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## SAS New York/New Jersey Section Virtual Seminar

The SAS New York/New Jersey Section is pleased to share they are hosting a virtual seminar on 29 February 2024 at 12:00 PM (EST). The Zoom link for the event: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89826626299>

*Synthetic Cannabinoid Structure Classification Using the Bridge Carbonyl Frequency in Vapor Phase.* Presented by Lewis Smith, Forensic Chemist, Cape May County Forensic Laboratory

[Click for more info.](#)



## SAS Pittsburgh Section Expands Membership and Awards Eligibility to Greater Pittsburgh Region

The Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh (SSP), the SAS Pittsburgh Section, has expanded eligibility for its grants and awards programs beyond the greater Pittsburgh region to include all of Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Ohio, New Jersey, New York, and West Virginia. We encourage you to visit the [chemistryoutreach.org](http://chemistryoutreach.org) website and search the Awards + Grants area. We are especially seeking applicants for a \$1000 Award for Excellence in High School Science Teaching given in honor of Kevin Burns, [Kevin Burns Outstanding High School Science Teacher Award - Chemistry Outreach](#)  
[Click for more info.](#)

## Short Course: Miniature Optical Spectrometers and Spectroscopic Sensors

Richard Crocombe (*Applied Spectroscopy Practica* Editor-in-Chief and 2020 SAS President) will be giving a short course entitled, "Technologies and Applications for Miniature Optical Spectrometers and Spectroscopic Sensors" at SPIE's Defense + Commercial Sensing meeting, National Harbor, Maryland, on Wednesday, 24 April 2024. [Click for more info.](#)

## The Sky's Hidden Language: Decoding the Colors of Lighting

Lightning is formed by electrostatic discharges through the atmosphere. An electric discharge occurs when the resistance of an electric insulator (such as air) breaks down and produces a plasma. Molecules of the plasma relaxes primarily by emission of



photons to give a luminescent glow. The color of the glow depends on the gas composition. Dry air, which is primarily composed of nitrogen and oxygen, produces the blue-violet color of the lightning that occurs in high clouds. When air contains high moisture content, emissions form atomic hydrogen causes the lightning to have more of a violet hue that is seen during thunderstorms. Plasma globes that were popular in the 1980s, also work on the same principle but use mixtures of inert gases such as helium (pink-orange), neon (red), argon (violet), krypton (lavender) and xenon (blue). [Click for more info](#).

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## Early Career Interest Group Webinars

The Early Career Interest Group's (ECIG) leadership is currently making plans to schedule a series of webinars in 2024 that will focus on topics of interest to its membership. To assist in this process, we are seeking knowledgeable speakers to present on the following topics (membership in ECIG is not required to be a presenter!) [Click for more info](#).

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## SciX 2024 is Coming!

FACSS welcomes you to the SciX 2024 meeting, held in Raleigh, North Carolina, on 20–25 October. For meeting information, please go [here](#) and sign up to receive email updates.

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## SAS Contact Information Updates (as of 8/7/23)

Our phone number has changed: 518-313-1160 **Please note!**

Our fax number has changed: 518-463-8656 **Please note!**

Our general office email will be: [sasadmin@s-a-s.org](mailto:sasadmin@s-a-s.org) **Please note!**

Our new mailing address is: **Please note!**

230 Washington Avenue Extension  
Suite 101  
Albany, New York 12203

Our online services continue at: [www.s-a-s.org](http://www.s-a-s.org)

**Do you have something spectroscopy-related you want to discuss in the newsletter? Or something that will help our membership such as career tips or application tips? Please let us know by emailing [konnorkjones@gmail.com](mailto:konnorkjones@gmail.com).**



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