**Committee on Local Section Activities**

The Committee on Local Section Activities (LSAC), in partnership with the Committee on Community Activities, would like to encourage all local sections to celebrate this year’s Chemists Celebrate Earth Day (CCED) theme: “Chemistry Helps Feed the World” on April 22nd. This is also the same day as the March for Science. If your local section doesn’t have a member appointed as CCED coordinator, contact outreach@acs.org. Copies of the spring issue of Celebrating Chemistry are available on the resource table.

LSAC would like to recognize the local sections celebrating a significant anniversary in 2017. Will the councilors from the following sections please stand to be recognized for their anniversary, for their 50th—Sierra Nevada; 75th—Kalamazoo and Mid-Hudson; 100th—Central Texas, Delaware, Greater Houston, Michigan State University, and Toledo; and 125th— the Cincinnati local section. Please join me in congratulating these local sections.

LSAC is pleased to report that the 2016 annual reports review is underway, and 156 local sections have completed their reports. Thank you and congratulations! As the committee responsible for the annual reporting process, we monitor the submission of annual reports, and are attentive to suggestions for improvements. Please send comments and questions to FORMS@acs.org.

LSAC approved the funding of new Innovative Projects Grants (IPG’s). Beginning this year the maximum amount for IPG’s has increased from $3,000 to $3,500. The deadline for the next round of proposals is May 31st, and, remember, Innovative Project Grants do not need to be new, they just have to be new to your local section! In addition, LSAC will soon be requesting proposals for Science Café Mini-Grants, which also will be due on May 31st. Furthermore, LSAC has funded Leadership Institute partnership grants of $250 to encourage collaboration between local sections that attended the ACS Leadership Institute in January. Our goal is to foster new collaborations and seed the hosting of joint events between neighboring local sections. We received 12 proposals shortly after the Leadership Institute, and have funded nine of these proposals.

At the Leadership Institute, LSAC hosted the "Getting Your Section Back on Track" program where 15 challenged local sections were provided travel support for the leadership institute, to participate in a nuts-and-bolts discussion designed to help them reenergize their sections. LSAC worked to continue the engagement with these sections by extending personal invitations to attend the local section officer, outreach coordinators, and speakers’ reception held yesterday afternoon in conjunction with the LSAC open meeting.

LSAC voted to approve the petition and Procedures for Removal of Officers and Councilors and the petition on International Chemical Sciences Chapters. LSAC received a petition from the Santa Clara Valley Section to change its name to the Silicon Valley Local Section. LSAC approved the petition.

Jason Ritchie, Chair