

# SPRING 2019 INNOVATIVE PROJECT GRANT – CELLULOSE & RENEWABLE MATERIALS DIVISION CONTINUAL GROWTH / STRATEGIC PLANNING

- The Cellulose & Renewable Materials Division (CELL) of the ACS applied for an Innovative Project Grant (IPG) in January 2019.
  - Requested \$7400 to support efforts to continue the growth of the CELL Division. Specifically –
    - Prepare for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of CELL, Higher impact programming, Membership, and
    - Budget
  - By working in these areas, CELL would be a stronger division and continue to be recognized as the best place to present research on Cellulose and Renewable Materials
- Event was held on March 30-31, 2019 (Before spring meeting to reduce costs)
- Fifteen researchers attended from three continents
  - Ten senior members
    - Representing industry, academia and government
  - Five student members
- The 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary event planning
  - Invite past Anselme Payen (AP) winners to give presentations and participate in panel discussion
  - Mentoring session planned with students – 1 AP winner with 6-8 students
  - Reception
  - History division contacted with other joint programming
    - Status – Plans put in place – mentoring session put off until 2021 due to difficulties in scheduling
- Higher impact programming
  - 5 tracks at the spring meeting and 2 tracks at the fall meeting
  - Have track(s) with shorter presentation times to allow for more talks/exposure
  - Have a session(s) concentrating on early career scientists
  - More partnerships with other divisions
    - Status - met goal for spring, fall meeting only had 1 track, have session planned with shorter times and targeting early career researchers, more co-sponsorships
- Membership
  - Membership at ~2350 with 75% students, need to create value to retain members
  - Must raise awareness – why be a member
  - Need more awards, have a raffle to boost attendance
  - Redesign website, and other platforms including the newsletter
  - Send out another CELL survey concentrating on value
    - Status – membership up, website and newsletter redesigned, survey in the works, raffle and more awards in progress
- Budget
  - Division in good financial state
  - Put in effort to raise funds for non-standard events (i.e. 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary)
    - Status - Funds set aside for future events, Fund raising 'specialist' obtained to generate funds for 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary
- Funds obtained through the IPG have helped the division to a better product to its members which will contribute to the division's health long term