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JCE Chemical Education Xchange

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ABSTRACT: JCE Chemical Education Xchange (ChemEd X, www.jce.divched.org) aims to foster sharing of digital resources, information, and ideas among chemical educators. This reincarnation of the JCE Online Web site serves as the home for the JCE Web Software collection and other legacy materials published by JCE outside of this *Journal*. ChemEd X is built on a modern Web platform, is designed with mobile devices in mind, and offers our community a vehicle to contribute as well as consume. We invite you to contribute.



KEYWORDS: General Public

The JCE Chemical Education Xchange (ChemEd X)¹ is an online-only publication of JCE. This JCE Web site has as its roots the legacy JCE Online site. But, ChemEd X branches out into a modern, user-as-contributor, social sharing site where the chemical education community can exchange information, ideas, and teaching resources. At the same time, moderation and review is applied to all contributions to make sure that the content is germane, correct, and meets the standards of our community.

JCE ChemEd X replaced the JCE Online Web site in mid-May of this year. We hereby make this official announcement to the *Journal* readership to tell you about what you may find at ChemEd X, the levels of access and participation that are available, and some information concerning our intentions for this partner site to the *Journal*. We encourage you to visit the site and look around for yourself.

CONTENTS AND RESOURCES

JCE ChemEd X contains both new content, legacy content from JCE Online, and updated content from JCE Online (Figure 1). ChemEd X contains no *Journal* content, all of which is found at the *Journal* Web site.² Much of the JCE Digital Library content from JCE Online is also now found as Supporting Information of the corresponding *Journal* article at the *Journal* Web site. Some JCE Online content is no longer available at either the *Journal* site or ChemEd X. The page Where Do I Find My JCE Online Stuff?³ provides additional information about where you may find legacy JCE Online content.

JCE ChemEd X content is presented through its main menu items: Learn, Share, and Video. The Learn menu currently presents our JCE Web Software collection from JCE Online (Figure 2). Access to the titles in this collection is limited to subscribers and these titles are legacy resources presented nearly identically as they were at JCE Online. Over time some

Figure 1. JCE Chemical Education Xchange (ChemEd X) home page.

of these titles will be integrated into the ChemEd X environment. We have already started the process and volume one of the *Chemistry Comes Alive!* video collection has been reformulated, updated, and integrated into ChemEd X.

The ChemEd X Share menu lists items from the categories of Picks, Activities, Articles, and Blogs (Figure 3). Picks are short descriptions with links to resources that ChemEd X contributors think you may find interesting or useful. Activities are meant to be carried out by students and include files you can download that provide instruction for the students and

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Figure 2. JCE ChemEd X Web Software Collection is available only to subscribers of ChemEd X.

Table 1. ChemEd X Has Four Roles with Different Abilities To Create and View Content

Role	Level of Participation					
	Create Content	View Premium Content	Comment	View	Access	
Contributor	X	X	X	X	By invitation	
Subscriber		X	X	X	Purchase subscription	
Member			X	X	Create account	
Everyone				X		

background information for the instructor. Articles are a general category for sharing information. Blogs are where contributors share their opinions on topics of interest. All items under the Share menu allow you to provide feedback through the use of comments that are attached to the end of the page.

The ChemEd X Video menu presents our award-winning video collection⁴ transformed and upgraded for delivery to modern platforms and mobile devices (Figure 4). ChemEd X videos have higher resolution, use current video codecs, and are presented using a modern media player with a fallback for older platforms. The resulting videos can be readily incorporated into other ChemEd X pages, allowing for these video assets to be reused in many contexts.

■ ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION

JCE ChemEd X offers four levels of access or participation (Table 1). Contributors have access to all ChemEd X resources

and can create new content. Subscribers have access to all ChemEd X resources, but their ability to contribute is limited to commenting on existing resources. Members can access all public resources and can contribute comments to those resources. Everyone can view the public content.

Contributors to ChemEd X are by invitation only. Members of the ChemEd X staff send the invitations. However, if you believe that you have digital resources that our community would find useful and you would like to contribute, we encourage you to ask for an invitation by using the online invitation request form.⁵

Subscribers purchase an annual subscription to access the premium, subscriber-only content. Annual subscription prices range from \$15 for an individual student to \$560 for an entire research university network. All rates and additional information can be found at the ChemEd X subscriptions page.⁶ While we work to reconstruct an online store where you can purchase subscriptions, please use the subscription contact form⁷ to begin the process for subscribing.

Members need only create a personal account using the registration form at ChemEd X. ChemEd X policy is that you use your real name when registering. Members not only get the ability to comment on ChemEd X content, but also have access to other site services, such as bookmarking content for quick access to your favorite content at the site and notifications via e-mail for content that is new, changed, or commented upon. To take advantage of these features, you must log in when you visit the site. Public access requires no account and no log in to the site. Public content can be accessed by everyone and includes samples of some subscriber content.

The screenshot shows the JCE ChemEd Xchange homepage with a navigation bar at the top. Below the navigation, there are three blog posts listed:

- The Signal and the Noise** (MON, 11/05/2012 - 11:19 – HAL HARRIS): A post by New York Times blogger Nate Silver. It includes a thumbnail image of his book "The Signal and the Noise" and a short description: "New York Times blogger Nate Silver demonstrates how probability and statistical thinking can be used to analyze practical problems in our society. A lively, practical, and informative book!". There is a photo of the author, Hal Harris, and options to "READ MORE", "COMMENT", "LOG IN", or "REGISTER".
- The Case of the Poisonous Socks: Tales From Chemistry** (FRI, 10/19/2012 - 14:53 – HAL HARRIS): A post about a collection of essays about chemists. It includes a thumbnail image of the book "The Case of the Poisonous Socks: Tales From Chemistry" and a description: "This is a lively collection of essays about some of the great (mostly English, but not entirely so) chemists of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. It brings to life many great names of our science.". There is a photo of the author, Hal Harris, and options to "READ MORE", "COMMENT", "LOG IN", or "REGISTER".
- Higher Ed Disruption: Not So New** (TUE, 10/09/2012 - 12:53 – JON HOLMES): A post by Alexandra W. Logue. It includes a thumbnail image of the book "INSIDE HIGHER ED" and a description: "Alexandra W. Logue, executive vice chancellor and provost of the City University of New York, reminds us that the ideas and tools we are finally getting around to using have been around for a while.". There is a photo of the author, Jon Holmes, and options to "READ MORE", "COMMENT", "LOG IN", or "REGISTER".

On the right side, there is a "Navigation" sidebar with links to "Activities", "Blogs", "Picks", "Contact", "Subscription information", "Contribution invitation", "Search", "JCE Online", and "Popular content". Below the sidebar is an "Advertisement" section for "Study Political Science" from Ashford Online.

Figure 3. JCE ChemEd X contributors share their content with everyone. Picks, activities, articles, and blogs can be found here. Those who register (free) can contribute comments on these items.

The screenshot shows the "Video Sample Videos" section of the JCE ChemEd Xchange website. It features a grid of eight thumbnail images representing different chemistry experiments:

- Atmospheric pressure
- Copper penny with concentrated nitric acid
- Electrolysis of silver nitrate
- Precipitation reaction of sodium iodide and mercury(II) chloride
- Aluminum iodine reaction
- Ammonium dichromate volcano
- Atmospheric pressure
- Burning of sulfur to produce sulfur dioxide
- Cadmium into copper(II) nitrate solution
- Cadmium into lead(II) nitrate solution
- Cadmium into silver nitrate solution
- Copper into silver nitrate solution

A note at the top states: "The JCE ChemEd X video collection is available only to subscribers. This award-winning collection of videos and images is being updated at ChemEd X and the first 130 videos are currently available. We provide several sample videos that are representative of the collection. See Subscriptions for information about subscribing to JCE ChemEd X."

Figure 4. JCE ChemEd X video collection currently includes updated versions of *Chemistry Comes Alive!* videos. The ChemEd X video collection is compatible across devices (computers, tablets, smartphones).

■ DESIGN AND INTENT

JCE ChemEd X offers its members the ability to contribute nearly immediate commentary and feedback on its published

material. ChemEd X embraces social networking as a means for starting conversations and sharing ideas while keeping such on topic and germane to learning and teaching in the chemical sciences through moderation and review of all contributions.

ChemEd X presents a clean design with mobile devices in mind. As consumption of Web materials migrates toward tablets and smartphones, we have designed ChemEd X to accommodate such devices. Responsive, mobile-first design patterns have been used to make ChemEd X perform and appear well on whatever device is used to access its materials. HTML5 video and accompanying multiplatform media player present our upgraded video collection to modern devices while providing a fallback for older platforms.

ChemEd X is just beginning; only a taste of what is to come is available now. Work is underway to upgrade our entire video collection and other legacy content. Contributors and lead users are being identified and we encourage you to seek an invitation to contribute.⁵ Additional categories of content are being developed, as are additional services for members, social networking features, and integration with third-party sites such as Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube.

We invite you to join the ChemEd X community, which already numbers 820 members. Provide feedback on what you discover. Support our efforts by becoming a subscriber or encouraging your institution to subscribe. The success of ChemEd X requires your participation; we are counting on you.

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