, and Space. Look for those to be topics during Presidential Events in 2027.

If you have any questions, suggestions, or concerns about ACS Governance, please do not hesitate to contact your councilors. We will do our best to be your voice.

- *Nathalie Wall (Matt Gott & Ivis Chaple)*

## SEABORG AWARD NEEDS YOU!

### Help Us Build the Endowed Seaborg Award Fund

The NUCL Division is launching an important initiative to establish a **self-sustaining, permanently endowed Seaborg Award**—and we need your help to reach our fundraising goal of **\$200,000**. Your support ensures that the Glenn T. Seaborg Award continues to recognize outstanding contributions in nuclear and radiochemistry for generations to come. Any contribution is greatly appreciated—whether through a direct donation or by **connecting us with sponsors or requesting sponsorships on our behalf**. Thank you for your support. If you have questions or need help, **reach out**.

### How to Donate:

You (or the sponsor you connect us with) can make a tax-deductible contribution online at (no amount is too small):

👉 <https://www.nucl-acs.org/donate/>

When donating online, **please enter “Seaborg Award” in the Specific Initiative box**, and include the **name or company** you would like listed on our Donors Page.

### Prefer to donate by check?

We still gladly accept checks made out to the NUCL Division (contact [treasurer@nucl-acs.org](mailto:treasurer@nucl-acs.org) for more information).

And remember—**anyone can donate**, whether supporting the Seaborg Award specifically or contributing to **any general or targeted initiative** within the division (e.g., conference travel awards, poster awards, outstanding oral presentation awards). Your generosity moves us closer to securing the future of one of the Division’s most important ACS National Awards. Thank you for helping us preserve Seaborg’s legacy.



Group picture from Henry VanBrocklin’s celebratory dinner during the 2026 spring meeting for his 2026 Glenn T. Seaborg Award for Nuclear Chemistry

Photo Submitted by Henry VanBrocklin

## DIVISION PROJECT GRANTS

### Submission

### Deadlines

For the Fall cycle:

- **July 15**

The ACS Divisional Activities Committee (DAC) funds new Division projects through Innovative Project Grants (IPGs), Strategic Project Grants (SPGs), Translational Project Grants (TPGs), and Communication Improvement Grants (CIGs). This program encourages the creation of projects that will serve Division members, encourage strategic planning for future division success, and foster collaborative projects among divisions and other governance groups. This program also seeks to broaden successful innovations

from one Division to others.

Applications are accepted biannually. These awards have various, maximum dollar amounts depending on the number of divisions jointly submitting a proposal. All IPG projects must be completed within two years. Divisions are allowed to have only two applications open at any one time. Proposals submitted between July and February will be reviewed at the Spring ACS National Meeting and proposals submitted between February and July will be considered during the Fall review cycle. Maximum funding for a division is \$12,500 for the calendar year.

NUCL has been successful in attaining funding through DAC for projects, but has been doing this without working with other divisions, which we are interested in doing:

- ✓ Improving the NUCL division website (Annie Kersting, 2024),
- ✓ Attaining additional support for local & regional meetings celebrating NUCL topics and the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the division (Donivan Porterfield, 2025), and
- ✓ Creating promotional items and gifts for donors to get funds for the Endowment of the Glenn T. Seaborg Award for Nuclear Chemistry (Tyler Spano and Dustin Demoin, 2026).

***If you have ideas, please contact the [executive committee](#).***

More details here: [ACS-IPG](#)

## CONTRIBUTION FOR THE NEWSLETTER AND SOCIAL MEDIA



If you would like to share contents for the Newsletter or the social media, contact the communication committee by email: [here](#)

Pictures, features, events, member highlights are all welcome!

# NATIONAL MEETING PROGRAMMING

If you would like to propose a symposium for after Fall 2026, you need to fill out this [form](#). Please note that this submission is added to a time-stamped queue used to determine priorities with available sessions.

## FALL 2026 – CHICAGO (IL)

August 23-27 (Abstract were due 30 Mar 2026)

Please contact [Sarah Finkeldei](#) for more information. The following are the confirmed sessions, dates are To-Be-Determined. [Stay tuned!](#)

ACS  
FALL 2026  
AUGUST 23-27 | CHICAGO



- **Empowering Actinide Science and Talent Through the Glenn T. Seaborg Institutes Including A Tribute to Darleane Hoffman (Oral and Poster) – Joint symposium with INOR & ENVR**  
*Organizers: Rebecca Abergel (LBNL), Timothy Dittrich (LANL), Franz Freibert (LANL), Rory Kennedy (INL), Jerome Robinson (Brown), Samantha Schrell (ORNL), Ping Yang (LANL), Mavrik Zavarin (LLNL)*
- **General Topics in Nuclear and Radiochemistry (Oral and Poster)**  
*Organizers: Dustin Demoin (EZIP), Nerissa Viola (Wayne State)*
- **Molten Salt Symposium (Oral and Poster) – Joint symposium with I&EC**  
*Organizers: Hunter Andrews (ORNL), Vyacheslav Bryantsev (ORNL), Alexander Ivanov (UTK), Joanna McFarlane (ORNL), Erich Molitor (I&EC, Dow), Juliano Schorne-Pinto (USC), James Wishart (BNL)*
- **User Facilities for Nuclear & Radiochemistry (Oral and Poster)**  
*Organizers: Derek McLain (ANL), Tyler Spano (ORNL)*
- **Meet-Up: Meet the Labs: A networking event for students and postdocs to learn about research labs and available opportunities.** **Probably Sunday Afternoon**  
*Organizers: Dustin Demoin (EZIP), Tyler Spano (ORNL), Breanna Vestal (ORNL)*

## SPRING 2027 – NEW ORLEANS (LA)

March 21 – 25 (Program is due to ACS by 1 Jun 2026)

Please contact [Deborah Penchoff](#) for more information. Currently proposed symposia for the meeting:

- **Advances on Critical Materials (tentative title) (JOINT: I&EC)**  
*Organizers: Erich Molitor (I&EC, Dow), Deborah Penchoff (UCF), Ashley Shields (ORNL)*
- **Advances in High Performance Computing and Artificial Intelligence in Radiochemistry**  
*Organizers: Charles Peterson (UCLA), Ashley Shields (ORNL), Deborah Penchoff (UCF)*
- **In Honor of Dave Clark – Joint symposium with INOR**  
*Organizers: John Gordon (UCF), Al Sattelberger (UCF)*
- **General Topics in Nuclear and Radiochemistry**  
*Organizers: Dustin Demoin (EZIP), Chirag Vyas (FRIB/MSU)*
- **Nuclear and Energy (tentative) – Joint symposium with GEOC/ENVR**  
*Organizer: Tyler Spano (ORNL), Deborah Penchoff (UCF), George Cobb (Baylor Univ), Yinhao Wen (GA institute of Tech)*
- **Nuclear Forensics**



Organizers: Ashley Shields (ORNL), Deborah Penchoff (UCF), Ken Czerwinski (UNLV), Brittany Stieferman (UCF), Madeleine Forbes (UF), Rachel Wood (UF)

- **Pride in the Bayou: LGBTQ+ Scientists in Nuclear and Radiochemistry**

Organizers: Tyler Spano (ORN), Dustin Demoin (EZIP), Vanessa Sanders (EZA), Ivis Chaple Gore (UTK)

- **Radiochemical Separations: In Memory of E. Philip Horwitz**

Organizers: Laetitia Delmau (ORNL), Dustin Demoin (EZIP), Chirag Vyas (FRIB/MSU), Dan McAlister (Eichrom)

- **Young Investigators in Nuclear and Radiochemistry**

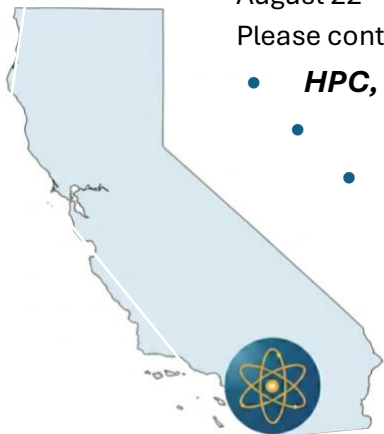
Organizers: Dustin Demoin (EZIP), Megan Stewart (Pharmallogic)

### **FALL 2027 – SAN DIEGO (CA)**

August 22 – 26 (Program is due to ACS by 1 Nov 2026)

Please contact [Sarah Finkeldei](#) for more information. Currently proposed symposia for the meeting:

- **HPC, Data Science & AI Applications in Nuclear and Radiochemistry**
  - **In Memory of Darleane C. Hoffman**
  - **Nuclear Forensics**
    - **Environmental Radiochemistry**
    - **General Topics in Nuclear and Radiochemistry**
    - **Nonproliferation Stewardship Program**



## **OTHER CONFERENCES AND REGIONAL MEETINGS**

### **RADIOCHEMISTRY SYMPOSIUM AT THE CCCE CONFERENCES AND EXHIBITION**

May 27-28, 2026 -Toronto (Canada)

#### **17<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL RADIOCHEMISTRY SYMPOSIUM**

May 27-28, 2026



**Canadian Societies of Chemistry  
and Chemical Engineering 2026  
Conferences and Exhibition (x2026)**

Hosted by the CSC and CSCHE

**Toronto**  
May 24-28  
Du 24 au 28 mai

**Erasing Boundaries**

### **ACTINIDE SEPARATION CONFERENCE**

June 16-18, 2026 - Augusta (GA).

Information: The Actinide Separations Conference provides a forum for scientists and engineers to present and discuss the results of current research activities, operating experiences, and other matters related to actinide chemistry and nuclear material processing.

This edition of the ASC will be hosted by SRNL.

If you have any question: [email](#)

## ***NORM (NORTHWESTERN REGIONAL MEETING) 2026***

Jun 28 - Jul 1, 2026 – Boise (ID)

Session highlighted: ***Nuclear Chemistry in the Northwest*** organized by Richard Cox and Nic Uhnak



# **NORM 2026**

## **CHEMISTRY IN THE CITY OF TREES**

### ***NORTHEASTERN SECTION OF THE ACS***

October 8, 2026 – Boston (MA)

NESACS Boston Radiopharmaceutical Symposium ([abstract for the poster session will open shortly](#))



The organizers, presiders, and speakers from the Symposium in Honor of Professor George K. Schweitzer at the 2026 Spring ACS National Meeting.

Photo Credit Brittany Stieferman (UCF)

## **OUS ONLINE PRESENCE**

Find us on your social media and on our website



## AWARDS NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE OF NUCL

The Awards Nominations Committee of the Division was formed to encourage and facilitate nominations for national ACS awards, but also to highlight the achievements of our members with Divisional awards. Please nominate a colleague for one of the awards listed below or other ACS Awards. As the new committee is updating the nomination process, feel free to contact them by email if you have any questions about these awards ([Nathalie Wall](#), [Deborah Penchoff](#)).

<http://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/funding-and-awards/awards/national.html>

### **THE KINARD AWARD**

*Nominations due July 1, 2026*

The W. Frank Kinard Distinguished Service Award recognizes NUCL members for outstanding service to the division and the field of nuclear science. For more information, please check out the award [website](#).

- Nominations form [here](#)

### **THE CORYELL AWARD**

*Nominations due Jan 1, 2027*

The Charles D. Coryell Award honors undergraduate students who have completed research projects in nuclear or nuclear-related areas. For more information, please check out the award [website](#).

- Nominations form [here](#)

### **THE SEABORG AWARD**

*Nominations due Dec 15, 2026*

The Glenn T. Seaborg Award for Nuclear Chemistry is a National ACS award that is sponsored by the NUCL Division that recognizes and encourages research in nuclear and radiochemistry or their applications. Nominees must have made outstanding contributions to nuclear or radiochemistry or to their applications.

- Nominations form [through the ACS website](#)

### **ACS FELLOWS**

*Nominations due April 23, 2026*

The American Chemical Society (ACS) Fellows Program was created by the ACS Board of Directors in December 2008 to recognize members of the ACS for outstanding achievements and contributions to science, the profession, and the Society. The NUCL Division can nominate up to 4 individuals each year and each individual member can nominate up to 1 individual per year. If you have someone in mind who should be nominated, please [contact us](#). If you would like more information including information on which ACS members are ACS Fellows, [click here](#).



Kaithlyne Nguyen (UCF), the 2026 Coryell Award recipient receiving her award certificate from Nathalie Wall at the NUCL business meeting at the spring meeting.

Photo Credit Brittany Stiefferman (UCF)

# JOB POSTINGS

Job postings for NUCL opportunities can now be found on our new [website](#) and on [LinkedIn](#) – Check out and spread the word! You can also submit a job posting here: [link](#)

## ACADEMIA

### **PHD (STUDENT) POSITIONS IN PHYSICS FOR MSCA-DN “MS-RADAM” DC5 AND DC4**

*MesoBioNano Research Center (Germany)*

MS-RADAM (“MultiScale phenomena in RADIation DAMage”) is a European Doctoral Network project funded by the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) program.

The [DC5 research project](#), entitled “Multiscale radiation damage phenomena in irradiated biomolecular/biological systems”, will employ analytical and computational multiscale modelling methods (molecular dynamics, stochastic dynamics, track-structure Monte Carlo simulations) to analyze key radiation damage processes involving irradiated biomolecular systems.

More information: [here](#)

More information: [pdf](#)

The [DC4 research project](#), entitled “Nanochemistry of irradiated biomacromolecular systems”, will focus on modelling radiation-induced chemical processes in biologically relevant media. Using a computational multiscale approach—including reactive molecular dynamics, irradiation-driven molecular dynamics, stochastic dynamics, and analytical models—the project will investigate the dynamics of biologically relevant media on femto- to-nanosecond time scales following irradiation, particularly focusing on the formation and transport of reactive species in the vicinity of ion tracks and radiosensitising nanoparticles.

More information: [here](#)

More information: [pdf](#)

### **RADIOCHEMICAL INTERN AT USTUR**

*United States Transuranium and Uranium Registries, Washington State University (Tricity)*

As a Radiochemical Intern for the United States Transuranium and Uranium Registries (USTUR) in the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (CPPS) in Richland, WA, you will support ongoing radiochemical research, analytical activities, and laboratory operations. You will assist with radiochemical sample analyses for actinide elements, including sample preparation and actinide separations, and will support the improvement and development of USTUR’s analytical protocols. You will receive additional training and experience to perform independent radiochemical analyses of actinide elements and to conduct research focused on improvement of existing analytical methods and developing new protocols for actinide analyses in various sample types.

More information: [here](#)

### **ASSISTANT PROFESSOR RADIOCHEMISTRY**

*University of Nevada Las Vegas*

The UNLV Radiochemistry Program is seeking a new tenure-track Assistant Professor to: a) contribute to the undergraduate and graduate teaching in Chemistry, Inorganic Materials, Nuclear Science and Radiochemistry, b) develop a vigorous externally-funded research program in an area of Radiochemistry (e.g. radioanalytical, separations, forensics, radiopharmaceuticals, synthesis, or any other closely related research area emphasizing science involving the

radioelements) c) engage in service to the University and community, and d) mentor undergraduate and graduate students in research through laboratory engagement and direct supervision.

The new faculty member will primarily teach undergraduate and graduate courses in radiochemistry and its uses while contributing to the existing courses in the chemistry department. The position also includes an expectation to contribute to the continued development and delivery of the UNLV undergraduate radiochemistry curriculum.

Exploiting and actively utilizing existing radiochemistry laboratory equipment and facilities is expected, consistent with the program's longstanding collaborative and cooperative research culture. Successful applicants will develop a rigorous, externally funded research program that contributes to the research and education mission of the Radiochemistry Program while participating in the maintenance, expansion, and shared use of radiochemistry infrastructure. The successful candidate is also expected to provide scientific and programmatic leadership in ongoing and emerging research initiatives, and to build upon existing faculty collaborations, professional networks, and external partnerships to ensure continuity and future growth of the UNLV Radiochemistry Program's research and educational activities.

Please consider applying or forwarding to candidates!

More information: [here](#)