April 19, 2017
April Section Meeting
Carothers Award Banquet
Dinner and Reception
“Palladium-Catalyzed Carbon-Heteroatom Bond-Forming Reactions”
Recipient and Speaker:
Prof. Stephen L. Buchwald
DuPont Country Club

For information on section activities visit our web site at:
www.delawareacs.org
Spring Thoughts

Al Denio

A U.D. Star
Congrats to Catherine Leimkuhler Grimes, a winner of an Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellowship, 2017. She is one of the bright lights in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. Her background includes Villanova, Princeton, and Harvard, PhD in 2006. She liked Cambridge so much that she stayed for five years as a Postdoc.

Ageless Tom Brady
You may recall that he throws footballs for the New England Patriots. He refused to act his age (39) and plans to keep playing. Brady is big on meditation and stretching. His diet is 80% veggies and 20% lean meat and fish. He avoids dairy products, white flour, white sugar, iodized salt and caffeine, according to Greg Bishop (Sports
DEL-CHEM Bulletin

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CHAIR’S COLUMN
Well, a quarter of the year has sped by. I am particularly excited to write to you about what has happened in the Section the first months of 2017. On February 13th, we welcomed Dr. Thomas Connelly, Jr., CEO and Executive Director of ACS, to Wilmington, as a joint event of the DE section of ACS and ChemVets. I was thrilled to see the turnout. We had about 50 in attendance. The cash bar was well visited! Several even stayed past 9 o’clock to chat. We had lots of fun. Dr. Connelly gave an informative and inspiring talk on the initiatives at ACS for “the future of the chemistry profession.” Some statistics and information that stuck out to me:

• ABCChem (Atlantic Basin Conference on Chemistry) is a new initiative for global outreach, mirroring PacificChem, will take place in Cancun Mexico in January 24-27, 2018.

• More than half of ACS members are employed in industry.

• ACS Career Navigator™: Leadership Development www.acs.org/careernav

• ACS Career Day in 2016 in Delaware as a response to DuPont layoff! Thanks Peiwen Zheng and Tiffany Hoerter and the Executive Committee for their services.

• inChemistry Magazine for undergraduates: inchemistry.acs.org

• ChemIDP™, a new career planning tool for those in the chemical sciences: https://chemidp.acs.org/

I would like to thank the Executive Committee and ChemVets, particularly Al Denio and Bruce Frye, for the hard work on making this event a success.

Onto events for this month. We will host our annual Carothers Award banquet and continued on page 15

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in the columns are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Delaware Local Section.
April Section Meeting

Carothers Award Banquet Dinner and Reception

“Palladium-Catalyzed Carbon-Heteroatom Bond-Forming Reactions”
Recipient and Speaker: Prof. Stephen L. Buchwald

Date: April 19, 2017
Time: 5:30 PM Reception
6:30 PM Banquet dinner
7:30 PM Award Presentation and Lecture
Location: DuPont Country Club
1001 Rockland Rd, Wilmington, DE 19803
Dinner choices: Crusted Sea Bass
Grilled Beef Steak
Portobello Tower
Event Type: Registration Required (dinner included)
Fee: $35
$5 for students and unemployed members (sponsored by a gift from Joseph Labovsky)
Registration: visit http://www.delawareacs.org/
Or Contact Giang Vo, giang.vo@dupont.com
Deadline: April 14th, 5 pm
Reservations not cancelled by April 14th will be billed

History of the Carothers Award:
The Carothers Lecture Award was established by the Delaware Section of the American Chemical Society in 1976 in memory of Wallace H. Carothers, one of the founders of modern polymer chemistry. The purpose of the award is to honor scientific innovators who have made outstanding contributions and advances in industrial applications of chemistry. The award is sponsored by the Delaware Section and by local chemical companies. The sculpture consists of two hands holding a benzene ring, depicting a person shaping molecules. The artist is Mr. Domenico Mortellito, a well-known local sculptor, muralist, and painter, who pioneered the use of synthetic materials in the fine arts.
Del-CheM Bulletin – April 2017

Brown Bag Lecture:

Infrastructures of Hope: Taking Care of Medicine in Southern California

Deanna Day

Date: April 3, 2017
Time: 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.
Location: Chemical Heritage Foundation
315 Chestnut Street Philadelphia, PA 19106
Event Type: Open to the Public

Join the CHF for a Brown Bag Lecture with Deanna Day, one of CHF’s research fellows in the Center for Applied History.

For the first time in half a century, it is possible to take a train to the City of Hope.

The City of Hope medical center, which contains a clinical research center, graduate medical school, and hospital, is located on a sprawling campus in the foothills of the San Gabriel Valley, about 20 miles northeast of downtown Los Angeles. It began its life in 1914 as a tuberculosis sanitarium, supported by local fundraising and enabled by a national rail network that brought the suffering to Southern California. Today, it is known as one of America’s best cancer centers, connected by the freeway network to other regional research institutions but more remote from the poorer, more transient patients it once served.

Using a mix of archival research and oral histories, this talk explores both the successes and failures that enabled City of Hope to be maintained through multiple periods of crisis, as the diseases it specialized in were cured and its infrastructural connections to the greater Los Angeles region changed. I expand feminist theories of “taking care” to incorporate the maintenance of the broad infrastructure of medicine, including the research and clinical staff who both do their work and continually fundraise for it, as well as the urban planners who change how the medical campus is accessible.

Its long history and reputation notwithstanding, City of Hope contradicts the myth of “stable” institutions, illustrating how maintaining institutional continuity is only possible through the staff work of continual redefinition and restructuring. I will examine several key instances of this institutional care work, from the founding of an early-20th-century charitable institution to the impact of being once again reconnected to 21st-century Los Angeles by rail.

About the Speaker:

Deanna Day is a historian of technology, medicine, and media in the Center for Applied History at CHF. She writes about topics across the history of science, including medical technologies, gender, and science in popular culture. Currently, she is writing a book about the medical thermometer: how it helped change modern medicine into a data-driven practice, and how in the process it helped transform medical labor, the medical economy, and women’s bodies.
Fellow in Focus

“Trust Me!” The Problem of Insincerity in Early Modern Medicine
Mark Waddell

Date: April 6, 2017
Time: 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
Location: Chemical Heritage Foundation
315 Chestnut Street Philadelphia, PA 19106
Event Type: Open to the Public
Registration: Required


Trust and credibility are the cornerstones of the modern, collaborative model of science we depend upon today. To understand the foundations of that model, historians have looked back to the Scientific Revolution of the early modern period, when many of the methods and practices of modern science and medicine first emerged. We generally take past thinkers at their word—that is, we trust they actually believed the things they wrote and said—but if we dig deeply enough, we start to find cases of insincerity and even outright fraud.

In this talk Mark Waddell will examine the strange medical remedy known as the weapon salve, or the powder of sympathy, and use its contentious history to explore how insincerity, credibility, and trust were interwoven at the dawn of modern science and medicine.

Event Schedule:
• 6:00 p.m.
Lecture
• 7:00 p.m.
Reception

About the Speaker:
Mark Waddell is an associate professor of history at Michigan State University. His first book, Jesuit Science and the End of Nature’s Secrets, was published by Ashgate (now Routledge) in 2015. His next project, which he researched at CHF in 2016, uses the early modern medical remedy known as the weapon salve, or powder of sympathy, to explore notions of plausibility, mendacity, and credibility in 17th-century science and medicine.

About the Series:
The Rohm and Haas Fellow in Focus lecture series gives CHF’s scholars an opportunity to present their work to a broad audience interested in history, science, and culture. Fellow in Focus lectures are presented by the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Center for the History of Chemistry.

More Information:
For more information about this event please contact Alison Roseberry-Polier at 215.873.8280 or ARoseberry-Polier@chemheritage.org.
First Friday: Scholar Smackdown

Date: April 7, 2017
Time: 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
Location: Chemical Heritage Foundation
315 Chestnut Street Philadelphia, PA 19106
Event Type: Open to the Public

Can you tell fact from fiction? Find out as CHF fellows and research staff face off in a battle of wits.

By day our in-house scholars are models of studious collaboration. But on this night they summon all their academic strength in a cutthroat competition. After sharing a short story about their research, each presenter will submit three facts, only two of which are true. Which scholar is the best prankster? Will you and your team be duped? Join us to see who prevails!

Presentations will take place at 6:00 p.m. The Museum at CHF will be open for self-guided tours from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

About First Fridays:
Spark your curiosity while exploring the exhibits after hours! First Fridays bring together a lively lineup of guest speakers and hands-on activities covering everyday science, historical oddities, and everything in between. Grab your friends, and kick off an evening of discovery, surprise, and a little nerdy fun.

First Fridays at CHF are always free and open to the public; no registration required. For more information about our First Friday programs, contact Alexis Pedrick at 215.873.8293 or apedrick@chemheritage.org.

Please check back soon for more information about this month’s speaker and topic.

Saturday Speaker

Date: April 8, 2017
Time: 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Location: Chemical Heritage Foundation
315 Chestnut Street Philadelphia, PA 19106
Event Type: Open to the Public

Dive into fascinating stories of science with CHF’s Saturday speaker series! Every month a speaker will offer a short talk on an intriguing scientific topic, followed by a Q&A or discussion over complimentary tea and coffee. Afterward, feel free to mingle with other guests and the speaker, or spend time visiting the Museum at CHF.

Admission is free, and no reservations are necessary.
Please check back soon for more information about this month’s speaker and topic.
For the love of chemistry, the Chemical Heritage Foundation presents:

**WikiSalon**

**Date:** April 8, 2017  
**Time:** 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Chemical Heritage Foundation  
315 Chestnut Street Philadelphia, PA 19106  
**Event Type:** Open to the Public

With science topics ranging from medical history to the environment, Wikipedia’s content reaches more than 500 million people around the globe. Interested in joining the ranks of this online encyclopedia’s volunteer editors? Stop by for CHF’s monthly WikiSalon, a casual gathering of Wikipedia enthusiasts and those interested in learning more. Participants can edit articles of their own choice and suggest articles needing improvement to the group.

You provide your own laptop; we provide coffee, tea, and plenty of opportunity for spontaneous discussion and collaboration.

First-timer? No problem! One of our experienced guests will coach you through the process.

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**Brown Bag Lecture:**

**Boerhaave's Mineral Chemistry Its Influence on 18th-Century Pharmacy in the Netherlands**  
Marieke Hendriksen

**Date:** April 10, 2017  
**Time:** 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Chemical Heritage Foundation  
315 Chestnut Street Philadelphia, PA 19106  
**Event Type:** Open to the Public

Join the CHF for a Brown Bag Lecture with Marieke Hendriksen, one of CHF’s 2016–2017 short-term fellows.

In the 18th century the use of mineral or fossil substances—including metals, earths, salts, and (gem)stones—was common in European medicine and pharmacy. However, this period also saw profound changes in ideas about the nomenclature, chemistry, and curative properties of minerals. It has been argued that an increasing orientation toward the mineral kingdom and the chemical transformation of nonorganic materials, and a rise in the number of mineral preparations demanded of the pharmacist, were characteristic of 18th-century chemistry within pharmacy.

Although this might be true for France, in northern Netherlands a different pattern is visible: although there certainly was a strong interest in the mineral kingdom and the chemical transformation of nonorganic materials, there are no indications that this resulted in a strong increase in the demand for mineral-based pharmaceutical preparations—rather the contrary. Hendriksen argues that the ideas about minerals held by Leiden professor Herman Boerhaave (1668–1738), “teacher of Europe,” were crucial in the development of a certain wariness toward “mineral medicine” in 18th-century northern Netherlands.

John Powers has convincingly shown that Boerhaave restructured and interpreted various practices from diverse chemical traditions into a coherent organizational structure and philosophical foundation for an academic chemistry. However, Hendriksen takes the argument a step further by showing that Boerhaave did not just found an academic chemistry; he and his students also profoundly influenced practical medicine and pharmacy with their chemical
understanding of minerals, at least in the Netherlands. During her talk Hendriksen will focus on works by Boerhaave and his followers from the Othmer Library collection.

**About the Speaker:**

Marieke Hendriksen is a historian of science, art, and ideas, specializing in the material culture of 18th-century medicine and chemistry. She currently is a postdoctoral researcher within the ERC-funded project Artechne at Utrecht University, Netherlands. From October 2012 until January 2016 Hendriksen worked at the University of Groningen on the Vital Matters project on Herman Boerhaave’s chemistry in 18th-century medicine. During her stay at CHF in the spring of 2017, she will finish a paper stemming from this project, on Boerhaave’s mineral chemistry and its influence on 18th-century pharmacy. The rich collections at CHF and the Othmer Library will enable Hendriksen to study and compare unique sources not available elsewhere and to discuss her work with a broad community of historians of chemistry.

Hendriksen received her PhD from Leiden University in 2012. She has held fellowships at, among others, the National Maritime Museum in London, Groningen University, the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin, and the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. She has her own blog, The Medicine Chest, and is a regular contributor to The Recipes Project. The topics of her publications range from historical anatomical collections and medicine chests to anatomical preparation methods and the production of colored glass.

**Joseph Priestley Society Symposium: Noah Clay**

**Emerging Companies Based on Inventions at the Singh Center for Nanotechnology of the University of Pennsylvania • Noah Clay**

**Date:** April 13, 2017  
**Time:** 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Chemical Heritage Foundation  
315 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106  
**Event Type:** Open to the Public  
**Fee:** $25  
**RSVP Online:** Registration Required  
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/joseph-priestley-society-noah-clay-tickets-29254073722

The Joseph Priestley Society (JPS) lecture series explores topics in science, technology, and industry through professional networking receptions and lectures by industry leaders.

For more information  
For more information about this event, please contact Sarah Reisert at 215.873.8263 or sreisert@chemheritage.org.

**Event Schedule:**  
• 11:00 a.m.  
  Networking Reception  
• 11:45 a.m.  
  Luncheon  
• 12:30 p.m.  
  Symposium
Brown Bag Lecture:

Man-Made: Counterfeiting Nature in Early Modern Europe

Marlise Rijks

Date:        April 17, 2017
Time:       12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.
Location:   Chemical Heritage Foundation
            315 Chestnut Street Philadelphia, PA 19106
Event Type: Open to the Public

Join the CHF for a Brown Bag Lecture with Marlise Rijks, one of CHF’s 2016–2017 short-term fellows.

“And take a large clean mussel shell, heat it and put in wine vinegar, afterwards take the shell and make it into a powder and take crystal glass, also powdered.” These instructions come from a recipe on how to “counterfeit pearls” in a 16th-century manuscript from Antwerp. This manuscript lists an array of recipes, including two that describe how to counterfeit pearls but also how to make or improve upon pigments, and instructions on how to discern fake from real stones. Why were people interested in counterfeit pearls and other sorts of imitation materials?

This lecture discusses counterfeiting nature in early modern Europe. In the early modern period the understanding of the material world increasingly took place via the human manipulation of material. Artisanal processes that tried to imitate natural processes as well as counterfeit natural materials were highly valued. Knowledgeable collectors (and sometimes the artisans themselves) appreciated this type of object because they were fascinated by artisanal-chemical processes. For similar reasons there was a market for recipe books among the learned, as well as a market for paintings and engravings depicting artisanal processes. The new concept of “process appreciation” is used to explain how artistic and artisanal processes, that is, man-made, were appreciated and conceived in early modern Europe.

About the Speaker:

Marlise Rijks holds a postdoc position at Leiden University, working at the NWO project New History of Fishes. She studied history at Utrecht University and received her PhD in art history from Ghent University. Her research focuses on early modern art and knowledge, in particular in the Low Countries.

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ChemVets Lecture
DuPont Innovation: Creating Global Competitiveness through World Class R&D

Alexa A. Dembek, Ph.D., Director of Science and Innovation, DuPont

Date: April 18, 2017
Time: 12 p.m. –2 p.m.
Location: DuPont, Chestnut Run Laboratories
12:00 Lunch (Admin. Bldg.)
1:00 Lecture (Bldg. 713 auditorium)

Event Type: Open to the Public
Fee: None
Registration: Not Required

Abstract:
Alexa will provide an overview of DuPont Innovation and how the company’s approach to funding research has evolved to continue to deliver world-class innovations. The presentation will highlight how corporate investments at the Experimental Station support business science-driven innovation, and address how the proposed merger with the Dow Chemical Company will create a path for long-term sustainable value from three independent, focused companies that will be well positioned to compete, win and grow through innovation.

Biography:
Alexa Dembek leads DuPont Science & Innovation, an organization dedicated to assessing and seeding new, transformational science-based ventures as the next step to accelerate growth in the evolution of corporately funded research and development for DuPont. She is responsible for driving business growth through leadership and support of strategic early-stage innovation programs and mission-critical, highly leveraged and differentiated technology capabilities. Alexa is also the corporate leader for Science and Engineering Strategy, where she leads alignment of business strategy, innovation strategy and portfolio choices to increase the speed and scale of impact from DuPont science-based innovation investment.

Alexa joined DuPont in 1991 as a Research Chemist at the DuPont Experimental Station in Wilmington, Delaware. In 1995, she relocated to Richmond, Virginia, as a Technical Manager to drive growth opportunities and category leadership with KEVLAR® and NOMEX® in DuPont Protection Technologies. From 1997-2005, she assumed roles in DuPont Protection Technologies that spanned a broad range of end-to-end innovation areas, including supply chain, operations, sales, marketing and business leadership.

In 2005, Alexa relocated to Wilmington, Delaware and was assigned leadership roles in Building Innovations, first as Commercial Business Segment Manager and later as North America Marketing Manager. She transferred to DuPont Performance Polymers in 2006 to lead the global DuPont™ Vespel® business and in 2009, assumed additional responsibilities for the global DuPont™ Kalrez® business. In 2011, she was appointed Regional Director, DuPont Performance Polymers, Americas. Most recently, Alexa was the Global Business Director for the corporate new business development venture in Energy Storage. Alexa’s passion for science-based innovation contributing to business growth is a consistent theme throughout her career.

Alexa holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry from Northern Illinois University and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Chemistry from Pennsylvania State University.

Alexa resides in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, with her husband Scott and their three sons. For more information about this event, please contact Bruce Frye, 2017 ChemVets Chair, at bfrye6@yahoo.com.
Several of our section members have been active in the community. The highlight of this month is from Wesley College. John Gavenosis and Sergio C. Nanita were ACS representative at Wesley College in Dover on February 23 when Senator Chris Coons visited. Please see below the news article shared on Wesley College website:

“Senator Chris Coons visited Wesley College on February 23 to learn more about Wesley’s achievements on the NSF DE-EPSCoR program, the NIH NIGMS DE-INBRE program, and Wesley’s NSF-funded Cannon Scholar Program; a program designed to recruit and retain academically talented students in biological chemistry, biology, environmental science and mathematics, and are in need of financial aid.

‘Through the support of the National Science Foundation grant, Wesley has been able to provide first generation and minority students the tools to succeed in Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields,’ said Professor of Chemistry and Associate Dean of Interdisciplinary/Collaborative Sponsored Research Dr. Malcolm D’Souza. ‘We are witnessing 92% retention rates among Cannon Scholars and 81% of our students continue on to graduate or professional schools.’

Cannon Scholars explained their research to Senator Coons who has a degree in both Chemistry and Political Science from Amherst College before earning his law degree from Yale and a master’s degree in ethics from Yale Divinity School. ‘There are only four Senators who currently have a background in science,’ explained Senator Coons. ‘So STEM students need to beat the drum and keep scientific research part of the conversation to help promote more funding for research which will lead to more innovation and breakthroughs.’

Volunteer representatives from the American Chemical Society, Drs. Sergio C. Nanita and John Gavenonis, who both work at the Corporate Center for Analytical Sciences, DuPont, also shared with students the value of the work they are pursuing which can have dramatic impact on the future.

The visitors spent time with faculty and students as well as toured the facility including labs that were supported through grant funding.

‘It was great having Senator Coons back on campus today interacting with our Cannon Scholars,’ said President Robert E. Clark II. “He is has been a steadfast supporter of Wesley College, and is a valued member of our Wesley College family.”

continued on page 13
Wesley College Visit Highlights continued
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- www.mboservices.net/recr_disp.php
- http://membership.acs.org/D/Del/#Jobs
- http://pubs.acs.org/chemjobs/

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INDEX OF ADVERTISERS

NuMega Resonance Labs ..............14
Robertson Microlit Labs .............2
Micron ....................................2
Spring Thoughts  Al Denio  continued from page 2

Illustrated, 2/13/17).  No comments on ethyl alcohol intake were included.

My question is, how does he function so well without caffeine, my favorite drug?

Our February 13th Meeting
Tom Connelly, Jr., our ACS CEO and Executive Director, drew a nice crowd for the event. This was a joint meeting with the Chem Vets where he discussed the future of chemistry in the economy and his ideas for the future of our organization.

White House Science Advisor
No news yet at the end of February. Science magazine (February 10 issue) had a nice article entitled “Science Advise in the Trump White House,” written by Kirstin R.W. Matthews, Kenneth M. Evans and Neal F. Lane. I shall quote one key paragraph.

“President Trump’s science advisor should be a nationally recognized leader in science and/or engineering with extensive knowledge of the federal government and global S&T policy experience; strong connections with the S&T community; and established leadership, communication, diplomatic, political, and management skills.”

Does such a person exist who can relate to Pres. Trump? I look forward to this appointment.

Earth Day, April 22nd
This annual event was started in 1970 by Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin. He was a highly respected environmentalist who served in the U.S. Senate from 1962 to 1980.

This date will coincide with The March for Science to be held in Washington, D.C. Refer to the article on page 556, also in the February 10 issue of Science. Marches will also be held in 100 cities around the world to advocate for science.

ACS has not yet taken a position on this event so stay tuned.

CHAIR’S COLUMN  continued from page 4

ceremony on Wednesday April 19th at the DuPont Country Club. Our 2017 Carothers Awardee is Prof. Stephen L. Buchwald from MIT. Prof. Buchwald is an expert in late transition-metal catalyzed reactions to form carbon-carbon and carbon-heteroatom bonds. His group has developed the popular class of phosphine ligands “Buchwald ligands” that are now widely used in the pharmaceutical, agrochemicals and electronic materials industries. I have used these ligands extensively for my work in organic light-emitting diodes at DuPont so I am very excited to see Prof. Buchwald and his seminar. Please join us for this event by registering on http://delawareacs.org

Thanks to Peiwen Zheng for laying the ground work last year, we will continue to use Mr. Joseph Labovsky’s family sponsorship to support the discount of registration fee for students and unemployed members. I want to share with you a brief story about Mr. Labovsky. He worked under Paul Flory in Dr. Wallace H. Carothers’ research group at DuPont and helped develop Nylon in the 1930’s, which in my opinion, ushered in the new field of polymer science. (Paul Flory went on to win the Nobel Prize in chemistry in 1974.) Mr. Labovsky was also involved in the development of Tyvek in the mid 1950’s. His legacy in science and his impact on our community are too profound for me to list here. On behalf of the Executive Committee, I would like to thank Mr. Labovsky’s family for their faithful support.

Giang
Calendar of Events

3  Chemical Heritage Foundation Brown Bag Lecture: Deanna Day
   “Infrastructures of Hope: Taking Care of Medicine in Southern
   California”

6  Chemical Heritage Foundation Fellow Focus: Mark Waddell
   “‘Trust Me!’ The Problem of Insincerity in Early Modern Medicine”

7  Chemical Heritage Foundation First Friday: Scholar Smackdown

8  Chemical Heritage Foundation Saturday Speaker

8  Chemical Heritage Foundation WikiSalon

10 Chemical Heritage Foundation Brown Bag Lecture: Marieke Hendriksen
   “Boerhaave’s Mineral Chemistry and Its Influence on 18th-Century
   Pharmacy in the Netherlands”

13 Chemical Heritage Foundation’s Joseph Priestly Society Symposium:
   Noah Clay “Emerging Companies Based on Inventions at the
   Singh Center for Nanotechnology of the University of Pennsylvania”

17 Chemical Heritage Foundation Brown Bag Lecture: Marlise Rijks
   “Man-Made: Counterfeiting Nature in Early Modern Europe”

18 ChemVets Lecture: Alexa A. Dembek, Ph.D., Director of Science
   and Innovation, DuPont “DuPont Innovation: Creating Global
   Competitiveness through World Class R&D”

19 April Section Event: Carothers Award Banquet Dinner and
   Reception Ceremony “Palladium-Catalyzed Carbon-Heteroatom
   Bond-Forming Reactions” Professor Stephen L. Buchwald, MIT