



ACS-KC SECTION MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

WHEN: *Tuesday, November 11, 2025; 6:00pm*

WHERE: *Mag Center, 425 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Blvd., KCMO*

SPEAKER: *Dr. Amy Christiansen, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, School of Science and Engineering, UMKC*

TITLE: *"From Farm to City: A Primer on Multi-Scale Atmospheric Chemistry Relevant to Midwestern Air Quality"*

MENU: *We will enjoy pizza from Minsky's along with veggies, beer, wine, & soft drinks*

COST: \$5

RSVP: *Please RSVP to Sarah Leibowitz: sleibowitzacs@gmail.com by November 7, 2025. Thanks, hope to see you there!*

Please RSVP to Sarah Leibowitz:
sleibowitzacs@gmail.com by Friday, November 7, 2025.
Thank you!



ACS
Chemistry for Life

OUR KENNETH A. SPENCER AWARD CEREMONY FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD CHEMISTRY was held at the Grand Street Café in KCMO on October 16th and was another wonderful dinner and presentation. Congratulations, once again, to Dr. Gary List, this year's winner! It was so nice to meet and chat with Dr. List and his lovely wife, Marlene!



It's voting time!!

Vote on or prior to Nov. 15, 2025. Our new Chair will be Dr. Gary Clapp. Terms begin in January. We appreciate you taking the time to vote! **Voting Details:** Electronic voting closes on November 15th. Members, please check your email! You will receive an email from Michele Sanders via SurveyMonkey. Cast your vote by clicking on the survey "ACS-Kansas City Election of Officers, 2026." ***PLEASE NOTE:** A paper ballot is included on Page 5 of this publication for those wishing to vote via snail mail. Choose a method and cast your vote!! If voting via snail mail, please remember you must sign your envelope as membership verification. **MAIL YOUR BALLOT TO: Bill Gutheil, UMKC School of Pharmacy, 2464 Charlotte St., Kansas City, MO 64108-2718. Your ballot must be postmarked by NOVEMBER 15, 2025!** *YOU MAY BRING YOUR BALLOT TO THE NOVEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING IF YOU PREFER!! See the details of that meeting above.

- AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY 1876-2025
- 149 YEARS
- *Make sure to check out our website!!
- www.acs-kc.com

Inside this issue:

Member Meet.	p1
Speaker Bio/Abstract and Upcoming Events	p2
Candidate Bios	p3
Exec. Board Members	p4

Bio on our November Membership Speaker: Dr. Amy Christiansen

Dr. Amy Christiansen is an atmospheric chemist whose expertise lies in global chemical transport modeling. She holds a PhD in Chemistry from the University of California, Irvine, and completed a postdoctoral appointment at the University of Montana. In September 2022, she joined the School of Science and Engineering at the University of Missouri – Kansas City as an Assistant Professor of Chemistry. Dr. Christiansen's research interests focus on long-term atmospheric measurements and modeling to understand how pollutant concentrations, distribution, and impacts have changed over time. Her favorite science is that which connects the chemical to the human: exploring the connections between atmospheric chemistry and climate change, public health, and environmental justice. Dr. Christiansen sits on the Climate Data Guide Board of Advisors for the National Center for Atmospheric Research, serves on the American Geophysical Union Early Career Committee, and is a contributing scientist to the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe's Task Force on Hemispheric Transport of Air Pollution.

Abstract for November's Talk

Fine particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$) is an air pollutant that negatively impacts human health, causing hundreds of thousands of premature deaths each year in the United States. $PM_{2.5}$ is initially formed in the atmosphere via acid-base reactions between acidic precursor species (nitrogen oxides, NO_x ; and sulfur dioxide, SO_2) and the basic gas ammonia (NH_3). Partitioning of other chemical species and multiphase reactions results in particle growth and a chemically complex matrix comprising sulfates, nitrates, organics, water, and various metals and crustal species. Over recent decades, environmental regulations have led to drastic decreases in $PM_{2.5}$ over the United States, yet none of these regulations have targeted agricultural NH_3 . Over the heavily agricultural Midwestern United States (MWUS), NH_3 concentrations are high and have risen over the past decade, enhancing $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations and altering chemical composition. Despite this, the MWUS remains largely understudied for air quality due to its poor monitoring infrastructure, and the health effects of agricultural emissions on MWUS residents are largely unknown. This talk will explore the impacts of agricultural NH_3 on $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations and chemical composition in the MWUS using a combination of ground monitoring information, satellite retrievals, and chemical transport models.

Upcoming Events:



*Holiday Networking Event: We are working on the plans for our annual holiday gathering at Boulevard Brewing Company's Beer Hall, 2534 Madison Ave., KCMO in early December! Check the website and December's KCC for all the details! It's always a fun evening of good food (provided by the Section) and good fellowship and we hope to see you there!

ZOOM Webinar of Gary List's Spencer Award Presentation: The ZOOM webinar will take place on November 12, 2025. If you're interested in attending, please visit our website: www.acs-kc.com

***30% Membership Discount!** Claim your ACS membership discount (for joining or renewing) between September 5- **November 15, 2025**, by entering code: **LSGROW2025**. Visit <https://www.acs.org/membership.html> to join or renew today!

ACS is Enhancing Account Security: Here's What's Changing: To enhance account security, ACS will be updating its username and password guidelines including length and special character requirements will be clearly displayed via on-screen instructions on Account Creation screen to help guide users through the process.

ACS-KC SECTION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SLATE OF OFFICERS 2026

Below are biographies of those running for Executive Office. Please fill out the ballot and follow the directions on Page 1 if you'd like to send it in via snail mail. You may also bring it to November's monthly meeting.

Terms begin January 1, 2026, and are 1-year terms except for the Councilor whose term is 3 years.

***Our thanks to Dr. Gary Clapp who will serve as our Chair in the coming year!**

Chair-Elect: Dr. Bill Gutheil YES NO

Dr. William Gutheil has been an ACS Member since 1982. Current Position: Professor, UMKC School of Pharmacy. EDUCATION: Bachelor of Science (1983), Biochemistry, California Polytechnic State University, San Louis Obispo, CA. Doctor of Philosophy (1989), Chemistry, University of Southern California; Postdoctoral Research Fellow (1989-1991), Harvard Medical School, Boston MA; Postdoctoral Research Associate (1991-1994), Department of Biochemistry, Tufts University School of Medicine, Boston MA; 27 Career Publications. PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP: American Chemical Society, 1982-present; American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1989-present; American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, 1987-present; Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, 1987-present; American Society of Microbiology, 2011-present; American Society of Mass Spectrometry, 2013-present and Patents Committee of the Council. PROFESSIONAL SERVICE: Treasurer, KC ACS, 2002-2005; Treasurer, Steering Committee for the American Chemical Society Midwest Regional Meeting, 2002-2005; Chairman Elect/Chairman, 2005/2006; Alternate Councilor for the Kansas City ACS section, 2008-2012; National ACS Committee on Patents and Trademarks, 2009-2016; Councilor, KC ACS, 2013-2016. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: I have served the local KC-ACS section in several capacities over the last 14 years and am interested in representing the local section as Councilor at National ACS Meetings. As our local section transitions to internet-based communications with our membership, it is my intention to use email to notify our members of issues and to solicit feedback on important issues confronting the American Chemical Society. A key concern to all members in the present economic climate is high dues, and I will endeavor to ensure that dues accurately reflect the value of ACS membership.

Treasurer: Dr. Jeff Woodford YES NO

Dr. Jeff Woodford, Associate Professor of Chemistry, earned his B.S. in Chemistry from Carnegie Mellon University, and his PhD in Physical Chemistry from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He served as a professor at Eastern Oregon University before coming to Missouri Western State University in 2010. His research interests include computational studies of cyclic peroxides, conformational studies of natural products, and the pseudo-Jahn-Teller effect. Dr Woodford also served as the Chair of our section in 2021.

Secretary: Ms. Michele Sanders YES NO

Michele Sanders BSMT, ASCP (NCA) currently serves as Alternate Councilor (2024 – 2026) for the Kansas City local ACS section to help bring our local section value to the overall American Chemical Society. She also serves as the Safety Committee and Women Chemists Chair. In the past, Michele served as Kansas City ACS Secretary (2016), Chair Elect (2017), Chair (2018), and Alternate Councilor (2021 – 2023). As Chair Elect, she organized the Spencer Award activities and committee. She still serves as editor for the yearly Spencer Award pamphlet and medallion and name plaque engraving.

Michele is a member of the ACS Analytical Chemistry, Industrial & Engineering, and Professional Relations Divisions. She serves on the national ACS Committee on Analytical Reagents (CAR) and its Organics and Validation subcommittees and University Taskforce. The committee members determine analytical testing and chemical specifications for chemicals to be labeled as ACS grade. They also develop monographs and validated methods for analytical testing.

Michele received her Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Technology from Avila University in Kansas City, Missouri. She is an Analytical - Product Development Chemist and Chemical Hygiene Officer at Harcros Chemicals Inc. in Kansas City, Kansas. Throughout her career, she has been involved in the laboratory profession in medical, pharmaceutical, specialty chemicals, research and development, and regulatory compliance.

ACS-KC Section 2025 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Chair: Dr. Bill Gutheil (UMKC) (816) 235-2424
Chair-Elect: Dr. Gary Clapp (Retired, MWSU) (816) 341-3230
Treasurer: Dr. Jeff Woodford (MWSU) (816) 271-4100
Secretary: Mr. Alex Marin (Honeywell) (919) 215-6425
Councilor: Dr. Sarah Leibowitz (TriRX Pharm. Serv.) sleibowitzacs@gmail.com
Alt. Councilor: Michele Sanders (Harcros Chemicals) (913) 621-7883
Newsletter Editor: Mary Jean Clapp (SJSD) Clappmj@aol.com
Website Director: Gary Clapp (Retired, MWSU) geclapp424@gmail.com
Immediate Past Chair: Mr. James Partridge (Honeywell) (913) 669-2441

Visit our website!!

American Chemical
Society

Kansas City Section

View online:

www.acs-kc.com

NOVEMBER 2025
American Chemical Society
Kansas City Chemist
2903 Wilshire Court
St. Joseph MO 64506