



the fission product

THE RHODE ISLAND SECTION OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY
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ACS Program-in-a-Box

Did you know that it's the *International Year of the Periodic Table*? One-hundred and fifty years ago, Dmitri Mendeleev first presented his periodic system and it forever shaped the way we look at the elements. Join hundreds of groups from around the U.S. and the globe for this live celebration of one of chemistry's greatest achievements! The Salve Regina Chemistry Club will be hosting this ACS PIB on Tuesday, February 26, at 6:45 PM in the O'Hare Academic Center. All ACS members are invited.

Future events

John Howard Appleton Lecture Brown University

Professor Isaac Cheung, MIT
Thursday, March 7, 4:00 PM
Macmillan Hall 117

**29th Annual Harry C. Allen, Jr.
Symposium, Clarke University**
Saturday, March 23, 2019, 1 PM in
Johnson Auditorium (Rm S120) in the
Sackler Sciences Center. See
<https://www2.clarku.edu/departments/chemistry/harryallen.cfm>

Scientific Poster Session and Awards Banquet

Providence College
Tuesday, April 16, details forthcoming.

The poster features a vibrant background with a periodic table of elements. At the top left is the ACS logo with the tagline 'Chemistry for Life®' and 'American Chemical Society'. To its right is a QR code with the text 'SCAN THE QR CODE WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE FOR MORE DETAILS!'. Further right is the #ACSPiB logo with the URL 'acs.org/PIB'. The central text reads 'THE EVOLVING PERIODIC TABLE' in large, bold, stylized letters. Below this is a speech bubble containing the text 'AND ITS INCREDIBLE ELEMENTS!'. To the left of the speech bubble is a circular portrait of Dmitri Mendeleev. Below the portrait are three icons: a flask labeled 'LEARN', a speech bubble labeled 'MEET', and a person icon labeled 'SHARE'. At the bottom, the text 'ACS PROGRAM-IN-A-BOX' is prominently displayed. Below this, there are four boxes providing event details: 'WHERE: O'Hare Acad. Ctr. Lab 266', 'WHEN: Tuesday, February 26th', 'TIME: 6:45 pm ET for snacks!', and 'CONTACT: Susan.meschwitz@salve.edu'. The hashtag #IYPT2019 is also visible on the right side.



The incongruity of the reviewers' comments with the criteria that one thinks should govern the evaluation of a paper or proposal is what makes the cartoon funny. But, as is always true in Sidney Harris's cartoons, there is another message under the surface: Perhaps scientists should embrace the "broader audience" of their papers, or the "outreach" criteria of the granting agencies more openheartedly. Nothing in the nature of the world or the understanding of scientists would be damaged if humor and suspense were allowed to enter scientific papers. Gatekeepers relax!

-- Roald Hoffmann, Cornell University

Win your own Sidney Harris original cartoon! A contest will be held in which ACS members only can submit "one original cartoon caption" of 35 words or less. Cartoonist Sidney Harris will draw a cartoon based on the winning caption. The grand prize winner will receive the original cartoon based on the winning caption. The runner-up will receive a personally autographed copy of one of Harris's most famous cartoons chosen by Harris. Deadline is April 1, 2019.

For more information and the official entry form, go to: <http://acshist.scs.illinois.edu/index.php>

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