



Newsletter of the
Northeast
Georgia
Section of the
American
Chemical Society



ACS
Chemistry for Life®

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Mar. 2018

[Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, March 27, 2018](#)
(Please Note Location: Loco's Eastside)

“Some Thoughts On Stuff”

Dr. Evan White

Postdoctoral Research Associate, New Materials Institute at the University of
Georgia

Dinner & Social start at 6:00 PM

Each NEGS ACS chemistry graduate
student will receive a \$5.00 credit for his/her
meal.

A large, multi-pointed red starburst graphic with a white outline, containing text.

Loco's Eastside
1985 Barnett Shoals Rd.
Athens, GA 30605

TALK SYNOPSIS

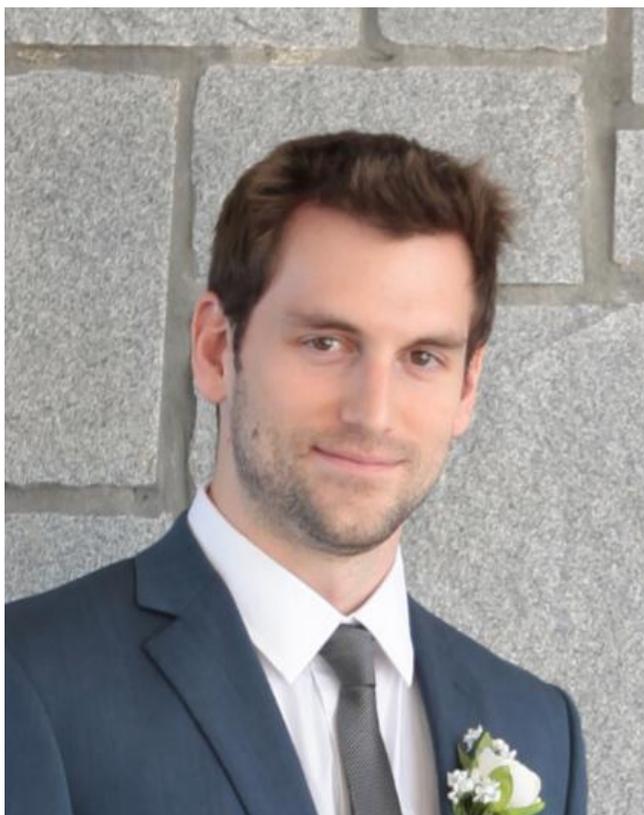
Some Thoughts on Stuff

A common grade school science exercise is used to show students how some of the carbon in our bodies was once inside of a dinosaur. And as Carl Sagan once said, "we are made of star stuff." This we have known for a long time, but the gaps in time among humanity and the dinosaurs and past supernovae are large and may cloak the ephemeral nature of chemical transformations relevant to our lives.

All of the stuff of our lives has some value, and if you consider where the chemistry and energy to produce that stuff comes from - and where it goes - we may reassess some stuff's value. Food, consumer goods, packaging, building materials, and (more informative still) recycled refuse, spoiled food, greenhouse emissions, and radioactive waste all have a story of the past, present, and future. It is our task as shepherds of our environment to understand how we shuttle the atoms of materials to and fro throughout our lives.

Our society naturally relies on innovation with more economic and resource-driven solutions for the production of stuff, but the budget of crustal resources on Earth, the thin biosphere that envelops our planet, and our understanding of how our specie influences this zone is becoming more and more clear with time. Think about all the stuff in your own life, and all the stories to be told about this stuff. What stories can you tell about stuff?

Speaker's Biographical Sketch



Evan White received his BS from Georgia College in 2009. He graduated with a PhD in chemistry in 2014 from the University of Georgia under the direction of Professor Jason Locklin. In 2015, Evan started a joint postdoctoral appointment between the University of Georgia and Molecular Therapeutics, LLC as a

biochemical engineer with a focus on the development of antimicrobial products. In 2016, the New Materials Institute was founded, where he joined as a member in the division of Technology Development and Implementation with a focus on translating innovative technologies from the laboratory to commercial viability and application. He also works closely with industry partners to aid and advance specialized product development. Dr. White has 7 published papers in high impact journals in his research tenure in Athens. As a polymer chemist, Evan White has 8 years of experience building stimuli-responsive polymers for a variety of applications from biocidal to superhydrophobic to color changing materials. Research experience with all the common small molecule characterization techniques, polymer thermomechanical characterization, nanomaterial characterization, and cell culturing is critical to this work. Evan has had the opportunity to engage in several projects that are broad in scope, ranging from developing environmentally friendly timber preservation formulations to developing antimicrobial hydrogels. Currently active projects consider closely economic feasibility where pennies on the gram are significant, and green engineering principles guide the project design.

Chair Corner

Greetings Friends and Associates:

February 20th 2018, Dr. Jenna Jambeck, a UGA College of Engineering faculty member, spoke to us about the impact that plastic pollution is having on our oceans. Jenna did a tremendous job bringing awareness and documenting the unimaginable consequences that single use plastics are having on our oceans. She discussed several recent papers including her article in *Science* that really brought to light the amount of mismanaged plastic that is making its way to the ocean. On March 27th, Dr. Evan White will be the guest speaker, and he plans to talk with us about his research and his connection to the New Materials Institute. Finally, we will close out the spring with the joint NEGSACS-UGA Awards and Alumni banquet at the Georgia Center (see below).

Please make plans to attend the events on the horizon, as I am sure that we will enjoy good times and fellowship together. Congrats again to all members on being a part of the 50th Anniversary of the Northeast Georgia Section!

All the best, and see you next Tuesday, March 27th at Eastside Locos.

Joe Grubbs

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

Mar. 29, 2018—Hilsman Middle School Science Night 5:00-7:00 pm

April 3, 2018—Fowler Drive Elementary School Science Night 5:30-6:30 pm

April 5, 2018—Whitehead Rd. Elementary School Science Night

Contact: Maurice Snook (706-543-3753)

April Chemistry Alumni & Northeast Georgia Section ACS Banquet and Awards Night

The annual Chemistry Department Alumni Lecture and Awards Banquet will be held on April 27, 2018. The Alumni Lecture will be presented at 4:00 pm in the Chemistry Building (room 400) by Professor John Maier from the University of Basel in Switzerland. John will discuss his group's discovery of C₆₀ cations in interstellar space. The Awards Banquet will be that evening in the UGA Georgia Center, with drinks/social hour at 6:00, dinner at 7:00 and the awards (both UGA and Northeast Georgia Section) presentations following

that. There is no charge for the banquet for Northeast Georgia Section members and spouses but you **MUST** call (e-mail) your reservation.

The Chemistry Golf Scramble will be on Saturday April 28 at 12:30 at the UGA Golf Course. Full four-person teams or individuals are welcome!

Please plan to join us for these events! To sign up and reserve a spot, please contact Mrs. Hannah David at Hannah.David@uga.edu or 706-542-1919.

Northeast Georgia Regional Science Fair Awardees

The following students and their science fair projects were recognized by the Northeast Georgia Section at the Northeast Georgia Regional Science & Engineering Fair held at the Oconee Civic Center on Feb. 2. Each student received \$50 from the Section. These students will compete in the state fair, March 23 (see below as judges are needed).

Adam Brantley	Oconee County Middle School	Junior (grades 6-8)	Do Organic Deterrents Help Prevent Insect Infestation of Stored Oats in Plastic?
Estelle Grindeland, Isabella Morgan	Hilsman Middle School	Junior (grades 6-8)	Over the Fence, Over the Tree
Gerard Justin Mirandilla	Oconee County Middle School	Junior (grades 6-8)	The Effect of Storage Temperature and Duration on the Simple Carbohydrate (Sugar) Content of Russet Baking Potatoes
Dawson Roth	Oconee County Middle School	Junior (grades 6-8)	What is the best fabric to absorb oil from water?
Abigail Hoover, Julia Hoover	Cedar Shoals High School	Senior (grades 9-12)	Chalk It Up

Georgia Science & Engineering Fair

The statewide Georgia Science & Engineering Fair will be held on Friday, March 23, 2018 at the Athens Classic Center and judges are desperately needed in all areas of science and engineering. All chemistry faculty and/or graduate students should consider becoming a judge. It is a great (and not difficult) rewarding experience to see what these young scientists to be can accomplish. Did you participate in a science fair when you were in grade school? If so, you know how important it is to help. Please help by contacting the following people or website. They can use judges up to and including the day of the event.

gsef@georgiacenter.uga.edu.

Nancy Thompson, Director, 706-542-6473

Laura Brewer, Co-Director, 706-542-5654

Georgia Science and Engineering Fair

www.georgiacenter.uga.edu/youth/academic-special-programs/georgia-science-and-engineering-fair

NORTHEAST GEORGIA LOCAL SECTION OFFICERS

Executive Committee

SECTION WEBSITE: negeorgia.sites.acs.org

Executive Committee

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Chair-elect: Ron Orlando, CCRC, orlando@ccrc.uga.edu, 706-542-4429
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Alternate Councilor: Maurice Snook, USDA-ARS (retired), maurice_snook@yahoo.com, 706-546-3405

Committee Chairs

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