

Official Reports from the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Meeting

The major actions taken by the ACS Board and Council during the national meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania were reported in C&EN, August 29, page 5.

Reports of Society Committees

Budget and Finance

The Society Committee on Budget and Finance (B&F) met on Saturday, August 20, 2016, to review the Society's probable financial results for 2016. ACS is projected to end the year with a net contribution from operations of \$17.3 million, or \$3.9 million favorable to the Approved Budget. With the exception of the Fund Balance Ratio, a measure of reserve adequacy, the Society is projected to end the year in compliance with the Board-established financial guidelines.

The committee received a report from its Committee on Committees Liaison on the status of a demographic survey of ACS Committee Chairs, members, associates, and consultants of all Council-related committees.

The committee received a report from the B&F Subcommittee on Communications. The Subcommittee reported that brief presentations will be given at each Councilor Caucus meeting in Philadelphia; that web analytics are available for the B&F web pages; and that the ACS public website had been updated with the Society's 2015 financial information.

The committee received a report from the B&F Subcommittee on Financial Impacts of Constitution and Bylaw Amendments, which evaluated three petitions. The *Petition to Extend the Unemployed Members' Dues Waiver* was up for Council action its meeting on August 24, 2016. The committee reaffirmed its assessment that the range of potential costs cannot be assessed with reasonable accuracy. Therefore, the financial impact of the petition is unknown. The *Petition on the Rights of Affiliates* and the *Petition for Removal of Officers and Councilors* are up for consideration by Council at this meeting. The committee reviewed the financial impact assessments and approved a preliminary finding that the petitions will have no impact on the finances of the Society.

The committee received a report from the B&F Subcommittee on Program Funding Requests describing the Subcommittee's evaluation of five new program funding requests and one reauthorization request.

The committee received a report from the B&F Subcommittee on Program Review. The subcommittee reported on its activities and participation in the Society Program Portfolio Management (SPPM) process since the Spring national meeting in San Diego, California.

Kristin M. Omberg, Chair

Education

The Society Committee on Education (SOCED) voted to continue the current Science Education Policy Statement. Policy statements on hands-on laboratory science, evolution, visa restrictions, and science and technology funding are set to expire next year. SOCED members volunteered to assist in revising these statements. The committee was informed of recent activities related to the American Association of Chemistry Teachers (AACT). More than 3,900 individuals, 88 percent of whom are K-12 teachers, are now AACT members. SOCED considered possible changes to the composition requirements of Society committees and the requirement for Chairs and Vice-Chairs to be Councilors. The committee discussed the process of Society Program Portfolio Management (SPPM) and passed a resolution that recognizes the value of regular review along with its concern that reporting requirements may be diverting staff time from education programs. SOCED recommends a careful review of the time needed for the SPPM process. The committee explored recommendations in the National Academies 2016 report “Barriers and Opportunities in Completing 2-Year and 4-Year STEM Degrees: Systematic Change to Support Students’ Diverse Pathways”, and suggested that programming at future ACS National Meetings could further address the recommendations. SOCED received an overview of the new online tool *Hazard Assessment in Research Laboratories*, a collaboration between the ACS Committee on Chemical Safety and ACS staff in Education and Web Strategy and Operations. The U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad team earned one gold medal, two silver medals, and one bronze medal at the International Chemistry Olympiad held in Tbilisi, Georgia, in July.

Diane Krone, Chair

Board Committee Reports

Standing Committees

Grants and Awards

The American Chemical Society Board of Directors Standing Committee on Grants and Awards (G&A) met virtually on August 5, 2016.

G&A recommended to the ACS Board of Directors:

- Ann Weber as the ACS nominee for the 2017 Perkin Medal.
- Upon the recommendation of the Joint Board-Council Committee on Public Relations and Communications, recommended to the ACS Board of Directors, the ACS National Historic Chemical Landmarks Program as the 2017 ACS nominee for the National Science Board Public Service Award.
- Upon the recommendation of the Joint Board-Council Committee on Younger Chemists, recommended Jillian L. Goldfarb as the ACS nominee for the 2017 Alan T. Waterman Award.
- That the protocol for handling requests for rescission of ACS Fellows designation and/or an ACS national award be adopted.

The Chair of the Fellows Oversight Committee reported that 177 nominations were received and 57 Fellows were selected, for a 32% selection rate; the number of women selected increased from 31% in 2015 to 32% in 2016 and the number of recipients from industry increased from 21% in 2015 to 23% in 2016; the 2016 Fellows Induction ceremony and reception will take place on August 22, 2016 in the Philadelphia Marriott; and the Fellows Oversight Committee will meet face-to-face during the Philadelphia national meeting on Sunday morning.

The Chair of G&A was pleased to announce that Board colleague Dorothy Phillips will become Chair of the Fellows Oversight Committee for 2017-2019.

The Chair of the Awards Review Committee (ARC) provided an update to the committee on the six at-risk awards. The awards will be reviewed and monitored, and, if needed, action will be brought to the Board during the December 2016 meeting.

The call for nominations for the 2018 ACS National Awards appeared in *Chemical & Engineering News* on July 4, 2016; nominations will close on November 1, 2016.

A total of 977 nominations were received for the 2017 ACS national awards, 34% of which were new. The number of women and industrial scientists nominated for national awards remains low. The Chair of G&A is pleased to announce that 19 of the 70 recipients of National Awards for the 2017 award cycle were women. The percentage of recipients who are women for this award cycle is therefore close to the percentage of women who are members of the Society.

The 2016 approved distribution of the ACS PRF endowment is \$20.8M. As of June 15, 2016, the estimated value of the ACS PRF endowment was \$480M. The committee voted to recommend to the ACS Board Chair a list of candidates for new appointments to the ACS PRF Advisory Board.

George M. Bodner, Chair

Professional and Member Relations

The committee was briefed on the recent developments regarding the Leadership Advisory Board (LAB). In response to a request from P&MR, LAB is working with staff to review the feasibility of developing products and services in non-English languages. LAB will assess the various inputs it receives, and determine next steps when it meets in September. LAB also reports that it is developing standardized procedures to evaluate requests for developing new courses, as well as completing a promotional video that focuses on the connection between superior leadership development and future Society success.

The chair briefed the committee on recent activities of the Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Board (D&I). On September 17, 2016, as part of its meeting at ACS Headquarters, D&I is arranging for a facilitator to provide diversity training, and has extended an invitation to Board members to participate in the training.

The committee was briefed on an upcoming activity designed to assist the Society in identifying and evaluating alternative membership models. The process, known as 'Red Teaming,' relies on viewing a problem from an adversary's or competitor's perspective. Among other things, this approach can help an organization more clearly understand areas of vulnerability, and challenge the long-held assumptions – perhaps no longer valid - that have been guiding decisions. The Board 'Red Teaming' exercise will be held on September 18, 2016, at ACS headquarters.

The chair reported that four Memoranda of Agreement (MOU) between ACS and other organizations are in process:

1. The Chemical Research Society of India (CRSI). This MOU will focus on the following:
 - To organize joint seminars, conferences and other professional meetings
 - To explore collaborative efforts to advance the chemical enterprise globally
 - To create a joint CRSI-ACS Advisory GroupThis MOU will be signed in a virtual ceremony.
2. The Chinese Chemical Society (CCS). This MOU will focus on the following:
 - Joint activities, benefits and discounts for membership of CCS and ACS
 - Jointly developed and managed technical and non-technical programming including safety as proposed topic
 - Joint awards on innovation and/or China-US collaboration
 - Added emphasis on outreach activitiesThe MOU will be signed during the Philadelphia National meeting.
3. The National Organization for the Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCCHE). This MOU will focus on the following:
 - Enhance governance to governance communication at all levels
 - Engage in collaborative public policy outreach efforts
 - Leverage their web presence, and flagship electronic and print publications
 - Ensure the sustained presence of African-American scientists at the national and regional meetingsThe MOU will be signed during the Committee on Minority Affairs luncheon during the upcoming Philadelphia National Meeting.

4. The Chinese American Chemical Society (CACS). This MOU seeks to accomplish the following:
- Facilitate through joint activities knowledge exchange and advance innovation in the global chemistry enterprise
 - Explore collaboration opportunities for both physical and virtual engagement, mentoring and recognition for ACS members of Chinese heritage, expatriate members and Chapters
 - Collaboration and networking opportunities
 - Joint programming at ACS National Meetings and other international events
- This MOU will be signed during the CACS banquet on Tuesday evening, August 23, 2016.

The Chair of the Collaborative for Re-imagining a Diverse ACS Membership reported that the group is making progress in a number of areas such as (1) Establishing goals for increasing ACS membership among underrepresented groups by 2025, (2) Distributing a survey to representatives at Historically Black Colleges and Universities as well as other institutions with high enrollments of Hispanic or Native American students, and (3) Developing tactics to more effectively engage with ACS Scholars.

The committee received a report on efforts to use acs.org to advance the ACS Chemical Safety Initiative. Early efforts focused on the June launching of the Hazard Assessment site. Next steps include building content, both through original content ACS posts as well as linking to appropriate content hosted by other organizations. A key question posed by the committee focused on the matter of who will decide what content appears on our site, and what content we link to. While the site is being viewed as one that belongs to ‘everyone’, that doesn’t eliminate the need for accountable subject matter experts to render responsible decisions on content.

The committee received a progress report on the 2016 programs and activities of the ACS International Activities Committee. The report covered a number of areas, including the following strategic imperatives that emerged from an IAC strategic planning retreat earlier this year:

- Proactively advocating, catalyzing, initiating and implementing ACS international activities.
- Provision of education and research conferences and initiatives and development of broad scientific understanding, appreciation of chemistry, and promotion of the image of chemistry.
- Developing and carrying out activities which are science driven and advance the interests and priorities of ACS member-volunteers with global interests.
- And the fulfillment of Article II, Section 3 of the ACS Constitution -***“The SOCIETY shall cooperate with scientists internationally and shall be concerned with the worldwide application of chemistry to the needs of humanity.”***

P&MR received a short report on recent ACS Insight Lab research directed at identifying millennial communication styles and channels. Results from this effort will influence the development of a quantitative instrument to be disseminated to a larger millennial membership sample in 2017. Highlights from the research include the following:

- Millennials object to receiving too many e-mails
- Interested in connecting with ACS at the local level
- Top ACS products and services are networking, career services and access to publications

Barbara A. Sawrey, Chair

Public Affairs and Public Relations

The Board Standing Committee on Public Affairs and Public Relations (PA&PR) met virtually on August 2, 2016. The Chair opened the meeting by giving an overview of the meeting agenda, and reviewing Committee reference materials in the agenda book.

The Chair provided an opportunity for ACS president-elect Allison Campbell to outline for the Committee her 2017 plans for advocacy and Capitol Hill outreach. She described her initial efforts to create a working group that would collaborate with the ACS Office of Public Affairs (OPA) in creating sustainable, affordable and substantive opportunities for interactions with Capitol Hill stakeholders aimed at raising the visibility of funding for the chemical sciences and the multiple benefits attendant to that funding.

The Chair then called the committee's attention to the schedule and operation of the ACS Press Center at the Philadelphia national meeting as well as a half-day Communications symposium arranged by OPA that culminates in a special reception honoring Peter Atkins, 2016 winner of the Grady Stack Award for Interpreting Chemistry for the Public.

Volunteer Engagement Research - The Chair introduced the first agenda item, which focused on external research funded by the National Science Foundation and conducted by researchers from Michigan State University and the University of Texas at Austin. The goals of the research are to develop a greater understanding of the motivations for scientific society volunteers to become involved with community outreach and to help identify ways those volunteers could communicate more strategically.

One of the researchers, Dr. John Besley, Michigan State University, joined the call and presented the topline findings of the research that covered volunteers from several different scientific societies, which encompass multiple disciplines. OPA, working with colleagues from the ACS Membership & Scientific Advancement Division, facilitated the involvement of ACS members in the research project.

Focusing on ACS members, Dr. Besley reported that those surveyed indicated a relatively high willingness to engage with the adult public (the study did not cover outreach activities involving children). This finding was especially true for face-to-face communication and for engagement with policymakers, but somewhat less so for engagement via the media and online. The members also said they expected the engagement experience to be enjoyable. Furthermore, although our members think they are only moderately effective in their outreach efforts, they say that such efforts can make a difference. This finding may suggest that if members were aware of, and made use of, available tools and training on the ACS website that their comfort level with public engagement might rise. The most often reported goals that our members have for engaging with the public include increasing the role of science in guiding public policy and getting fellow citizens to value the role of science in our culture. Next steps in the study include further clarification of which variables constitute the best predictors of scientists' engagement and comparing views held by academic scientists with those of their industry colleagues.

Helium Supply for Research – The committee received a presentation on a report -- *Responding to the U.S. Research Community's Liquid Helium Crisis: An Action Plan to Preserve U.S. Innovation* – that was prepared by a team consisting of members from the ACS, the American Physical Society and the Materials Research Society.

ACS member and report co-leader, Dr. Simon R. Bare, SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, joined the call to provide background on the helium availability issues being faced by researchers. Specifically, he discussed the predictability of helium's availability and its ever increasing price, and how those issues are undermining research and in turn U.S. innovation. He outlined five major recommendations included in the report that, if favorably acted upon, would help assure a sustainable and affordable supply of helium for U.S. researchers.

After discussion of the report and its recommendations, the committee voted to adopt the report as a document of the Society to be released in conjunction with the American Physical Society and the Materials Research Society, as well as to make its government-facing recommendations ACS public policy positions.

ACS Biennial Public Policy Priorities Statement – The committee was updated on progress being made towards finalization of the 2017-18 ACS Biennial Public Policy Priorities Statement that will be before the committee for action at its December 2016 meeting.

Input on the new statement has been sought from 18 ACS committees. OPA staff presented the latest draft of the statement incorporating input from those committees received to date. After a brief discussion, the Chair recommended that committee members look over the draft statement and be prepared to offer additional feedback in preparation for the December meeting.

OPA Reports – OPA staff presented a quick review of recent federal legislative action favorable to ACS policy priorities as well as a look ahead at possible additional actions that may be addressed when Congress returns after the November elections.

New Business – ACS Past President Diane Grob Schmidt provided the committee with a brief summary of the June 28-29 visit of a Cuban science delegation from the Cuban Chemical Society, the University of Havana and the Cuban National Academy of Science. The June visit included a welcome dinner hosted by Dr. Schmidt, a National Press Club Panel discussion focused on current and future Cuban and U.S. scientific collaboration, visits to Capitol Hill and the National Science Foundation, and a reception in honor of the delegation at ACS headquarters that included science attachés from a variety of embassies.

John E. Adams, Chair

Corporation Associates

The Committee on Corporation Associates (CA) met on August 22, 2016. ACS Board of Directors Chair Pat Confalone spoke to the committee about how it might collaborate with the Board to better engage industry members. Dr. Confalone highlighted that CA is a unique committee involved with both member-driven tasks and corporate-oriented tasks. His talking points paralleled those in his recent comment in C&EN.

CA Chair Diane Grob Schmidt discussed the continuing series of invited *C&EN* interviews with industry leaders/decision makers at national meetings. The committee will be a nominal cosponsor of one talk in 2017.

The committee discussed and brought forward a recommendation to the ACS Board of Directors that the Board adopt safety as an ACS Core Value.

CA voted to recommend that the ACS Board of Directors adopt the draft on Chemical Risk Assessment and Regulatory Decision Making as a public policy position of the Society.

The committee also voted to adopt the draft on OSHA and Chemical Safety Policy as a document of the committee for use by ACS governance and staff. This will be a “living document” to be updated as necessary.

The committee approved three (3) local section/international chapter grant proposals and one (1) seed grant proposal. Those approved for the grants were:

Local Section Grants:

- California local section
- Malaysia international chapter
- North Carolina local section

Seed Grants:

- Nigeria International Chapter

The committee agreed to target CA membership expansion by initially focusing on market segments that are currently not represented.

Many ACS programs provide benefits to CA companies and industry members. Two were suggested for additional CA involvement. The ACS Webinars team has several series in which industry stories are the focus. CA will collaborate with the ACS Webinars team to assist in approving topics and speakers for upcoming webinars. The Webinar team also produces the “What Chemist Do” series, highlighting a range of opportunities in the chemical enterprise. CA will provide suggestions for future industry stories and subjects for “What Chemists Do”.

CA received an update on progress with the initiative, “Partnering to Integrate Sustainability into the Chemical Enterprise Strategically (PISCES),” which has the goal of making ACS an indispensable resource to, and partner with, industry. PISCES is made up of members from Corporation Associates (CA), the Committee on Environmental Improvement (CEI), the Division of Environmental Chemistry (ENVR) and the AGRO Division. During the launch of the initiative in recent months, PISCES team members have shared their division’s or committee’s strategies for engaging industry members. Next steps include engaging with additional divisions and committees, including the Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Division (I&EC).

The committee began laying the groundwork for its next strategic planning retreat, which will be held in 2017.

Diane Grob Schmidt, Chair

Other Board Standing and Joint Board-Council Committees

Chemical Abstracts Service

The CCAS Committee met in Executive Session on August 19, 2016, where CAS management reported on highlights from the first half of 2016 and the Committee reviewed its past contributions and explored potential future objectives in the context of CAS and Society needs.

The CAS President reported that the management team continues to make progress on the Strategic Plan for Growth & Optimization, and that new product launches are all performing well. The most recent product launch, ChemZent, has been well received in the market since its June introduction. PatentPakTM, introduced earlier this year, has received industry recognition with the CODie Award and the Stevie Award. The committee was pleased to learn that the next chapter in SciFinder has been unveiled: SciFinderⁿ was announced at the Fall National Meeting and will provide exponential power for researchers around the world.

The committee discussed plans for an upcoming CCAS Strategic Planning Meeting, to be held in early 2017, in order to update the committee's mission and set strategy and specific goals. As a prelude, the committee reviewed past and current interactions between CAS and other parts of the Society such as the Membership and Scientific Advancement, Education, and Publications business divisions as well as various Technical Divisions. Input from multiple Society stakeholders will be invited to help identify ways in which CCAS can serve Society members as a unique conduit and help CAS to fulfill the ACS Mission "to advance the broader chemistry enterprise and its practitioners for the benefit of Earth and its people."

ACS members having questions or suggestions related to the committee's mission or strategy are encouraged to reach out directly to committee members.

Wendy D. Cornell, Chair

Chemical Safety

The Committee on Chemical Safety Task Force for Safety Education Guidelines released *Guidelines for Chemical Laboratory Safety in Secondary Schools* and *Guidelines for Chemical Laboratory Safety in Academic Institutions*. The Safety Education Guidelines are organized around the concept of R.A.M.P. – an acronym for the Four Principles of Safety: **R**ecognize the hazard, **A**ssess the risk of the hazard, **M**inimize the risk of the hazard, and **P**repare for emergencies. The guidelines also include student learning outcomes which clearly state the expected knowledge, skills, attitudes, competencies in the area of chemical safety that students are expected to learn as they progress with their education. To request the copy of the guidelines please send the message to safety@acs.org or download them from www.acs.org/safety.

CCS, in collaboration with ACS Web Strategy, also released a new website with a rich collection of methods and tools for assessing hazards in research laboratories. The site is based on the document *Identifying and Evaluating Hazards in Research Laboratories*, a guide created by the CCS in response to a recommendation by the U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) for ACS to develop such guidance. The *Hazard Assessment in Research Laboratories* website provides easier access and navigation through the rich information, thus leading to greater usability. This new resource is now available at www.acs.org/hazardassessment.

CCS also discussed safety policies of chemical journals, as well ways of growing safety cultures among undergraduate and graduate students. CCS seeks your ideas, suggestions, and feedback to make chemistry safer. Please send your comments to [safety @acs.org](mailto:safety@acs.org).

Elizabeth M. Howson, Chair

Chemistry and Public Affairs

The Committee on Chemistry and Public Affairs (CCPA) provides ACS with advice and recommendations for action on public policy matters that impact the chemical sciences and technology.

At the 2016 National Meeting in Philadelphia, CCPA considered an update of the ACS policy statement on peer review and will forward it to the ACS Board of Directors for consideration.

A major focus of CCPA activity related to the Congressional Chemistry Caucus, which is a bipartisan caucus in the U.S. House of Representatives, founded by Congressmen Moolenaar (R-MI04) and Daniel Lipinski (D-IL03). The Caucus's goals are to educate Members of Congress, their staff, and the public on the benefits and impacts of chemistry in today's society. CCPA is developing ACS member advocacy resources for selected ACS local sections to increase the Caucus membership.

ACS Congressional Fellow Leah Rubin reported on her fellowship experience working with Senator Chris Coons (D-DE). ACS Science Policy Fellow Stephanie DeLuca provided her final report on her two –year fellowship working on science policy issues in the ACS Office of Public Affairs. CCPA selects and ACS supports two Congressional Fellows to work on Capitol Hill for a year and one Science Policy Fellow to work in the ACS Office of Public Affairs for one to two years. More information can be found on the ACS website at www.acs.org/policyfellow.

Susan B. Butts, Chair

Chemists with Disabilities

The Chemists with Disabilities Committee (CWD) held a strategic planning follow-up meeting on Saturday afternoon. Significant advancement was made on all action items.

CWD created three new posters for the disabilities awareness project “Scientists with Disabilities” posters. CWD will prepare bookmarks and classroom-size posters to increase the impact of this project. Additionally, CWD will reach out to ACS staff to investigate sharing the posters via CE&N, ACS website and monitors at ACS meetings. CWD also created a Facebook page to increase awareness of scientists with disabilities as well as the Committee on Chemists with Disabilities and their initiatives in this particular area of diversity and inclusion.

CWD is developing plans for a student travel grant to fund research presentations by students with disabilities at ACS meetings. CWD is also evaluating the possibility of integrating Dragon Voice to Text software and Adobe connect as a means to permit remote video conferencing that could include CWD member with vision and hearing disabilities.

CWD is updating their member handbook to permit new members to “hit the ground running”. Audio version has been prepared to permit access by vision impaired members.

CWD is preparing a nomination for ACS Fellows nomination for an accomplished, deaf CWD member.

CWD developed a plan for responding to committee inquiries. Inquires will be routed to all members. Interested members will send responses to the staff liaison. Staff liaison and chair will assemble responses to develop an official committee response to the inquiry. CWD is also developing an improved committee website.

CWD will investigate a partnership with AAAS Entry Point program to facilitate intern and employment opportunities for people with disabilities in science and technical fields.

John J. Johnston, Chair

Community Activities

The Committee on Community Activities (CCA) outreach event at the Philadelphia National Meeting was held at The Franklin Institute. Fifty volunteers from student groups, members of CCA, the Philadelphia Local Section, and the four Chemistry Champion Finalists presented nine tables of hands-on activities from 10 am – 2 pm, reaching an estimated 600 members of the public! At the end of the activities, kids received a goody bag containing a copy of *Celebrating Chemistry* and other giveaways.

During this meeting, the committee approved three major actions.

- The committee voted to rebrand Chemists Celebrate Earth Day (CCED) to be a week-long Chemists Celebrate Earth Week starting in 2018.
- The committee also approved the theme for Chemists Celebrate Earth Week 2018 as "Dive Into Marine Chemistry".
- The committee approved a new ChemLuminary Award, "Outstanding Public Outreach Event by a Student Group". This new award recognizes a local section that coordinates and conducts a public outreach event (not associated with NCW or CCED) in which students from a high school, community college, and/or university played a major role. Collaboration among student groups is encouraged.

CCA is looking for theme team members for 2018 and beyond. Those interested in joining a theme team should contact outreach@acs.org for more information.

Michael B. McGinnis, Chair

Environmental Improvement

The Committee on Environmental Improvement (CEI) is committed to leveraging partnerships to help us achieve our strategic vision. Consequently, both the development of new bridges and the strengthening of established ties are of the utmost importance to us. We have partnered with a number of different technical divisions, including ENVR, AGRO, AGFD, I&EC, CHED, and CHAS, as well as Corporation Associates (CA), the Committee on Science (ComSci), and the ACS Green Chemistry Institute. We encourage other divisions, committees, and units of the Society who are interested in projects focused on sustainability or public policy to reach out to CEI to establish future partnerships.

In support of our local section partners, CEI awarded two \$500 mini-grants for sustainability activities to the Greater Houston and Lehigh Valley sections. The committee had an exceedingly difficult decision among the finalists for the ChemLuminary Award for Sustainability and decided to recognize both the Midland and Dallas-Fort Worth sections.

In the public policy arena, the committee recommended updated policy statements on climate and on regulatory decision making to the ACS Board of Directors. CEI also co-sponsored three days' worth of programming highlighted by "The Debate: What Role Should We Play in the Biotechnology Era?" in partnership with AGRO, ENVR, ComSci, and the CA. This exciting and engaging session was designed to explore whether ACS should develop policy statements and/or pursue other activities in this area. Please contact the Chair at cei@acs.org if you would like to weigh in.

Anthony M. Noce, Chair

International Activities

At its meeting in Philadelphia on Saturday, August 20, 2016, the Committee on International Activities (IAC) welcomed dignitaries from our sister societies and partners from China, Canada, Cuba, South Korea, and the UK, as well as leadership of International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC), the US National Academies of Science Board of International Scientific Organizations, ACS Chemical Sciences International Chapters, and International Student Chapters.

The committee also welcomed the executive director of IUPAC who provided information on IUPAC's global interests and priorities, followed by discussion on IAC and IUPAC synergies going forward.

During its open meeting, the committee heard reports on its key programs and activities, including the ACS International Center, the ACS Chemistry Festival Series, its work with the US Department of State for early career scientist and engineer training and chemical security, our Global Innovation Initiative programs, the ACS National Science Foundation (NSF) Chemical Sciences and Society Symposia and the NSF International Research Experiences for Undergraduates programs, and the IAC's grants programs.

IAC was also involved with several professional, scientific, and global networking events in Philadelphia, many organized as ACS Presidential activities. These events and associated meetings helped to formulate a pathway forward for ACS to be more welcoming of chemists, chemical engineers and chemistry educators with international interests and for connecting our members with the global practice of chemistry.

At its meeting, IAC heard reports and discussed in depth the need to develop the Society's capacities to more equitably serve, recognize the contributions and assure representation of our overseas volunteer members and the growing community of ACS International Chemical Sciences Chapters. At the IAC Welcoming Reception, IAC hosted over 300 international meeting attendees and ACS member volunteers with global interests.

Finally, IAC sought and received approval from ACS Council for the establishment of ACS International Chemical Sciences Chapters in Greater Beijing, Southwestern China and Iraq.

Ellene T. Contis, Chair

Minority Affairs

The Committee on Minority Affairs sponsored or cosponsored 5 symposia and a luncheon in Philadelphia—a record number—all devoted to the meeting's theme “Of the People, by the People, for the People.” CMA's luncheon speaker was Dr. Cato Laurencin, an internationally known polymer scientist and surgeon who received the National Medal of Science and Technology from President Obama in May. The luncheon was cosponsored by the Committee on Science.

CMA partnered with the Division of Professional Relations, the Division of Chemical Education, and the Organic Division—as well as with the Women Chemists Committee and ComSci. CMA is planning four symposia in San Francisco, partnering with the Division of Chemical Education, the Analytical Division, PROF, and BIOT. This robust co-programming is aimed at diversifying speakers at national meeting symposia. CMA asks symposia organizers to proactively reach out to under-represented minorities to invite their participation in technical programming at National Meetings. To make it easier for technical divisions to do so, CMA is creating a directory on its website that can be used as a resource to create more diverse conference and symposium speakers lists. CMA hopes to launch the site early in 2017.

The committee discussed updating the ACS policy statement on diversity and inclusion and will circulate an updated version to members of the Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Board prior to submission to the ACS Board of Directors standing committee on Professional and Member Relations.

Madeleine Jacobs, Chair

Patents and Related Matters

The Committee on Patents and Related Matters (CPRM) serves the ACS in a number of ways. The committee monitors legislative and regulatory developments influencing intellectual property. The committee provides ACS members and the general public with information about patents and other intellectual property issues. The committee's website is updated frequently and contains a wealth of helpful information about intellectual property matters relevant to those of us in the chemical enterprise.

CPRM also prepares nominations of notable inventors for external national awards recognizing the inventions of chemical professionals. We welcome your suggestions for possible nominees.

Recently, CPRM submitted suggestions to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) to improve the quality of patents and the patenting process. We are very pleased to note that the PTO has accepted several of our suggestions. In addition, the committee has begun providing speakers for the PTO's Technology Fair. These speakers have provided patent examiners with hour-long updates on the latest developments in the chemical sciences. If you would like to participate in these efforts, please let us know.

We have reorganized the committee to encompass such diverse topics as intellectual property aspects of entrepreneurship, technology transfer and sponsored research. As part of these efforts we have begun drafting a Strategic Plan and a Job Manual. We expect to post these documents in the near future.

Any and all communications regarding these matters should be sent to Patents@acs.org.

Sadiq Shah, Chair

Professional Training

At the August 2016 meeting, the Committee on Professional Training (CPT) evaluated 34 periodic reports from approved programs, site visit and progress reports from six programs seeking approval, and one petition to appeal a decision to withdraw approval. The committee approved five new programs and placed two programs on probation. Currently, 689 colleges and universities offer an ACS-approved bachelor's degree program in chemistry.

The committee continued discussion of evaluation practices and guidelines interpretation with the goal of improving the consistency of program reviews and calibrating new members to the review process. The committee examined the first set of periodic reports that described how programs are meeting the new macromolecular, supramolecular, nano- and mesoscale (MSN) requirement. Strategies for meeting the MSN requirement were discussed at an open meeting. A subcommittee reviewed a draft questionnaire to solicit information on the use of online courses and virtual laboratory experiences in undergraduate chemistry programs. Data collection is planned for the spring academic term with a report to be published in the fall of 2017. The committee also discussed articles intended to communicate the relevance of ACS approval and student certification to departments and students pursuing degrees in chemistry.

The committee also met with representatives from 42 institutions that offer a PhD in chemistry. The topics discussed included the professional development activities for undergraduate and graduate students, training graduate students and postdoctoral associates to be effective mentors for undergraduate research assistants, and student engagement with the primary chemical literature.

Thomas J. Wenzel, Chair

Publications

The progress report for the *Journal of the American Chemical Society* and the monitoring reports for *Chemical Research in Toxicology*, *Inorganic Chemistry*, *ACS Sustainable Chemistry & Engineering*, *ACS Macro Letters* and *Macromolecules* were presented, discussed thoroughly and accepted with thanks. Editor reappointments were reviewed and recommendations were made. *ACS Photonics*, *Bioconjugate Chemistry* and *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces* will be monitored next.

C&EN is taking advantage of social media, as well as products such as its weekly newsletters, to engage with readers and increase web usage. As part of C&EN's digital strategy, C&EN has made changes to the website to make it mobile friendly and the C&EN mobile app was refreshed. Also announced was the development of selected C&EN content translated in Chinese.

ACS Publications Division President announced that the Society will organize a chemistry preprint server to promote early research sharing for the global chemistry community. This pursuit will be organized jointly with Chemical Abstracts Service and will enlist other external stakeholders and potential co-sponsors.

ACS Publications is undertaking a conference in concert with the Institute of Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences (ICCAS) 60th Anniversary in October, with nearly 300 delegates already registered. *ACS Omega*, led by Co-Editors located in the Americas, Europe, China and India, represents a strong foray for ACS Publications to court global authors to our fully open access journal. Other outreach activities include the development of an Asian editorial advisory board.

Nicole S. Sampson, Chair

Public Relations and Communications

In Philadelphia, the Committee on Public Relations and Communications co-sponsored a symposium on “Chemists & the Public: What Research Shows about Engagement & Communication.” The findings were insightful, and included:

1. Recent surveys of ACS members and scientists in other fields show a lot of engagement with the public, but chemists are somewhat less likely than others to engage.
2. Our members *want* to engage, but they also want to feel that they have the *skills* to be effective. They are most interested in communicating face-to-face, rather than online or through the news media. And they identified policymakers as an audience of particular interest.
3. Scientists, including chemists, feel they do a so-so job at engagement, but they think outreach *can* make a difference.

So what should we do with this research? CPRC will be studying all_of the reports with the goal of developing training and tools that will help chemists be the best communicators we can be with a variety of public audiences. We are doing this in collaboration with the committees on Local Section Activities and Divisional Activities. Several tools are posted now on the Chemistry Ambassador website at www.acs.org/chemistryambassadors.

Finally, CPRC presented three ChemLuminary awards: the Helen Free Award for Public Outreach to Howard and Sally Peters for years of bringing chemistry to the public through chocolate, and outstanding awards for new and continuing public relations programs to the Lehigh Valley and Northeastern local sections, respectively.

Jennifer L. Maclachlan, Chair

Science

The Committee on Science (ComSci) recently completed a series of three forums on the emerging field of advanced materials. These forums focused on energy, computation, and cross-sector partnerships. The forum on advanced materials for energy resulted in a paper accepted for publication by the ACS Journal of Inorganic Chemistry. The roundtable last fall on cross-sector partnerships with division leaders, journal editors and senior industry representatives generated several recommendations and reinforced that work on emerging scientific frontiers should also involve emerging trends in the ways science is conducted.

ComSci is developing a set of key principles and success stories of strategic, chemistry-related university-industry collaborations. A document communicating the underlying principles of successful cross-sector collaborations and illustrating good examples of these partnerships is being prepared to encourage ACS members and stakeholders to establish such partnerships to accelerate innovation. This document will be used to enable forums on this issue at future ACS meetings.

ComSci is working to inform policymakers and ACS members on strengthening forensic science. The committee voted on Saturday to recommend board approval of a policy statement on forensics that updates the original statement from 2013. The committee also held a symposium on forensic science in Philadelphia that featured experts from government, industry and academia, and included a panel discussion that provided useful information for chemists interested in the field.

ComSci voted to recommend Board approval of a revised policy statement on chemical regulation. The committee also reviewed and submitted suggested revisions to the ACS statement on climate change and the umbrella document that sets out ACS public policy priorities.

In April, the committee submitted an ACS Board-approved nomination for the 2016 Presidential National Medal of Science. We have also begun work on new nominations for both the 2017 National Medal of Science and the Dreyfus Award.

Mark C. Cesa, Chair

Senior Chemists

The Senior Chemists Committee (SCC) met on June 28 and August 22 to hear updates from the subcommittees on accomplishments made toward achieving the committee's new strategic goals. The Senior Chemists Group on the ACS Network will be launched in September to encourage networking among senior chemists and provide information on upcoming events and engagement opportunities. SCC extended its mini-grant program to assist Local Sections with establishing senior chemists groups and sponsoring events – 10 applicants were approved for funding. A symposium, focused on experiences in early industrial chemistry, is being planned for the 2017 San Diego meeting in partnership with the Younger Chemists Committee and the Division of History and Chemistry. ACS Legacy leaders (Schmidt, Butts, Ludwick, and Heindel) were honored by the SCC Chair and ACS Executive Director & CEO Tom Connelly during the Senior Chemists Breakfast held at the Philadelphia national meeting on August 23, featuring Professor Magid Abou-Gharbia (Head of the Moulder Center for Drug Discovery) as the keynote speaker. ChemLuminary Awards were presented by SCC to Local Sections with the “Best Ongoing Senior Activity” and the “Most Innovative Activity.” Students were given an opportunity to speak with SCC members and other chemistry professionals during the Undergraduate Speed Networking Event, also held at the national meeting. Highlights from all the events, community outreach by senior chemists, information on interesting travel, historic places to visit, and museums will be included in November 2016 issue of *The Newsletter for Senior Chemists*.

Thomas R. Beattie, Chair

Women Chemists

The Women Chemists Committee (WCC) continues to be leaders in attracting, developing, promoting, retaining, and advocating for women in the chemical sciences in order to positively impact society and the profession.

It is an exciting time for WCC. For the first time in history, the immediate past president, the current president and the president-elect are all women! In 2017, WCC will be celebrating our 90th anniversary, and we will be revising our strategic plan.

In Philadelphia, WCC recognized:

- Eight recipients of the new WCC Merck Research Award
- Ten recipients of WCC/Eli Lilly Travel Awards
- The recipient of the 2016 Overcoming Challenges Award
- The Chicago Local Section with the Best Overall Local Section WCC ChemLuminary Award

WCC also distributed periodic table business cards stating, “ACS national awards nominees were 17% female for 2017, compared to 14% female in 2016. ACS membership is 29% female. We are not there yet! More nominations for women are still needed.”

WCC is partnering with the ACS Board Standing Committee on Grants & Awards and the Diversity & Inclusion Advisory Board to increase the number and quality of nominations for ACS national awards from underrepresented groups. A working breakfast session held in Philadelphia discussed the nomination process and provided insight into how to prepare competitive nomination packages. Every division, every local section, every chemist needs to be part of the solution. WCC challenges you to nominate an amazing woman chemist for an award this November!

Amber F. Charlebois, Chair

Younger Chemists

While in Philadelphia, the YCC focused our efforts on ensuring sustainable collaborative programming and planning our strategy for increasing younger member involvement in the ACS National Election.

We are excited to share more on these expanded efforts to involve younger chemists in the ACS National Election. We've coined this effort "Catalyze the Vote", and the initiative has 3 major components. First, the two candidates for ACS President-Elect have answered a set of questions prepared by YCC that we feel encompass topics relevant to our constituency; these responses are shared on social media. On September 29, we will host a Live Virtual Town Hall where younger members are able to ask Dr. Dorhout and Dr. Gilbert questions in an interactive forum. Then, we've planned an official "Catalyze the Vote" voting day on October 11. Those that vote should post with the hashtag #CatalyzetheVote, which we hope will have the same feel as the "I Voted" stickers we're all familiar with. We encourage you to share this with your students, colleagues, and friends to help us reach our goal of engaging younger members in helping direct the future success of our Society! Visit bitly.com/catalyzethevote to learn more and register for the Live Virtual Town Hall!

Through the support of the Member Insurance Program, the YCC Fun Run has grown to be a National Meeting favorite. Our slogan, "Healthy Chemists are Happy Chemists" speaks to the need for well-rounded, balanced lifestyles for scientists. We are grateful for continued collaborations which support programming and events such as this.

Natalie A. LaFranzo, Chair

Council Committee Reports

Elected Committees

Committees

In Philadelphia, the Committee on Committees (ConC) received recommendations and updates from its subcommittee on Diversity and task forces on the Society Committee Bylaws and the Performance Review Process.

Based on their performance reviews, ConC recommended to Council and CPC concurred that the Committee on Analytical Reagents be continued and that the Committee on Chemical Abstracts Service, subject to concurrence by the Board of Directors, also be continued. Council approved both these recommendations.

ConC is developing its recommendations for 2017 Committee Chair, Member, Associate, and Consultant appointments for consideration by the President-Elect and/or the Chair of the Board.

ConC will hold its annual New Chairs Training Session in Dallas, Texas, from January 27-29, 2017, as part of the ACS Leadership Institute.

Finally, on behalf of the Council, ConC recognized 38 Councilors who will have served the statutory limit or otherwise completed their service on ACS governance committees at the end of 2016; 6 Committee Chairs who will have served the statutory limit on the committee they chair; and 32 Councilors serving 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, and 45 years as a Councilor.

Wayne E. Jones, Jr., Chair

Council Policy

At its meeting in Philadelphia, the Council Policy Committee (CPC) voted unanimously to form a Joint Board - CPC Task Force on Governance Design. The initial meetings are scheduled to take place this fall.

The Future Council Representation Working Group meeting was held as part of the CPC Long-Range Planning Subcommittee meeting in Philadelphia. This working group includes representatives from the committees on Local Section Activities, International Activities, and Divisional Activities, as well as CPC members of the subcommittee. The big-picture question to be addressed by this group is "What would Council look like if we created it from scratch?"

The Subcommittee on Petitions, Constitution and Bylaws also met in Philadelphia and forwarded the following recommendations to the full CPC. CPC subsequently considered and approved them on Tuesday. As a result, CPC

- Approved the Committee on Committee's proposal to increase the size of the Committee on Ethics from nine to twelve members.
- Approved a procedures document to accompany the Petition for Removal of Officers and Councilors, which is on Council agenda for action next spring.
- Supported the Membership Affairs Committee's Petition to Extend the Unemployed Members' Dues Waiver
- Supported the Petition on the Rights of Affiliates, and recommended that the Committee on Nominations and Elections develop guidance for units whose bylaws allow voting in their unit elections by affiliates.

Also at this meeting, CPC approved a request from the Committee on Nomenclature, Terminology and Symbols to be included in the Non-Councilor Travel Reimbursement Policy.

Alan M. Ehrlich, Vice-Chair

Nominations and Elections

The Committee on Nominations and Elections (N&E) received positive feedback on the improved format of the Town Hall Meeting for Directors-at-Large conducted in Philadelphia.

Ballots for the 2016 fall national election were mailed on September 30, with the voting deadline on October 28. Members had the option to vote electronically or by paper ballot. The candidates who appeared on the ballot for the 2016 national election for President-Elect, 2017, are Peter K. Dorhout and Thomas R. Gilbert. For Directors-at-Large (2017-2019), the candidates are Joseph A. Heppert, Kristin M. Omberg, Dorothy J. Phillips, and Kathleen M. Schulz. For District II Director (2017-2019), the candidates are George M. Bodner and Christina C. Bodurow. For District IV Director (2017-2019), the candidates are Rigoberto Hernandez and Larry K. Krannich. You can view candidate information on www.acs.org under “[Elections](#)”.

At the Philadelphia meeting, the committee developed slates of potential nominees for President-Elect-2018 and Directors of Districts III and VI for 2018-2020, as well as a slate of potential candidates for Director-at-Large for 2018-2020. The biographical information will appear in the Council agenda for the spring national meeting in San Francisco, and posted on www.acs.org under “[Elections](#)”.

N&E’s Vote 2020 Task Force is part of a multi-year, multi-phase effort to examine the entire ACS national election process and to seek input and study new concepts in which to run ACS elections by the year 2020. The task force welcomes comments at vote2020@acs.org.

D. Richard Cobb, Chair

Standing Committees

Constitution and Bylaws

The ACS Governing Documents (Bulletin 5) were updated effective July 1, 2016. The online edition (www.acs.org/bulletin5) is the authoritative version.

Since January 2016, the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws (C&B) certified 10 bylaws, including five that were certified since the spring meeting. Also since the spring meeting, C&B reviewed bylaws for 8 Local Sections and one Division. Certified bylaws, a bylaws status report, and options to update your bylaws are available at www.acs.org/bulletin5.

Instead of just announcing at Council that Local Sections and Divisions have not updated their bylaws, we have been more proactive by sending notices and bylaws options to 31 Local Sections that need to update their bylaws.

Council approved changes to the Charter bylaws for new Local Sections and for Divisions in Probationary Status. Council also approved the Petition to Extend the Unemployed Members' Dues Waiver, with changes to Bylaw XIII, Sec. 3, k; which will be effective upon confirmation by the Board of Directors. Within thirty days from the Council meeting, opponents of the petitions for consideration may submit written arguments: bylaws@acs.org.

New petitions to amend the Constitution and/or Bylaws must be received by the Executive Director by December 14 to be included in the Council agenda for consideration in San Francisco. If you would like feedback on your petition before it is formally submitted, please send it to C&B at least six weeks before the deadline. Petition guidelines are in Bulletin 5 (www.acs.org/bulletin5).

James C. Carver, Chair

Divisional Activities

The Committee on Divisional Activities (DAC) recently participated in a strategic planning retreat to plot a course on how best to serve divisions and the Society over the next 3-5 years. DAC's mission is to provide guidance, support, and resources to the technical divisions that enable them to accomplish their goals.

DAC is pursuing three primary goals over the coming years:

1. To enhance DAC's communication with divisions, and to develop better ways for divisions to communicate with one another,
2. To increase the percentage of ACS members who belong to at least one division to 66% by 2020 (from 36% at year-end 2015), and
3. To enhance collaboration and networking among divisions.

At least once every three years, DAC is required to bring to Council a formula for allocating dues funds to the divisions. At next year's San Francisco national meeting, DAC will present an updated allocation formula to Council for its approval.

DAC has received proposals seeking the establishment of two new probationary divisions: Division of Space Chemistry, and the Division of Materials Chemistry. DAC will provide information on these proposals to all divisions, and will seek their input.

DAC is eager to increase the visibility of ACS technical divisions on acs.org. Staff briefed the committee on a number of recent changes to the website that DAC views as a huge step in the right direction. This is part of a larger strategy DAC and staff are implementing to help divisions increase their membership.

DAC and the Committee on Meetings and Expositions hosted two town hall meetings to obtain input from division program chairs on a variety of issues, including reducing or eliminating Thursday programming, adjusting the timeline for making changes to the technical program, and finding new ways for divisions to collaborate on programming.

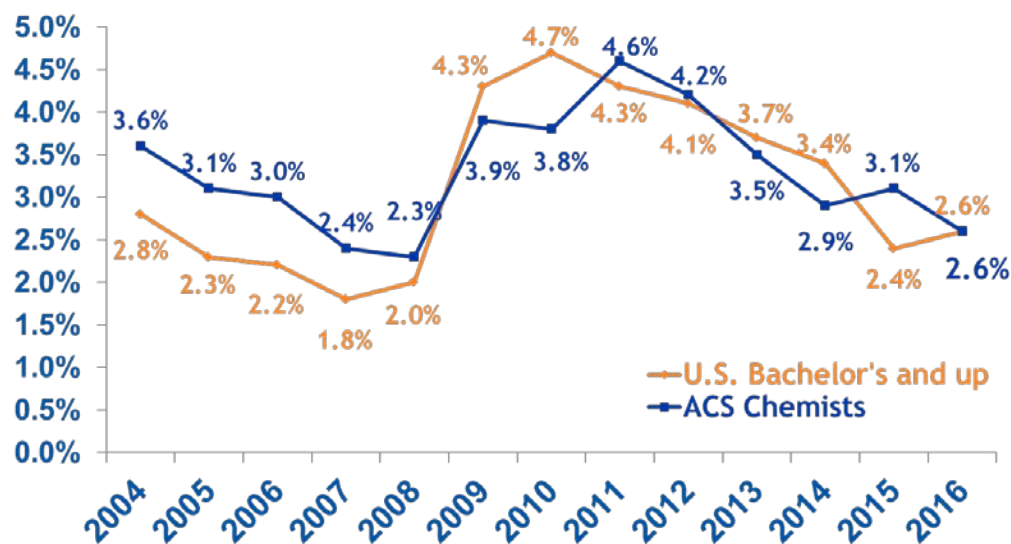
Rodney M. Bennett, Chair

Economic and Professional Affairs

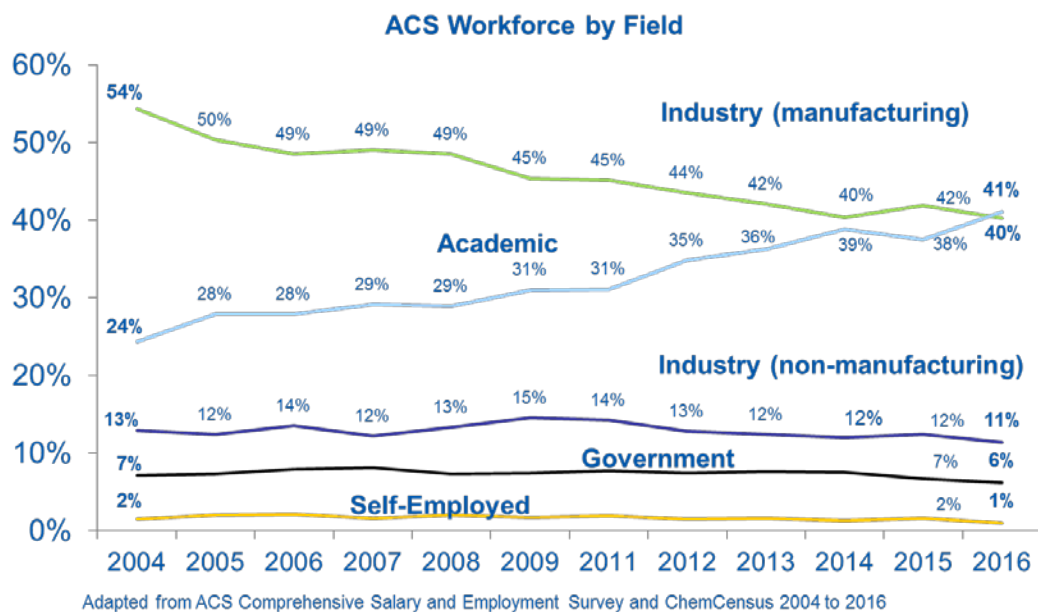
The Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs' (CEPA) four subcommittees worked on a variety of efforts in Philadelphia:

- The subcommittee on events, volunteers, and employment services discussed how ACS career services can proactively inform local sections of benefits available for unemployed members and those impacted by mass layoffs. The subcommittee also approved five new ACS Career Consultants.
- The subcommittee on public policy recommended minimal revisions to the employment non-discrimination act policy statement, which now goes to the Board of Directors for action.
- The subcommittee on standards and ethics is forming a stakeholder group to create a guideline addressing the employment of primary and secondary school chemistry teachers.
- The subcommittee on Marketing and Research reviewed information on the present state of ACS surveys and is considering, with ACS staff, the next steps to ensure our research methods adapt to modern methodology and technological advances.

Data from the 2016 ACS Comprehensive Salary and Employment Survey shows a drop in the ACS Chemist unemployment rate to 2.6%. The survey also showed that academia is now the largest ACS member workforce segment with that group passing the manufacturing industry in 2016 (see figures below).



Adapted from ACS Comprehensive Salary and Employment Survey and ChemCensus 2004 to 2016 and the Bureau of Labor Statistics Employment status of the civilian population 25 years and over by educational attainment (March of each year)



The Philadelphia onsite Career Fair had strong employer turnout compared to recent averages and an impressive 172 jobs available to go along with 542 career consulting sessions.

The Chemical Professional's Code of Conduct was presented to Council and approval in Philadelphia. The document next moves to the ACS Board of Directors for action.

Finally, CEPA presented ChemLuminary awards for outstanding programs that have contributed to the career management and development of ACS members. CEPA would like to congratulate the 2016 winners: the Division of Inorganic Chemistry and the Detroit Local Section.

William (Rick) Ewing, Chair

Local Section Activities

The Committee on Local Section Activities (LSAC) presented the 2015 Awards for Outstanding Performance for Local Sections at the 18th Annual ChemLuminary Awards celebration to the New York, North Carolina, Dallas-Ft Worth, Midland, Brazosport, and Erie local sections. In other categories, Local Sections receiving ChemLuminary Awards from LSAC included Midland, Tampa Bay, and Kentucky Lake. Local Sections must submit their annual reports and self-nominations by February 15, 2017, to be eligible for these awards recognizing their 2016 activity.

The reviews of all annual reports that have been submitted have been completed. After receiving notice of the completed review, sections are encouraged to log into FORMS to download their review. Sections may provide a response to LSAC within the following six weeks. The Statistical Review of all local section activity can be found at www.acs.org/getinvolved. Beginning this year, the Statistical Review includes the voluntary dues amount requested by each local section.

LSAC reviewed the June 30 Innovative Project Grant (IPG) proposals and awarded 19 grants totaling \$30,300. This brings the total for 2016 to 37 IPG awards totaling \$69,230. The committee also approved an increase to the maximum amount of IPG awards from \$3,000 to \$3,500 beginning in 2017.

LSAC brought petitions before Council on behalf of the Permian Basin and Upper Peninsula local sections requesting annexation of adjacent territories; both were approved.

Finally, the committee reminded all councilors that at least one officer from their local section should accept the invitation to attend the annual ACS Leadership Institute next scheduled for January 27 – 29, 2017 in Dallas, Texas.

Martin D. Rudd, Chair

Meetings and Expositions

More than 9,000 scientific contributions have been made to the 252nd National Meeting in Philadelphia, PA. The total audited attendance for this meeting was 12,988. The Exposition had 432 booths with 300 exhibiting companies.

As part of M&E's comprehensive sustainability plan, print copies of the program book for Philadelphia were significantly reduced and a limited number were available for sale. Stats show that 1,274 program books were sold. The mobile app has received 7,004 transfers and the online program has received 2,653 transfers.

ACS was awarded the 2016 UFI (The Global Association of the Exhibition Industry) Sustainable Development Award for the "Best actions to engage participants around sustainability".

In compliance with the National Meeting Long-Range Financial Plan and the recommendations of the Task Force on Implementing National Meeting Financial Targets, M&E recommended that the Early Member Registration Fee for the 2017 national meetings be \$445.

After comparing the financial implications between Philadelphia and Denver for the 2024 Fall National Meeting, M&E has selected Denver to host the 268th ACS National Meeting on August 18-22, 2024.

John Pochan, Chair

Membership Affairs

The Membership Affairs Committee (MAC) continued to focus on new efforts to recruit and retain members. As of June 30th, the ACS membership was just over 155,000 and the number of international members has increased to more than 26,000. The Society's overall retention rate is 84%.

MAC discussed ways to serve technicians, high school and two-year college students, and faculty. MAC also discussed potential joint ACS and AACT memberships and directed staff to provide recommendations at the Spring National Meeting.

ACS's Global Strategy & Marketing Department reported on findings from 3 focus group studies of chemists in Latin American countries. This information will allow us to attract and better service our members in Latin America.

MAC reviewed the Petition for Removal of Officers and Councilors and could not make a recommendation because of lack of consensus. Further clarification is needed on what constitutes neglect of duties, and who has the authority to remove an elected councilor.

MAC also reviewed the Petition on the Rights of Affiliates and unanimously supported it.

MAC considered the Petition to Extend the Unemployed Members' Dues Waiver, which was up for action at this meeting. The committee supported the petitioner's intent to extend the unemployed members' dues waiver from two years to three years. MAC supported the alternate version of the petition as presented. Council subsequently voted to pass the petition.

James M. Landis, Jr., Chair

Other Committees

Ethics

The ACS Committee on Ethics met August 21st and discussed several ways to take advantage of social media to help disseminate information regarding the activities of the committee, including both the opportunities to advance the work of the committee and the challenges that would arise from such implementation. Specific social media sites that were discussed include Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn. The consensus of the committee was that although these platforms all showed promise, more information from both legal and practical perspectives would be needed before we went forward on any of these platforms.

Recommendations from the previous Committee on Committees review were revisited to ensure that any identified concerns from ConC had been addressed. After discussion, the committee identified gaps, but also determined that the majority of the concerns from the previous review had been discussed and action had been taken where appropriate.

A document tentatively titled “Research Ethics Information Profile for Authorship” was reviewed. The document is intended to serve as a general guide to questions of authorship regarding the publication of research, and is envisioned to be the first in a series of documents providing guidance in several areas concerning ethics.

Finally, to support our charge from ConC to “...review recognition opportunities for acknowledging ethical awareness...”, the committee voted unanimously to develop an award for presentation at the ChemLuminary ceremony to recognize outstanding ethics-related programming by a local section. It is anticipated that the first award would be presented in 2018 for programming in 2017.

Keith R. Vitense, Chair

Nomenclature, Terminology and Symbols

The ACS Committee on Nomenclature, Terminology and Symbols (NTS) met in open executive session in Philadelphia on Monday, August 22nd, 2016. NTS continues to focus its attention on increasing awareness among the members and committees of the ACS about proceedings in element names, chemical naming practices, and related matters. The committee continues, as well, to build relationships with groups outside of the ACS, such as IUPAC. NTS provided feedback to IUPAC Division II during their public commentary period for the proposed names of the newly discovered elements.

In Philadelphia, NTS presented an educational poster on the process of naming new elements at the CHED poster session and at Sci-Mix. The participants at these poster sessions indicated a need to continue outreach to the greater ACS membership.

NTS also co-sponsored a symposium within ENVR at the 2016 Fall meeting entitled *Elements Old & New: Discoveries, Developments, Challenges & Environmental Implications* that featured eighteen presenters. The symposium covered information from inaccurate element discoveries to quantitative analysis experiments for undergraduate general chemistry.

NTS continues to monitor, evaluate and provide input into various nomenclature issues, such as biosimilar nomenclature governed by the United States Adopted Names (USAN) Council.

Michael D. Mosher, Chair

Project SEED

Project SEED was established in 1968 and since its inception has provided opportunities for summer research to more than 10,000 students across the nation. This summer 421 high school students were placed in over 120 academic, governmental, and industrial laboratories under the supervision of nearly 400 volunteer scientists. This outstanding participation is made possible by contributions from industry, academia, local sections, ACS friends and members, and the Project SEED Endowment.

In Philadelphia, the committee addressed safety concerns related to the use of nanoparticles in projects involving Project SEED students. A link to the recently developed Chemical Safety Manual and the Committee on Chemical Safety site will be included in the application and in the award letter sent to coordinators.

The committee developed an assessment rubric for reviewing the Ciba Specialty Chemicals Scholarships.

In order to encourage a broader base for ChemLuminary nominations, the committee approved to modify the existing language in Forms Online reporting Management System (FORMS) and clarify that small, medium, and large programs are eligible for self-nominations.

On Monday evening, thirty-three high school students from the Minnesota, Maryland, Georgia, Puerto Rico, Nebraska, Northeastern, North Jersey, and New York Local Sections presented research posters at SciMix.

The committee continues its commitment to work on strategies to expand the educational opportunities for high school students across the nation, increase funding for the program, and number of volunteers. The committee encourages all members to continue using the dues check-off option on their ACS membership renewal to support this remarkable program.

Anna G. Cavinato, Chair

Technician Affairs

The Committee on Technician Affairs (CTA) met on Sunday, August 21 in Philadelphia. The committee began laying the groundwork for its next strategic planning retreat, which will be held Nov. 5-6, 2016 in Washington, D.C.

CTA is accepting nominations for the 2017 National Chemical Technician Award until September 30, 2016. This annual award was established to recognize the outstanding career achievements of exceptional technicians, who have significantly contributed to the field through their technical achievements, leadership and mentoring, publications, presentations, patents, quality and safety practices, and professional and community activities. The winner will be honored at a luncheon during the spring national meeting in San Francisco. For more information about the award, please visit the CTA website at www.acs.org/cta.

In Philadelphia, CTA honored the Midland Local section for the second consecutive year at the ChemLuminary Awards as the local section with the Best Technician-Related event. CTA encourages all local sections and divisions who hold technician-related events to apply for consideration for the 2017 ChemLuminary Award. Interested local sections and divisions may nominate themselves for the award with their annual reports.

Kara M. Allen, Chair