

## **Society Committee on Education**

### **REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

San Francisco, CA

Sunday March 21, 2010

The Society Committee on Education (SOCED) met in Subcommittee on Thursday, March 18, 2010, and in full Committee on Friday, March 19, 2010.

SOCED Chair Mary Carroll was unable to attend the San Francisco meeting due to a family emergency. The Committee elected as Vice-Chair Andy Jorgensen, who presided over the SOCED executive sessions in San Francisco.

Jorgensen updated the Committee on actions taken since the Washington, DC meeting. He provided details on the redeployment of funds to the Education Division and noted that prior to the meeting the Committee approved NSF and Department of Education Budget Statements and the formation of an ACS-Hach Program Advisory Board.

The Committee discussed the nomination process for ACS Fellows this year. The Committee voted to delegate the collection of nominations and the selection of the SOCED nominee to a group of current SOCED members who are ACS Fellows in addition to Chair Carroll.

ACS is working with the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Physics Teacher Education Coalition (PTEC), and the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) to develop an initiative to increase the quantity and quality of high school chemistry teachers. The Committee discussed the essential elements of such a program that will guide the development of this initiative and help shape a proposal to NSF.

The Committee received an update from the SOCED Task Force on General Chemistry and engaged in a discussion on reforming the undergraduate general chemistry curriculum. The Committee affirmed its support for the work of the Task Force.

The Committee reviewed changes and voted to approve the SOCED Strategic Plan: 2010 and beyond. The plan articulates the vision, mission, goals, and tactics of the Committee and aligns with the overall ACS Strategic Plan.

The Office of Public Affairs (OPA) provided an update on issues related to federal science education policy. The Society's science education policy statement will expire at the end of 2010 and SOCED voted to form a Task Force to develop a revised statement for action in Boston. The Committee also formed a Task Force to update the statement on scholarship.

SOCED received a progress report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board-Presidential Task Force on Education, including the status of the three-year pilot of the ACS Science Coaches program. Six local sections have been approached to

participate in the pilot. The recommendations pertaining to creating an association of high school teachers and a careers website will be developed later this year.

SOCED heard from the Chair of the International Activities Committee, Judy Benham, about topics of shared interest between the committees, including the possible expansion of the IREU program to other groups.

The Division of Chemical Education provided an update on the Division's activities, highlighting sustainability, green chemistry, and high school teacher programming occurring at the San Francisco meeting.

The chair of the Program Review Advisory Group, Paul Jagodzinski, talked to the Committee about the upcoming PRAG review cycle. Several Education Division programs in the K-12 area (science literacy) are up for review this year. The chair explained changes in the review cycle and took questions from the Committee.

The Committee received an update on activities planned for the International Year of Chemistry (IYC) in 2011. It included details on IYC alignment with ACS strategic goals, a detailed ACS/IYC roadmap, and suggestions on how Committee members can get involved.

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Jorgensen, Vice-Chair