

BCGC NEWSLETTER

Berkeley Center for Green Chemistry

Helping to transform society's production and use of chemicals and materials



The University of California Berkeley Center for Green Chemistry is the nation's first major academic program to advance green chemistry through interdisciplinary scholarship. BCGC pursues innovations in education, research and

public engagement. We are faculty, researchers, and students in the Colleges of Chemistry, Natural Resources and Engineering, and the Schools of Public Health and Business.

<http://bcgc.berkeley.edu>

July, 2015

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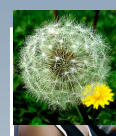
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Welcome to Our New Program Director!

Our new program director, Tom McKeag, comes from a planning and design background and is one of the leading voices of the bio-inspired design movement. He is the co-founder and editor of Zygote Quarterly magazine, writes the Biomimicry Column at Greenbiz.com, and is an adjunct professor in the Industrial Design Department at

the California College of the Arts where he teaches the BioWerks studio. Tom will be supporting our SAGE IGERT fellows and will co-teach our Greener Solutions course this fall in addition to growing our center through fundraising and networking. You can learn more about Tom's background at his LinkedIn page.

Summer Reading: *Chemicals Without Harm*

Author Ken Geiser writes:

“The book, ***Chemicals without Harm*** was released two weeks ago. I am pretty excited to finally see it in print. It was too long in the writing, but it is now complete and published, and, frankly, I think it makes a useful contribution to the long, historical discussion on hazardous chemicals that I and many of you have been involved in for decades. The book’s basic argument involves reframing the “chemicals problem” from a focus on controlling a limited number of dangerous chemicals to a more fundamental focus on

reforming the chemical industry and the chemical market. It celebrates the initiatives that you and many others have begun or carried forward and it proposes a series of steps that could more powerfully link and support those efforts. While, I am hopeful that something valuable comes on TSCA reform, the book goes well beyond a federal statute”.



Chemicals without Harm is available now from MIT Press, Amazon, Barnes and Noble, or from your local bookstore. It is \$30 in paperback or \$21 as an e-book.

Berkeley SAGE Student travels to Kosovo



Professor Dan Kamen speaks about the Kosovo work at Energy Week in Brussels in June

SAGE IGERT fellow Noah Kittner is traveling in Kosovo with Dan Kamen, Professor of Energy at the Energy and Resources Group and the Goldman School of Public Policy, UC Berkeley. Their mission is to influence an historical global debate about the future of coal-fired energy.

Burning coal is the most carbon producing (and climate changing) way to produce electricity, and both the World Bank and the US government have called for its reduction. Ironically, both are currently funding a ten-year project to upgrade a coal-fired plant in Kosovo. Kittner and Kamen will advocate for a mix of renewable sources that are customized to the locale, rather than continue to use only coal at the plant.

<https://rael.berkeley.edu/project/sustainable-energy-for-kosovo-and-southeast-europe/>



UC Berkeley Announces its first Solar Energy Partner

The UC Berkeley Office of Administration and Finance has announced the completion of the competitive process of selecting UC Berkeley's first official solar energy partner. The partnership with Sungevity, Inc., an Oakland based global solar service, underscores the university's commitment to sustainability, delivering on the campus goal of integrating carbon-reducing energy technology on campus and to our extended community.

Throughout the 10-year term, Sungevity will work with UC Berkeley students across academic disciplines to develop careers in the new energy economy with internships in solar design, engineering, strategic planning, operations efficiency, marketing and finance. To help Berkeley meet its

carbon neutrality goal by 2025, Sungevity will partner with the Berkeley Energy and Resources Collaborative (BERC) on sustainability outreach and programming, and offer expertise to the campus' Office of Sustainability and Energy.

For more information about the partnership, please see the press release and frequently asked questions at:

<http://bit.ly/UniversityPartnershipProgram>.

Positions Available

Network of Early-Career Sustainable Scientists & Engineers (NESSE) Seeks Volunteer Board Members

Could you be part of the new NESSE leadership team?

NESSE is run by an Executive Board of seven dedicated volunteers. The new Board will be elected by the NESSE membership between **7th-14th August** and the term of office will run from 1st September 2015 – 31st August 2016. The NESSE Executive Board is responsible for setting out the vision and priorities of the organisation, developing new projects and working closely with our partners to help all of our members.

The Board is distributed globally so we work together online via skype calls and using an online organisational tool (Asana) to manage projects and activities between meetings.

If you have any questions about the Executive Board positions or the elections please contact jennie.dodson@sustainableScientists.org.

Hewlett Packard Looking for an Environmental Chemist for Their Roseville, CA, facility

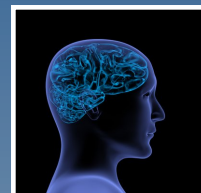
<http://h30631.www3.hp.com/roseville/engineering/jobid7542105-chemist-social-and-environmental-responsibility-jobs>

The Environmental Chemist is responsible to ensure that HPE products meet customer and regulatory requirements regarding the materials and substances present in HPE products and the process used to manufacture them.

Requisition number is 1399096

All interested applicants should apply at www.hp.com/jobs

Events



Foundations of the Mind II Conference

August 13-15

University of California at Berkeley, CA 94720

<http://www.foundationsofmind.org/>



ACS National Meeting

Boston Convention and Exhibition Center

Boston, Massachusetts

August 16-20

<http://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/meetings/fall-2015.html>

Positions Available, continued**Walt Disney Needs a Program Manager in Green Chemistry in Glendale, CA**

The core objective of this role is to support the development of a new enterprise wide department, Green Chemistry, and manage programs as they develop, pilot, and scale.

Project manager with increasingly responsible role in managing Green Chemistry protocols and consumer product regulatory compliance, including chemicals safety assessments (CSA) and internal customer-specific requirements for these types of programs.

<https://chemicalwatch.com/24096/program-manager-green-chemistry>

**Dialogue: Chemical Footprinting**

BCGC Executive Director, Marty Mulvihill is quoted extensively in the May issue of *Environmental Health Perspectives* in the article “Chemical Footprinting: Identifying Hidden Liabilities in Manufacturing Consumer Products” by Lindsey Konkel. The article discusses the issues surrounding a proposal from Mark Rossi, founder of BizNGO and Clean Production Action, to establish the Chemical Footprint Project. <http://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/123-a130/>

Chemical footprinting would follow the models set previously for judging the environmental impacts of products and services, such as the Carbon Disclosure Project. Rossi has designed a first-of-its-kind software tool to assess how companies perform on issues of chemicals management. He envisions it as an action tool to implement four aspirational principles for companies established by BizNGO in 2008:

1) know and disclose product chemistry, 2) assess and avoid hazards, 3) commit to continuous improvement, and 4) advocate for public policies and industry standards that support safer chemicals.

Dr. Mulvihill was one of several experts tapped for the discussion of the challenges of such an initiative and he spoke of the inertia and “self disinterest” of the larger incumbent manufacturing companies. “An initiative such as the Chemical Footprint Project doesn’t necessarily lead to safer chemicals,” Mulvihill says, “but it’s an important first step in creating a market for those chemicals.”

A similar analysis of the challenges of increasing chemical safety can be found in this article in the *Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences* by BCGC associates Mike Wilson and Megan Schwarzman:

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