

The Blue Ridge Chemist

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



VOLUME LXIX

September 27, 2017

No. 5



Virginia Techs Hosts the September Meeting

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

VIRGINIA BLUE RIDGE SECTION AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

687th SECTION MEETING
Virginia Tech

Wednesday, September 27, 2017

PROGRAM:

5:30-6:00 Social Time, Hahn Hall South Atrium
6:00-7:00 Dinner, Hahn Hall South Atrium
7:00-8:00 Lecture, Pamplin Hall Room 30

The social time with registration will take place in Hahn Hall South Atrium (next building north of Davidson Hall on West Campus Drive). Barbecue buffet dinner (with vegetarian entree option) is catered by Professional Catering of Blacksburg and is also in Hahn Hall South Atrium. The dinner is \$15.00, with students and retired ACS members at half price.

The lecture will take place in Pamplin Hall Room 30. Johan Foster, Associate Professor of Materials Science and Engineering at Virginia Tech, will lecture on “Mechanically Adaptive Polymeric Materials for Implant in the Body.” Dr. Foster’s presentation is intended for a general audience. Reservations for the dinner must be made by **Thursday, September 21**, 6 days before the meeting, by contacting Paul Deck at 540-231-3493 (office), or by e-mail to pdeck@vt.edu.

The Virginia Blue Ridge section is grateful for the financial support provided for this meeting by both the Department of Chemistry and the College of Science at Virginia Tech.

Dr. E. Johan Foster

Associate Professor

Virginia Tech Materials Science and Engineering Department



Prof. Foster received his PhD in Chemistry at Simon Fraser University (Canada) in 2007 and spent two years as a postdoctoral fellow with Bert Meijer at the Technical University of Eindhoven (Netherlands). Between 2010 and 2014 he led the Advanced Polymer Chemistry and Materials Group at the [Adolphe Merkle Institute](#) (Fribourg, Switzerland) before joining Virginia Tech as Associate Professor of Materials Science and Engineering in 2014. His group focuses on the chemistry and engineering of functional bio(nano)materials with applications in implantable materials and drug release as well as materials with potentially useful antimicrobial, optical, or electronic properties.

Lecture Presentation

Mechanically Adaptive Polymeric Materials for Implant in the Body

Stimuli-responsive nanocomposite materials which change their mechanical properties in response to external stimuli have attracted significant interest for use in a broad spectrum of applications. We will present our experimental research focused on the design, synthesis and possible applications of materials that change their mechanical properties when implanted in the body. Moreover, we will demonstrate biocompatible sensing mechanisms suitable for coupling to implantable materials. Ranging from optical fibers to cortical electrodes, we will show several mechanisms that allow long term implantation and sensing within the body.



Are **you** interested in getting involved in VBRS?

Our section elections are held annually at the November meeting. Anyone interested in serving as an officer or on a committee should contact Paul Deck, the current section Chair, by email at pdeck@vt.edu

Officers and committees are as follows:

Chair
Chair Elect
Secretary
Treasurer
Councilor
Newsletter Editor
Recorder
Awards Committee
Membership Committee
Secondary Education Committee
Public Relations Committee
National Chemistry Week Committee

For a full description of the offices and committees roles, please visit <http://acs-vbrs.org/OJM-2005.pdf>.

Our next meeting will be held at Ferrum College on either Wednesday October 25 or Thursday October 26. The speaker will be Robert J. Bodnar, University Distinguished Professor of GeoSciences and CC Garvin Professor of Geochemistry.

Dr. Bodnar's talk at the October meeting is part of the American Chemical Society's celebration of National Chemistry Week, which has adopted the theme of "Chemistry Rocks" for 2017. Dr. Bodnar thinks of himself as "a scientist who applies fundamental chemical principles to understand how the earth works."

Directions to the Virginia Tech Chemistry Department

From I-81 follow US-460 West to Price's Fork Road and turn right, toward Downtown Blacksburg. Follow Price's Fork Road to West Campus Drive and turn right. The first two buildings on the left, about 1/4 mile down the hill, that are facing West Campus Drive are Hahn Hall North and Hahn Hall South. Maps of campus and a parking map may be found at www.maps.vt.edu. Guests may park without a permit after 5 PM in C/G or F/S lots as long as they are not marked "24 hours." (Angle parking along Drillfield Drive is "24 hour" parking.) The closest useable parking lots (see the "Parking Map" at the above link) are the Hahn Lot F/S, Davidson Lot F/S, Wright House Lot F/S, and the large C/G lot between Price's Fork Road and Perry Street. The social hour and the dinner will be in Hahn Hall South (Bldg 157) and the presentation will be in Pamplin Hall Rm. 30 (Bldg 153). The Drillfield-side entrances to Davidson Hall are closed.

Map of Virginia Tech

