



# The Accelerator



INDIANA SECTION OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY



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## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Be inspired by Denise Durham Perdue's incredible accomplishments

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## ACS NATIONAL AWARDS

Read about our local section members who were recognized for their contributions to ACS in 2022!

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## CIRCULAR INDIANA

Indiana takes the lead in promoting the circular economy.



## INDIANA LS RECEIVES CHEMLUMINARY AWARD

Our section was awarded Chem Luminary Award for Best Activity or Program Highlighting ACS Change Driver(s) or Strategic Planning by the Strategic Planning Committee. The other nominees were the Chicago local section and Pakistan ICSC. In addition, Indiana section was nominated for Chem Luminary Awards for Outstanding or Creative Local Section Younger Chemists Committee Event and Outstanding Performance by a Local Section - Medium Large Size Category.

# CHAIR'S CORNER

Partha Basu



Dear Friends,

I am very pleased to update about the progress we made this year. We are more than half-way through the year, and you have done an impressive array of work. We started the year with a hybrid format for our local section meetings that continues providing more engagement and convenience. In May we held an in-person general body meeting where we had a wonderful turnout where several new members are joining us. As time passes, more and more people are attending events in person. Thanks to you, we have successfully completed several events and a detailed list is presented in this issue. I am excited about the Spring National Meeting, and I hope you are too. The local section team is working tirelessly to bring various events into the national meeting and to provide delightful experiences for the attendees and the community.

Finally, I am thinking about the next year and several positions are up for election. In the executive committee at large, the following positions to be filled: Chair-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and Members-at-large (3). In addition, we need to elect one councilor and two alternate councilors. If you are interested in serving any of this capacity, please let me know. In the next few weeks, you receive a ballot, so please vote. Your vote is important for the health of the local section. If there is anything we can do to serve you better, please let us know. I remain very optimistic and excited about the local section, and it is because of your effort and engagement. Thank you for what you do for the local section.

Sincerely,  
Partha Basu



## PREPARING FOR THE NEXT PANDEMIC

Christine Bodurow will be stepping down from her role as ACS Board of Directors District II position at the end of the year, and she recently shared news of her next steps via email. The Indiana Local Section is proud to publicly congratulate her on this achievement!

"I've accepted a new role as Deputy Director and COO of the AVIDD Center at the Stanford University School of Medicine for an NIH/NIAID program aimed at Anti-virals in Drug Discovery and Pandemic Preparedness. You may read more about this program [\[here\]](#)."

The purpose of this program is to discover, develop and commercialize universal outpatient anti-viral medications, thereby significantly reducing or eliminating the threat of another global pandemic. The core project team is at Stanford Medical School, with about 60 PI's spread across the world. Due to the wonders of Zoom (discovered during the recent pandemic), I will be doing the majority of work from Indianapolis, and travelling to the SF Bay area, research sites and/or the NIH a couple of times a year. Am very excited and humbled by this great opportunity to contribute to a global health priority!"

# Member Spotlight - Denise Durham Perdue

Authored by Linda Osborn and Jordan Jewett

As we interact with ACS members during local section events, we have the pleasure of getting to know many great people in our ACS community. Such is the case with Denise Durham Perdue. She has volunteered at the ACS booth at Celebrate Science Indiana for many years, participated in the LS mentorship program, and other LS outreach events, but her story goes much deeper.

Denise has continuously furthered her education to complement her rise in the food industry, receiving a BS in Chemistry from York College, an MS in Information Systems (Computer Technology): NJIT, an MBA in Leadership from Walden U, a MJ in Global Food Law from MSU, a PhD in Business Management from Walden U, and now a doctorate in law as of July 2022. Now that is accomplished!

Denise, in her stunning gown, celebrated on July 3rd with family and friends at a graduation gala like no other. With cocktails, delicious hors d'oeuvres, an elegant sit-down dinner, and two live bands, it was an appropriate celebration for such a highly accomplished and active ACS member.

Her abundant talents are well-utilized in her career as Senior Director, Quality Services of The Wine Group. An exceptional mentor, trainer and coach, Denise combines her business acumen with innate leadership abilities to recruit, build and retain top-performing quality teams.

On top of all these accomplishments, she has a heart of gold that radiates as she participates in numerous volunteer events. Denise's favorite volunteer events involve young people, like the State Science Fair or the Science Days at the Children's Museum. She attributes her love of helping make science fun for future scientists to a teacher from her Catholic Elementary School in NYC, who made science fun and interesting! Denise's upbringing in New York also fostered a love of the arts, so she loves events that bring them together. As such, she is looking forward to bridging the arts and sciences through Newfields at ACS 2023.

Denise credits her mother, Editha Durham, as one of the greatest influences in her life, recalling the twelve-hour night shifts her mother would work as a nurse to support her family, or the time her mother sacrificed sleep to sit through a presentation Denise gave to her inorganic chemistry class in college. Editha inspired Denise to realize that she can attain any goal and follow any career path that fulfilled her. Denise notes other influences in her life are Maya Angelou, Toni Morrison, Alice Ball, Katherine Johnson, and Clarice Phelps, who discovered element 117, Tennessine. Drawing on the same principles instilled by her mother, Denise admires these women for their unwavering strength to pursue their dreams despite all obstacles.



*Denise and her husband, Chris, at her graduation gala.*



*Celebration of Denise Durham Perdue's graduation on Sunday, July 3, 2022*

Though these powerful women have inspired Denise to forge her own path, Denise is now the one inspiring others. To young scientists, Denise says, "Understand that you will have failure in your life and career. It is what you learn and what you do to overcome those failures that will set you apart from others. Know yourself and your truth!" To her fellow ACS members interested in getting more involved, Denise suggests that you "find your passion, then find volunteer opportunities that foster those passions. She also suggests "seeking programs and volunteer opportunities outside your comfort zone to broaden your horizons and learn something new. Continued growth will make you your best you!"

We thank Denise for her sage words, her dedication to ACS, and her dedication to promoting science as a whole! We also extend Denise a warm congratulations on her past and future success! We cannot wait to see what comes next for you!



## White River Clean-Up Event

Authored by Kymeri Davis

On May 22<sup>nd</sup>, the ACS Indiana Local Section partnered with Friends of the White River for a river clean-up event. 16 volunteers from Lilly, IUPUI, Corteva, ACS, Dow, and IU picked up trash and debris along the White River near the Virginia B. Fairbanks Art & Nature Park. Volunteers picked up an entire trailer full! Additionally, the Indiana LS was able to donate \$1000 to the Friends of the White River to aid them in future conservation

efforts. The Indiana LS would like to thank Friends of the White River and all of our volunteers who devoted their Sunday morning to making Indy even more beautiful!



## Brian Mathes - ACS Fellow 2022

Authored by Partha Basu and Linda Osborn

ACS fellows are selected based on documented excellence and leadership in both their scientific profession and volunteer service in the ACS community. Brian was a lead scientist with the responsibility of guiding projects from early phase to commercialization of products within a wide range of pharmaceutical interest. His projects included drug development in the treatment of cancer, Alzheimer's disease, and autoimmune deficiency and alternative methods for drug delivery. Brian had group oversight responsibilities that included on-site supervision of chemists in India, and his work has resulted in 10 major publications, two dozen professional presentations, and 12 patents. He is the inventor of Reyvow, an Eli Lilly product for migraine headache relief. Currently, Brian is a Senior Research Chemist at Elanco and a consummate member of the ACS Indiana Local section. He has served the ACS at national, regional, and local levels with passion. Brian's love of science and chemistry was ignited at an early age. Now he sparks others through his engagement with ACS. Currently a councilor of our Indiana local section, Brian's involvement began 32 years ago with SAACS at Ball State University. Always serving, he was treasurer for 3 years and loved the outreach events. This seed of outreach blossomed into his number one focus as an ACS member - outreach and education of the science of chemistry. Since 2001, Brian has been a strong leader in our section. He holds the position of Councilor, Kids and Chemistry Committee Chair, and is the primary organizer of the Front Porch initiative for the ACS 2023 National Meeting occurring in Indianapolis in March. In addition to all he has done for us, he also has a strong presence in ACS at the national level. Congratulations - Brian!



## RECOGNIZING OUR AWARD WINNERS

Authored by Tom Xiao Awards Committee Chair

Please join us in celebrating our accomplished Indiana Local Section 2022 ACS award winners\*!

*\*listed in alphabetical order by first name*



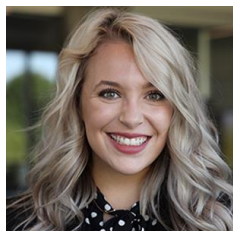
Ann Kimble-Hill - 2022 Stanley C. Israel Award for Advancing Diversity in the Chemical Sciences Award

Ann is an Assistant Research Professor of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology working at IU School of Medicine. She is the former chairperson for the ACS National Committee on Minority Affairs and is the Assistant Director of Diversity, Equity, and inclusion at Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Comprehensive Cancer Center. Ann received the Stanley C. Israel Award for Advancing Diversity in the Chemical Sciences Award for efforts advancing diversity in the chemical sciences and stimulating activities that promote inclusiveness.



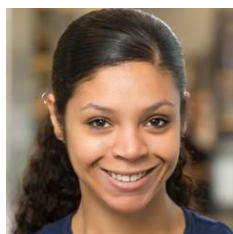
Carolina G. Vega - ACS Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Scholar Recognition Program Leadership in the Promotion of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Respect Award

Carolina is a fifth year PhD student at IUPUI working in the field of analytical chemistry. She currently holds the roles of the Committee on Minority (CMA) position for the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Respect sub-committee chair and the Younger Chemists Committee (YCC) Social sub-committee chair positions. Carolina was one of this year's recipients of the Promotion of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Respect Award the purpose of which is to recognize talented graduate student and postdoctoral scholars in the chemical sciences who serve as diversity champions in their universities, organizations, and within the ACS.



Hannah Zimmerman-Federle - ACS Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Scholar Recognition Program Leadership in Mentoring Award

Hannah is a third year PhD student at IUPUI working in the field of analytical chemistry. She currently holds the roles of Member-at-large, Younger Chemists Committee (YCC) Chair, and Membership Affairs Committee Chair. Hannah was one of this year's recipients of the Leadership in Mentoring Award the purpose of which is to recognize talented graduate student and postdoctoral scholars in the chemical sciences who serve in critical leadership roles as mentors.



Jade Bing - 2022 Outreach Volunteer of the Year Award, Indiana Local Section

Jade is a synthetic chemist working at Corteva Agriscience. She currently holds the role of Committee on Minority Affairs (CMA) chair. Jade was this year's recipient of the Outreach Volunteer of the Year Award the purpose of which is to recognize extraordinary outreach volunteer service within a local section.



Matthew Russell - ACS Committee on Technician Affairs Award

Matthew is a Senior Technologist working at Corteva Agriscience. He was this year's recipient of the ACS Committee on Technician Affairs National CTA Award the purpose of which is to honor excellence and professionalism among technicians, operators, analysts and other applied chemical technology professionals.

# Manners Matter Madame!

Authored by Christine Skaggs



Flashback to two months ago. I'm staring down at the organized place setting before me thinking about how someone is going to have to do a lot of dishes tonight. I counted at least five pieces of silverware and that was just for me. The waiters are bustling around. A petite brunette woman smiles at me and sits down. As the salads are delivered, we make small talk about how the business conference we are at is nice. Yes, it is very hot out. No, I don't think the Red Sox will win the World Series. A man sits to my right complaining about how this place is so fancy that he had to wear pants to dinner! A few minutes later I hear, "Psst!" I look over to the woman on my left. "We use these from the outside in, right?" she asks gesturing to the unnecessary pile of utensils. I nod shoving a rather unladylike amount of salad into my mouth. She nods relieved and we moved on with our night.

Flash forward to the PREDICT etiquette dinner hosted by the Indiana Local Section Committee on Minority Affairs (CMA). I think back to my encounter a few short months ago and go into this experience ready to learn. The goal of the event was to help our members be more confident in professional and business settings, alleviate anxiety associated with unknowns in the workplace, and provide networking opportunities. Our speaker for the night, Beverly Randolph, was a certified etiquette and international protocol expert, Founder and Director of The Protocol School of Indianapolis, LLC, and is an adjunct professor at Marian University Indianapolis. She begins by telling us that manners matter. Etiquette is performed to, "put everyone at ease," she says. She states that etiquette is all about relationships and provides you with a platform to build and sustain long-lasting connections. As she goes through our four-course meal, I had the opportunity to interview some of our attendees who ranged from undergraduates to retired professionals. The dinner even reached out-of-state folks by encouraging REU students and interns/co-ops from local companies to attend. Many of them heard of the dinner through media such as the Accelerator that you are reading today. Others utilized our numerous social media platforms to obtain information (follow us @ACSINLocal on Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter!). Attendees felt that this event met their goal of furthering their development of key soft skills, something Beverly stated 86% of employers felt was necessary to succeed in the workplace. For some, this was their first ACS event, and they were happy to have this unique opportunity.

In short, the event went off without a hitch. It takes a special kind of vision to implement programming with the efficiency and intent as was shown here. As someone who had a sad excuse for a tuna sandwich for lunch, the food was incredible (thank you to Jacquie's catering and Ivy Tech Culinary and Conference Center), the venue had a beautiful view overlooking downtown, and the people were great company. Jade Bing, the current chair of CMA, stated that this event was "near and dear to my heart". She also commented, "I attended an etiquette dinner as an undergraduate as a part of the McNair Scholars program and it provided a foundation that helped me to put my best foot forward in future professional settings. Sometimes you just don't know what you don't know, and if that is related to etiquette it can lead to one being subject to judgment and bias. For all of our members, and in particular those from underrepresented groups that may already have a number of biases working against them, we aimed to shine a light on some aspects they might encounter in professional settings." As all good leaders know, success is directly tied to the team of volunteers. Special thank you to Erin Hancock, Muhammad Khalifa, and Ron Benning for their unique contributions to the overall success of this event.

Like what you see? Be on the lookout for other CMA events in the fall of 2022 including the Career Development Symposium, the Promoting Equity and Diversity In ChemisTry (PREDICT) webinar, and the Industry Networking event.

This event was sponsored by the Corporation Associates Local Section Seed Grant, The LSAC Diversity Equity, Inclusion, and Respect Grant, and the Indiana Local Section.



## Hoosier Science and Engineering Fair

The Science Education Foundation of Indiana (SEFI) held its 34th annual Hoosier Science and Engineering Fair in early April, hosted by The Heritage Group. Students from 4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade had the opportunity compete for cash prizes, scholarships and a coveted invitation to the Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair held in Atlanta in May. Thanks to all of the ACS Indiana LS volunteers who participated for inspiring the next generation of scientists!



## TWO LOCAL ACS CHAPTER MEMBERS PUBLISHED IN C&EN

Recently, both Chris Bodurow and Erin Dotlich were published in Chemical and Engineering News, where they wrote about expanding ACS membership and acknowledging less-recognized professionals in chemistry.

Drawing on her experience at Eli Lilly and more broadly in the pharmaceutical industry, Chris wrote on the importance of incorporating industrial chemists into the ACS. Industrial chemists are widely employed throughout the US, and they play an important role in the overall success of chemistry as a profession. In Chris's words, "They are a critical part of how basic and applied research is performed and discoveries are commercialized for the benefit of humankind." As such, ACS is focusing some of its efforts on expanding the circle to include more industrial chemists through making community connections, engaging young chemists, and encouraging industrial chemists to partake in the resources ACS has to offer.

Erin similarly drew on her professional experiences for her article, but instead she focused on a technician who used to report to her. This technician, Sabina, successfully completed studies not often performed in a quality control setting. However, once all the work was said and done, Sabina did not receive the accolades or recognition that her superiors did. This experience was one that pushed Erin to lead the ACS Committee on Technician Affairs. In her article, Erin relates her experience to the ACS's interest in drawing in and recognizing chemical technical professionals (CTPs) through creation of professional development tools, highlighting accomplishments of CTPs, and reaching out to stakeholders both inside and outside ACS.

Check out [Chris's article](#) and [Erin's article](#) for a more in-depth look at the topic of inclusion. Congratulations to both of you!

Enjoy a free festival that provides hands on STEM activities for kids of all ages. Visit an exciting variety of booths with guaranteed fun!

Who: Open to the public

What: Engaging, hands on science experiences

Where: Indiana State Fairgrounds Blue Ribbon Pavilion

When: Saturday, October 1st, 2022, from 9:30 am - 5:00 pm

Cost: Free event, parking at Fairgrounds is \$10



## 2022 THEME: PROTECTING OUR EARTH

- Bring in your old batteries for recycling by CIRBA!
- Special early childhood education section new this year
- Engineer with Lego building blocks
- Computer gaming sessions
- Bring your friends

Sign up on Eventbrite to win tickets to see Bill Nye the Science Guy at UIndy. Drawing on September 1st, 2022. This link can be sent to your family, friends, and colleagues that might want to attend also!

Check out highlights from the 2019 event!

## Communication Team - Call for volunteers

In an endeavor to consolidate efforts for the various communication roles within the Indiana ACS Local Section, a communication team is being formed. Below are the open positions. Please reach out to [Hannah Zimmerman-Federle](#) if you are interested in participating!

- **Journalist (2)**
  - Description: Attends various events held by the local section and performs write up to be displayed in the Accelerator. Coordinates with editors for appropriate content and formatting. Provides images for write-up (must have access and knowledge of basic Office platforms).
- **Content Creator – General (3)**
  - Creates flyers and other advertising materials to be displayed on social media. Acts as a point of contact for committee chairs and creates requested content in social media-approved format. Coordinates with social media committee chairs to generate appropriate content and formatting (no software required to fulfill the position. Should have basic experience with platforms such as illustrator, word, etc.).
- **Content Creator – Website (2)**
  - Creates content to update the website. Works with committee chairs to advertise upcoming events, showcase awards, and archive Accelerator issues. Coordinates with webmaster for appropriate content and formatting (should have fundamental knowledge on building websites).
- **Content Creator – Social Media (4: LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter TikTok)**
  - Provides regular updates on social media for specific platform (min twice a month) related to activities on-going in (either content created yourself or working with committees). Works with social media chairs to create unique “brand” for specific platform and to publish content that is relevant to the target demographic. Works with committee chairs to publish and advertise relevant events.
- **Membership Affairs – General (3)**
  - Works with strategic planning team to assess and stay up to date on member needs. Provides feedback to committee chairs and the executive board on the needs of the section to allow for the creation of dynamic programming. Works with the chair elect to write grants to fund planned events.





## INDIANA LS WELL REPRESENTED AT ICHO

Two ACS Indiana Local Section students were selected for this year's U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad Study Camp. There were a total of twenty students representing 15 Local Sections and 11 states that participated. They joined their mentor team for the Study Camp in June at the University of Maryland at College Park. The Study Camp featured guest speakers, problem-solving sessions, and social events, along with mentoring by faculty of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry of the University of Maryland at College Park.

The participating students were:

- Anantshri Asthana, John Foster Dulles High School, TX, Greater Houston Local Section
- Luke Chen, Blue Valley North High School, KS, Kansas City Local Section
- Yufei Chen\*, University High School, CA, Orange County Local Section
- Neil Chowdhury, Phillips Exeter Academy, NH, Northeastern Local Section
- Nipun Dour, Mira Loma High School, CA, Sacramento Local Section
- Mingwen Duan\*, East Lyme High School, CT, Connecticut Valley Local Section
- Alexander Gu, Gunn High School, CA, Silicon Valley Local Section
- **Canaan He, Carmel High School, IN, Indiana Local Section**
- Brian Li, Acton Boxborough Regional High School, MA, Northeastern Local Section
- Alice Liu, Marquette High School, MO, St. Louis Local Section
- *Jack Liu, Carmel High School, IN, Indiana Local Section*
- Jiaxu Liu, Detroit Country Day School, Detroit Local Section
- *Nathan Yihe Ouyang, University High School, CA, Orange County Local Section*
- Anurag Sodhi, Centennial High School, MD, Maryland Local Section
- Alan Song, Parkway West High School, MO, St. Louis Local Section
- Albert Tang, The Westminster Schools, GA, Georgia Local Section
- Gilford Ting, Cupertino High School, CA, Silicon Valley Local Section
- *Gideon Tzafiriri, Lexington High School, MA, Northeastern Local Section*
- *Phoenix Wu, Seven Lakes High School, TX, Greater Houston Local Section*
- Caleb Zhao, Montgomery Blair High School, MD, Chemical Society of Washington

*Students chosen for Team USA at IChO* \*Students chosen as alternates for Team USA at IChO

From the twenty attendees, Jack Liu, along with three other camp participants were also selected to represent Team USA at the International Chemistry Olympiad, which was hosted by China on July 10<sup>th</sup>. Out of the 326 participants, Nathan received Gold with a 6<sup>th</sup> place ranking, and Jack, Phoenix, and Gideon received silver placing 37<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup>, and 94<sup>th</sup> respectively. A huge congratulations to all of these hard working students, and congratulations Team USA!

## Indiana LS Receives ACS Grants

We are thrilled to announce that we have been awarded the following ACS Grants. These grants allow us to continue to provide quality programming for our current members and engage our communities.

- LSAC Diversity, Equity Inclusion, and Respect Grant - CMA
- Innovative Project Grant - YCC
- Corporation Associates Seed Grant - Industry Relations
- Corporation Associates LS Grant - Industry Relations
- Members Engaging Through Technology Grant - CMA

## DRAWING A THROUGHLINE WITH CIRCULAR INDIANA

As the world rapidly recognizes the need for environmental sustainability solutions, chemists and other scientists are left asking what they can do. When the problems that face us are so large, what can any single person or business do to truly make an impact? In May, The Heritage Group, in conjunction with ACS Indiana and Circular Indiana, sought to answer that question by hosting a symposium centered on the Circular Economy. The event hosted talks and panels from industry leaders and subject matter experts with keynote talks from Governor Eric Holcomb and Indianapolis Mayor Joe Hogsett. After the speaker portion of the event, attendees separated into breakout groups to discuss potential solutions and steps toward achieving a Circular Economy.

Circular Indiana lays out three prongs necessary to attaining a fully Circular Economy: eliminate waste and pollution through engineering and design, explore and invest in beneficial reuse options for waste streams, and replenish natural resources and systems. Each of these prongs could involve the knowledge and expertise of scientists. For instance, a chemist might analyze a waste stream's fittingness for reuse in an industrial process, or a geologist may develop a treatment plan for an out of commission industrial site. As such, scientists in all industries must be ready to leverage their talents to achieve a Circular Economy whenever the opportunity presents.

Beyond utilizing scientific talents, attendees discussed and generated possible additional steps industry and individuals alike could take to achieve sustainability goals. These steps can be characterized on both the amount of effort required to accomplish them and their depth of impact. High impact, low effort steps include going paperless, participating in recycling programs, and widespread access to electric vehicle charging stations. While relatively easy to implement, these solutions offer meaningful progress when it comes to sustainability, especially considering their impact in the aggregate. Still, other high impact, high effort solutions may offer even more. Such solutions include shifting to renewable or alternative fuels or going net-zero waste or carbon-neutral. These solutions may be tough to implement, but their impact is undeniable.

Ultimately, sustainability is a field that will continue to grow in importance for all people, but especially for the scientists who are best equipped to tackle the issues. Scientists must leverage their talents to achieve the goals of sustainability and a Circular Economy. Organizations like Circular Indiana are also able to facilitate attaining goals through principles like policy-making and collaboration. Beyond what we do in the office, lab, or field, each of us must do our part to further sustainability, even if we can only start with incremental steps.



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Advancing the Circular Economy  
in Indiana Symposium

## THREE COMMUNITY LEADERS SPEAK ABOUT APPLYING CHEMISTRY TO ADVANCE THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Authored by Linda Osborn



**Ken Miller, PhD**  
Retired  
Chemist/Sustainability  
Director, Circular Indiana  
BOD



**Kelvin Okamoto, PhD**  
Green Bottom Line,  
President/Gen3Bio, Inc.,  
CEO/Green Dot  
Bioplastics, CTO)



**Allyson Mitchell**  
Circular Indiana,  
Executive  
Director

On April 21, in celebration of Earth Day 2022, the Indiana local section of the ACS, together with Circular Indiana and The Heritage Group, hosted a Webinar entitled: “Applying Chemistry to Advance the Circular Economy”.

Ken Miller, PhD (Retired Chemist/Sustainability Director) started the discussion with a historical perspective on where we have come since the very first Earth Day in 1970 that helped change the conversation around the environment. Environmental activities like founding of the EPA, UNWCED, the EU commission Clean Air Act, Montreal, sustainability Initiatives, Glasgow, 17 UN sustainability goals, renewable energy discussions, and ESG investing have been implemented, but as of Earth Day 52 (2022) our environment looks the same or worse than it did in 1970. Using nature as a model for a sustainable, Circular Economy (make, use, recover) rather than the current, flawed, Linear Economy (take, make, consume, waste), Ken presented ideas on how to move forward. Without shying away from the challenges that a circular economy will require, Ken stressed that reducing, reusing, and recycling alone is insufficient to meet our ecological goals, and the Linear Economy is not sustainable with the finite resources of our planet.

Kelvin Okamoto, PhD ([Green Bottom Line](#), President/[Gen3Bio, Inc.](#), CEO/[Green Dot Bioplastics](#), CTO) discussed what is being accomplished today around circularity in Indiana. Reduction is already practiced by most companies, but reuse and recycling has led to growth of some Indiana companies that are focused in these areas. Indiana companies with an emphasis on reuse include [Schott xChange](#) and [RDS](#). [DAK Americas](#), [Pratt Materials](#), [Strategic Materials](#), [Novolex](#), [Heritage Environmental Services](#), [Kruise Carpet Recycling](#), and [Alcoa](#) are all Indiana companies that are secondary recyclers of various materials, while chemical recycling occurs at [SABIC](#), [Fulcrum Centerpoint](#), and [Brightmark](#).

Biodegradation, including backyard composting and [industrial composting](#) is becoming an essential player in the circular economy as well. Pickup companies include [EarthMama](#), [Green with Indy](#), [RE317](#), and [GreenCycle](#) is a processor that has 5 locations in the Indianapolis area. Anaerobic digestion occurs at [Fair Oak Farms](#), Winamac, and wastewater treatment facilities. [Knauf Insulation](#), [Berry Plastics](#), [Amcor](#), Negative carbon footprint and carbon capture were also discussed including related companies like [Carbon Neutral Indiana](#), and [Gen3Bio](#).

Finally, Allyson Mitchell ([Circular Indiana](#), Executive Director) introduced Circular Indiana, which focuses on uniting individuals, businesses, and community organizations, and state and local governments to work together to strengthen the circular economy. Formerly known as the Indiana Recycling Coalition, they have rebranded with a new focus on circularity where they educate to empower, advocate to advance, and inspire to innovate. Please visit their site to learn more! Thanks to our three subject matter experts and for the 127 attendees!






# Upcoming ACS Indiana LS Events

Event	Date
PREDICT Webinar/hybrid Series	9/16/2022
Career Development Symposium	9/1/2022
Celebrate Science Indiana	10/1/2022
Sustainability Booth at CSI by Circular Indiana	10/1/2022
Lunch & Learn (Speaker from Industry)	October 2022
National Chemistry Week	11/1/2022
Professional Networking Event	11/1/2022

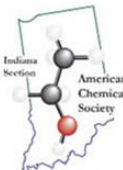
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**VISION**  

*Our vision is to engage our members and community to advance the broader chemistry enterprise for the benefit of Indiana and beyond.*

  
**MISSION**  

*It is the Mission of the Indiana Local Section of the American Chemical Society to improve people's lives through the transforming power of chemistry.*

