

TRIAD CHEMICAL TIMES



Central North Carolina Section American Chemical Society

February Local Section Meeting

Speaker: Dr. Joseph Graves: They Call Me “Black Darwin”

When: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 (6:30 pm Social, 7:00 pm Meeting)

Where: NC A&T University, Noble Hall, Room 308



Upcoming Events

February 20, 2018 : Local Section Meeting, NCA&T

March 3, 2018 : Senior Chemists Day trip to Kaleideum (formerly SciWorks) in Winston Salem, 10:30 AM to 2:00 PM

March 13, 2018 : Local Section Meeting (tentative date); UNC-G, Sullivan Hall Room 203; Dr. Nadja Cech

April 10, 2018: 18th Annual Poster Vendor Night, Syngenta Auditorium, 3 to 7 pm.

May 15, 2018 : May Section Meeting

June 16, 2018 : Family Picnic at Bur-Mill Park, Greensboro

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CNC-ACS Website: <http://www.cnc-acs.sites.acs.org/>

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The Central NC
American
Chemical Society,
the NC A&T
Chemistry
Department, and
the Honors
Program Present

TUESDAY
February 20
NC A&T
Noble, Room 308

DR. JOSEPH GRAVES

**Associate Dean for Research and Professor of
Biological Sciences
Department of Nanoengineering
JSNN**

THEY CALLED ME “BLACK DARWIN”

Learn about how Dr. Grave's scholarly pursuits and social history play a role in the scientific projects he's chosen to pursue. Hear about why now more than ever it is of paramount importance that underrepresented minorities and women should be pursuing PhD degrees in all disciplines of science.



DR. JOSEPH L. GRAVES, JR., Associate Dean for Research & Professor of Biological Sciences, Joint School of Nanosciences and Nanoengineering, North Carolina A&T State University and UNC Greensboro, 2907 E. Lee Street, Greensboro, NC 27401

Dr. Joseph Graves, Jr. received his Ph.D. in Environmental, Evolutionary and Systematic Biology from Wayne State University in 1988. In 1994 he was elected a Fellow of the Council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS.) In April 2002, he received the ASU-West award for Scholarly Research and Creative Activity. In 2012, he was chosen as one of the "Sensational Sixty" commemorating 60 years of the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Award. He was named one of the "Outstanding Graduates" from the first 182 years of the Biology Department of Oberlin College in the fall 2017; that same year his 1992 paper in *Physiological Zoology and Biochemistry* was listed as one of the top 90 cited papers in that journal's 90 years of publication, and was named by US Black Engineer Magazine and the Historically Black Colleges and Universities council of Deans as one of the 2017 "Innovators of the Year."

His research concerns the evolutionary genomics of adaptation, particularly as relevant to postponed aging and bacterial responses to nanomaterials. He has also written extensively concerning biological concepts of race in humans. He has published over eighty papers and book chapters in these arenas. He has appeared in seven documentary films and numerous television interviews on these general topics. He has been a Principal Investigator on grants from the National Institutes of Health and National Science Foundation.

His books on the biology of race are entitled: *The Emperor's New Clothes: Biological Theories of Race at the Millennium*, Rutgers University Press, 2005 and *The Race Myth: Why We Pretend Race Exists in America*, Dutton Press, 2005. A summary of Dr. Graves's research career can be found on Wikipedia, and he is also featured in the ABC-CLIO volume on Outstanding African American scientists. In November 2007, he was featured in the CNN Anderson Cooper 360 program on Dr. James Watson. He has appeared in 12 documentary films/television programs; including PBS's Master Series: The Life of James Watson airing in the fall of 2018 on WPIX in New York City.

He has served as a member of the external advisory board for the National Human Genome Center at Howard University. In January 2006, he became a member of the "New Genetics and the African Slave Trade" working group of the W.E.B. Du Bois Institute of Harvard University, chaired by professors Henry Louis Gates and Evelyn Hammonds. He has served as the chair of the Senior Advisory Board for the National Evolutionary Synthesis Center (NESCent) at Duke University. He is currently a member of the executive boards of the NSF Science and Technology Center: Biocomputational Evolution in Action (BEACON); NSF NRT: Integrative Bioinformatics for Investigating and Engineering Microbiomes; and NSF NNCI: Southeast Nanoinnovation Corridor. He is a former member of the board of the Evolution Institute.

He was the Associate Editor for the 2nd Edition for the *Encyclopedia of Race and Racism*, Gale-Cengage published in 2013. Since 2007, he has served on editorial board of *Evolution: Education and Outreach*, published by Springer-Verlag. He has been an active participant in the struggle to protect and improve the teaching of science, particularly evolutionary biology in the public schools. He has been a leader in addressing the under representation of minorities in science careers, having directed successful programs in California and Arizona. He is a leading force in aiding underserved youth in Greensboro via the YMCA chess program. He is currently a member of the Racial Justice and Reconciliation Council of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina.

Abstract:

They called me "Black Darwin."

On June 24, 1988; I became the first person of African American descent to earn a PhD in the discipline of evolutionary biology. I was also therefore the first African American to be appointed to a faculty position in this discipline at a research-1 university. Within the first semester of teaching, my students dubbed me "Black Darwin."

The unifying focus of my scholarly pursuits throughout my career is the genetic and physiological basis of adaptation. This process explains all aspects of living things, including the biology of senescence, antimicrobial resistance, and the origin and maintenance of biological variation in all living things (including humans.) In this lecture, I will talk about this unifying theme, as well as how my own unique social history played a role in the scientific projects I choose to pursue. Finally, I will discuss why now more than ever it is of paramount importance that underrepresented minorities and women should be pursuing PhD degrees in all disciplines of science.

Senior Chemist News - Robert Yokley

Dear Senior Chemists,

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, March 7 for our next regularly scheduled meeting. Our guest speaker will be Allen Lo (IT expert at Syngenta). He will try to guide and assist us with the more common problems we encounter with our home computers. Send to me any questions you may have in advance. I will give these to Allen so he can be sure to address your specific problem. Please send these to me at your earliest convenience. Thanks.

This meeting will take place at Syngenta at 6:30 PM. Please bring a pot-luck dish to share –the entrée will come from the Senior Chemists budget.

For planning purposes, please RSVP no later than Monday, March 5 if you wish to attend. I will send a reminder as the date gets closer.

Mark your calendars for these Upcoming Senior Chemists Events:

February 6 (Tuesday) – Science Coaches meeting at Syngenta

March 3 (Saturday) – Day trip to Kaleideum (formerly SciWorks) in Winston Salem, 10:30 AM to 2:00 PM (including lunch) – details to follow

March 7 (Wednesday) – Regular meeting, Allen Lo guest speaker (details above)

April (TBD) – Stars and Galaxies, guest speaker Mike Hager – details to follow

May 9 (Wednesday) – Guest speakers Cynthia Williard (Hobbies and Interests) and Bruce McKillican, Ralph May, and Jill Keith (Chemistry careers) – additional details to follow

I recommend you establish a Senior Chemists Folder under your In-Box (or your preferred location) and perhaps sub-folders underneath for each Senior Chemists date and activity. That will help you keep up with the details of each meeting.

Thanks,

Robert, Chair - Senior Chemists Group

Volunteer Opportunities

Dear Colleagues,

I am reaching out on behalf of Cash Elementary School in Kernersville. My wife, Christine Brown, and I are currently working with school faculty to implement an after-school Science Club. Christine is a former research chemist and is currently the PTA President at Cash. We have two daughters attending the school, in 2nd grade and kindergarten. The goal of the Science Club is to get young children interested in science by showing them that science can be fun and exciting.

The Science Club will run for 6 consecutive Thursdays, from February 1st to March 8th meeting immediately following school from 2:45 – 3:45 PM. Our goal is to have a different local science professional or group facilitate each of the sessions. Our hope is to introduce the children to a wide-range of scientific fields.

Ideally, we would like each session to begin with a demonstration(s), followed by an age-appropriate hands-on experiment for each child to perform. There will be teachers and volunteers available to assist you. The Club will have a maximum of about 15 students, grades K – 2, participating. The club is being offered free of charge, so we unfortunately have to ask you to not only donate your valuable time, but the necessary materials as well. We do have access to the school's science kits which may contain much of what you need, depending on your area of expertise. If you are able to donate your time, we are willing to work with you to locate items you may need.

If you are unable to donate time but have materials that you could contribute, it would be greatly appreciated. No amount of help is too small! Additionally, feel free to send this message to others who you think may be interested.

If you are interested in helping in any way, please contact either Christine or myself for more information. We will gladly answer any questions you may have and/or provide you with additional information. My contact information is below. Christine can be reached via email (cbrown1517@gmail.com) or phone (336-575-9693).

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ken Brown

Dr. Ken Brown

Associate Professor of Chemistry

Winston Salem State University

Department of Chemistry

601 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr.

W. B. Atkinson Bldg. - Room 308

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Central NC ACS 18th Annual Poster Vendor Night (PVN) News

Poster Vendor Night will be held on Tuesday, April 10th, 2018 at the Syngenta Auditorium in Greensboro from 3 to 7 pm. Easily the biggest event of the year, PVN is a unique opportunity to showcase your industrial or academic research to chemists, faculty, graduate and undergraduate students in the Piedmont Triad area, while at the same time taking in some of the great research from groups in the region. PVN is a fantastic opportunity for networking and for having in-depth discussions with a variety of vendors.

This year, we have moved to having posters submitted through Google Forms: <https://goo.gl/forms/wyOmND1YSRkYzmJM2>

So please mark your calendars for Tuesday April 10th and consider presenting a poster. We are also in need of judges for the evaluation of graduate and undergraduate student posters. If you are interested in judging, please contact the PVN organizing committee at: cncpvnight@gmail.com .

18th Annual Poster Vendor Night



Call for Posters

When: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 from 3-7 pm

Where: Syngenta Crop Protection - Auditorium
410 Swing Road
Greensboro, NC 27409

What: Posters (Academic + Industry), Vendors, Product

Trade Show Networking

Food/Snacks Research Posters

Cash Prizes for Best Student Posters

Please contact Bill Eberle (bill.eberle@syngenta.com , 336-632-7569) or Sarah Sihvonen (sarah.sihvonen@syngenta.com , 336-632-2369) for general information information.

Additional info available at : <http://cnc-ac.sites.acs.org>

Poster Submission Portal: <https://goo.gl/forms/wyOmND1YSRkYzmJM2>

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