



36th Annual Symposium of the Pacific Northwest Chapter of AVS ‘The Science and Technology Society’ (PNWAVS)

Date: August 28-29, 2025

Location: Alder Hall, University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Website: [PNWAVS Symposium](https://www.pnwavs.org)



Symposium Overview

The PNWAVS Annual Symposium is a forum to discuss the latest advancements in surface, interface, and vacuum research within the Pacific Northwest region. The 2025 event commemorates the 63rd anniversary of the PNWAVS chapter, the oldest in AVS. Topics will encompass chemical imaging and analysis, surface science, state-of-the-art characterization methods, and applications of surface science to a variety of material systems, including quantum materials, semiconductors, oxides, minerals, ceramics, metals, polymer composites, and biomaterials. The 2025 symposium will be held at Alder Hall on the University of Washington campus in Seattle. UW is one of the oldest universities established on the west-coast and is now a high-ranking, major research university in the Pacific Northwest. The location, Seattle, is a vibrant urban center and global hub of technology and research innovation.

Objective

The theme of this meeting will highlight fundamental and applied collaborative research to understand the interactions occurring at surfaces and interfaces. The symposium aims to foster interaction among participants from industry, government, and academic laboratories. The program will feature both invited and contributed papers presented through oral and poster sessions.

Sessions

Contributions are encouraged from all areas of surface and vacuum science, with highlighted topics including:

- Electronic and optoelectronic materials
- Environmental Chemistry
- Chemical Imaging and Analysis
- Advanced Methods in Surface, Interface, and Nano Analysis
- AI and Machine Learning in Materials Science
- Quantum materials and quantum information technology
- Bio-inspired Materials
- Catalysis

Call for Contributed Papers

Participants are invited to submit papers for both oral and poster sessions. Submitted abstracts will be evaluated by the program committee for appropriate technical sessions. Abstracts must be submitted by August 1, 2025, via the [conference website](#) with detailed preparation instructions available online.

Poster Presentations

A poster session and reception will take place on the evening of August 28, 2025. The session includes a student poster competition with cash awards:

- Graduate competition winner: \$500 + \$500 towards expenses to attend the 2025 or 2026 AVS International Symposium
- Undergraduate competition winner: \$350
- Additional cash awards for 2nd, 3rd place, and honorable mentions
- High school students are also encouraged to participate, with awards provided for all presenters

Emerging Leader Research Award

Early career researcher attendees from Universities and National Labs are encouraged to apply for the Emerging Leader Research Award. The award has been established to recognize exemplary contributions to advancing the understanding of surface, interface, vacuum, and/or thin film science and technology. Researchers within 10 years of receiving their PhD are eligible. The application deadline is July 14, 2025 and can be apply via this [Link](#). For more information, please contact Arthur Barnard at awb1@uw.edu.

Registration

- General attendees: \$200

- Postdoctoral fellows: \$150
- Students: \$50

The registration fee covers the final program, lunches (August 28th and 29th) , refreshments, receptions, and the banquet dinner on August 28th. Register via the [symposium website](#).

Student Participation

To promote student engagement, PNWAVS will subsidize accommodations for registered students. For more information, contact Theva Thevuthasan at theva@pnnl.gov.

Vendor Exhibit

Surface, thin film, and vacuum equipment manufacturers are invited to exhibit and/or sponsor the symposium. The exhibit will be on August 28, 2025. For details, contact Joe Gray at joegray3@palmborgassociates.com or Theva Thevuthasan at theva@pnnl.gov. Registration for vendors is available [here](#). The cost for one exhibitor table is \$650.

Banquet

The banquet will be held on the evening of August 28, 2025. Further details will be provided.

Accommodations

Blocks of rooms will be available at the Alder Hall dormitory on the University of Washington campus at discounted rates.

Transportation and Local Activities

Seattle is accessible via major airlines through SeaTac airport (SEA). The city offers a relaxed metropolitan atmosphere with an array of restaurants and outdoor activities in the Puget Sound area. Explore more at [Visit Seattle](#).

Conference Chair

- Arthur Barnard, University of Washington

Program Committee

- Arthur Barnard, University of Washington
- Ajay Karakoti, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
- Breton May, Idaho National Laboratory
- Karthik Srinivasan, Boise State University