

Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA)

252nd ACS National Meeting
Philadelphia, PA
August 24, 2015

[SLIDE 1]

Madame President, Members of Council and Guests:

CEPA's mission is to empower ACS members to continually develop professionally.

The subcommittee on events, volunteers, and employment services discussed a plan for how ACS career services can proactively inform local sections of benefits available for unemployed members and how to respond to mass layoffs. In addition the committee approved 5 new career consultants.

The subcommittee on public policy recommended minimal revisions to the employment non-discrimination act policy statement, which will now go to the Board of Directors for action at their next meeting. They also held their meeting with an outside speaker from IEEE on the topic of work visas and H-1B visas. The subcommittee will be working with staff in the office of public affairs to explore the next steps in regards to ACS policy around this issue.

The subcommittee on Standards and Ethics is interested in creating a new professional guideline to address the employment of primary and secondary school chemistry teachers by forming a task force with relevant ACS stakeholders. This proposed document together with the Academic Professional Guidelines would then cover all 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.

[SLIDE 2]

Data from the 2016 ACS Comprehensive Salary and Employment Survey shows a drop in the ACS Chemist unemployment rate to 2.6%. This represents the lowest unemployment rate since before the 2008 recession. The ACS Chemist rate has also been showing parity with the U.S. college graduate unemployment rate which also stands at 2.6% for 2016.

[SLIDE 3]

For the first time, the largest employment segment for ACS members in the workforce is academia with that group passing manufacturing industry in the 2016 survey. The other workforce categories remained essentially unchanged.

[SLIDE 4]

The Philadelphia onsite Career Fair had strong employer turnout compared to recent averages and a relatively impressive job posting count. Several recent initiatives to ensure robust participation of job seekers and employers continued at this fair.

[SLIDE 5]

Now, I would like to draw your attention to the Chemical Professional's Code of Conduct on pages 93-95 of your agenda book. This document was presented for your consideration in San Diego and CEPA received no comments. CEPA is aware of ongoing initiatives around both safety and a global code of ethics and is monitoring their progress to ensure that the subsequent edition of the Chemical Professional's Code of Conduct takes these items into account as they are completed. CEPA's revisions to the document are important to enact now to ensure continued relevancy of the document. Specifically, the inclusion of temporary workers and the addition of safety to the first paragraph which are both absent from the 2012 version. Madame President, the document is now ready for Council action, CPC concurs and I so move.

[WAIT FOR PRESIDENT NELSON TO HANDLE VOTE/DISCUSSION]

Thank you for your vote.

Madame President this concludes my report.