

TRIAD CHEMICAL TIMES



Central North Carolina Section American Chemical Society

September Local Section Meeting

Speaker: Ms. Min Tang, Virginia Tech University

When: Wednesday, September 28th (6:30 pm Social, 7:00 pm Meeting)

Where: Syngenta Auditorium, Greensboro

NOTE: This meeting is sponsored by funds raised at Poster Vendor Night. The meeting is open to all (ACS membership is not required).



Honoring our 50 and 60 year Members (will occur at September Meeting)

50 Year Members:

Dr. Mary Evelyn Stowe

Dr. Eugene Grimley III

60 Year Members:

Mr. Melvin Hooper

Mr. Theodore Sulzberg

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PRESENTATION TITLE:

The Flint, MI Water Crisis: Hold Paramount the Safety, Health, and Well-being of the Public

SPEAKER:

Min Tang, PhD Candidate at Virginia Tech

ABSTRACT:

The City of Flint, MI switched from treating Detroit water to the very corrosive Flint River water as their temporary water source in April 2014. A few months after the switch, high levels of fecal bacteria and disinfectant byproduct total trihalomethane (TTHM) were detected in their water. The Flint residents also started to notice health issues associated with the water, while the government officials insisted that the water was safe to drink. One of the concerned Flint residents, LeeAnne Walters, contacted Dr. Marc Edwards and his team at Virginia Tech in April 2015. After detecting extremely high levels of lead, a neurotoxin, in Ms. Walter's house, Dr. Marc Edwards and his team launched the Flint Water Study in August 2015. Since its launch, the Virginia Tech team has made several trips to Flint to meet with local residents and investigate if there was a city-wide water contamination problem. The team's effort confirms a system-wide lead problem in Flint and the City of Flint switched back to Detroit water in October 2015 to minimize the corrosion and lead problems. After the federal emergency was declared in January 2016, the government agencies funded the Virginia Tech team to take several rounds of sampling to examine water lead levels since the switch. This presentation will provide an overview of the Virginia Tech Flint Water Study team's efforts in this crisis combining ethics engineering, citizen science, laboratory experiments, water sampling results, investigative science, and social media. All results have been posted to: <http://flintwaterstudy.org/>

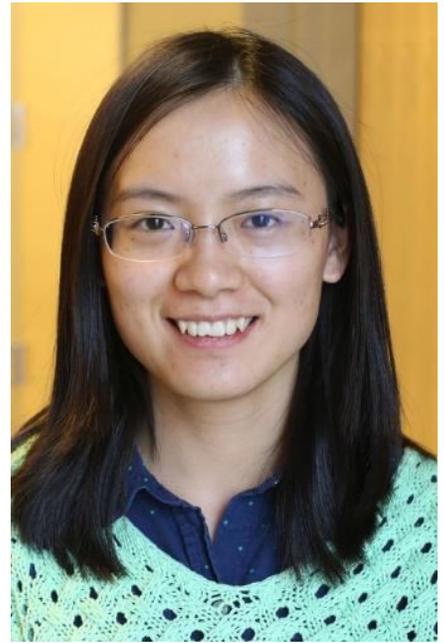


Photo: Matt Gentry/AP

BIO:

Min Tang is currently a PhD candidate in Civil Engineering at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech). She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Engineering in 2011 at Sichuan University, China. She then pursued graduate study in Environmental Engineering at Virginia Tech and received her Master of Science degree in 2013. She is a recipient of the Sussman Internship Scholarship and the Torgersen Research Award at Virginia Tech. Her research interest includes in-situ remediation of water pipe leaks, corrosion and corrosion control, aquatic chemistry, drinking water regulation and compliance, and water/wastewater treatment.

The Flint, Michigan Water Crisis

Dr. Edwards is leading his research team to fix Flint water crisis

Dr. Marc Edwards, a Charles P. Lunsford Professor at Virginia Tech, and his research team are actively involved in addressing lead, pathogen and water infrastructure issues due to a failure to implement corrosion control treatment in the new source water in Flint, Michigan. After detecting alarming levels of lead in resident Mrs LeeAnne Walters' house in May 2015, the Edwards research team sent out 300 sampling kits to Flint residents, analyzed 861 water samples from the returned kits and launched four trips to City of Flint for more water and pathogen sampling between August and December in 2015. Their results (www.flintwaterstudy.org) showed that there was a widespread lead in water problem. Their effort propelled the Flint to switch back to Detroit water in October 2015, which has orthophosphate to provide corrosion control. Their work also led to the declaration of a public health emergency in both state and national levels. The Edwards team now are officially hired to investigate the water issues in City of Flint. They in total have organized three sampling trips to City of Flint since January 2016 and found that the lead levels have systematically reduced after switching back to Detroit water.



Photo (left): Dr. Edwards was presenting the Flint Water Study at Virginia Tech with his research team in January 2016; Photo (right): Dr. Edwards and his research team met with LeeAnne Walter's family.

CNC-ACS Councilor Election

The CNC local section (LS) is represented at the national ACS level by an elected Councilor. This position is due for re-election this fall. Therefore, if you wish to nominate a candidate or are interested in serving as Councilor, please send nominations or self-nominations to Dr. Fenghai Guo at guof@wssu.edu no later than 30 September 2016. E-balloting will take place in October.

The duties of a local section Councilor are summarized below.

You are elected for a three-year term, unless you were elected to serve the unexpired term of a preceding Councilor. To participate in Council activities, you must first be certified as a Councilor. Your name and term of service must be submitted to the ACS Executive Director & CEO and certified on or before December 1 each year. In late fall, the ACS National Office provides forms to your LS secretary for this procedure.

First-year Councilors are seldom appointed to an ACS committee. As a result, a new Councilor should use the first year to become familiar with ACS governance. Later, you should seriously consider becoming involved in an ACS committee because committees are the driving forces of the ACS. They significantly influence the goals and actions of the Society; they are where most initiatives for Council consideration originate and are developed. To maximize your service to the ACS and your contribution to its governance, strive to serve more than one term as a Councilor.

The key to being an effective Councilor is to stay informed. You should understand what is going on at the national level and within the local section or division that you represent. Remember, too, that you are a national Councilor. Looking out for your constituency is important; however, concern for the broader concerns of our profession and the chemical sciences at the national level is equally important. An understanding of the strategic direction of the Society will be vital in this regard. You may review the goals outlined in the ACS Strategic Plan.

Here are some practical suggestions to help you quickly become an effective Councilor.

- (1) Attend all of your local section and Executive Committee meetings.
- (2) Join the Councilor Group via the ACS Network to identify experienced Councilors and
- (3) Seek to become involved in an ACS national committee.

Further details of the Councilor's duties are shown in the following:

<http://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/about/governance/councilors.html>

Silver Circle News

Dear SC Members,

Last night's meeting at WSSU was attended by 15 people including the 6 panelists (picture attached). The panelists opened the meeting by discussing their activities since retirement and those items that merit strong consideration when preparing for retirement (5-6 minutes for each panelist). Topics ranged from hobbies to savings/investing to long term health care. A lot of interesting discussion took place during the Q&A period afterward. Some of the key "take-aways" were start saving early, maximize your 401K contributions as soon as possible, exercise, keep your mind engaged, give back to your community via volunteer and charitable activities, remain active, prepare a will, amongst others.

It was a very informative evening. The only improvement would have been increased attendance.

The next SC meeting is scheduled for November 15. Our guest speaker will be Chuck Carrick of DMJ Wealth Advisers, LLC. Stay tuned for future announcements.

I hope everyone is having a fabulous summer. Fall will be here soon.

Robert Yokley



Directions:



Traveling West on I-40 in Greensboro:

- ✚ Take **Exit # 213**.
- ✚ At the top of the exit ramp, go straight through the traffic signal onto **Swing Road**.
- ✚ Follow Swing Rd past the Radisson and turn **left at the “Entrance 2” sign**.
- ✚ **Park in the parking area on the left**.
- ✚ Enter the glass double doors to the right of “E” Building. Check with security and they will direct you to the site auditorium or L-Bldg.

Traveling East on I-40 in Greensboro:

- ✚ Take **Exit # 213** and follow the exit ramp around to the top.
- ✚ Turn **right at the traffic signal** and pass over I-40.
- ✚ Turn **left** at the very **next traffic signal** onto Swing Road (immediately after crossing I-40).
- ✚ Follow the remainder of directions from the I-40 West directions above.

CNC-ACS Executive Committee

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