



ACS Division of Energy & Fuels

ACS ENFL 2024 Fall Newsletter

Dear ENFL Members,

We are excited to kick off the 2024 Fall newsletter with some important updates! First, the voting for the *2024 ENFL Annual Election* has officially begun. Please be sure to check your emails from eZvote and cast your vote for the new ENFL officers. Additionally, we've highlighted some memorable moments from the *ACS 2024 Fall Meeting* in Denver, along with a selection of featured news that we think you'll find fascinating. Lastly, we encourage you again to explore and share the exciting *2025 Energy & Fuels Rising Stars* award opportunities!

Newsletter Editors: Inn Shi Tan, Honghong "Crystal" Shi

Time to Vote in the 2024 ACS ENFL Annual Election!

The ENFL election ballot has been sent out via **ezVote**. Please remember to check your spam folder to ensure your election-specific broadcast email can be received in your inbox. Voting begins on **Tuesday, October 15, 2024, at 8:00 AM PDT** and will close on **Friday, November 15, 2024, at 12:00 PM PDT (Noon)**. Please cast your vote and encourage your network to do the same!

We encourage all members to actively participate in this election, and we strongly urge you to take the time to cast your votes. Your voice is crucial in shaping the future of the ACS ENFL Division! Please send your questions (if any) to Dr. Yuyan Shao ✉ yuyan.shao@pnnl.gov.

Chair-Elect (2025)*

- [Cesar Ovalles](#), Senior Manager (Retired), Chevron
- [Feng Jiao](#), Professor, Washington University in Saint Louis

Secretary (2025-2026)

- [Shirmir Branch](#), Chemist, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
- [Ruozhu Feng](#), Materials Scientist, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
- [Greeshma Gadikota](#), Associate Professor, Cornell University

Director-at-Large (2025-2027)

- [Michelle Kidder](#), Distinguished R&D Scientist, Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Councilor (2025-2027)

- [Jingbo Louise Liu](#), Professor, Texas A&M University Kingsville

Alternate Councilor (2025-2027)

- [Lamartine Meda](#), Professor, Xavier University of Louisiana
- [Ah-Hyung "Alissa" Park](#), Professor, University of California, Los Angeles

Note: * The Chair-Elect position involves a three-year commitment. The Chair-Elect for 2025 will serve as Chair in 2026 and Immediate-Past-Chair in 2027. The roles and eligibility criteria for each position are specified in the ENFL division's **by-laws** and **manual**, and please refer to our website (<https://enfl.aps.anl.gov/>) for the governance and current officers of ENFL.

Memorable Moments in Denver

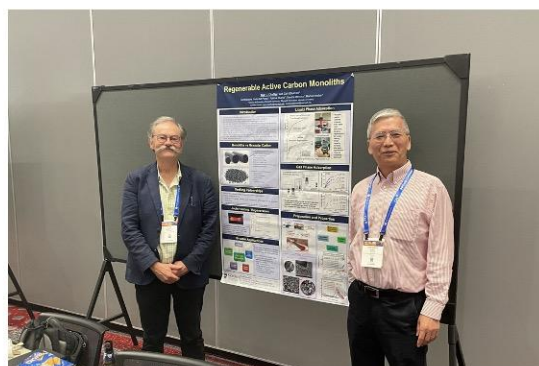
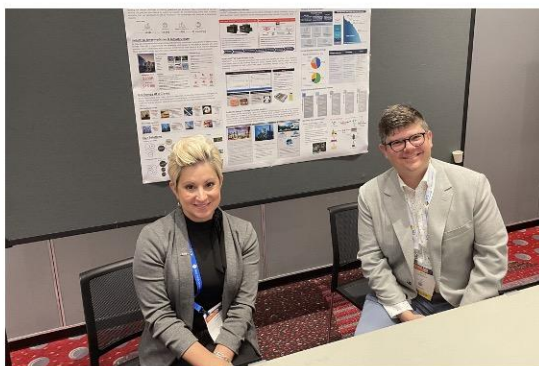
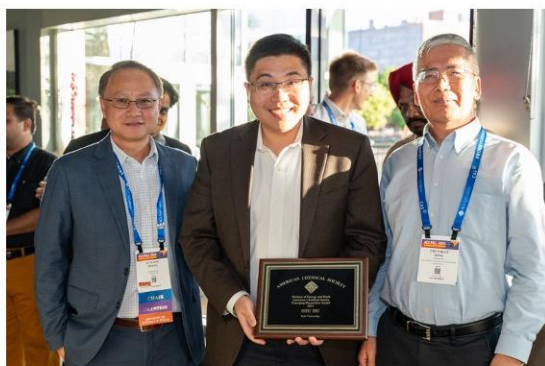


Division Activities

August 18-22, 2024
Denver, CO & Hybrid



Celebrating Togetherness



Chemistry of Connections





Featured News

ENFL member wins the Margaret H. Rousseau Pioneer Award



Prof. Umit Ozkan, a Distinguished Professor at the Ohio State University, is the 2024 recipient of the Margaret H. Rousseau Pioneer Award by the American Institute of Chemical Engineering (AIChE). This award recognizes Lifetime Achievement by a Woman Chemical Engineer who has made significant contributions to chemical engineering and who has paved the way for women to have a greater impact on professions. This year, this award is presented to Prof. Umit Ozkan to honor her for bridging heterogeneous catalysis and electrocatalysis; for being an outstanding teacher and mentor; and for blazing trails in every aspect of her professional life.

The award is sponsored by Pfizer and is named for Margaret Hutchinson Rousseau, a female engineer who is a pioneer in designing the first commercial plant for deep-tank penicillin fermentation during World War II.

Prof. Elizabeth Biddinger honored with the 2024 ENFL Glenn Award

The Glenn Award Selection Committee is delighted to announce the winner for the 2024 Fall ACS National Meeting: Professor Elizabeth Biddinger of The City College of New York (CCNY) has been awarded the prestigious



Glenn Award for her outstanding presentation titled "*Modifying Lithium Solvation Chemistry and Electrolyte Properties Using Ionic Liquid-Tetraglyme Mixtures.*"

Prof. Elizabeth J. Biddinger is an Associate Professor in Chemical Engineering at The City College of New York. Her research interests encompass green chemistry and energy concerns. She has expertise in catalysis, electrochemistry, alternative solvents, green chemistry and sustainable engineering. In particular, she is interested in the electrification of chemical processes that transform wastes or renewable resources into valuable materials, chemicals and fuels for decarbonization and sustainability; and the use of ionic liquids and alternative solvents in electrochemical systems for improved performance and safety.

ENFL co-sponsors the 2nd ACS Smart Materials & Engineering International Conference

The 2nd ACS Smart Materials and Engineering International Conference is currently taking place from October 17-19, 2024 in Dalian, China. This event is a collaborative effort between the American Chemical Society and Dalian University of Technology, with support from the ACS Shanghai Chapter, ACS Jingjinji Chapter, ACS Publications, the ACS Polymer Chemistry Division, and the ACS Energy & Fuels Division. The conference theme focuses on scientific breakthroughs, with a spotlight on discoveries in materials science, chemical engineering, computational chemistry, polymer science and technology, synthesis, and AI applications in chemistry.

In addition to the numerous parallel sessions, the event features ACS journal workshops, including those for *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces* and *Polymer Science and Technology*. Notably, *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces* will publish a special issue dedicated to this conference.

ENFL co-sponsors the 15th Semi-Annual Energy Professionals Hiring Event

The Society of Petroleum Engineers – Gulf Coast Section (SPE-GCS) is organizing the 15th semi-annual Energy Professionals Hiring Event for professionals of energy and upstream oil & gas disciplines. The Fall 2024 Hiring Event will be held face-to-face on **November 12, 2024** at the Trini Mendenhall Community Center located at 1414 Wirt Rd., Houston, TX 77055. Scan the QR codes below and register today!

Energy Professionals HIRING EVENT



November 12, 2024 - Houston

2:00 PM – 5:00 PM • Trini Mendenhall Community Center • 1414 Wirt Rd, TX 77055

Register today!



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The Age of AI is Here!

The 2024 Nobel Prizes in both Chemistry and Physics have been awarded for breakthroughs related to artificial intelligence. The Nobel Prize in Physics went to John Hopfield and Geoffrey Hinton for their pioneering work in machine learning and the development of AI. The Nobel Prize in Chemistry was awarded to Demis Hassabis, John Jumper, and David Baker for using AI to predict and design the 3D structures of proteins.

What role can ENFL play in the Age of AI? Please find this thought-provoking article from *MIT Technology Review* on [Why artificial intelligence and clean energy need each other](#). **What are your thoughts?** We'd love to hear your voice, and encourage you to propose a symposium for ENFL at the upcoming ACS National Meetings.



Credit: Ian C. Haydon/IPD (Baker); Associated Press (Hassabis); Courtesy of John M. Jumper
Winners of the 2024 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, David Baker (left), Demis Hassabis (center), and John M. Jumper

Reminder on the Nominations of 2025 Energy and Fuels Rising Stars

Energy & Fuels is now accepting nominations of candidates for the 2025 Energy and Fuels Rising Stars. Submit your nomination by **October 31, 2024**. Please use the link below for more details on the nomination procedure.

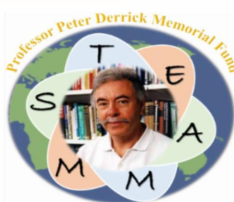
[Open Call for 2025 Energy and Fuels Rising Stars](#)

For volunteering opportunities within our division, please reach out to enfdivision@gmail.com. We appreciate your involvement!

Special Thanks to Our Sponsors!



Support from H. N. Cheng
2022 ACS Past President





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