

Society Committee on Education  
Report to the Council  
San Francisco, CA  
Wednesday, August 13, 2014

Mr. President and Members of Council:

The Society Committee on Education (SOCED) received an update on the new American Association of Chemistry Teachers (AACT), which is now accepting members and will officially launch on September 2. AACT member benefits include access to curricular resources, such as lesson plans and multimedia; professional development opportunities; a subscription to *ChemMatters*; and an online member network. New AACT members can sign up at [teachchemistry.org](http://teachchemistry.org), as listed in the brochure on your chair. We encourage ACS members and Councilors to sponsor a local teacher by calling Member & Society Services.

SOCED voted to approve revisions to the current policy statements on hands-on laboratory science, science and technology funding, and visa restrictions. The statements will go to the ACS Board of Directors for approval at its December meeting. The Office of Public Affairs provided an update on federal and state science education policy, as well as the activities of state government affairs committees.

SOCED was asked to support and participate in a new initiative that President-Elect Diane Grob Schmidt is launching as part of her Presidential agenda. SOCED members were encouraged to sign up to engage with federal elected officials. The Office of Public Affairs will help to match SOCED members with legislators who serve on committees with jurisdiction over issues covered by SOCED-advised policy statements.

Immediate Past President Marinda Wu updated the Committee on the new Partners for Progress and Prosperity (P3) Award. Wu asked the Committee's help in promoting the new P3 award and soliciting nominations.

The Chair of the Chemistry Olympiad Subcommittee reported that the U.S. team earned one gold medal and three silver medals at the International Chemistry Olympiad held in Vietnam in July. SOCED unanimously passed a resolution thanking the U.S. Air Force Academy for its 30 years of continued generous support of the U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad.

SOCED received updates from Education Division staff on the 2013 ACS Graduate Student Survey; the launch of the K-8 website *Adventures in Chemistry*; the ACS-Hach program, which supports high school chemistry teachers; and new directions for the 9<sup>th</sup> Edition of the textbook *Chemistry in Context*. The results of the Graduate Student Survey generated significant discussion, and SOCED voted to establish a Task Force to continue analysis and research.

Mr. President, this concludes my report.

Andy Jorgensen, Chair