

Committee on Divisional Activities
Council Report
255th ACS National Meeting, New Orleans, LA
March 2018

Mr. President and Fellow Councilors:

At least once every three years, at a spring national meeting, the Committee on Divisional Activities (DAC) is required to bring to Council a formula for allocating dues funds to the divisions. Even though DAC fulfilled this requirement only one year ago in San Francisco, we now have a revised allocation formula for Council consideration.

DAC has one primary reason for updating our formula: To provide divisions with financial incentives to increase their engagement with regional and international meetings. Our current formula provides no rewards for either of these activities.

As you can see from this slide – which details the current formula as well as the proposed formula – DAC has slightly reduced the dollars we direct to national meeting performance in order to generate new funds to support the regional and global engagement we seek.

We have reduced to 50% from 62.5% the amount of funding provided for national meeting performance, and have directed 7.5% for regional meeting engagement, and 5% for international meetings.

I want to point out an amendment to our original plan that we shared with you. On Sunday, DAC voted to remove the geographical restriction to

international meetings held outside the continental United States. As a result, international meetings – regardless of where they occur – will qualify as long as they meet the criteria for cosponsored meetings established by the ACS Board of Directors.

DAC moves that Council approve the division allocation formula for allocating dues funds to the divisions, as presented, effective with allocations for 2019 division performance.

The committee voted to fund eight Innovative Project Grants (IPG) totaling \$57,250. DAC will consider another set of IPG proposals next spring. The deadline for that round of submissions is July 1, 2018.

At this meeting, DAC introduced a new event at which our divisions engaged with meeting attendees. DAC provided divisions with a poster board and a table at Sci-Mix so they can promote membership to the thousands of people who participated in that event, particularly younger chemists. We call it “Division Row.” This slide indicates the divisions that participated on Monday night. If you do not see your division listed, please encourage your leadership to join the Division Row at the upcoming Boston National Meeting.

DAC and staff have been developing an online tool to help division program chairs identify and collaborate with one another. Details on this pilot program will be shared with division leadership in early April. DAC hopes the tool will lead to greater programmatic cooperation and coordination.

The committee wishes to acknowledge the efforts of the divisions and the Multidisciplinary Program Planning Group in organizing and delivering a wide range of excellent programming in support of the New Orleans theme: *“Nexus of Food, Energy, and Water.”*

Mr. President and fellow Councilors, this concludes my report.