



Fall 2025 | Issue No.: 3

You voted, and we listened! Our new newsletter header—chosen by the ACA community—captures the beauty of structure and connection that defines crystallography itself. Thank you for helping us shape a look that reflects the clarity and collaboration at the heart of our field.

President's Column Fall 2025

As summer fades into fall, ACA President Gerald Audette reflects on the energy of a new academic term, the success of our 2025 Annual Meeting in Lombard, and the exciting road ahead toward IUCr 2026 in Calgary. In his latest column he shares highlights from the meeting, celebrates our 2025 Award Winners and new ACA Fellows, and looks ahead to elections, membership renewals, and ways to stay engaged with our community.

[Read More](#)

Next-Generation X-ray Crystallography



Precision structure determination in your lab.

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X-RAY DIFFRACTION

Spotlight on a New Community Initiative: The AAAPD

We're excited to share some great news from the crystallography community! A new grassroots organization—the *American Association to Advance Powder Diffraction (AAAPD)*—has been formed to support and advocate for those working in powder diffraction. The AAAPD aims to connect practitioners across academia, government, and industry while promoting resources, collaboration, and a bright future for this vital field.

[Read More](#)

The 2025 ACA Election is Now Live!

It's time to make your voice heard! The ACA 2025 Election is officially open, and all members in good standing are invited to cast their votes for Council, Committee, and SIG officers. Voting runs from **October 30 through November 14 at 11:59 PM ET**. Visit the [Election Hub](#) to review candidate bios, learn about open positions, and submit your ballot. Your participation helps shape the leadership and future direction of our association—thank you for taking part!

[Read More](#)

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Celebrating the 2025 Nobel Laureates in Chemistry & Physics

Each year, the Nobel Prizes in Chemistry and Physics recognize scientific breakthroughs that deepen our understanding of the natural world. The 2025 laureates continue this tradition with discoveries that illuminate the structure and behavior of matter at the most fundamental levels—work that resonates strongly with the crystallographic community. Their achievements remind us how powerful structure-based approaches remain in shaping modern science, from revealing atomic detail to driving innovation across chemistry, materials, and physics.



[Read the blog post celebrating the chemistry nobel laureate](#)

[Read the blog post celebrating the physics nobel laureate](#)

Applications Open Soon for the 2026 ACA Summer Course

Thinking about expanding your crystallography skills? The ACA Summer Course in Chemical Crystallography will open for applications this December! Hosted at Purdue University, this long-running program offers hands-on training and a mentorship from leaders in the field.

[Read More](#)



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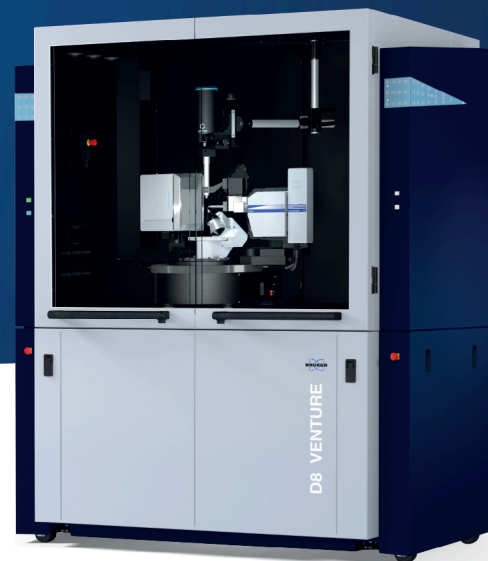
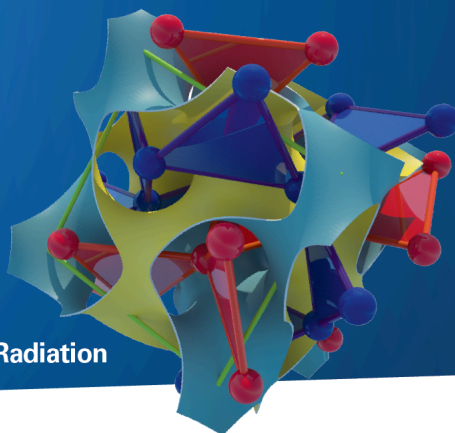
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Remembering Benno P. Schoenborn (1938 – 2025)

The crystallographic community recently lost one of its true pioneers, Dr. Benno P. Schoenborn, whose remarkable career helped shape the field of structural biology. Benno's visionary work in neutron protein crystallography opened new windows into molecular structure and continues to influence research today. You can read more about his life and lasting impact in our remembrance post on the [ACA blog](#), as well as on the ACA History site. We also welcome the community to share memories, photos, or written remembrances honoring Benno's extraordinary legacy.

[Read more at the ACA History Site...](#)



Get Ready for IUCr2026 in Calgary!

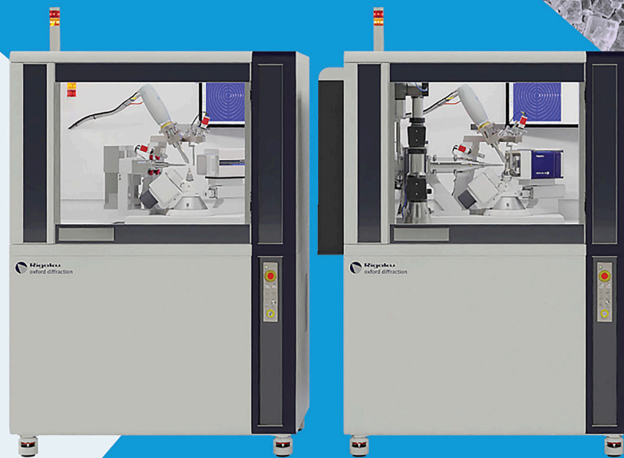
Excitement is building for the 27th IUCr Congress & General Assembly, taking place August 11–18, 2026, in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. The abstract submission portal is now open, and registration and hotel booking are officially live—making this the perfect time to start planning your trip! Our team—and #CalgaryCr—recently visited the [Latin American Crystallographic Association \(LACA\) meeting](#) to see our friends and colleagues in the crystallographic community and share the excitement for IUCr2026. We can't wait to welcome you to Calgary for an unforgettable week of science, collaboration, and discovery!

[Visit the Congress Website...](#)



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Communications Committee Update

The ACA Communications Committee has an important update about our social media presence. As the scientific community continues to evolve its online spaces, we'll be shifting focus away from X (formerly Twitter) and strengthening our engagement through other platforms. Learn more about this transition—and where you can continue connecting with us—below.

[Read More](#)

Giving Tuesday: December 2, 2025

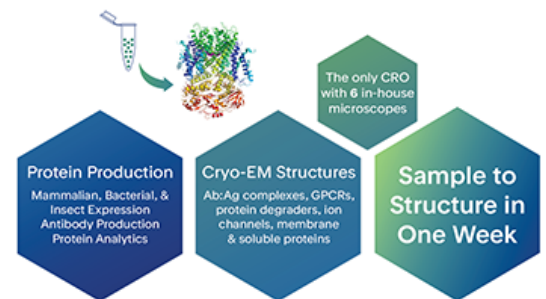
This **Giving Tuesday**, help us continue advancing, promoting, and preserving crystallography and structural science for the benefit of all. Your donations make it possible for the ACA to offer educational programs, student travel grants, outreach initiatives, and community-building events throughout the year. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, all contributions are tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law. You can also contact [Kristin Stevens](#) to discuss planned giving or making a bequest to support the ACA's future.

Every gift—big or small—makes a difference.



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Featured Read – Streamlining Serial Refinement

One of the *most-read articles in Structural Dynamics* introduces SISYPHOS, a new automated tool within Olex2 that simplifies the serial refinement of multiple single-crystal diffraction datasets. Designed to handle variations in unit cells, wavelengths, and refinement parameters, SISYPHOS enables researchers to process large sets of data efficiently and consistently. The tool is especially useful for studies involving radiation damage, resonant diffraction, or comparative structural analysis — helping crystallographers save time while improving accuracy and reproducibility.

Read “SISYPHOS: An Automatic Procedure for the Serial Refinement of Single-Crystal Diffraction Data in Olex2” in [Structural Dynamics](#)



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ACA Invited to Join the REV UP Initiative

The ACA has been invited to take part in **REV UP** — a new AAPT-led initiative funded by the AIP Venture Fund to re-examine and modernize the undergraduate physics curriculum. This collaborative, multi-society effort will help shape the future of physics education across the U.S. ACA members and staff interested in serving as one of our two representatives on the **REV UP Steering Committee** are encouraged to submit their names by **November 21, 2025**.

[Read more about the initiative and how to get involved](#)

CSD Communications: Expanding Access to Crystallographic Data

Did you know that over 5,000 new structures are shared each year through CSD Communications—entries in the Cambridge Structural Database that make valuable small-molecule crystal structures publicly available without the need for a traditional journal publication?

This community-driven initiative gives proper credit to data contributors while broadening access to crystallographic knowledge. Learn how CSD Communications have evolved, explore structures, and find out how to deposit your own data in the CSD.

[Read more...](#)



Video Tutorial

How to: Search Metal-Organic Frameworks with CCDC's ConQuest

The CSD MOF collection contains more than 12,500 metal organic framework crystal structures that are free to use in academic research. [Watch this short tutorial](#) to learn the steps required to search complex MOFs in the Cambridge Structural Database (CSD), from loading the MOFs subset to analysing the resulting hit list.

Watch

Panel Webinar

Frontiers in MOFs: Creating Real-World Solutions with MOFs

Join leading experts from academia and industry as they explore key applications, including carbon capture, sensing, catalysis, and smart materials, as well as the breakthroughs and challenges of commercial integration. Discover the tools, trends, and collaborations shaping the future of MOFs.

Register

This panel webinar is part of a series celebrating 60 years of The CCDC and the Cambridge Structural Database.

20th November, 10am (EST)

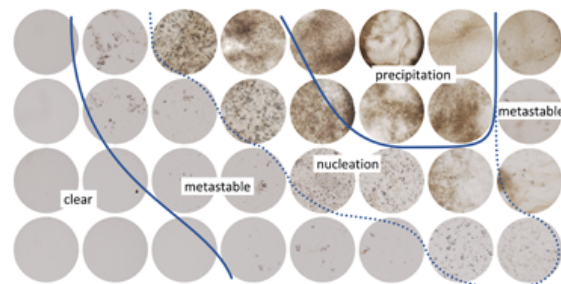
Your voice matters!

As we plan new ACA programs and initiatives, we want to make sure they reflect the needs and interests of our members. Are you most excited about virtual learning, mentoring, or career development opportunities? Let us know!

Take a quick five-minute anonymous survey to tell us what's important to you. If you'd like to continue the conversation, simply leave your name and email at the end.

[Take the survey...](#)

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Crystal Conundrums

Test your crystallographic smarts — the latest Puzzle Corner is now live! Visit the ACA Blog to see this issue's challenge and browse past favorites.

[Check out the puzzles...](#)

Fall Book Reviews

We love sharing good reads! Each quarter, we highlight books that made us think, laugh, or see things in a new way. From thought-provoking nonfiction to easy weekend escapes, there's something here for everyone.

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