

Council Committee on Project SEED

Don Warner, Chair

Boston, August 2018

Mr. President and members of Council:

Over the last five decades, the Project SEED program has maintained an exceptional record of positive impact on young people, offering summer research opportunities for high school students from economically disadvantaged families. The program has provided nearly 11,000-chemistry research experiences to high school students and has had a significant impact on their lives. Evaluations show that Project SEED is successful in stimulating the participants' interest in science and a large percentage of SEED students go on to earn college degrees, many in the chemical sciences.

At this meeting, the Committee has focused on the program's 50th Anniversary Celebration with the following successful Presidential events: symposium, "Growing with Project SEED: 50 years and 10,000+ Students" featuring a former ACS Executive Director and CEO, a 2016 Chemistry Nobel Laureate, long-time mentors, coordinators, and former SEED students. Also, we hosted a reception to honor mentors and coordinators. These Presidential events were financially supported by the ACS Publications Division and the Chemical Abstract Services, and cosponsored by over two dozen of the Society's technical divisions and committees. In addition, the Committee on Minority Affairs luncheon honored the 50th Anniversary of Project SEED, and the Development Office hosted a Donor Reception: A Conversation with Sir Fraser Stoddart. At SciMix, approximately seventy students presented posters describing their research.

This year, the committee approved projects that placed 426 high school students in nearly 120 academic, government, and industrial laboratories doing meaningful chemistry research, in 38 states, Washington, DC and Puerto Rico. The estimated program cost will be about \$1.1M. In addition, the Committee awarded 28 one-year college scholarships, totaling \$140,000, as well as three renewable CIBA scholarships to former Project SEED students for the 2018-2019 academic year. Thank you to our contributors who, without them, these scholarships would not be possible.

At this meeting, the Committee worked on the expansion, scope, and reach of the program. At the ChemLuminary Awards Event, the Committee recognized the New York Local Section as having the Outstanding 2017 Project SEED Program.

The Committee thanks those councilors who have generously financially contributed to the program in response to our 50th Anniversary appeal, 50 Forward, and I would like to draw Council's attention to the video that is being used by the ACS as part of Project SEED's fundraising efforts. I would like to remind Councilors that the year has not yet ended and there is still time to contribute!! We encourage all members to continue using the dues check-off option on their ACS membership renewal to support this remarkable program.

Mr. President, this concludes my chair's report to council.

Don Warner