Monthly Meeting
Joint Meeting of NESACS and NENOBCChE at Pfizer
Henry A. Hill Award to James E. Phillips
Cato T. Laurencin, University of Connecticut, to Speak

In Memory of Charles E. Kolb
May 21, 1945 to January 5, 2020

Esselen Award to Geoffrey W. Coates
Prof. Coates to receive award at the April Meeting

Sturbridge Multi-Section Networking Event
By Meredith Ward and Jessica Martin, NSYCC
Charles E. Kolb

May 21, 1945 — January 5, 2020

By Craig Kolb and Amy Kolb Noyes

Charles E. Kolb, Jr., known as Chuck to friends, family, and colleagues, died peacefully on Sunday, January 5, 2020, after a short illness.

Chuck was born May 21, 1945 in Cumberland, Md. to Doris McFarland Kolb and Charles E. Kolb, Sr. Growing up in the Allegheny Mountains, he developed a love of the outdoors, canoeing and camping with the Boy Scouts, running cross country, playing tennis, and working summers on his grandparents’ farm on Martin’s Mountain. He was also inspired at a young age by the scientists who worked with his father at Alleghany Ballistics Laboratory, designing and testing missiles for the Navy. Together, these interests would shape his future career.

After earning the rank of Eagle Scout and graduating from Allegany County High School, he left Appalachia in 1963 to attend MIT. As an undergraduate, he was a reporter, and ultimately editor, of The Tech newspaper, and received the University’s highest student honor for his journalism. He earned his S.B. in Chemistry in 1967, and an M.A. and Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry from Princeton University.

He married his high school sweetheart, Susan Foote, on August 21, 1965. By 1971 he had two children, a newly-minted Ph.D., and a job at Aerodyne Research, Inc. as a Senior Research Scientist. In 1973, he and Sue settled in Sudbury, Mass. to raise their family.

Chuck became President and CEO of Aerodyne in 1985. Over the next 35 years, he led it to become a prominent research institution specializing in atmospheric chemistry, air quality, and climate. Aerodyne is a private company that functions, unusually, as a research institution, working in conjunction with public agencies, private industry, and academia.

He was a hands-on leader and a practicing scientist, with extensive expertise in atmospheric and environmental chemistry, combustion chemistry, chemical lasers, materials chemistry, and the chemical physics of rocket and aircraft exhaust plumes.

His early work on detecting missiles from their atmospheric chemical trails led to his development of models to assess how aerospace systems affect the chemical structure of the upper atmosphere. He later initiated Aerodyne’s programs to develop novel techniques and instruments to identify and measure gasses and other particles that lead, directly and indirectly, to air and soil pollution.

These programs ultimately resulted in the creation of the Aerodyne Mobile Laboratory, a van packed with instruments capable of measuring low concentrations of a variety of pollutants. The mobile lab allows for realtime mapping and tracking of pollution sources, and Chuck oversaw its deployment across North America on a variety of missions, including locating and measuring methane leaks from natural gas pipelines, emissions from forest fires, and jet engine pollution at airports.

Chuck loved his work, spending time with his family, running, tennis, weekends on Cape Cod, old school jazz, and lightly seared tuna steaks. He was a natural and enthusiastic teacher, able to break down complex topics for a lay audience. His keen intellect, thoughtful continued on page 12
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Cover: February Speaker Dr. Cato T. Laurencin, University of Connecticut.
(Photograph courtesy of Dr. Laurencin).

Editorial Deadlines: April 2020 Issue: February 22, 2020
May 2020 Issue: March 22, 2020

The Nucleus

The Nucleus is published monthly, except June and August, by the Northeastern Section of the American Chemical Society, Inc. Forms close for advertising on the 1st of the month of the preceding issue. Text must be received by the editor six weeks before the date of issue.

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Chuck Kolb and his Service to the American Chemical Society

By Michael P. Filosa

Chuck joined the ACS in 1969 while he was a graduate student at Princeton. He became a member of NESACS when he came to Massachusetts for his job at Aerodyne Research, Inc. He served the Northeastern ACS Local Section in many ways; he was a Trustee, Chair in 1991, Member and Chair of the Richards Medal Committee (1998-2006), and Member and Chair of the Esselen Award Committee (2007-2011). He received the Henry A. Hill Award in 2005 for Outstanding Service to NESACS.

In addition to the many boards and committees on which Chuck served for the National Research Council and the National Academy of Sciences, Chuck also had significant roles in National ACS. He served on the Committee on Environmental Improvement and was its Chair (2006-2008), and on the Presidential Task Force on Enhancing Innovation and Competitiveness. He served on Editorial advisory boards and Journal Editor Selection Committees. He was designated an ACS Fellow in its inaugural class of 2009.

As a result of his extensive leadership efforts within the ACS, he was a candidate, albeit unsuccessful, for President-Elect of the ACS in 2013. A few excerpts from his campaign illustrate the quality of his thinking, and show clearly why he was successful as an entrepreneur and a leader.

Shortly after I became president of the company I lead, it became clear that our “research for hire” business model was not sustainable, despite a very talented and productive staff of scientists and engineers. I devised a new strategy focusing our research on a few critical global issues, including environmental sustainability, energy technology, and military remote sensing, and our development efforts on key technologies required to address them.

A quarter of a century later, we’re still executing a continuous improvement version of that plan. Our company is thriving, with our research capabilities and our advanced instrument technologies in high demand. By aligning our scientific capabilities with important problems whose solutions require fundamental insights, we have been able to expand both our skills and our revenues.

It’s a great honor to ask for your support as a candidate for the presidency of the American Chemical Society. Today’s ACS is a vibrant and vital organization, successfully serving many of our members’ professional needs. It is also a very important source of scientific information and insight for both our profession and, properly presented, our planet’s policymakers.

However, we live in a very challenging and rapidly changing world. Venerable institutions can become outmoded and increasingly irrelevant surprisingly quickly. Just think about Bell Labs, Digital Equipment Corp., Eastman Kodak, or America Online.

It is vitally important that we ensure ACS’s future relevance and effectiveness. We need an ACS that will serve our current members as they deal with today’s scientific and economic challenges. But we also need an ACS that will be prepared to meet the needs of our youngest members over their (~50 year) professional lives. It must also continue providing a large fraction of the ever-expanding scientific information needed by an increasingly complex world. This can only be achieved by leaders who can envision what a successful ACS will look like 50 years from now and can chart the course.

Chuck was an important figure within our local and national society of chemists. He and his contributions to science and society will be greatly missed. May he rest in peace.
Abstract:

Regenerative Engineering: A Convergence Approach for Grand Challenges

We define Regenerative Engineering as the Convergence of Advanced Materials Science, Stem Cell Science, Physics, Developmental Biology, and Clinical Translation for the regeneration of complex tissues, organs and organ systems. Work in the area of musculoskeletal tissue regeneration has focused on a number of biomaterial technologies. Polymeric nanofiber systems create the prospect for biomimetics that recapitulate connective tissue ultrastructure allowing for the design of biomechanically functional matrices, or next generation matrices that create a niche for stem cell activity. Polymer and polymer-ceramic systems can be utilized for the regeneration of bone. Through the use of inducerons, small molecules fostering induction, the design of regeneration-inducing materials can be realized. Hybrid matrices possessing micro and nano architecture can create advantageous systems.

Biography:

Cato T. Laurencin, M.D., Ph.D. is the University Professor at the University of Connecticut (the 8th to be designated in the institution’s over 140 year history). He is the Albert and Wilda Van Dusen Distinguished Endowed Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery. He is Professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, Professor of Materials Science and Engineering, and Professor of Biomedical Engineering at UCONN. Dr. Laurencin is the Founder and Director of the Raymond and Beverly Sackler Endowed Center for Biomedical, Biological, Physical and Engineering Sciences at the University of Connecticut, and C.E.O. of The Connecticut Convergence Institute for Translation in Regenerative Engineering at UCONN.

Dr. Laurencin earned his B.S.E. degree in Chemical Engineering from Princeton University and his M.D., Magna Cum Laude from the Harvard Medical School where he received the Robinson Award for Surgery. He earned his Ph.D. in Biochemical Engineering/Biotechnology from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he was named a Hugh Hampton Young Fellow.

In science, Dr. Laurencin is internationally renowned for his scientific work in biomaterials, stem cell science, nanotechnology, drug delivery systems, and a new field he has pioneered, regenerative engineering. A Fellow of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, he was named one of the 100 Engineers of the Modern Era at their Centennial Celebration in 2009. An International Fellow in Biomaterials Science and Engineering, he received the Founders Award from the Society for Biomaterials. The Society created the Cato T. Laurencin Award in 2005.
Announcements

Norris-Richards Undergraduate Summer Research Scholarships
March 28, 2020 Deadline

The Northeastern Section of the American Chemical Society established the James Flack Norris and Theodore William Richards Undergraduate Summer Scholarships to honor the memories of Professors Norris and Richards by promoting research interactions between undergraduate students and faculty. Research awards of $3500 will be given for the summer of 2020. The student stipend is $3000 for a minimum commitment of ten weeks of full-time research work. The remaining $500 of the award is for supplies, travel, and other items relevant to the student project. Institutions whose student/faculty team receives a Norris/Richards Undergraduate Summer Research Scholarship are expected to contribute toward the support of the faculty members and to waive any student fees for summer research. Academic credit may be granted to the students at the discretion of the institutions.

Award winners are required to submit a report (~5-7 double-spaced pages including figures, tables, and bibliography) of their summer projects to the Editor of The Nucleus by November 2, 2020 for publication in The Nucleus. They are also required to participate in the Northeast Student Chemistry Research Conference (NSCRC) in April 2021.

Eligibility: Applications will be accepted from student/faculty teams at colleges and universities within the Northeastern Section. The undergraduate student must be a chemistry, biochemistry, chemical engineering, or molecular biology major in good standing, and have completed at least two full years of college-level chemistry by Summer, 2020.

Criteria for Selection:
* Scientific merit - important factors include the originality of the project, the depth of the investigation, the significance of the scientific questions you pose, and the methods you propose to use.
* Feasibility - evidence must be provided to demonstrate that the project can be completed by you in the time available and with the facilities at your disposal.
* Preparation - your academic record, your ability to handle the project, and the background study you have made on your research problem will be taken into consideration.
* Commitment - the depth of your commitment, and that of your department, faculty, and institution to independent research as a vital component of science education will be assessed.

Completed applications are to be received by the Chair of the Selection Committee no later than March 28, 2020. Please note that applications via email (PDF format) are strongly preferred. Applicants will be notified of the results by email by April 10, 2020, with written confirmation to follow

Selection Committee Chair: Professor Jonathan Rochford Department of Chemistry University of Massachusetts Boston 100 Morrissey Boulevard Boston, MA 02125-3393
Email: jonathan.rochford@umb.edu

A Cartoon by Sidney Harris

The Pasteur cartoon can be commented in a humorous way with the help of a French popular poet, Jacques Prévert. In this cartoon, Pasteur recites a nonsensical/humorous series of items. This is also what a French popular poet Jacques Prévert did in his poem Inventaire (Inventory), where at the end of each incongruous list of entities, Prévert adds “un raton laveur”, “a raccoon!” When someone utters a nonsensical list of unrelated items, one may add ironically (and may not be so kindly) “et un raton laveur,” “and a raccoon!” So, I would have added to Pasteur’s (and cartoonist Sidney Harris’s) list: “and a raccoon!” You can hear Prévert at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cU2JEC_e-mc

--- Jean-Marie Lehn, Université de Strasbourg (1987 Nobel Prize)
Esselen Award to Geoffrey W. Coates

National Award for Chemistry in the Public Interest Honors Cornell University Scientist

Geoffrey Coates work developing novel polymeric materials has applications with positive impact on the environment, human health and technology.

Cambridge, MA — February 4, 2020 — Professor Geoffrey W. Coates, Tisch University Professor in the department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology at Cornell University, is being presented with the Gustavus John Esselen Award for Chemistry in the Public Interest. Professor Coates is being recognized for his development of polymers and synthetic methods with a wide range of applications. He has developed biodegradable polymers from renewable resources that replace fossil fuels as their source. His work has applications to areas such as safer food packaging, improved production of electronic devices, battery technology, and solid waste disposal. In one application, the Ford Motor Company has announced a transition to polymers developed by Prof. Coates that will reduce petroleum use by more than 600 million pounds of fossil fuels each year. In 2017 his group reported the development of a method to increase the ability to recycle plastics which currently end up in landfills and the ocean. He has cofounded a company to commercialize some of these applications, and his work has been widely recognized in the scientific community.

The Gustavus John Esselen Award for Chemistry in the Public Interest honors outstanding achievement in scientific and technical work which contributes to the public well-being and has thereby communicated the positive values of the chemical profession. The award is presented annually by the Northeastern Section of the American Chemical Society and has honored such publicly renowned chemists as F. Sherwood Rowland and Mario J. Molina (effect of chlorofluorocarbons on the ozone layer), Carl Djerassi (birth-control drugs), and Kary Mullis (polymerase chain reaction). The Esselen Award is given to honor the memory of G. J. Esselen, past chair of the Northeastern Section and founder of Esselen Research Corporation.

In recognition of his contributions, Dr. Coates will receive the Gustavus John Esselen Award for Chemistry in the Public Interest on Thursday, April 16, 2020, in a ceremony at Harvard University’s Mallinckrodt Chemistry Laboratories at 8pm. Free and open to the public, Dr. Coates award lecture, to follow the presentation, is entitled “In Pursuit of the Perfect Plastic”.

Further information concerning the award can be found at the Northeastern Section’s website, www.nesacs.org.

Sturbridge Multi-Section Networking Event

By Meredith Ward, NSYCC Chair-Elect and Jessica Martin

On May 18, 2019, the Joint ACS Brewery Takeover was held at Altruist Brewing Company in Sturbridge, MA. The NESACS Younger Chemists Committee (NSYCC), the Connecticut Valley Local Section (ACS-CVS), and the Central Massachusetts Local Section (CMSACS) came together to create this event for two reasons: (1) to provide an opportunity for local sections in the region to connect to one another, and (2) to showcase interesting and unusual careers for chemists.

Approximately 50 people were in attendance, including 30 students, 15 industry professionals, and 7 academic professionals. Refreshments and lunch were provided to attendees, and plenty of time was given to networking. Speakers were invited based on unusual career paths and gave short talks about their companies/careers before mingling with the crowd to answer questions and engage in discussion. Speakers included:

Elizabeth Wagoner, PhD, Global Director of Laboratory Operations at ProVerde Laboratories, discusses her career path.

Nicole Wagner, PhD, CEO, and Jordan Greco, PhD, CSO, of LambdaVision, Inc: a company they started based on their graduate work at the University of Connecticut.

Hari Rao, PhD, of Ultragenyx Gene Therapy: a history of working in IP and tech transfer across multiple companies.

ACS-CVS is planning to hold another event this May at a brewery in Connecticut. This year ACS-CVS is interested in showcasing speakers that can talk about the opportunities and challenges of working on university/company collaborations from either side of the divide! If you are able to and interested in speaking on this topic, please contact Jessica A. Martin at jessica.a.martin@uconn.edu.
Photos from the November Meeting

Photos by Joel Laino

George O’Doherty, Chair of the Norris Award Committee (R) presents the Award to Neil K. Garg (L) of UCLA.

Jayashree Ranga (L) of Salem State University receives her Volunteer of the Year Award from Andrew Scholte (R), 2019 NESACS Chair.

Jayashree Ranga (L), Salem State University, with Ruth Tanner (R), University of Massachusetts - Lowell.

(L-R) Mahadevan Venkataraman, Jayashree Ranga, Haley Curtis, Benjamin Bergstrom, Lauren Mercer and Sunatib Choudhry.


Mark Tebbe (L) with Cathy Costello (R) at the reception.

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November Meeting Photos

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(L-R) Steve Canham, Ashis Saha, NESACS Treasurer, and Raj (SB) Rajur, NESACS 2020 Chair-Elect at the reception

(L-R) Neil Garg, Michelle Reiner, Charles Bowerman

(L-R) Carol Mulrooney, NESACS WCC, Michael Singer, NESACS Secretary, and Craig Sergeant, JEOL USA

Robert Umans (L) chats at the reception with Tom Gilbert.

Hicham Fenniri (L) with Jennifer Sparks MD


Neil Garg at his animated best during his lecture
22nd Annual Northeast Student Chemistry Research Conference
Saturday, April 4, 2020

Boston University, CILSE Building
610 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA 02215

Featured Keynote Speaker
Crystal Shih, PhD
Investigator III
Novartis Pharmaceuticals

Abstract Deadlines
Oral Presentation: Saturday, March 7, 2020
Poster Presentation: Saturday, March 14, 2020

For updates and registration, visit www.nsycc.org/nscrc
On February 12th, 2020 chemists worldwide will be sitting down to breakfast with the aim of "Building Bonds to Create Future Leaders" as part of IUPACs global breakfast initiative.

The Boston event is being held at Merck in Longwood and starts at 7.30am. This ground-breaking event aims to bring together a diverse group of chemists from all stages of their careers, from students to established professionals, gender and employment sector.

Tickets to the breakfast are limited so please do not miss out on this opportunity.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Lori Ferrins, Melissa Buskes, Christine Dunne, or Quillon Simpson for more information.

We hope to see many of you there!
Charles E. Kolb
May 21, 1945 — January 5, 2020
Continued from page 2
leadership, steadfast friendship, and fundamental kindness will be missed.

He was predeceased by his wife in 2009. He is survived by his son, Craig Kolb (Corey Keller) of Oakland, Ca.; his daughter, Amy Kolb Noyes (Dan Noyes) of Wolcott, Vt.; sister Dr. Susan Kolb of Dunwoody, Ga.; and grandchildren Adriana Noyes, Ian Noyes, Zoë Kolb, and Theo Kolb.

A celebration of Chuck’s life will be held at Cafe Escadrille, in Burlington, Ma., on February 15, 2020, from 3 to 5 pm. Please visit www.charleskolb.org/memorial for full details, and to RSVP.

Chuck’s family and colleagues are establishing the Charles E. Kolb Lectureship to honor his contributions to atmospheric and environmental chemistry. More information on the lectureship, including how to support it, can be found by visiting www.charleskolb.org/lectureship.

Charles E. Kolb
May 21, 1945 — January 5, 2020
Continued from page 2

Biography
Continued from page 5
renchin Travelling Fellowship Award in his honor, given each year at its opening ceremonies. He is a Fellow of the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering and received their highest honor, the Pierre Galletti Award. He has been awarded the Percy Julian Medal (highest award) from the National Organization of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers.

Dr. Laurencin is a Fellow of the American Chemical Society, a Fellow of the Biomedical Engineering Society, a Fellow of the Materials Research Society, and a Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors. He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and received their highest award, the Philip Hauge Abelson Prize “for signal contributions to the advancement of science in the United States”.

Dr. Laurencin is an elected member of the National Academy of Engineering and the National Academy of Medicine, and a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He is the first person to win the oldest honors of both the National Academy of Engineering (the Simon Ramo Founders Award), and the National Academy of Medicine (the Walsh McDermott Medal). Internationally, he is an elected Fellow of the African Academy of Sciences, an elected Fellow (Foreign) of the India National Academy of Sciences, an elected Fellow (Foreign) of the Indian National Academy of Engineering and is a Fellow of The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS). Dr. Laurencin is an Academician and Member (Foreign) of the Chinese Academy of Engineering.

Dr. Laurencin is the recipient of the National Medal of Technology and Innovation in ceremonies at the White House. It is the highest honor bestowed in America for technological achievement.

Abstract
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February 3
Prof. Gabriela Shlau-Cohen (MIT)
Boston Univ., Rafik B Hariri Building, Rm 208
11:00 am

February 5
Prof. Gordana Dukovic (Univ. Colorado-Boulder)
MIT, Building 4-370
4:15 pm

February 6
Prof. David Reichman (Columbia Univ.)
Harvard, Pfizer Lecture Hall
4:15 pm

February 10
Prof. Michael J. Ragusa (Dartmouth Univ.)
Boston Univ, Rafik B Hariri Building, Rm 208
11:00 am
Prof. Mi Hee Lim (KAIST)
MIT, Building 4-370
4:00 pm

February 11
Prof. Jianbo Wang (Peking Univ.)
Boston College, Merkert 130
4:00 pm
Prof. Changhuei Yang (Caltech)
MIT, Building 4-370
12:00 pm
Dr. Alan Packard (Boston Children’s Hospital)
U. New Hampshire, Parsons N104
11:10 am

February 12
Prof. Gregory Cleveland (MIT)
MIT, Building 4-370
4:15 pm
Prof. James L. Skinner (Univ. Chicago)
Anomalies in Ambient and Supercooled Water: Is there a second critical point lurking nearby?
Tufts, Pearson, P-106
12:00 pm

February 13
Prof. Rebecca Klausen (Johns Hopkins)
Atomicistic Control of Complex Polysilanes and Organic Polymers
Harvard, Pfizer Lecture Hall
4:15 pm
Prof. Masayuki Wasa (Boston College)
Recent Advances in Enantioselective Cooperative Catalysis
MIT, Building 6-120
4:00 pm

February 14
Prof. Clay S. Bennett (Tufts)
UMass Lowell, Olsen 102
3:30 pm

February 18
Prof. Courtney Hatch (Hendrix College)
From nanospheres to clay minerals: Closing the experimental gap in cloud condensation nuclei (CCN) measurements by applying Frenkel Halsey and Hill activation theory
U. New Hampshire, Parsons N104
11:10 am

February 19
Prof. Xin Zhang (Penn State Univ.)
Boston College, Merkert 130
4:00 pm
Dr. Corey Kaminsky (MIT)
MIT, Building 4-370
4:15 pm
Prof. G. K. Surya Prakash (Univ. South California)
A Physical Organic Chemist’s Journey into Fluorokylation Chemistry
Tufts, Pearson, P-106
12:00 pm

February 20
Prof. Katherine Mirica (Dartmouth)
Boston College, Merkert, 130
4:00 pm
Prof. Thomas Magauer (Univ. Innsbruck) and Prof. Neil Garg (UCLA)
Organic Synthesis Symposium
MIT, Building 6-120
4:00 pm

February 24
Prof. Amber Krummel (Colorado State Univ.)
Boston Univ., Rafik B Hariri Building, Rm 208
11:00 am
Prof. Todd Martinez (Stanford)
Harvard, Pfizer Lecture Hall
4:15 pm
Prof. Carsten Schultz (Oregon Health & Science Univ.)
Broad Inst., Rm 1154
4:00 pm

February 25
Dr. Martin Gelenter (MIT)
Solid-state NMR Structure Determination of Glucagon Amyloid Fibrils
MIT, Building 6-120
4:00 pm
Dr. Alena Moon (Univ. Nebraska)
The photoelectric effect as a context for exploring chemistry students’ conceptions of light and light-matter interactions
U. New Hampshire, Parsons N104
11:10 am

February 26
Prof. Natalia Shustova (Univ. South Carolina)
Harvard, Pfizer Lecture Hall
4:15 pm

February 27
Prof. Andrew Orr-Ewing (Univ. Bristol)
Harvard, Pfizer Lecture Hall
4:15 pm
Prof. Tianming Diao (NYU)
MIT, Building 6-120
4:00 pm

February 28
Prof. Sunny Zhou (Northeastern)
UMass Lowell, Olsen 102
3:30 pm

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