

September 2025 Newsletter



Explore the SciX 2025 Program and Secure Your Spot Today

We are excited to announce that the program is now available for SciX 2025, taking place in Covington, KY, 5–10 October! Check out the program [here](#) on our website, and don't forget to register for the event before the preconference deadline on 4 October. You won't want to miss the special sessions, the invited distinguished guest, and the numerous networking events we have planned, which are sure to make this a memorable event.

Contributed by Abby Bauer, SciX 2025 Marketing Chair



Attend ECIG Events at SciX 2025!

The Early Career Interest Group (ECIG) will be hosting both a special topic session and a social event at this year's SciX! We hope that many of you will be able to attend one or both of these events.

On Monday night from 8:00 – 11:00 PM, ECIG will be hosting a joint social event with the Student Section at Smoke Justis. (This is the same location we used last time in Covington.) Student and ECIG members were notified in mid-August by email about this special event. You must RSVP for this event by 8 September to guarantee your spot. Spots remaining after 8 September will be opened up to the general membership, but be advised that there are a limited number of spots available due to the size of the venue.


Secondly, during the Wednesday morning session of SciX, ECIG will be holding a special session on career paths. Instead of a series of prepared, invited talks, this will be an interactive panel discussion, so attendees are encouraged to bring their questions related to the job search, career advancement, and life as an early career scientist. Our panelists will be glad to share their insights based on audience questions.

Contributed by Anthony Stender, Early Career Interest Group

Meet ECIG Member of the Month: Will Jones

If you are an Early Career member who would like to nominate yourself as a future “Early Career Member of the Month”, please complete the brief online survey [here](#).

This month we are highlighting our second travel award winner, Will Jones. At SciX 2025, he will be presenting a talk titled “Multi-Wavelength Internal Standardization”. His abstract is included below.



Will Jones

Assistant Professor
University of North Florida
10 years at SAS

THE BIGGEST BENEFIT OF SAS MEMBERSHIP?

“Networking”

CHILDHOOD DREAM JOB?

“Scientist (good choice)”

WHAT MADE ME FALL IN LOVE WITH SPECTROSCOPY?

“I struggle to distinguish differences in color but found the ability of instrumentation to put a concrete number to different shades fascinating.”

FAVORITE PART OF MY JOB?

“Seeing complex topics finally “click” for my students (both in lecture and the research lab!)”

WHAT SCIENTIST, PAST OR PRESENT, WOULD I MOST LIKE TO MEET?

“Gustav Kirchhoff and Robert Bunsen. Seeing some of the most foundational discoveries in atomic spectroscopy would be really cool.”

Abstract for Will Jones, “Multi-Wavelength Internal Standardization”

Recent developments in trace analyte determinations can largely be described as “multi-signal” methods, in which both axes of calibration curves are measured instrumental signals instead of the traditional relationship between analyte signal and concentration. While multi-signal methods have various benefits, many are limited in sample throughput, have a limited ability to correct for matrix effects, or require each analyte species to have several significant measurable signals. Multi-wavelength internal standardization (MWIS) is a novel strategy that directly addresses the limitations of some of the recently described multi-signal techniques, using multiple emission wavelengths for both analyte species and a suite of internal standards. Each selected analyte wavelength is standardized using all monitored internal standard wavelengths. Proof-of-concept for MWIS was obtained using inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectrometry (ICP-OES). Spike recovery experiments using complex matrices difficult for ICP-OES provided analyte recoveries of approximately 100% with relative standard deviations on the order of 1%. The proposed MWIS method was compared to (and outperformed) traditional calibration strategies, as well as the multi-signal methods multi-energy calibration (MEC) and multi-internal standard calibration (MISC) that it was developed to address. MWIS was validated through the analysis of certified reference materials, with recoveries for all analytes ranging from 90–118%. MWIS offers direct improvement over some

of the more recently described multi-signal calibration techniques, resulting in an extraordinarily high number of calibration points even though only two solutions are prepared. The use of multiple internal standard signals allows the strategy to be applied to important analytes that have few suitable emission wavelengths such as As and Pb. In addition, spectral interferences are easily identified and are simple to exclude from the calculation.

Contributed by Anthony Stender, Early Career Interest Group



SAS Volunteers Wanted!

**SAS is looking for volunteers to help with
social media and newsletter creation.**

**No experience needed! We welcome individuals from all
backgrounds and skill levels.**

**If interested, please contact Konnor Jones at
konnorkjones@gmail.com or Kristen Frano at
kristen.frano@gmail.com.**

Remembering Charles Wilkins

Charles “Charlie” Lee Wilkins passed away peacefully on 27 June 2025, after a short illness in Fayetteville, AR, surrounded by the love of his family. He retired from the University of Arkansas in 2022 as Distinguished Professor Emeritus. Charlie was well-known in the ACS and many spectroscopy societies.

More information can be found [here](#).

Contributed by Steven Ray, SAS President
