Society Committee on Education

Report to the Council

San Diego, California

Wednesday, March 16, 2016

Madam President and Members of Council:

The Society Committee on Education (SOCED) received an update from the government affairs staff in the Office of Public Affairs on federal science education policy. The Committee formed a working group to review and propose changes to the ACS Science Education Policy Statement, which expires at the end of the year. The Committee identified members to work with the International Activities Committee in revising the ACS Visa Policy Statement in 2016.

The Committee discussed a report from the joint SOCED/Division of Chemical Education Task Force on General Chemistry Performance Expectations, which is charged with specifying a process for the creation of performance expectations in general chemistry. SOCED approved a motion to seek external funding for a workshop to further explore this process, which is envisioned as a multi-year effort.

SOCED was informed of recent developments related to the American Association of Chemistry Teachers (AACT), including a new grant from Pittsburgh Paint and Glass. More than 3,300 individuals, 88 percent of whom are K-12 teachers, are now AACT members. The AACT online resource library contains more than 330 lesson plans, laboratory experiments, activities, and demonstrations, and is continuously adding new resources to serve the K-12 teaching community.

The Chair of the Committee on Chemical Safety provided an overview of ACS safety resources and initiatives. SOCED was asked to consider ways in which the two committees can collaborate to strengthen safety cultures at all levels of learning.

SOCED received a demonstration of ChemIDP, a new online Individual Development Plan tool designed to assist graduate students and postdoctoral scholars with career planning and preparation. Efforts in 2016 will focus on promotion and use of the tool by students and their advisors. This resource is available at chemidp.org.

Highlights from a new National Research Council report, *Effective Chemistry Communication in Informal Environments,* were presented to the Committee. This report offers a framework for communicating chemistry outside the classroom.

Madam President, this concludes my report.

Diane Krone, Chair