THE MIDLAND CHEMIST

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Chair Column – Gratitude for Chemistry

Mark Jones, Chair, Midland Section ACS

I just encountered "Three Gratitudes" for the first time. Some say it is effective at reducing stress during trying times. These are certainly trying times. Pausing to reflect and finding just three things that you are grateful or thankful for is prescribed. Those sold on the power of three gratitudes state that expressing gratitude can lead to increased happiness and reduce stress. I can't find actual clinical studies that support this assertion, but it certainly seems harmless, far removed from using a drug off-label. It is an activity that, at worst, can truly do no harm. Any happiness that results is certainly a welcome break from the unrelenting stress of coronavirus.

The COVID-19 pandemic is testing us. We likely still have a long slog ahead. Many activities that are foundational to the Midland Local Section are being cancelled, curtailed, or forced to go virtual. Funding sources are drying up. Planning is certainly more challenging than in previous years. It prompted me to want to explore areas where some aspect of chemistry causes me to be thankful. The three thoughts I came to are admittedly geeky. The exercise gave me a needed diversion and I hope they are a welcome diversion for you.

(1) I am thankful that the novel coronavirus has a lipid shell that is easily disrupted, rendering it benign. It didn't have to be that way. Other viruses have protein shells that encapsulate their RNA payloads, rendering them quite resistant in the environment. The novel coronavirus is neutralized by soap and water. Alcohols,

too. That is a bit of chemistry to be grateful for and somewhat comforting. I take some solace that soap – plain old soap – is an effective weapon.

(2) I am grateful that we now have tantalizing evidence that drugs, products of the practice of chemistry, are effective at reducing the duration and severity of disease caused by the virus. This inspires hope since where there is one drug, there may be others. A few days ago, there were none. Today, we know there is at least one. I am thankful that it now appears that treatments are on the way, enabled by chemistry.

(3) I am also thankful that the companies that form the backbone of our community stepped up and are making a real difference. Our plants are operating to provide products that protect our medical heroes, our food, and our health. People went above and beyond to provide needed supplies and implement entirely new products. Dow and DuPont were not hand sanitizer producers. Both companies are now, a response to a critical need conceived and implemented in record time.

Chemistry is important in our battle against the virus. We are striving to find the new normal for the Midland ACS Local Section, new ways to support STEM education in the community, new ways to celebrate the power of chemistry, and new ways to recognize achievement in the region. We instituted a new team innovation award this year. Please consider sharing successes related to the COVID-19 pandemic response in Midland. I am sure there are many stories that will make us all grateful.

Continuing COVID-19 Pandemic Precautions

Amanda Palumbo and Gina Malczewski, Midland Section ACS

As a precaution against the COVID-19 pandemic, and in compliance with best practices as advised by government agencies, a number of Midland Section ACS events will be hosted virtually only, postponed until further notice, or cancelled entirely.

Our committees have a selection of exciting networking and career development events coming up once the public health situation allows. Many thanks for your continued community support and partnership.

For the most up-to-date information on events and activities, please visit http://www.midlandacs.org/, or https://www.facebook.com/MidlandACS.org/.

2020 Spring Awards Nominations – Deadline Extended to June 1

Diana Deese, Awards Committee Chair, Midland Section ACS

The Spring Awards Banquet has been cancelled due to the uncertainty of the COVID-19 situation and in light of schools being cancelled for the remainder of the school year. However, we are still planning to recognize students and select recipients for the various award categories:

- Outstanding Elementary Level Science Teaching
- Outstanding Middle Level Science Teaching
- Outstanding High School Chemistry Teaching
- Outstanding College Chemistry Teaching

- Science Education Volunteer of the Year
- Outstanding Chemical Technician
- Outstanding Achievement and Promotion of the Chemical Sciences
- Promotion of Diversity in Chemistry, Related Sciences and Engineering
- Outstanding Service to the American Chemical Society
- Team Innovation Award

I have extended the deadline for submitting nominations to June 1, 2020. I will begin sending out letters and certificates/plaques to awardees in mid-May (for high school students and as received thereafter) and in June for college students and other awardees (so that the committee can select recipients where needed and plaques can be engraved).

A comprehensive list of awardees will be posted on the Midland Section ACS website in July or August and also in local newspapers. We are also investigating alternatives to the banquet that might be possible later in the summer.

Award criteria can be found in the January 2020 issue of the *Midland Chemist* or by request from dkdeese@dow.com.

(*Electronic submissions are acceptable and preferred.)*
Phone: (989) 636-9915, E-mail: awards@midlandacs.org or dkdeese@dow.com

Central Regional Meeting Rescheduled to November 2020

CERM 2020 Organizing Committee, American Chemical Society

The health and well-being of our members, attendees, and staff is paramount. As a result of the rapidly changing situation related to the spread of and recovery from the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19), we are rescheduling the 2020 Central Regional Meeting (CERM) to November 2020.

Thus, the May 27-29 dates are cancelled for health and safety reasons. Please join the ACS Columbus Section as we reschedule to November 2020. A full refund of registration fees for the cancelled dates will be processed by the ACS.

Note: ***Individuals are responsible for cancelling their own travel or hotel reservations for the May dates.***

We will continue to monitor and follow the state and national government safety guidelines to keep everyone safe. Thank you for your patience as we continue to "Plan with Optimism and Decide with Science" in approaching the rescheduled November 2020 event (dates to be published soon).

Please visit the Central Regional Meeting website for additional information, or reach out to us directly by e-mail at reglmtgs@acs.org for any questions. Again, please join us as we reschedule the May CERM meeting to November 2020 in Columbus.

Online Earth Day Programs – It's Not Too Late!

Gina Malczewski, Outreach Committee, Midland Section ACS

The Midland Section of the ACS recently co-sponsored four Zoom Seminars with Michigan State University. If you missed them the first time through, you can still view the recordings at the related links below. These talks were intended for audiences 12 years of age and up.

Paul Gross: The Scientific Truth about Global Warming
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cPd8S_8PQtE&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR1ewlWrNc3lbhXsAu2Lllfefzx CM10-K-uHLVfWCk4fmReuTCjCGj-4dtU

Peter Sinclair: Here Today – Renewable Solutions to Climate Change
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e0DFBAvTIio&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR1CViFX0vPoM6lYx0UJSZqTO9C9hfuGHVE6qlflld0xzEnGIo2nzFfmGN8

Dana Kirk: The Food Waste Challenge – Opportunities and Technologies to Address the Global Problem
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0w-yR_fDH4Q&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR3JYuHpdJ_aPnouXSuNVEDjGsq_rPWcb0fQNR3GoH6YLyQLy09kL0KND6Q

Sandra Svoboda: From Rust to Resilience – What Climate Change Means for Great Lakes Cities
https://youtu.be/m5BiNArdZLc

Three different experimental/demonstration videos can also be seen at the links provided below. These are appropriate for adults as well as young children and review some important chemical concepts like properties, reactions, and states of matter.

Water and purification: https://youtu.be/FOCGQ2hYQYE
Polymers and bioplastics: https://youtu.be/fF1g_Haa8zA
Carbon dioxide and climate change: https://youtu.be/kEuvaJLjkIY

Finally, we are planning to offer earth-friendly volunteer opportunities later in the year.

The ACS / Creative 360 Community Garden will be going forward this year, too. It may be especially important this year given the potential food shortages. All gardeners are encouraged to donate their "extra" produce to local food pantries. All ACS produce and herbs are donated locally. Please see the garden flyer on the next page.

Creative 360 Community Garden Invitation

Gina Malczewski, Outreach Committee, Midland Section ACS

ACS Boss Talk Conversation with A.N. Sreeram

Steve Keinath, Co-Editor, The Midland Chemist

Editor's note: The following article is reprinted, in part, from the Thursday, April 16, 2020 issue of *Industry Matters Newsletter*, an online publication of the American Chemical Society, and based on an interview with A.N. Sreeram for that particular issue.

A.N. Sreeram is the Senior Vice President and Chief Technology Officer for Dow, where he focuses on accelerating new product commercialization through strategic collaboration with Dow's businesses and customers.

Sreeram leads a vibrant R&D organization at Dow focused on step-change technology development aligned with market demand. Under Sreeram's leadership, Dow transformed its innovation approach, significantly growing high-throughput experimentation and analysis capabilities extending from material discovery and processing through to application development. Sreeram has established strong value chain partnerships, giving Dow a seat at the customer's design table and strong connections to market signals. Dow's innovation pipeline is strongly aligned with strategic growth areas and global

challenges, and empowering Dow researchers to excel. When combined, the capabilities and expertise of Dow's R&D organization provide a distinct competitive advantage, enabling the company to more quickly develop products, ensuring that new products meet customer needs, and rapidly commercializing new innovations into established and emerging markets.

Products developed at Dow under Sreeram's tenure have received many awards for innovation and sustainability, including R&D 100 Awards, Edison Awards, and the Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge. Examples of award winning technologies include EVOQUE™ pre-composite polymer for paints, INNATE™ Precision Packaging Resins, INFUSE™ Olefin Block Copolymers, DOWSIL™ EP-9610 Cosmetic Powder, ECOFAST™ Pure Sustainable Textile Treatment, Dow Performance Silicones Moldable Optical Silicone, ROPAQUE™ Opaque Polymer for BLU4EST™ Thermal Paper, ACCUTRACE™ fuel markers and VORAGUARD™ polyol for combustion modified high resilience polyurethane foams.

Sreeram served as Vice President of R&D for Dow Advanced Materials prior to assuming his current role. He joined Dow in June 2006 as Vice President of Core R&D, driving innovation in a number of key market segments, including automotive, infrastructure, and health. He led the adoption of high-throughput technologies to significantly accelerate the R&D process, while lowering costs and dramatically increasing product successes.

Prior to joining Dow, Sreeram served as the Global Technology Director and Chief Technology Officer for DuPont Electronic Technologies. Prior to this, he served as Vice President of Worldwide Technology for Cookson Electronics, and before that, he led the Electronic and Flat Panel Display Program for Sarnoff Corporation.

Sreeram serves on the White House's President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST), since his appointment in October 2019. PCAST advises the President on matters of science, technology, education, and innovation policy, informing public policy relating to the American economy, the American worker, national and homeland security, and other topics. Sreeram holds more than 20 U.S. patents, earned his doctorate degree from the Department of Materials Science & Engineering at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), and his master's degree in Glass Science from Alfred University in New York where he currently serves as a member of Board of Trustees. He is also a graduate of the ceramics engineering program at the Indian Institute of Technology – BHU in Varanasi, India.

What are some ways in which Dow operations have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic?

I am amazed at what our people have done, and are doing. Dow products, chemical industry products, are critical in the fight against coronavirus, in protecting the food supply, in the medical equipment used to treat the sick, and more. Our plants continue to operate to supply these vital materials thanks to the bravery and commitment of team Dow. We are now producing and donating large volumes, more than 200 tons per week, of hand sanitizer. Hand sanitizer has not been a Dow product. Creative Dow employees recognized the need, figured out how to reconfigure several facilities, and made it happen. They did it in record time, safely, and to the high quality we demand at Dow.

All the while, all Dow employees globally have been following requirements and guidance including social distancing and other safe behavior that is expected at Dow. It is cliché to say that people are our most important asset. Times like these prove the cliché. People are our most important asset. Critical

materials continue to flow and new opportunities are seized because great employees make it happen. I've never been more proud to work at Dow.

You joined Dow in 2006. What are the biggest differences between the Dow of 2006 and the Dow of 2020?

The chemistry set, if I can use that metaphor, is ever changing, evolving continuously. The biggest difference from 2006 is in the components in the chemistry set, both the equipment and the chemistries that we utilize. High-throughput research is now an engrained technology in Dow R&D. That wasn't the case in 2006. It now touches most everything that we do in R&D, accelerating the time it takes to bring innovations to market across the company.

The Dow portfolio has changed considerably since 2006. The addition of silicones into our chemistry set is very exciting. Silicones provide unique properties and a tool kit we didn't have in 2006. We continue to discover opportunities for hybrid products and explore new markets.

What major technology trends are you following with an eye toward how they may impact Dow's future business opportunities?

The basic needs of humanity, including food, potable water, clothing, shelter, transportation, and energy, continue to be megatrends which Dow serves very well.

In addition, Dow is already solving environmental plastic and greenhouse gas emission challenges – two technology related trends that are reshaping the entire chemical industry, and frankly, all industries. We focus on products and processes that are both more sustainable and offer improved performance. We focus on making materials that are more easily recycled, and essential for the circular economy. New processes are required to dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions and we are innovating against that challenge. Processes that are substantially more energy efficient are possible, as are processes that use renewable energy. Current efforts on process improvements will certainly impact business in the future.

Sustainability themes drive product innovations, too. I am proud of our history of sustainability related to innovation. We have a robust pipeline of products that reduce resource use, save energy and water, and introduce alternatives to materials that are concerning. We continue to introduce innovations that address customer needs in the most sustainable way possible.

In a June 2014 C&EN profile, you said the following: "We will put greater emphasis on collaborating with customers because that's what it takes to commercialize new products faster. I want to have a seat at our customers' design tables." How has that aspiration manifested itself since 2014? And have you been successful – as a result – in commercializing new products faster?

"Seat at the design table" actually describes what we've achieved pretty well with many of our key customers. It is more than simply a close working relationship. It involves trust. It involves a true partnership. It involves collaboration across the full value chain and development timeline. We've taken this concept further than we had thought possible in 2014. I thank our customers and value chain partners for participating in this journey. It is an honor to work with them to deliver great innovations to the world.

We've built an R&D organization that delivers results. High-throughput research is fully integrated into R&D workflows. We have also fully integrated high-performance computing from ab initio calculations to design of experiments, generative modeling, and genetic modeling. These abilities underlie our success, but it isn't just about the number of experiments. You still need to target efforts – prioritize use of this unique capability – and that is where a seat at the design table brings benefits. We work on projects that have a path to market. Our relationships, the close working partnerships and our ability to innovate faster, create real innovations and real value – significantly cutting the time from idea to commercial success.

The pace of new product introductions increased while performance expectations continue to increase. Let me give one example. Koehler Paper and Dow were recognized by the Green Chemistry Challenge for a more sustainable thermal paper, marketed by Koehler as BLUE4EST™. It is thermal paper free of chemical developers.

ROPAQUE™ NT-2900 Opaque Polymer made by Dow enables this technology. The result is a thermal paper that can easily be used in any conventional thermal printer without the chemical developers that cause concern and provides better performance. The images and printed text last longer, they aren't influenced by sunlight and humidity, and the paper is the first thermal paper approved for food contact. Better performance and simultaneously more sustainable.

What is the most challenging part of your job? And has that evolved since you started in your current role?

I see every challenge as an opportunity for Dow to get better – as an opportunity for Dow to differentiate itself. Challenges are part of the job. My job is about technology and people – recruiting, developing, and retaining the best talent in the world, and assuring that state-of-the-art capabilities are available for them to excel.

The days when a round-bottom flask and a hood were the only required capabilities are long gone. Dow invested heavily in high-throughput research since I joined. High-throughput tools enable more and faster experiments than ever before, increasing our probability of success through error reduction and statistically robust experiment design.

We are increasing our modeling and data analytics capabilities. These capabilities, in the hands of skilled scientists and engineers, allow us to innovate faster than ever before. I love the challenge of bringing forward new innovations, and products that make a difference in a marketplace that is constantly evolving. It is incredibly rewarding to observe the inventiveness of our people. The challenges and tools continue to evolve, but it is the people that make innovation possible.

Among your scientists at Dow, what non-technical skills do you most highly value?

I would have to say the combination of passion for great science and engineering, working collaboratively across teams and time zones, and the perseverance that finds a way to solve seemingly intractable problems.

There are certainly many ways to be successful, but time and time again I see it is the folks that just won't quit that get the job done. I like to think of the Dow diamond as a kind of map of what we do.

We start with a problem to solve. We expand the search space, considering and evaluating many diverse ideas with inputs from across our global organization, from scientists and engineers with different backgrounds and experiences. We then begin the process of narrowing toward a practical, viable solution.

Ideas and opportunities become products solving customer needs, thanks to the passion and perseverance of Dow people. Like the diamond, we start at a point in space, diverge and expand with vibrant ideas, and converge to a different point in space with a solution that the marketplace demands.

How would you characterize the scientific literacy of the U.S.? How does it impact what you are trying to achieve at Dow?

Many of the problems we face do not have ready-made solutions. These problems require more than a superficial level of understanding of engineering and science. We can absolutely improve data literacy in the U.S. We need more people that understand statistics. We need more people who are compelled by data in making decisions – people who extract information from data, who create knowledge from information, and who ultimately derive wisdom from knowledge.

We need wisdom to anticipate and solve problems. We need better life-cycle analysis incorporated into our thinking. Dow products virtually always provide a benefit in use that far exceeds any environmental burden created during manufacture. They are better than alternatives in most, if not all, parameters. I remain hopeful that education efforts will increase scientific literacy, driving better decisions.

What do you view as Dow's most consequential sustainability issue? And what is Dow doing to address it?

All sustainability issues are consequential and there are many. The whole value chain needs to be involved in tackling these issues – from raw materials makers, to goods producers, to distributors and retailers, to consumers and municipalities. That is why Dow took action as a founding member of the Alliance to End Plastic Waste. AEPW is about collaboration to solve a global issue. It brings together the entire plastics value chain, world-class technical, materials, logistics, and engineering expertise, to find solutions. We will foster innovation, fund opportunities, and bring together the necessary partners to overcome the issue of plastic in the environment.

We also are addressing other sustainability challenges. We continue to innovate new products and processes that are more efficient, reducing energy use and emissions. We are creating products and processes that enable the circular economy. We apply life-cycle thinking to target our activities. Life-cycle thinking is the best tool we have to prioritize actions. We need to understand the life-cycle benefits of our products and we always need to reduce the burdens. Use of life-cycle thinking to direct action will ultimately make the world more sustainable and drive better decisions.

What advice do you have for your mid-career chemists to help them thrive in a dynamic workplace?

Continue to cultivate your scientific passion, and always seek truth with good engineering and a science mindset. The rest will follow.

What are some of the ways you try to hire, develop, and retain young talent at Dow?

We recruit at top universities, and we engage in research at top universities. We empower those we hire with great capabilities and challenge them to come up with novel solutions. We continue to push the envelope. High performance computing is growing in importance and we are hiring for particular expertise, but we are also enabling the entire organization to reap the benefits. We hire well, provide relevant challenges, and provide our researchers access to the tools needed for success.

What was it about your time at Alfred University, where you earned your Master's Degree, that motivated you to later serve on that university's Board of Trustees?

The new president came calling, and I was happy to help them.

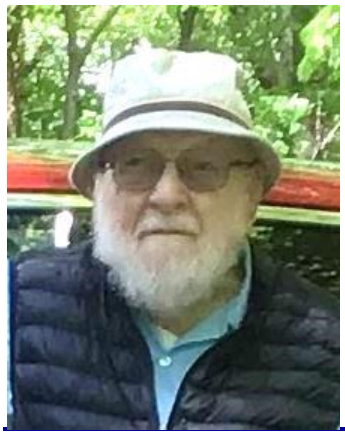
You've done a fair amount of traveling in your career. If you were forced to re-locate Dow's Midland campus to anywhere in the world, where would you place it?

Nowhere but Midland – if you speak Latin, Midland translates to Milan. Take the first derivative of distance – we are in the middle of nowhere. And, the second derivative – we are in the middle of everywhere. Many people make fun of small town Midland. They shouldn't. It offers many advantages – great local K-12 schools, easy commuting, plenty of activities for families including arts, outdoors, and sports, and reasonable cost of living. We experience very high employee retention. It is a great place, and the place I want to be.

Reminisces of a Couple of Senior Chemists

Frank Scheidt and Wendell Dilling, Longtime Members, Midland Section ACS

Editor's note: This set of reminisces is drawn from a couple of rounds of shared e-mail exchanges between two next-door neighbors, Frank Scheidt (photo below left, courtesy of Marcia Dilling) and Wendell Dilling (photo on next page, courtesy of Marcia Dilling). Wendell has served as the Midland Section ACS Historian for a number of years, in addition to serving in a wide range of other elected and volunteer roles with the Midland local section, and he is a 60-year member of the ACS. Frank is a 66-year member of the American Chemical Society, and he, too, was quite active back in the day. Two stories related to Frank's past ACS activities are highlighted below.



Frank Scheidt: Wendell, as a result of our recent e-mail exchange, I started thinking (as I occasionally do) about my early years in Midland. As I recall, you are the local section ACS historian. If that is correct, then continue reading. If it isn't, then you are wasting your time.

As you know, in recent years, I have not been very active in ACS affairs. However, that was not always the case, and I want to make certain that your history is complete.

I arrived in Midland in 1956. During the mid-to late-1950s, I was a moderator for an ACS sponsored program named "Chem Quiz." This program was aimed

at generating intermediate school aged kids' interest in science. We held competitions around the state, and I recall once, in Flint, when I was serving as a moderator, that I made a mistake. One of the Flint school kids caught my mistake and called me out. It was kind of embarrassing, but aside from that incident things went smoothly for the rest of the competition.

Also, for ten years I was a section editor for Chemical Abstracts Service (Section 23, Inorganics). As the local section historian you probably already know this, Wendell, but I just wanted to make sure.

Wendell Dilling: Thank you, Frank. Yes, I knew some of the things of what you wrote, but not all of them, and yes, I am the Midland Section ACS Historian, 23 years and counting. My predecessor in this job was my wife, Marcia Dilling, a great person to learn from.

Your comments are interesting, especially the Chem Quiz competition mistake in Flint. Do you recall what the specific mistake was? In reading your comments, it also struck me that these sorts of reminisces might be interesting to some of the present day, younger (and maybe some older) members of the Midland local section.

Frank Scheidt: In Flint, the mistake was this. The contest had started, and at that point, the moderators were supposed to keep quiet other than to correct rule violations. One of the contestants asked me a question. The rules forbade me from answering or even commenting on it, and I, unthinkingly, answered his question. One of the other contestants pointed out that my answering was illegal … (sigh) … and he was right. And, no, I have no memory of what the specific question was.

By the way, I still remember the names of the Midland team. The team name was "Prosser's Prodigies," and the team members were Joyce Prosser (team captain), Fred Berhenke (Luther Berhenke's son), and Sandra Schuette (sister of the local politician and daughter of the former Dow executive).

Wendell Dilling: That is very interesting, Frank. Thank you for sharing this story. What can you tell us about your days with Chemical Abstracts Service?

Frank Scheidt: I was a section editor (Section 23, Inorganics) for Chemical Abstracts for more than ten years. I know it was longer than ten years since I have a plaque in recognition of ten years of service, signed by Chemical Abstracts Editor Russell J. Rowlett, Jr., and I didn't stop at the ten-year point.

Many of the demands of chemical abstracts' editing surprised me. I received abstracts from all over the world from people who spent time reading articles from American Chemical Society journals. They then wrote abstracts of those readings. The first thing that surprised me was that a lot of the abstracts that I was seeing didn't really say anything, but were mostly just a collection of English words. Obviously, many of those abstracts' authors didn't have English as their first language.

With those abstracts that were in legible English, I'd have to read what was said and then decide whether or not it seemed likely to be true. This could be tricky at times since my background was in organic chemistry and I certainly was no expert in, say, physical chemistry. However, if a given abstract seemed to be almost the

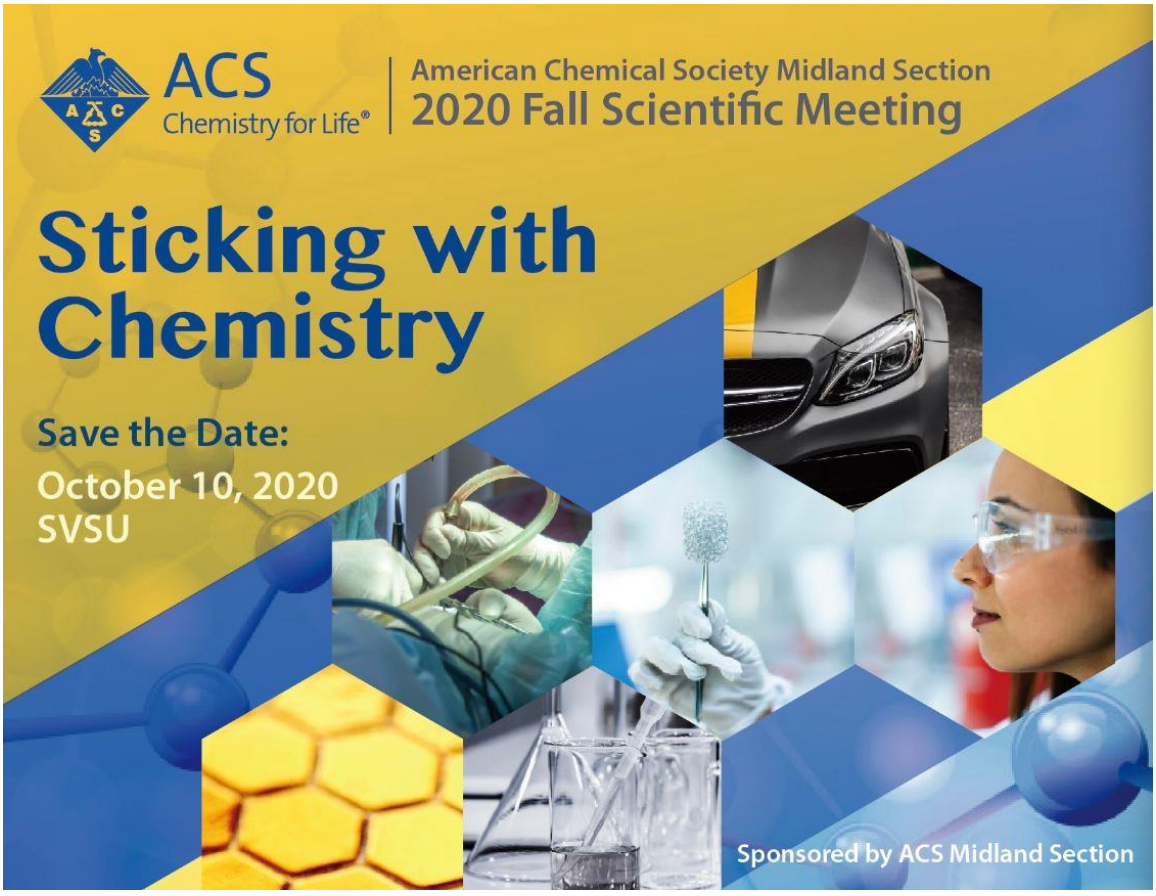
equivalent of how to change lead into gold, I'd have to reject it. When I had doubts of any kind about an abstract, I'd contact the author to straighten things out, and that procedure seemed to work well.
Many of the abstractors had only an academic background, and often seemed to be puzzled by the significance of copyrights and patents. Also, I found that some of my editorial corrections were simply ignored when the abstract went forward and was printed. I never did understand why that would occur. I shouldn't have been so surprised, though, since I had often done the same thing myself in the lab where I worked. During the 1950s our laboratory reports were edited by the Assistant Laboratory Director for many years. And, more than once before publishing my reports, I would change the Assistant Director's changes back to the way I had originally written them.

However, I always kept in mind the fact that English is a very dynamic language, constantly changing. And, what evidence do we have of this? Read the original writings of Shakespeare – and they are only four centuries old.

Wendell Dilling: This is great, Frank. Thank you for sharing some reminisces about your early days of service with the American Chemical Society.

2020 Fall Scientific Meeting – Save the Date, October 10

Anirudha Banerjee, 2020 Fall Scientific Meeting Chair, Midland Section ACS



Upcoming Dates, Events, and Other Updates

- May 4 (7:00 – 8:00 PM) – Midland Section ACS Board meeting (virtual meeting only) via a WebEx conference call connection at Midland Section WebEx Board Meeting May 2020, phone number: 989-633-1166.
- May 6 (5:30 – 9:00 PM) – Midland Section ACS Spring Awards Banquet, Great Hall Banquet & Convention Center, 5121 Bay City Road, Midland. Cost: $20.00 per person. For more information, contact Diana Deese, Midland Section ACS Awards Committee Chair, at dkdeese@dow.com or 989-636-9915. ***Please note: This event has been cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Award recipients will still be recognized.***
- May 27 – 29, 2020 (Save the Date) – 2020 ACS Central Regional Meeting, Columbus, OH. For more information, please see https://cerm2020.org/?sc=200226_mtg_em_regional_CERM_od. ***Please note: This meeting has been cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It will be rescheduled for some time in November.*** Please visit the Central Regional Meeting website for additional information, or reach out by e-mail at reglmtgs@acs.org for any questions.
- June 1 (7:00 – 8:00 PM) – Midland Section ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via a WebEx conference call connection at Midland Section WebEx Board Meeting June 2020, phone number: 989-633-1166.
- June 1 – **Deadline for Midland Section ACS Spring Awards nominations** to honor outstanding educators, volunteers, and colleagues. For more information, contact Diana Deese, Midland Section ACS Awards Committee Chair, at dkdeese@dow.com or 989-636-9915.
- August 3 (7:00 – 8:00 PM) – Midland Section ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via a WebEx conference call connection at Midland Section WebEx Board Meeting August 2020, phone number: 989-633-1166.
- August 16-20 (Save the Date) – Fall 2020 National ACS Meeting & Exposition, San Francisco, CA. Meeting theme: *Moving Chemistry from Bench to Market*. For more information, and to submit an abstract, please see https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/meetings/national-meeting/abstract-submission.html.
- September 8 (7:00 – 8:00 PM) – Midland Section ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via a WebEx conference call connection at Midland Section WebEx Board Meeting September 2020, phone number: 989-633-1166. ***Please note: This Board meeting is being held on Tuesday evening, not the usual Monday evening.***
- October 5 (7:00 – 8:00 PM) – Midland Section ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via a WebEx conference call connection at Midland Section WebEx Board Meeting October 2020, phone number: 989-633-1166.
- October 10 (Save the Date) – 2020 Midland Section ACS Fall Scientific Meeting. Location: Saginaw Valley State University. Meeting theme: *Sticking with Chemistry*.
- November 2 (7:00 – 8:00 PM) – Midland Section ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via a WebEx conference call connection at Midland Section WebEx Board Meeting November 2020, phone number: 989-633-1166.
- November (Save the Date, Dates TBD) – 2020 ACS Central Regional Meeting, Columbus, OH. For more information, please see https://cerm2020.org/?sc=200226_mtg_em_regional_CERM_od.
- December 7 (7:00 – 8:00 PM) – Midland Section ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via a WebEx conference call connection at Midland Section WebEx Board Meeting December 2020, phone number: 989-633-1166.

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