

The Blue Ridge Chemist

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Hollins University Hosts the January Meeting

<http://www.acs-vbrs.org>

VIRGINIA BLUE RIDGE SECTION AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

690th SECTION MEETING
Hollins University

Thursday, January 25, 2018

PROGRAM:

5:30-6:00 Social Time
6:00-7:00 Dinner
7:00-8:00 Lecture

All events will take place in the Private Dining Room in the Moody Center at Hollins. The buffet will consist of Caesar salad, beef lasagna, vegetable lasagna, bread, and fresh fruit; iced tea; coffee; and hot water with tea packets.

The dinner is \$14 (half price for students and retired members).

Reservations for the dinner must be made by THURSDAY, January 18, SEVEN DAYS before the meeting, by phoning Daniel Derringer at (540) 362-7433, or by sending email to dderringer@hollins.edu, or by mail to Daniel Derringer, Hollins University Department of Chemistry, P.O. Box 9578, Roanoke, VA 24020.

Dr. Mary Jane Carmichael
Visiting Assistant Professor
Department of Biology and Environmental Studies
Hollins University



Dr. Carmichael received her M.S. in Biology from Appalachian State University in 2012 and her Ph.D. in Biology from Wake Forest University in 2017. She joined the biology and environmental studies faculty at Hollins University in the summer of 2017. As a microbial ecologist turned biogeochemist, her research pursues questions at the intersection of the fields of biogeochemistry, microbial ecology, and physiological plant ecology. The central questions of her work seek to 1) understand the fundamental relationships that govern the interactions between above- and belowground processes and 2) link the metabolic activities of Earth's only two groups of primary producers: plants and microorganisms. Unlocking the answers to these questions is a critical component of our ability to predict the response of ecosystems to global climate change.

Lecture Presentation

Biogeochemistry, From the Mountains to the Sea

Dr. Carmichael's research has taken her from the coral reefs of Barbados to caves in the mountains of eastern Tennessee and more recently to the wetlands of North Carolina's coastal plain. In this presentation, she will share several aspects of her research encompassed under the broader theme of anthropogenic impact on natural systems. The foundation of her research philosophy seeks to address pressing environmental questions through a collaborative approach and interdisciplinary lens. She will begin by detailing evidence of sustained anthropogenic impact and its potential effects on manganese cycling in Tennessee caves, follow with research on climate-change associated impacts on carbon cycling in coastal freshwater forested wetlands, and conclude with a summary of the direction of her research program at Hollins.



Hollins University in wintertime

The Virginia Blue Ridge Section has certified the results of its election held at the November 2017 meeting. The Section now congratulates its 2018 officers on their election and acknowledges the committed service of its appointed committee chairs as follows:

- Chair: Gary Hollis, Roanoke College
- Chair Elect: Jason Crumpton, Lynchburg College
- Secretary: Samrat Thapa, Lynchburg College
- Treasurer: Steve Smith, Roanoke Valley Governor's School
- Councilor: Gary Hollis, Roanoke College
- Newsletter Editor: Paul Deck, Virginia Tech
- Recorder: Gary Hollis, Roanoke College
- Awards Committee: Chris Hermann, Radford University
- Alternate Councilor: Maria Puccio, Ferrum College
- Secondary Education Committee: Steve Smith, RVGS
- Webmaster: Jim Tung, Hargrave Military Academy
- NCW Committee: Maria Puccio, Ferrum College

The Executive Council wishes to acknowledge the contributions of two members who have concluded their service (for now):

- Chris Monceaux, Radford University
- Nancy Richardson, Liberty University

Spring VBRS Schedule

- February 2018 – Roanoke College
- March 2018 – Roanoke Valley Governor's School
- April 2018 – Radford University
- May 2018 – Tour TBA
- September 2017 – Virginia Tech

Directions to Hollins University

From I-81, take the Hollins exit (No. 146) south toward Williamson Road (US-11) and turn left. The entrance to Hollins University is a little more than half a mile and is on the left. The meeting is in the Private Dining Room of the Moody Center (Building #22)

