

Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA)

249th ACS National Meeting
Denver, CO
March 25, 2015

[SLIDE 1]

Madame President, Members of Council and Guests:

CEPA empowers ACS members to continuously develop professionally by providing ongoing career planning and developing the best available career tools that meet needs at every stage of life. We evaluate the portfolio of career related programs, products and services in order to ensure balance and alignment with member needs. We inform and advise the ongoing development of communication and marketing strategies to increase awareness and usage of career programs and services. CEPA recruits, approves, evaluates and recognizes career volunteers and career presenters.

[SLIDE 2]

As we oversee the collection, organization, and marketing of employment and workforce offerings, we report here the 2014 New Graduate Survey Results which shows the unemployment rate for new graduate chemists has dropped from 14.9% in the 2013 survey to 12.4% as of 2014. The drop is principally due to more new bachelors chemists finding employment. ACS members experienced 3 successive years of lowered unemployment, which could hint at a positive outlook for chemists in coming years. While unemployment is down, salaries have been overall stagnant.

CEPA received an update on the progress of data collection for the ACS ChemCensus 2015 launched a few weeks ago and so far we have received 5,000 responses. In order to have strong data, we need as many responses as possible as the results serve as an important diagnosis on the overall health of the chemistry economy and enterprise. Please participate and encourage your colleagues to participate.

[SLIDE 3]

The ACS Career Navigator continues to grow in its branding, print materials, digital campaigns, social media, and blogs. In 2014, the programs, products, and services which comprise the Navigator reported over 10,000 substantial interactions with ACS members and potential members.

CEPA will be part of the Undergraduate Programming in Boston. We will use our time to focus on preparing undergraduates for speed networking events and providing information on career paths and career related services offered through the Career Navigator.

During its meeting, CEPA renewed 2 career consultants and approved 2 new career consultants bringing the total to 70.

CEPA approved major revisions made to the Academic Professional Guidelines, last released in 2008.

CEPA is also updating the Healthcare Policy Statement.

Both of these should be ready for consideration by their respective governing bodies by their next meetings.

[SLIDE 4]

Statistics for the ACS Career Fair and the Virtual Career Fair at this meeting are shown. The onsite career fair performed near average for a spring meeting. Additionally, 218 résumé reviews, 368 mock interviews, and 23 Career Pathway workshops were conducted during the meeting.

Madame President this concludes my report.