

UPDATED Society Committee on Education
Report to the Council
New Orleans, LA
Wednesday, March 21, 2018

Mister President and Members of Council:

During its meeting on Friday, March 16, the Society Committee on Education (SOCED) celebrated a major milestone. That day, the membership of the American Association of Chemistry Teachers (AACT) reached 5000, thanks to collaborative efforts across the Society. Of these 5000 members, almost 90% are secondary school teachers, over 200 are international members from 50 countries, and nearly 300 are student members.

SOCED received a number of updates:

An update on the range of activities supporting domestic and international student chapters, also an area of collaboration. ACS now has 49 international student chapters across 23 countries.

An update on the efforts to integrate research on mentoring into activities to benefit undergraduates and graduates. Undergraduate student leaders, through a partnership with the Younger Chemists Committee, participated in a workshop on mentoring at the 2018 ACS Leadership Institute. The Graduate Education Advisory Board is guiding efforts with graduate students; and, [Slide 1] the slide shows a postcard listing behaviors for mentoring success and providing a quick guide for formal mentoring meetings with undergraduate students. More mentoring resources can be found at the website shown.

An update on faculty development programming, which highlighted the expansion of New Faculty Workshops. As [Slide 2] the slide shows, three workshops are planned for 2018. May 1st is the deadline for the August workshop in Washington DC. Visit www.acs.org and search “New Faculty Workshop” for more details on these and the third workshop that is being for the Fall.

SOCED also held a special discussion focused on strategies for aligning informal science education with formal education. Now part of ACS Education, the Science Outreach Office works under the Committee on Community Activities (CCA) and collaborates with SOCED and the International Activities Committee on a portfolio of activities. SOCED is looking forward to partnering with CCA to investigate opportunities to extend the reach and impact of science outreach..

Lastly, SOCED voted to approve the completed *ACS Guidelines and Recommendations for Teaching Middle and High School Chemistry*. [Slide 3] The slide shows the cover and the website where they can be found starting April 2.

SOCED will be holding a strategic planning retreat in September, where opportunities for increased collaboration with partners within ACS and across the scientific and educational communities will be discussed.

Mister President, this concludes my report.

Jennifer Nielson, Chair