

# Portland Section Newsletter

Vol 60 number 7

<http://www.acsportland.org>

December 2021

## Letter from Chair Andrew Baggett

Greetings to Portland Section Members! It has been an interesting adventure, 2020 and 2021. We have learned so much.



Andrew Baggett

In learning how to cope with the pandemic, we've also learned how to retrofit our teaching protocols. We've learned what works and what doesn't. And the Portland Section is a wonderful example of the adaptation that all these skilled and innovative people have presented to keep classwork and for ACS, membership, interested and attached to the subject at hand. Hannah Heley and Quentin Wilebski kept producing virtual happy hours during Summer. Marcie Merritt expedited the

Section's ChemLuminary award (we tied with the Georgia Section—see story in next column). In our universities and colleges we worked diligently to present classwork in an entirely different environment. Jim Tung can tell you what it's like intra-pandemic in the chemical marketplace.

Now that the pandemic (which seems to have underlyed our existence now for 2 years) finally appears to be somewhat under control, we are planning our first in-person meeting in nearly 2 years. The last Portland Section meeting was held in February of 2020; the well-planned Tom Dunne Meeting in March 2020 never materialized. Meeting venue changes have challenged the Portland Section: new standards have been added, which include the need for insurance and other expenses. Food is an expense that we all know has increased. But we're happy that we all can see each other again. A welcome change!

So in ending, I'm looking forward to 2022 meetings. I've planned a couple of meetings beyond December and look forward to working with the Section and seeing everyone at dinner meetings.

Best wishes for a safe and productive 2022.

Andrew Baggett, Chair

Andrew Baggett, Chair  
Marcie Merritt, Past Chair  
Elaine Nam, Secretary

Dave Reingold, Treasurer  
Angela Hoffman, Councilor  
Jim Tung, Councilor

Warren Ford, Alt. Councilor  
Marcie Merritt, Alt. Councilor  
Jean Eames, Director At Large

Hannah Hefely, WCC Chair  
Quentin Wilebski, YCC Chair  
Martha Dibblee, Email Admin.

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## 2022 Portland Section Election Results

Results are in for the 2022 Portland Section election. Arthur Glasfeld of Reed College is the 2022 Chair-Elect and Hannah Hefely is Secretary. The Secretary term of office is 3 years; the Chair-Elect serves one year as Program Chair, one year as Section Chair, and one year as Past Chair.

The Section Secretary reports the results of the Section election to the Society Secretariat by December 1 of each year. The incoming Chair appoints committee chairs; the Secretary reports the incoming Chair's committee chair selections to the Society Secretariat February 1.

## Portland Section Ties for ChemLuminary Title

Thursday October 21 was the Society's annual ChemLuminary award. The ACS Portland Section Diversity Committee tied with the ACS Georgia Local Section in receiving an ACS ChemLuminary Award for Best Overall Local Section Minority Affairs ongoing activities.

The Portland Section collaborated in a multi-state project, which included 3D printed PPE and distribution, as well as projects for diversified and equitable outdoor school activities, or collecting DEQ donated lab supplies, and distributing them to teachers for at-home labs, during COVID, that equitably benefited Portland's most diverse school system. This is especially meaningful to recognize so many



*Top left clockwise: 3D printing of EarSaver; Equip the Elders banner with volunteers; Volunteers; poster seeking donations to Navajo Nation, which received faceshields. First load of Oregon made donated face shields to Tuba City, Arizona Regional Healthcare Corp, June 2020 .*



hard working teams during a challenging time and as this was done with no ACS money involved. Although some photos are not in Oregon, it shows how Oregon-made parts were shipped to other places in need.

Portland Section Volunteers, along with others, collaborated with many 3D printing centers for this project. During COVID everyone had to increase capability, including to 3D home printing, PDX Hacker-Space, Boeing Portland and Boeing Houston Additive Manufacturing area volunteers, (the PCC student lab closed during Covid), AISES members, NASA and Creatorspace in several states. Collaboration and 250 members minimum per team were key to sharing de-

signs, donated materials, compliance for autoclavable parts, hand sanitizer education, part quality control and transportation of finished parts.

The photos above show some of our outreach to underserved communities: both educating about the chemistry behind what a good hand sanitizer should have, and delivering completed faceshields or ear savers. All of these partners, including AISES and Makerspace groups also were instrumental in leading the way, collaborating with First Responders to use donated face shields and kits to help us reach out to Native American tribal leaders and underserved communities.

## Obituary: Arleigh Dodson

Good friend Bernie Carlsen wrote that “One of the champions of chemistry teaching in the Northwest passed away this month [September]. Arleigh Dodson taught chemistry for 35 years at Lewis & Clark College. He also served as acting Athletic Director, acting Dean of Faculty, and acting Provost. He was an amazing fellow and a man for all seasons with his involvement in civil rights in the ‘60’s and taking students to Ghana in the ‘70’s, as well as being inducted into the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Hall of Fame. A

good friend and wonderful human being.”

Arleigh was a 66-year member of the Portland Local Section ACS. He frequently attended Portland Section dinner meetings. In addition to the information in his [online obituary \(https://obits.oregonlive.com/us/obituaries/oregon/name/arleigh-dodson-obituary?id=21906545\)](https://obits.oregonlive.com/us/obituaries/oregon/name/arleigh-dodson-obituary?id=21906545) while Professor Dodson was at Lewis & Clark College he spent a sabbatical leave in Al Levinson’s lab at PSU during spring and summer terms 1978 [PSU CHEMISTRY Department History pg 20].

## Chairs of the Portland Section



The Portland Section’s glass gavel, fabricated by Master Glassblower (late) Gunther Weiss of Weiss Scientific, will be passed on to Chair Andrew Baggett in January 2022 as he begins his second year as Chair of the Section. Andrew served as both Chair and Chair-Elect during 2021.

## What Is Project SEED?

Project SEED (Summer Experiences for the Economically Disadvantaged) is a paid summer internship program for high school students. For 8 to 10 weeks during the summer, SEED students work in real laboratories, with real scientists serving as their mentors. Students learn about careers in chemistry and receive mentoring in college preparation and professional development.

For the past two summers lots of students also have taken part in a virtual “summer camp” learning about how to plan experiments, analyze data, choose a career, read research journal articles, write an exceptionally good resume, write college application essays, etc.

Each year, 350+ students across the United States participate in chemistry-related research projects with scientists in various fields and industries. Since 1968, Project SEED has brought in more than 11,000 high school students to participate in research at academic, industry, and government labs across the United States and U.S. territories.

## Project SEED Mission

“To ensure that students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds have opportunities to experience the challenges and rewards of chemically-related sciences.”

## How can you become involved?

- Identify economically disadvantaged high school students who have taken or are taking chemistry and tell them about the program. When the application site on ACS.org opens up, ACS will provide the link so students can apply for either in-person or virtual projects.
- Volunteer to host a SEED student or serve as a “camp counselor” this coming summer.
- Donate funds so we can give more deserving students the opportunity to learn chemistry by doing it. Donations may be made to Portland ACS, PO Box 1741, Portland OR 97207, with the memo *Donation to Portland Project SEED*.