



October 2014
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Central Texas ACS

Established 1917

Newsletter of the Central Texas Section of the American Chemical Society
www.CentralTexasACS.org

Local Section meeting – Saturday, October 25th
Brunch Begins at 10:30am, talk begins at 11:15am

Chemistry of Chocolate

Dr. Romi Burks

Professor, Southwestern University in Georgetown

Southwestern University

1001 E. University Ave., Georgetown, TX 78626

(512) 863-6511

We will meet at 10:30 am in the dining facility (McCombs Campus Center bldg. #31) for a cafeteria style breakfast / brunch (cost \$7.50). At 11:15am, we will adjourn to nearby Olen hall room 105 (bldg. #11). Suggested parking in Finch Plaza across from Perkins Chapel (bldg. #34).

RSVP by October 22th using any of the following methods below:

[RSVP link](#)

Speaker Presentation

Dr. Romi Burks teaches ecological-themed course in the Department of Biology at Southwestern University and works extensively with undergraduate research collaborations in the fields of aquatic ecology, invasive biology and conservation science. Her researches focuses on large, freshwater snails called apple snails - which have nearly nothing to do with her professional hobby of educating the world about the interdisciplinary nature of chocolate. Still, as one interesting note, the native habitats of the snails and the tree that produces chocolate do indeed overlap and chocolate has even been used as a stimulus in an experiment about learning in aquatic snails. Through a first-year seminar, Burks has used her scholarly training to connect the dots between different disciplines that involve chocolate in some way.

Her talk will include highlights of what the chocolate "world" thinks about in terms of the chemistry of chocolate including brief insights into fermentation, anti-oxidants, drug development and flavor enhancement through selective genetics.

The presentation will include a **few chocolate samples** that highlight different chemical properties. Burks has developed her expertise in chocolate since 2005, recently serving as a selection judge for the International Chocolate Awards.

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Chemists Celebrate National Chemistry Week

This year's theme is The Sweet Side of Chemistry: Candy. Central Texas ACS will celebrate with hands on activities for kids of all ages on Saturday, November 1st from 12 noon to 4 PM at the Zilker Park, Beverly S. Sheffield Education Center, formerly Splash Exhibit. So stop by to celebrate!

Come and be part of the fun! We would love for you to come and help us put on this family friendly event. There are 2 shifts for volunteering 11am-2pm or 2pm-4:30pm Volunteer Here. Hands on activities and demonstrations. No training necessary, just enthusiasm, enjoyment of chemistry and of kids. The location is 2201 Barton Springs Road, Austin, TX 78746 Please remember that if you volunteer at any of our local chapter events, you are invited to a fall meeting for a free meal and talk. So make sure to sign up!!

[11am-2pm sign up time](#) & [2pm-4:30pm sign up time](#). Contact Dodie Wells with questions or for more information – dodiewells4@hotmail.com

Dr. Linette Watkins honored as an ACS Fellow

The [ACS Fellows Program](#) was created by the ACS Board of Directors in December 2008 “to recognize members of ACS for outstanding achievements in and contributions to Science, the Profession and the Society.”

The Central Texas Section successfully nominated Dr. Linette Watkins as a 2014 ACS Fellow. She was honored along with 98 other awardees at the national meeting on August 11, 2014. Linette was a force and an inspiration during her 12 years in the Central Texas local section. She held positions of Chair, Alternate Councilor and Councilor of the local section, as well as creating the first National Chemistry Week and Chemists Celebrate Earth Day activities. She was general co-chair of the very successful 2011 Southwest Regional Meeting held here in Austin, which attracted more than 1,000 attendees. We also wish to congratulate Dr. Hung-wen Liu of UT Austin. Short descriptions of each award can be found [in the ACS Fellows Program section of ACS website](#).



Announcements

Southwest Regional Meeting **SWRM** will be held in Fort Worth November 19-24. For more details and to register, go to <http://www.swrm2014.org/>.

The next meeting will be November 18th at Alamo Drafthouse for a viewing of PhD comics.

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Councilor's Corner

It is the responsibility of local section Councilors to attend the bi-annual national meetings, where we attend the Council Meeting on Wednesday morning, and serve on volunteer committees. Please find below a report on the Council Meeting from the August 2014 national meeting in San Francisco. Diane serves as a volunteer on the [Committee for Economic and Professional Affairs](#) (CEPA). Her sub-committee within CEPA provides oversight and recommendations about ACS career programs, products and services. CEPA is one of approximately 30 volunteer committees that provide advice to the ACS (the Society).

Report from the 248th ACS National Meeting in San Francisco, California, August 10-14, 2014

Fall is Election Time!

The candidates for President-Elect, 2015

- Peter K. Dorhout, Dean of Arts & Sciences and Professor of Chemistry, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS
- William A. Lester, Jr., Professor of the Graduate School, Department of Chemistry, University of California, Berkeley, CA
- Donna J. Nelson, Professor, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK

To read the candidate statements, and to see a list of candidates for Directors-at-Large, go to [the ACS National Candidate page of acs.org](#).

Budget and Finance

The Society has a projected revenue for 2014 of about 500 million dollars. Both expenses and revenues were slightly lower than projected.

American Association of Chemistry Teachers is now accepting members

The new American Association of Chemistry Teachers (AACT), which is now accepting members after it officially launched on September 2, 2014. AACT member benefits include access to curricular resources, such as lesson plans and multimedia; professional development opportunities; a subscription to *ChemMatters*; and an online member network.

Employment Trends

The unemployment rates for all (ACS) chemists has dropped from 3.5% in 2013 to 2.9% as of March 2014. Sadly, unemployment rates for new graduates as of August 2013 were at an all time high of 14.6%. For new bachelor level graduates, the number is even higher-15.8%.

National Meetings and Membership

The attendance at the San Francisco National Meeting was 15,761. There were more than 400 booths and 285 companies in the exhibit hall. There are more than 158,000 members in the ACS, more than 25,000 of whom are international. Automatic renewal of membership is now available.

Senior Chemists Committee (SCC) awards mini-grants

SCC has approved 22 mini-grants of \$300 each to encourage and support the organization of senior groups at the local section level. The SCC newsletter now has the highest "open" rate of all newsletters published by the Society.

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Younger Chemists Committee (YCC) sponsors "Program in a Box"

YCC has secured funding for two "Program in a Box" events for 2015. These very popular programs will be available through ACS Webinars.

Author Sam Kean read from his book "The Disappearing Spoon"

The ACS Board of Directors hosted Sam Kean, author of *The Disappearing Spoon* and *The Violinist's Thumb* - both of which were national bestsellers and named Amazon "Top 5" science books of the year. His newest book is *The Tale of the Dueling Neurosurgeons*.

Quality Assurance Manager Consultant

Kelly Scientific Resources is currently recruiting for a QA Manager Consultant in San Antonio, TX for a pharmaceutical manufacturing company.

Responsibilities:

- Responsible for providing an independent review of all raw materials and finished goods prior to release for production or sale as applicable.
- Assures compliance to in-house and/or external specifications and standards.
- Actively contributes to the data collection, trend analysis, investigation and improvements to processes, products and systems.
- Skills: Works on problems of diverse scope in which analysis of data requires evaluation of identifiable factors.
- Exercises judgment within generally defined practices and policies in selecting methods and techniques for obtaining solutions.
- QA review of records includes ensuring accuracy of data
- Responsible for internal auditing and quality review practices
- Assist in external audits including customer, FDA, ISO, and DEA audits
- Responsible for training manufacturing personnel on proper GMP compliance
- Conduct evaluations and audits of production to ensure procedures are being followed in accordance with GMP compliance
- Train production employees and implement quality process improvements
- Provide corrective actions as necessary.

Requirements:

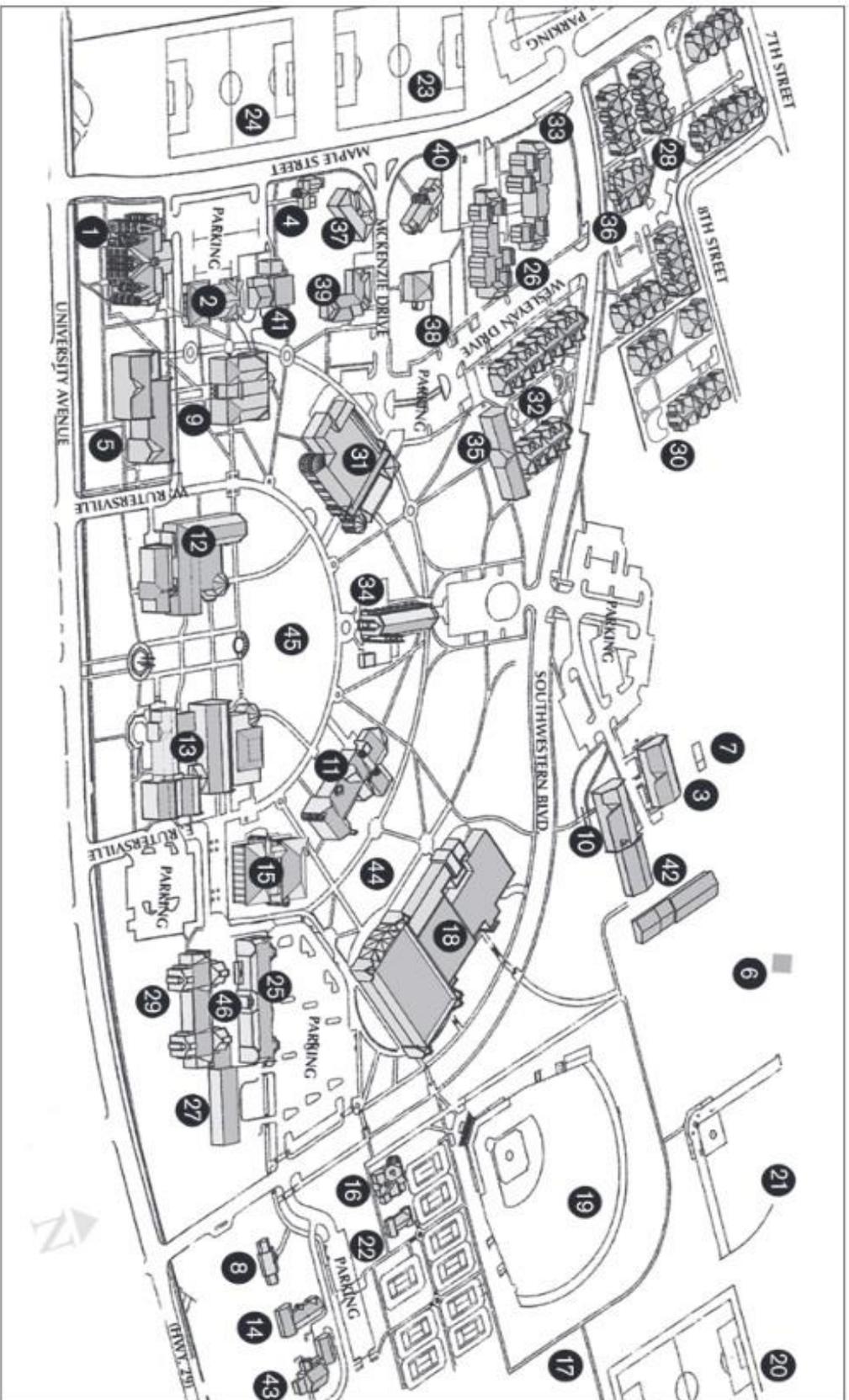
- Minimum of 5+ years related experience and demonstrated working knowledge of compliance, quality systems and scientific principles.
- Management role experience in a Pharmaceutical environment
- Strong Analytical skills (HPLC, GC).
- Experience in investigation customer/consumer complaints
- Requires strong, persuasive communication skills both verbally and in writing.
- Experience with word processing, spread sheet and database programs essential.
- BS in Chemistry/Biology or related field
- Knowledge of quality systems in Clinical, Pharmaceutical and Medical Device industries.
- Experience working in a GMP, GLP and ISO environment
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Strong technical data and ability to apply knowledge to a pharmaceutical manufacturing environment

Contact:

Delma Lopez, Scientific Recruiter at delma.lopez@kellyservices.com

W: 210-384-8290 I F: 210-384-8294 10101 Reunion Pl. #150, San Antonio, TX 78216

Southwestern University Campus Map



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Central Texas Section
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**Central Texas ACS: October 2014
2014 Executive Committee: Officers and Program Directors**

Chair	Dr. Sandra Loudwig	Luminex Corporation	Alt. Councilor 2	Dr. Denny Wagoner	Retired
Chair-elect, Webmaster & High School Coordinator	Dr. Neal Grice	Retired	Younger Chemist Committee Chair & Newsletter Editor	Cotton Starr	University of Texas
Past-Chair & Chemistry Olympiad Secretary	Dr. Don Wharry Margaret Connor	St. Edward's University Huntington-Surrey High School	Awards Chair EHS Chair	Jackie Padilla Katherine Cross	University of Texas
Councilor 1, Treasurer, & Nominations Chair	Dr. Diane Kneeland	Retired	National Chemistry Week & Earth Day	Dodie Wells	Retired
Councilor 2, Boy Scout Program, & Membership Chair	Dr. Barry Streusand	Texas State University	Public Relations Chair	Dr. David Treadwell	
Alt. Councilor 1 & Historian	Dr. Malcolm Prouty	SMRC			