

# The Blue Ridge Chemist

Since 1947 the Official Local Section Publication of the Virginia Blue Ridge Section, American Chemical Society

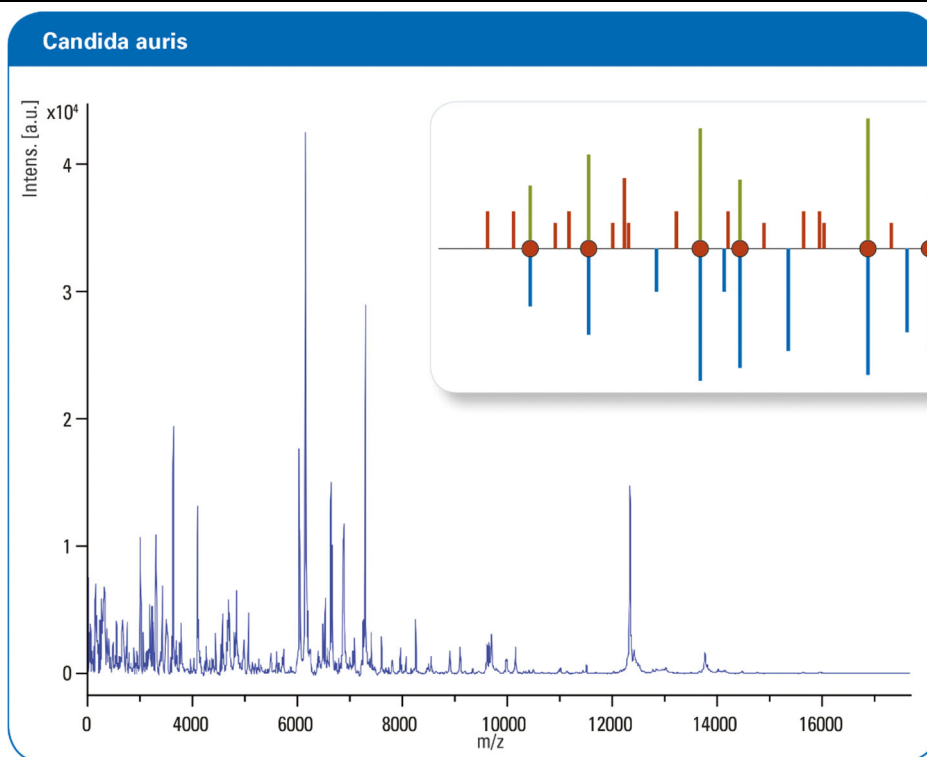
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## Virginia Western Community College Hosts the November Meeting



### Meeting Information

- 713<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Virginia Blue Ridge Section, American Chemical Society.
- Megan Price (Novozymes) will speak on applications of mass spectrometry in quality control for microbial and enzyme-based products.

### Agenda for Wednesday, November 08, 2023

- 5:45 PM Dinner and Conversation at Mission BBQ in the Towers Shopping Center, 2207 Colonial Avenue SW, Roanoke. No RSVP is required.
- 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM Presentation in the STEM Building (Room ST 112) at Virginia Western Community College, Roanoke, Virginia.

## Keynote Speaker: Megan Price

Megan Price grew up in Reidsville, NC and went on to obtain her B.S. in Biology and Psychology with a concentration in neuroscience at Roanoke College in 2019. She joined Novozymes Biologicals' quality control lab shortly after graduating and is currently a QC analyst. In her role she aids in processing samples from production, supporting efforts from research and development, and the implementation of new assays and technologies. Megan's primary focus for the last two years has been the development of standard operating procedures for the Bruker biotyper MALDI-TOF mass spectrometer.



### Presentation Abstract: Ensuring Quality in Complex Systems

Novozymes is one of the world's largest biotechnology companies, headquartered in Copenhagen under Novo Nordisk with dozens of labs across the globe. They specialize in the development of microbial and enzyme-based products for applications ranging from wastewater treatment to bioenergy. There are six sites in Salem whose primary focus is on household care and animal health and nutrition. The quality control lab processes thousands of samples each year, supporting production, product development, and R&D. One of the exciting new methods for microbial identification is the Bruker biotyper, a MALDI-TOF mass spectrometer. In this talk, we will discuss what the implementation of this cutting-edge technique looks like in a major biotechnology company along with what a typical day might entail in the quality control lab. Additionally, we will peek into the interconnectivity of industry both internally and with ongoing research.



## Section News: Candidates for VBRS 2024 Officers

Members will receive a link to an electronic ballot on Monday November 6. If you have not received your ballot by 5 PM on Mon Nov 6, please contact Paul Deck ([pdeck@vt.edu](mailto:pdeck@vt.edu)) for a ballot link.

- Voting shall be completed by 5:00 PM on Monday November 20. The names of our 2024 officers shall be transmitted to ACS on Wednesday November 22.

As you can see, there is only one candidate for each office. According to our current practice of holding officer elections, members will have the opportunity to write in any eligible person if they do not wish to vote for a slated candidate.

**Chair-Elect** – Gary Hollis, Roanoke College, or write-in

**Secretary** – Paul Deck, Virginia Tech, or write-in.

**Treasurer** – Jeremy Stegall, Eastman Chemical Company, or write-in

**Councilor** – Gary Hollis, Roanoke College, or write-in

**Alternate Councilor** – Jason Crumpton, University of Lynchburg, or write-in

David Hobart (University of Lynchburg) was elected Chair-Elect for 2023 and will assume the position of Chair in 2024. Owen Lofthus (Virginia Western Community College) was elected Chair-Elect for 2022, is presently serving as Chair, and will assume the position of Past Chair in 2024.

Visit our web page for more information and archives: <http://www.acs-vbrs.org>

Connect with us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/vbrsacs>

## Directions to the STEM Building at Virginia Western Community College

**From I-581 (coming from the north):** Take the Colonial Avenue exit, and bear to the left. Once on Colonial Avenue, drive about one mile, and at the first roundabout go left into the parking lot. Once in the lot, turn right. At the stop sign, turn right again. Turn left into the parking areas, and the STEM building is closest to the parking lot and is directly on Colonial Avenue. The building is labeled as “9” on the map below, with parking as indicated by the red rectangle.

**From US-220 (coming from the south):** Head north on US-220, take the Wonju Avenue exit. Turn left onto Colonial Avenue, drive approximately one mile, and at the first roundabout go left into the parking lot. Once in the lot, turn right and at the stop sign, turn right again. Turn left into the parking areas, and the STEM building is closest to the parking lot and is directly on Colonial Avenue.

- “Virginia Western Community College STEM Building” comes up in Google Maps, and the location is the parking area that is the middle red rectangle on the map below.



## Directions to Mission BBQ

From the north, exit US-220 at Colonial Avenue and turn right. Then make your first left into the parking lot for Towers Shopping Center. Once in the parking lot, head toward the mall then make a left in the parking lot. Mission BBQ is the last storefront on your right. For those coming from the south and taking the Wonju Avenue exit from US-220, turn right onto Colonial Avenue, then after passing through one light, turn left into the parking lot and follow the instructions above.

- The address of Mission BBQ for your GPS is 2229 Colonial Ave SW, Roanoke. The phone number of the restaurant is (540) 613-5513. No reservation or RSVP is required.
- Virginia Western Community College is straight down Colonial Avenue from Towers.