

NEWSLETTER

January 2026



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www.nacatsoc.org

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Enrique Iglesia (Purdue University)
Randall Meyer (ExxonMobil Research & Engineering)

Past President

Jingguang Chen (Columbia University)



Dear Members of the North American Catalysis Society,

As we begin a new year, I would like to extend my warmest greetings to each of you and to thank you for your continued engagement with the North American Catalysis Society (NACS). Our community remains vibrant, innovative, and impactful, and it is a privilege to serve as your President during this exciting time for catalysis research and practice.

The past year highlighted once again the central role that catalysis plays in addressing global challenges—from sustainable energy and chemical manufacturing to environmental protection and emerging technologies. The scientific creativity and dedication demonstrated by our members across academia, industry, and national laboratories continue to advance our field and strengthen its relevance to society at large. NACS is proud to serve as a platform that brings these diverse perspectives together.

Looking ahead, the coming year offers many opportunities for connection and collaboration. Our re-launching

of the NACS newsletter will emphasize important events, news, and information for our society. We remain committed to supporting early-career researchers, promoting diversity and inclusion within our community, and enhancing engagement between fundamental research and industrial application.

I also want to acknowledge the tremendous efforts of our board members, committee members, and officers. Their dedication is essential to the success of NACS, and I am deeply grateful for the time and energy they contribute. If you are interested in becoming more involved in Society activities, I encourage you to reach out—your ideas and participation are always welcome.

As we start this new year, I invite you to stay engaged with NACS, share your work, attend our events, and help shape the future of catalysis in North America and beyond. Together, we can continue to strengthen our community and expand the impact of our science.

I wish you a productive, healthy, and inspiring year ahead.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Javier Guzman', written in a cursive style.

Javier Guzman
President, North American Catalysis Society

David West is the recipient of the 2026 F. G. Ciapetta Lectureship in Catalysis

I am pleased to announce that David West of SABIC is the recipient of the 2026 F. G. Ciapetta Lectureship in Catalysis. The award is administered by the North American Catalysis Society and sponsored by the W. R. Grace & Co. It is to be awarded biennially in even-numbered years. The award consists of a plaque and an honorarium of \$5,000. The recipient may be invited to lecture at some of the local catalysis clubs during the two-year period covered by this award.

David is a Corporate Fellow at SABIC Technology and Innovation since 2012. Before joining SABIC, he worked at Dow for 31 years. While at SABIC he has focused mostly on the development of advanced technology for hydrocarbon pyrolysis, and catalysis and reactor technology for oxidative coupling of methane (OCM). Over the last decade, he pioneered multiple breakthrough projects for conversion of methane to ethylene (autothermal oxidative coupling of methane, a scalable reactor for combustion pyrolysis of methane and conversion of complex hydrocarbons to olefins). Under his leadership, the organization developed five new technologies and products that were graduated to the Strategic Business Units: thermoplastic composites, dielectric film, mixed plastic waste pyrolysis, hydrocracking of butane to ethylene/propene, and controlled release fertilizer. The first three are commercial; the third is complete and ready for deployment, the last is still in development. His pioneering contributions lie at the intersection of the disciplines of catalysis and reaction engineering. He is co-inventor on 68 granted patents including more than 50 in the area of OCM. He is a fellow of the AIChE and member of the U.S. National Academy of Engineering.

Congratulations!

Javier Guzman

President, North American Catalysis Society

Read More: <https://nacatsoc.org/>



Michele Sarazen receives the 2025 ACS Early Career Award



At the Fall 2025 ACS meeting in Washington, D.C., Professor Michele Sarazen of Princeton University was recognized as the 2025 recipient of the ACS Early Career Award in Catalysis. This award acknowledges the creativity, impact, and service in the early stages of the recipient's independent career in the field of catalysis.

As exemplified by her presentation at ACS titled “(poly)alkene reactions in zeolites: moving forward in the face of microscopic reversibility”, Prof. Sarazen's contributions tackle both fundamental and applied challenges in catalysis science and active site engineering for diverse catalytic processes. Beyond research excellence, this award celebrates her commitment to building and strengthening the network of catalysis researchers, ranging from students to faculty collaborators to industry partners, based on her years of service to the catalysis community.

Read More: <https://nacatsoc.org/>

Awards Presented by the North American Catalysis Society

The North American Catalysis Society (NACS) sponsors six prestigious awards and lectureships to recognize the accomplishments of catalysis scientists, technologists, and engineers and to promote the advancement of catalysis science and technology in North America and worldwide. See below for specific information about each award.

Three of these awards include plenary lectures at NACS biennial meetings (Eugene J. Houdry Award in Applied Catalysis, Paul H. Emmett Award in Fundamental Catalysis, and Michel Boudart Award for the Advancement of Catalysis, the latter jointly presented with the European Federation of Catalysis Societies and NACS). The F. G. Ciapetta and Robert Burwell Lectureships in Catalysis involve lectures at local club/society meetings and the presentation of the awards at the NACS meeting banquet. The NACS Award for Distinguished Service in the Advancement of Catalysis is the most recent recognition instituted by the Society. Each of these awards is presented at a NACS meeting. Nomination deadlines are listed on the NACS website; each award has a separate deadline.

Canvassing and Nomination Processes

NACS encourages all nominations for these awards. Nominators and nominees need not be NACS members. The President of NACS instructs the Vice President of NACS to form a canvassing committee for each cycle of each award to ensure a full slate of outstanding candidates. This committee for each award consists of recognized experts within the catalysis community at-large, and the committee mem-

bership is varied to ensure representation of a broad spectrum of the community and to include people from underrepresented groups. The committee identifies worthy candidates, and, together with the Vice President, seeks nominators for each candidate but provides no specific guidance about the preparation of nomination packages beyond that provided on the NACS website. The Vice President also instructs the Secretary of NACS to be in contact with representatives of each of the local NACS clubs/societies to request that they canvass for nominations within their local sections. All nomination cycles and deadlines for nominations are announced in the quarterly NACS newsletter and posted on the NACS website. The deadlines are strictly followed.

Award Recipient Nomination Process

The jury that selects each NACS award recipient consists of scientists, engineers, and technologists recognized as experts and representing industry, academia, and national laboratories. The selection jury is appointed by the NACS President, who seeks guidance in selecting its members from the Vice President and from senior members of the catalysis community. The identities of the jury members are kept in the strictest confidence and known only to the President. The members of each jury must have no affiliation with any of the nominees, and all jurors are specifically asked to disclose any conflicts of interest and to disqualify themselves without prejudice when a conflict exists. The members of the jury are not known to each other. Their communications with regard to nominations are with the NACS President only and are required to be kept

strictly confidential.

The NACS President provides the jury with the nomination packages for all candidates within two weeks of the nomination deadline; in the intervening time, potential jury members are asked about their willingness to serve. The NACS President provides guidance to jury members about how to present their rankings of nominees. The members of the jury rank the candidates and provide specific details for their selections for their top three candidates. In some cases, jury members may be asked to again rank the top two candidates side-by-side, after considering their respective nomination packages once again.

The recipient of each NACS Award and the nominator of the award recipient will be informed by the President of NACS of the decision of the jury, followed by the President’s notification of jury members and of nominators of each of the other candidates.

A formal announcement, composed by the President of NACS in consultation with the recipient and the nominator of the recipient, is published on the NACS website and in the NACS newsletter and may be submitted to other venues for announcement. Each award is presented at the biennial NACS meeting, where the respective citations are read and each award winner receives a plaque.

Procedures for evaluation of nominations for the Boudart Award are broadly consistent with the procedures stated above for NACS awards, but the procedures are determined jointly by NACS and the European Federation of Catalysis Societies.

Award Deadlines

| | |
|----------|---------------|
| Service | 15 May 2026 |
| Houdry | 17 Jul. 2026 |
| Emmett | 18 Sept. 2026 |
| Boudart | 6 Nov. 2026 |
| Ciapetta | 7 Nov. 2026 |
| Burwell | 25 Jan. 2027 |

See more details: <https://nacatsoc.org/awards/>

Previous Winners of the North American Catalysis Society Awards

| Michel Boudart Award for the Advancement of Catalysis | Robert Burwell Lectureship in Catalysis | F. G. Ciapetta Lectureship in Catalysis | Paul H. Emmett Award in Fundamental Catalysis | Eugene J. Houdry Award in Applied Catalysis | NACS Award for Distinguished Service in the Advancement of Catalysis |
|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| 2007 Alexis T. Bell | 1983 Robert L. Burwell | 1967 Jan H. deBoer | 1971 Richard J. Kokes | 1971 Herman S. Bloch | 2010 W. Nicholas Delgass |
| 2009 Avelino Corma Canos | 1985 Wolfgang M. H. Sachtler | 1968 John Sinfelt | 1973 John H. Sinfelt | 1973 Charles J. Plank | 2012 John Armor |
| 2011 James A. Dumesic | 1987 John B. Peri | 1969 Stanlislas Teichner | 1975 Jack H. Lunsford | 1975 Heinz Heinemann | 2014 Burtron H. Davis |
| 2013 Jens Nørskov | 1989 Jack H. Lunsford | 1972 George C.A. Schuit | 1977 Gabor A. Somorjai | 1977 Vladimir Haensel | 2016 Gary L. Haller |
| 2015 Hajo Freund | 1991 Kamil Klier | 1973 Jose J. Fripiat | 1979 Gerhard Ertl | 1979 Adalbert Farkas | 2018 Alexis T. Bell |
| 2017 Bruce Gates | 1993 Werner O. Haag | 1974 Dennis A. Dowden | 1981 Peter A. Jacobs | 1981 Herman Pines | 2021 Enrique Iglesia |
| 2019 Enrique Iglesia | 1995 Gary Haller | 1975 Pierre C. Gravelle | 1983 Robert J. Madix | 1983 Milton Orchin | 2023 Stuart Soled |
| 2021 Graham Hutchings | 1997 Wayne Goodman | 1976 Gerhard Ertl | 1985 Alexis T. Bell | 1985 John W. Ward | 2025 Bruce Gates |
| 2023 Johannes Lercher | 1999 Harold Kung | 1977 John R. Anderson | 1987 M. Albert Vannice | 1987 Ralph J. Bertolacini | |
| 2025 Bert Weckhuysen | 2001 Tobin Marks | 1986 Michel Boudart | 1989 James A. Dumesic | 1989 Jule A. Rabo | |
| | 2003 Alexis T. Bell | 1988 James D. Idol | 1991 Harold Kung | 1991 James Roth | |
| | 2005 Enrique Iglesia | 1990 W. Keith Hall | 1993 Mark Barteau | 1993 Wolfgang M. H. Sachtler | |
| | 2007 James Dumesic | 1992 R. van Santen | 1995 Mark Davis | 1995 Madan Bhasin | |
| | 2009 Bruce Gates | 1994 John J. Rooney | 1997 Enrique Iglesia | 1997 John Armor | |
| | 2011 Johannes A. Lercher | 1996 George Kokotailo | 1999 Raymond Gorte | 1999 Clarence Chang | |
| | 2013 Charles Campbell | 1998 Avelino Corma | 2001 Donna Blackmond | 2001 Leo Manzer | |
| | 2015 Matt Neurock | 2000 Gary McVicker | 2003 Francisco Zaera | 2003 Avelino Corma | |
| | 2017 Jingguang Chen | 2002 John Monnier | 2005 Matthew Neurock | 2005 Henrik Topsøe | |
| | 2019 Abhaya Datye | 2004 Douglas Stephan | 2007 Robert J. Davis | 2007 Stacey Zones | |
| | 2021 Manos Mavrikakis | 2006 Stuart Soled | 2009 Manos Mavrikakis | 2009 Jeffrey Beck | |
| | 2023 Umit Ozkan | 2008 Robert Farrauto | 2011 Bert Weckhuysen | 2011 James C. Stevens | |
| | 2025 Yong Wang | 2010 Jeffrey T. Miller | 2013 Christopher W. Jones | 2013 Giuseppe Bellussi | |
| | | 2012 Thomas Degnan | 2015 Christophe COPÉRET | 2015 Anne Gaffney | |
| | | 2014 Paul Barger | 2017 Suljo Linic | 2017 Jeffery Bricker | |
| | | 2016 Ahmad Moini | 2019 Javier Pérez-Ramírez | 2019 Hai-Ying Chen | |
| | | 2018 Teh Ho | 2021 Thomas Jaramillo | 2021 Deng-Yang (DY) Jan | |
| | | 2020 Cong-Yan Chen | 2022 Beatriz Roldan Cuenya | 2023 Stephen R. Schmidt | |
| | | 2022 Sourav Sengupta | 2023–2024 Aditya Bhan | 2025 José G. Santiesteban | |
| | | 2024 Aleksey Yezerets | 2023–2024 Yuriy Román-Leshkov | | |
| | | 2026 David West | 2025–2026 Phillip Christopher | | |
| | | | 2025–2026 David Flaherty | | |

2026 Southeastern Catalysis Society Annual Symposium



The 2026 SECS Annual Symposium will be held in Blacksburg, VA, on March 9–10, 2026. This will be a 1.5 day in-person symposium, lasting from Monday AM until Tuesday midday. The keynote speaker is Dr. Yong Wang (Washington State University), the recipient of the 2025 Burwell Lectureship in Catalysis; Dr. Wang's lecture is scheduled for Monday, March 9th. We will also have two invited speakers; from outside of the region, Prof. Gina Noh (Penn State) and from the SECS, Emma Hu (Georgia Tech).

Sponsorship at the silver (\$500), gold (\$1000), and platinum (\$1500) levels is still welcome! Contact Tibor Szilvási (tibor.szilvasi@ua.edu) for more information.

Looking forward to seeing you in March!

Read More: <https://nacatsoc.org/>

Maria Flytzani-Stephanopoulos Symposium on Single-Site Catalysis 2025



Tufts University and the New England Catalysis Society (NECS) hosted the biannual Maria Flytzani-Stephanopoulos Symposium on Single-Site Catalysis in Medford, MA on October 10th. This symposium honors the late Maria Flytzani-Stephanopoulos's contributions to single-atom catalysis and creativity in the field, featuring a keynote lecture from Yong Wang (Washington State University/PNNL) and the 2025 Maria Flytzani-Stephanopoulos Creativity in Catalysis Award lecture from Paul Daunhauer (University of Minnesota).

Additionally, the symposium featured talks from Charlie Sykes (Tufts University), Bin Wang (University of Oklahoma), and Heather Kulik (MIT), a student/postdoc poster competition, and a panel comprising academics and industrial practitioners. For further details, visit: <https://sites.tufts.edu/mfscatalysissymposium/>

Looking forward, NECS is excited to host its next symposium in Spring 2026 at the University of Maine.

Read More: <https://nacatsoc.org/>

30th Biennial Organic Reactions Catalysis Society (ORCS)



Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to announce that abstract submissions for the 2026 Biennial ORCS meeting are open through January 30, 2026, at 11:59 PM Central time. The conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency Sonoma Wine Country, April 12–16th, 2026 in Santa Rosa, CA. There will also be a Student Poster Session this year, along with a poster competition. In addition, travel funds will be available for students and postocs — please take advantage of this opportunity! Abstracts are to be submitted through the website (<https://orcs.org/abstract>) and are to be submitted in the NACS format – the template is available for download on the ORCS website via this link. If you have any questions or have special accommodation or timing requests, please send your emails to orcschair@orcs.org.

In addition, ORCS is excited to announce their award winners, who will be giving keynotes at our upcoming meeting. Prof. David Flaherty from Georgia Tech will receive the Paul N. Rylander award, established by ORCS in 1988 and sponsored by BASF for scientists who have made outstanding contributions in the field of catalysis as it applies to organic synthesis. Dr. Beata Kilos from The Dow Chemical Company will receive the Murray Raney award, established by ORCS in 1992 and sponsored by Grace Catalysts Technologies to acknowledge contributions in the use of base metal catalysts in organic synthesis. Prof. Quentin Michael from Texas A&M will receive the Robert Augustine Award, established by ORCS in 2017 and sponsored by ACS Journals for significant early career contributions to catalysis of organic reactions of industrial importance.

Read More: <https://nacatsoc.org/>

Tri-State Catalysis Society 2025 Annual Symposium



The Tri-State Catalysis Society hosted the 2025 Annual Symposium in Lexington, Kentucky at the esteemed Campbell House. We had a record number of attendees, who were captivated by the range of Invited, Keynote, and Award presentations. As part of the Symposium, we were delighted to have the 2024 Ciapetta Award winner Aleksey Yezerets present on his impactful work. The meeting featured lively discussions during both poster sessions.

It was great to see so many students attend and present posters at the Symposium. We also had presentations from two student award winners – Anant Sohale and Serra Yesilata. The future is bright for the next generation of Tri-State Catalysis members.

As part of the symposium, the group visited University of Kentucky's Center for Applied Energy Research (CAER), where they are researching sustainable routes to fuels and materials from low-cost and waste feedstocks.

We will be hosting the 2026 Annual Symposium in Cincinnati, Ohio! Be on the lookout for more information.

Read More: <https://nacatsoc.org/>

Club Directory

Canada Catalysis Division (CCD)
Website: <https://catalysisdivision.ca>

Chair: *Cathy Chin*
University of Toronto

Vice-Chair: *Jan Kopyscinski*
McGill University

Past-Chair: *Hui Wang*
University of Saskatchewan

Secretary/Treasurer: *Nicolas Abatzoglou*
Université de Sherbrooke
nicolas.abatzoglou@usherbrooke.ca

Member-at-Large: *Cao Thang Dinh*
Queen's University

Member-at-Large: *Quan (Sophia) He*
Dalhousie University

Member-at-Large: *Drew Higgins*
McMaster University

Member-at-Large: *Sami Khan*
Simon Fraser University

Member-at-Large: *Chester Upham*
University of British Columbia

Member-at-Large (Industrial): *Himanshi Dhawan*
Accelera by Cummins

Representative to NACS: *Cathy Chin*
University of Toronto

Catalysis Club of Chicago (CCC)
Website: <https://www.catalysisclubchicago.com>

President: *Siddarth Krishna*
University of Wisconsin, Madison

Vice President and Program Chair: *Christopher Keturakis*

UOP LLC

Secretary and Website Administrator: *Eric R. Sacia*
AbbVie Inc.
eric.sacia@abbvie.com

Treasurer: *Wolfgang A. Spieker*
UOP LLC

Director – Past President: *Patrick Littlewood*
GTI Energy

Director: *Michael Bradford*
GTI Energy

Director: *Raj Gounder*
Purdue University

Representative to NACS: *Justin Notestein*
Northwestern University

Catalysis Club of Philadelphia (CCP)
Website: <https://catalysisclubphilly.org>

Chair: *Zhuonan (Nick) Song*
W. L. Gore

Chair-Elect: *Jinsuo Xu*
Dow Chemical

Past Chair: *Angela Zheng*
Johnson Matthey

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University of Delaware
pswan@udel.edu

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Johns Hopkins University

Arrangements Chair: *Pedro Antonio Reis Moura*
University of Delaware

Director Membership: *Gagandeep Dhillon*

Johnson Matthey

Director Poster Session: *Jun Hee Jang*
Rowan University

Director Sponsorship: *Feiyang Geng*
Johnson Matthey

Website Administrator: *Dang Nguyen*
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Representative to NACS: *Dion Vlachos*
University of Delaware

Catalysis Society of Metropolitan New York (CSNY)
Website: <https://www.nycsweb.org>

Chair: *Boris Sheludko*
Amogy

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Retired, ExxonMobil

Secretary: *Marcella Lusardi*
Princeton University
mlusardi@princeton.edu

Treasurer: *John F. Brody*
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Director: *Lucas Dorazio*
BASF

Director: *Fuat Celik*
Rutgers University

Director: *Michele Sarazen*
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Website Administrator: *Joshua Miller*
Princeton University

Student Representative: *Kaitlyn Lawrence*
City University of New York

Representative to NACS: *Marco Castaldi*
City University of New York

Great Plains Catalysis Society (GPCS)
Website: <https://www.greatplainscatalysis.org>

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University of Oklahoma

President-Elect: *Juan J. Bravo-Suarez*
University of Kansas

Past-President: *Jean-Philippe Tessonier*
Iowa State University

Secretary: *Juan J. Bravo-Suarez*
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Director: *Kasun Gunasooriya*
University of Oklahoma

Director: *Ana Morais*
University of Kansas

Director & Webinar Coordinator: *Long Qi*
Iowa State University

Webinar Coordinator: *Graham Lief*
Chevron Phillips Chemical (CPCChem)

Webinar Coordinator: *Rachael Farber*
University of Kansas

Mexican Academy of Catalysis (MAC)

Website: <https://www.acat.org.mx>

President: *Jorge Noé Díaz de León Hernández*
UNAM

Vice President: *Juan Carlos Fierro González*
TecNM Celaya

Secretary: *Diego Daniel González Araiza*
UNAM

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Treasurer: *Carolina Solis Maldonado*
UV

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Director: *Raúl Alejandro Luna Sánchez*
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UASLP

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Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León

Michigan Catalysis Society (MCS)

Website: N/A

President: *Victor Sussman*
Dow

Vice-President: *Dong Jiang*
Dow

Treasurer: *Maddie Ball*
MSU

Secretary: *Maddie Ball*
MSU

ballmadl@msu.edu

Director: *Beata Kilos*
Dow

Director: *Galen Fisher*
UM

Past President:: *Kevin Gu*
GM

Representative to NACS: *Maddie Ball*

MSU

New England Catalysis Society (NECS)

Website: <https://necatalysis.org>

Chair: *Nathaniel Eagan*
Tufts University

Vice-Chair: *Shu Hu*
Yale University

Secretary: *Fanglin Che*
WPI

fcche@wpi.edu

Treasurer: *Wei Fan*
University of Massachusetts

Website Administrator: *Andrew Peterson*
Brown University

Representative to NACS: *Thomas Schwartz*
University of Maine

Chair: *Thomas Schwartz*
University of Maine

Vice-Chair: *Nathaniel Eagan*
Tufts University

Secretary: *Shu Hu*
Yale University

shu.hu@yale.edu

Treasurer: *Wei Fan*
University of Massachusetts

Website Administrator: *Andrew Peterson*
Brown University

Representative to NACS: *Aaron Deskins*
Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI)

Organic Reaction Catalysis Society (ORCS)

Website: <https://orcs.org>

Chair: *Radu Craciun*
BASF

Past Chair: *Shingo Watanabe*
Linde

Chair Elect: *TBD*

Secretary/Treasurer: *Pavlo Kostetskyy*
Archer Daniels Midland Company

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Director: *Bethanie Platt*
Archer Daniels Midland Company

Director: *Nick Brunelli*
The Ohio State University

Director: *T. Brent Gunnoe*
University of Virginia

Website Director: *Eric Sacia*
AbbVie

Director of Sponsorship: *ShaRee Thomas*
Evonik

Representative to NACS: *Karl Albrecht*
Archer Daniels Midland Company

Pacific Coast Catalysis Society (PCCS)

Website: N/A

Chair: *Jean-Sabin McEwen*
Washington State University (Voiland School of Chemical Engineering and Bioengineering)

Vice-Chair: *Phillip Christopher*
University of California, Santa Barbara

Treasurer: *Tengfei Liu*
Chevron

Secretary: *Jean-Sabin McEwen*
Washington State University (Voiland School)
js.mcewen@wsu.edu

Representative to NACS: *Alexander Katz*
University of California, Berkeley

Pittsburgh, Cleveland Catalysis Society (P-CCS)

Website: <https://pccssite.wordpress.com>

President: *Hilal Ezgi Toraman*
Pennsylvania State University

President-Elect: *Ezra Clark*

Department of Energy / Pennsylvania State University

Secretary: *Li Li*
Braskem America Inc.

li.li@braskem.com

Treasurer: *Dominic Alfonso*
National Energy Technology Laboratory

Director/Representative to NACS: *Götz Vesper*
University of Pittsburgh

Rocky Mountain Catalysis Society (RMCS)

Website: N/A

President: *Michael Nigra*
University of Utah

Vice President: *Brian Trewyn*
Colorado School of Mines

Secretary/Treasurer: *Nicholas Thornburg*
National Renewable Energy Laboratory
nicholas.thornburg@nrel.gov

Representative to NACS: *Adam Holewinski*
University of Colorado Boulder

President: *Nicholas Thornburg*
National Renewable Energy Laboratory

Vice President: *Adam Holewinski*
University of Colorado Boulder

Secretary: *Houqian Li*
New Mexico State University

hqli@nmsu.edu

Treasurer: *Nicholas Jaegers*
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University of Utah

Southeastern Catalysis Society (SECS)

Website: <https://secatsoc.org>

President/Chairperson: *Tibor Szilvasi*
University of Alabama

Past President/Past Chairperson: *James Har-*

ris
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Vice-President/President-Elect: Guoxiang
(Emma) Hu
Georgia Institute of Technology
Secretary: Jason Bates
University of Virginia
jsb9vw@virginia.edu
Treasurer: Sreshtha Sinha Majumdar
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North Carolina State University
Director: John Kuhn
University of South Florida
Communication Manager: Md Masudur Rah-
man
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Heyden
University of South Carolina

Southwest Catalysis Society (SWCS)
Website: <https://swcatsoc.org>
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University of Texas at Austin
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University of Houston
Past Chair: Tom Senftle
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Secretary: Jason Adams
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Treasurer: Prasanna Dasari
SABIC
Director: Tsatsral Battsengel
Dow
Director: Manish Shetty
Texas A&M University
Director: Hans-Joerg Woelk

Heraeus
NACS Representative: Lars Grabow
University of Houston
Chair: Thomas P. Senftle
Rice University
Chair-Elect: Joaquin Resasco
University of Texas at Austin
Past Chair: Tracy Lohr
Shell
Secretary: Kevin Blann
The Dow Chemical Company
KBlann@dow.com
Treasurer: Prasanna Dasari
SABIC
Director: Omar A. Abdelrahman
University of Houston
Director: Manish Shetty
Texas A&M University
Director: Hsu Chiang
Exxon Mobil

NACS Representative: Michael S. Wong
Rice University

Tri-State Catalysis Society (TSCS)
Website: <https://tristatecatalysis.org>
President: Rob Hart
The Shepherd Chemical Company
Past President: Danielle Covelli
Clariant Corporation
Vice President: Renqin Zhang
Clariant Corporation
Secretary: Nick Brunelli
The Ohio State University
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Treasurer: Ashraf Abedin
National Energy Technology Laboratory
Representative to NACS: Nick Brunelli
The Ohio State University

2026 Catalysis Gordon Research Conference



Dates: June 21–26, 2026

Location: New London, New Hampshire

Website: <https://www.grc.org/catalysis-conference/2026/>

Application Deadline: May 24, 2026

The Catalysis GRC is a premier, international scientific conference focused on advancing the frontiers of science through the presentation of cutting-edge and unpublished research, prioritizing time for discussion after each talk and fostering informal interactions among scientists of all career stages. The conference program includes an array of speakers and discussion leaders from institutions and organizations worldwide, concentrating on the latest developments in the field. The conference is five days long and held in a remote location to increase the sense of camaraderie and create scientific communities, with lasting collaborations and friendships. In addition to premier talks, the conference has designated time for poster sessions from individuals of all career stages, and afternoon free time and communal meals allow for informal networking opportunities with leaders in the field.

Looking ahead, catalysis stands at the forefront of innovation in addressing global challenges associated with energy solutions and chemical manufacturing which are closely tied to population growth and economic development. As catalytic science evolves, it will drive the development of next-generation technologies for the efficient production of energy, chemicals, and fuels. The 2026 Catalysis GRC will delve into the emerging trends and applications in catalysis, highlighting transformative research in both fundamental catalytic principles and their applications. By bringing together leaders from academia, industry, and national laboratories, this conference will serve as a vital platform to identify critical scientific needs, accelerate innovation, and chart a collective vision for the next era of catalysis.

30th North American Catalysis Society Meeting (NAM30)



Dates: June 13-18, 2027

Location: Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Website: <https://www.nam30.org/>

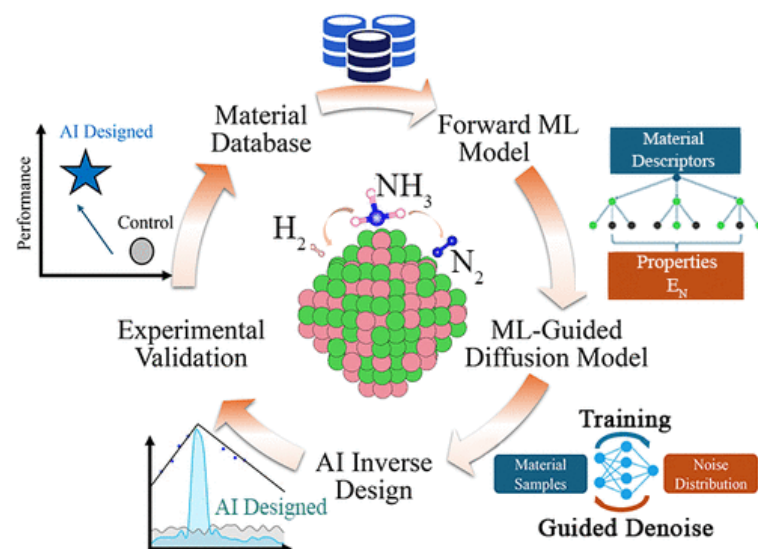
The North American Catalysis Society (NACS) Meeting is the largest and most comprehensive catalysis conference in North America, held on a biennial basis and serving as a central forum for the exchange of ideas across the full breadth of catalytic science and engineering. NAM meetings bring together thousands of researchers from academia, industry, and national laboratories, spanning heterogeneous, homogeneous, and biocatalysis, as well as emerging areas at the interface of catalysis with data science, sustainability, and advanced manufacturing.

NAM30 will convene the global catalysis community in Toronto, a major international hub for science, technology, and innovation. The meeting will feature a rich technical program including plenary and keynote lectures, parallel technical sessions, poster presentations, and focused symposia organized by the NACS technical divisions. With strong participation from industrial practitioners and early-career researchers alike, NAM30 will provide a uniquely inclusive platform to highlight scientific breakthroughs, foster cross-sector collaboration, and define research priorities that will shape the future of catalysis in energy, chemicals, and environmental technologies.

Diffusion-model inverse design of bimetallic catalysts for low-carbon ammonia decomposition

Yang, J.; Ye, K.; Xie, S.; Li, Q.; Milhans, C.; Liu, F.; Che, F. Diffusion Model-Guided Inverse Design of Bimetallic Catalysts for Ammonia Decomposition. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2025**, ASAP.

DOI: [10.1021/jacs.5c14652](https://doi.org/10.1021/jacs.5c14652)



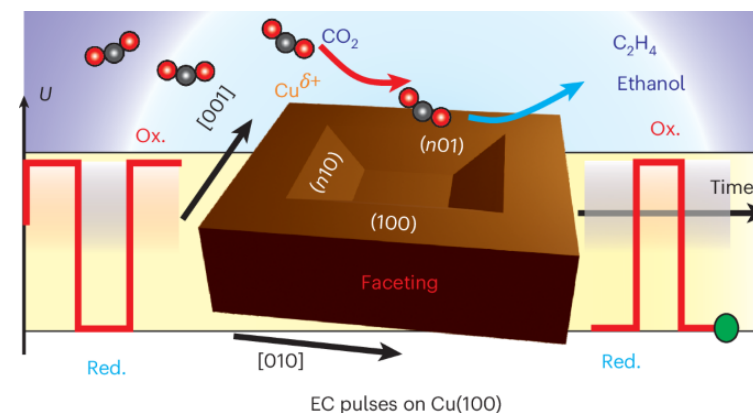
This work presents a machine-learning-guided inverse-design workflow that couples a generative diffusion model with a separate property-prediction model to explore bimetallic alloy catalysts for ammonia decomposition. Candidates are prioritized using nitrogen adsorption energy as a key descriptor motivated by multiscale modeling, enabling efficient navigation of a large compositional space. The authors report that the workflow identifies low-cost bimetallic compositions with strong predicted performance, supported by both theoretical assessment and experimental validation.

Why It Matters: Ammonia decomposition is a practical route for on-demand H₂ generation and a pathway for ammonia emissions control; accelerating discovery of inexpensive, non-precious bimetallic catalysts supports scalable hydrogen supply chains with reduced cost and environmental footprint.

Correlated spectro-microscopy reveals faceting and oxide stabilization during pulsed CO₂ electroreduction on Cu(100)

Tănase, L. C.; Prieto, M. J.; de Souza Caldas, L.; Tiwari, A.; Scholten, F.; Grosse, P.; Martini, A.; Timoshenko, J.; Schmidt, T.; Roldan Cuenya, B. Morphological and chemical state effects in pulsed CO₂ electroreduction on Cu(100) unveiled by correlated spectro-microscopy. *Nat. Catal.* **2025**, 8, 881–890.

DOI: [10.1038/s41929-025-01387-6](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41929-025-01387-6)



Using concurrently applied spectroscopy, microscopy, and diffraction, the authors resolve how Cu(100) morphology, chemical state, and crystal structure evolve under anodic/cathodic potential pulses during CO₂ electroreduction. Anodic pulses induce the formation of (n10) facets, while alternating anodic-to-cathodic pulsing stabilizes copper-oxide species either at the surface or beneath ultrathin metallic Cu layers depending on

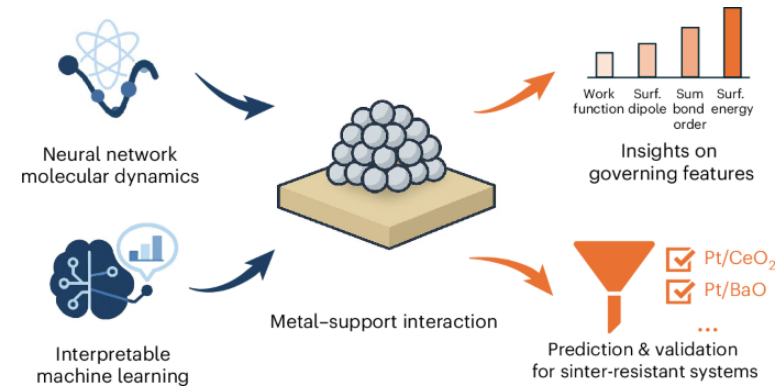
the pulse protocol. These structural and chemical-state changes are linked to the enhanced ethylene and ethanol production reported under pulsed operation.

Why It Matters: Mechanistic clarity on pulse-induced restructuring provides actionable design rules for dynamic CO₂ electrolyzers targeting multi-carbon products, supporting carbon utilization and renewable-electricity-to-chemicals pathways.

Interpretable ML with neural-network MD screens oxide supports to suppress Pt nanoparticle sintering

Jiang, C.; Yan, B.; Goldsmith, B. R.; Linic, S. Predictive model for the discovery of sinter-resistant supports for metallic nanoparticle catalysts by interpretable machine learning. *Nat. Catal.* **2025**, *8*, 1038–1050.

DOI: [10.1038/s41929-025-01417-3](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41929-025-01417-3)



The authors combine first-principles neural-network molecular dynamics with interpretable machine learning to disentangle how oxide-support properties govern Pt nanoparticle metal–support interactions and sintering dynamics. Feature attribution identifies support surface energy, surface oxygen bond order, surface dipole, and work function as dominant descriptors of Pt–oxide interactions. Guided by these descriptors, they screen >10,000 metal–oxide surfaces and validate selected sinter-resistant candidates via Monte Carlo simulations and experiments.

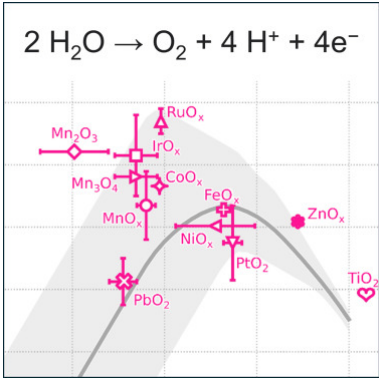
Why It Matters: Catalyst sintering is a central industrial deactivation pathway; data-

driven identification of stabilizing supports can extend catalyst lifetimes, reduce precious-metal replacement rates, and improve process uptime in large-scale chemical manufacturing.

Uncertainty-aware microkinetics identifies robust operating windows for programmable (dynamic) catalysis

Gathmann, S. R.; Jung, S.; Dauenhauer, P. J. Catalytic Resonance Theory for Parametric Uncertainty of Programmable Catalysis. *Chem Catal.* **2025**, *5*, 101523.

DOI: [10.1016/j.checat.2025.101523](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.checat.2025.101523)



The authors quantify how uncertainty in linear scaling and Brønsted–Evans–Polanyi parameters propagates into microkinetic predictions for programmable (dynamically modulated) catalysis. Using Monte Carlo uncertainty propagation and variance-based global sensitivity analysis, they identify which parameters dominate output uncertainty and test whether error-unaware models can still predict near-optimal waveform parameters. Across both a prototype surface reaction and the oxygen evolution reaction, they pinpoint dynamic operating regimes where order-of-magnitude rate enhancement persists despite parameter uncertainty, establishing uncertainty-aware design criteria for dynamic catalysis.

Why It Matters: Dynamic catalysis concepts are moving toward experimental implementation; rigorously accounting for parametric uncertainty strengthens the credibility of computational screening and helps define robust, practically reachable operating windows for accelerated electrocatalysis and heterogeneous catalysis under modulation.

Leo E. Manzer (1947–2025)



Leo, age 78, passed away peacefully on the morning of Aug 10th at home with his wife, two children, and beloved dog, Chloe, by his bedside. Leo was born in 1947 in Timmins, Ontario Canada. He spent his early years moving around in Ontario before his family settled in Niagara Falls. He graduated with an Honors degree in Chemistry from the University of Waterloo and obtained his PhD in chemistry from the University of Western Ontario in 1973.

Upon graduation he was hired by DuPont and joined their Central Research Department at the Experimental Station in Wilmington DE where he began a 32-year career. Leo managed groups doing catalysis and process research and development, retiring at the age of 58 as a DuPont Fellow. After retirement Leo founded Catalytic Insights and worked with over 50 startup companies developing technologies for the conversion of biomass to biofuels and biochemicals. During his consulting and DuPont careers he was the proud inventor of 167 US patents and over 500 foreign patents.

Leo loved the outdoors and after retirement enjoyed his home in Lewes DE where he spent much of his summertime surf fishing

and kayak fishing at Cape Henlopen State Park. It was there that he taught his children and grandchildren to fish and kayak. He also enjoyed fishing and camping with his brother in Northern Ontario for bass, and multiple trips to Kodiak, Alaska, to catch salmon and halibut.

Leo is survived by his wife of 55 years, Margaret, children Joan and Chad, 4 grandchildren and his brother Al.

Read More: <https://nacatsoc.org/>