



GEORGIA SECTION

MEETING Announcement



Tuesday, October 20th, 2015

**50/60 Year ACS Awards and Outstanding
Service Awards Ceremony**

with a presentation by Dr. Don Hicks, American
Chemical Society Tour Speaker, titled

**“A Critical 60-Year History of Chemistry
Lesson for the Future”**

Location:

**Mercer University
Trustees Dining Room
3001 Mercer University Dr.
Atlanta, GA 30341**

Directions: [Click Here](#)

Campus Map: [Click here](#)

Tuesday, October 20th, 2015

5:30 pm Meet and mingle (wine and beer included)

6:00 pm Dinner

7:00 pm Seminar and Awards ceremony

Menu: Buffet

Entrees: California chicken, teriyaki salmon, and
grilled veggie polenta stacks (vegetarian)

Sides: Herb-roasted new potatoes, roasted
veggies, garden salad with assorted
dressings, rolls and butter

Desserts: Apple and pear tarts, tiramisu cups

**Sweet tea, unsweet tea, and water are included

RSVP by 5:00 pm on October 16th 2015
at <https://goo.gl/qmeBLU>

Price:

\$35 regular; \$25 retired current ACS members
and K-12 teachers, \$15 students

Payment: At the door

Cash, credit card, or
check to: “Georgia Section ACS”

***Note: If you make a reservation and then do not
attend, you will be charged for the meal as we have
to guarantee the number of meals.***



October Awards Ceremony

**Celebrating 50- and 60-Year ACS Members
Awards & Outstanding Service Awards**

with a presentation by Dr. Don Hicks

**“A Critical 60-Year History of Chemistry
Lesson for the Future”**

Join us as we celebrate 50- and 60-year
membership milestones and recognize
our members who have performed
outstanding service to ACS, its
members, and the community!
Awardees will be sharing experiences
and stories from their careers in science.

Our very own Dr. Don Hicks, Alternate
Councilor and ACS Tour Speaker, will
be sharing a 60-year history of chemistry
with us.

Presentation Abstract:

“Critical” sounds ominous, but maybe it
is! Two major 21st Century concerns of
both American chemists and the public
are (1) how to create more jobs and (2)
what type of education/skills will afford
the best chance for success in a STEM
or alternative STEM career. As a 60-



MEETING Announcement



year ACS member I continue to be amazed at how history provides proven answers to these questions. This brief presentation will summarize answers to these questions that can be found in the history of chemistry in the southern USA. After some quick reflections on changes in chemistry since the 1950s, comments will be made on two forgotten geniuses who headed organizations that provided the spark that transformed the South through rapid industrialization. It is doubtful if anyone born after 1950 knows how all this happened, and the lessons to be learned.

This lecture is inspired by these quotes - "Those who forget the past are condemned to relive it" (Santayana), "The only reason to look back is to see what we can learn from past mistakes or dear bought [successful] experience" (George Washington), and "We must educate each generationand explain why chemistry matters" (President George W. Bush Science Advisor John H. Marburger).

Dr. Don Hicks received his Ph.D. in analytical chemistry with honors from the University of Tennessee (Knoxville) in 1965. His chemistry research interests were on trisubstituted organophosphorus ligand metal coordination complexes, mixed ligand effects in liquid-liquid solvent extraction separation and/or UV-visible spectrophotometric analysis of metals, and atomic absorption/emission spectroscopic analysis of metals. After teaching 16,000 students, he retired from Georgia State University in 2000. Between tennis matches, he is now, and has been active in public outreach

during his spare time for over 50 years. More than 250 invited speeches have been made to non-technical audiences as large as 4000 persons, with 6 appearances on TV. Technical audiences have heard a hundred of his invited lectures, and he was a featured speaker in several recent History of Chemistry symposia. He is a member of several honor societies and ten recognitions (eight for teaching) in professional award competitions include the very first OHAUS award (1972) given for innovations in college science teaching and the 1996 Georgia State University Outstanding Teacher Award. As indicated in a 1973 Journal of College Science Teaching article, most of the general pedagogy promoted by NSF and other organizations since 1996 as the model for systemic reform of college chemistry teaching was invented in his laba quarter Century earlier. In 1969 he was teaching introductory chemistry courses using general pedagogy such as real world problems, questions or "case studies" providing the need-to-know rationale for both lecture topics and lab activities, macroscale or microscale semester length real world project labs, guided process of science learning, and active small group learning. The 1972 OHAUS award was for the design of this course.

He has authored or coauthored 48 grants, devised experiments and written lab manuals for several semester length real world project chemistry lab courses, and worked for most of his career on NSF supported science education projects including some that involved large multi-university consortia.

MEETING Announcement



Another activity was serving as a principal writer on the first college textbook project of ACS.

Working 23 years at the high school-college interface was a significant career effort, where he introduced 325 gifted high school students to the chemistry research process in unique summer length NSF programs. The 2015 Herty Medalist attended is an alumnus of this program.

American Chemical Society service includes a recent 15 year term on the national governing Council and past work on several national committees. Don is one of 22 elected ACS Fellows from Georgia, and he is the only Georgia ACS member to receive two Outstanding Professional Service Awards from the Georgia Section of ACS. Since retirement he has made 52 invited presentations, in 16 states from coast to coast, that promote the achievements by chemistry and chemists in Georgia and the southeastern USA. Included were 16 ACS Tour Speaker lectures and 9 symposium lectures. Since 2009 Don has been the leader of 14 major PR type activities that have garnered national ACS awards or honors for the Georgia section.

Each week 5 million people tune in to the national public radio network program "A Prairie Home Companion" hosted by writer and humorist Garrison Keillor. A favorite skit character on this program is private eye Guy Noir who is described as --- "late at night, the one man still seeking answers to life's persistent questions." Don's long time girlfriend, who admits to being his wife, says that he has recently become a sort of "Guy Noir of science" because (late at night) he is still seeking answers from history to those persistent questions in the lives of scientists. This is a good summary of Don's life these days.
