**Committee on Chemists with Disabilities**

Council Oral Report

ACS National Meeting, San Diego, CA

August 2019

Madam President and Members of Council,

The American Chemical Society Committee on Chemists with Disabilities (CWD) envisions a future where all individuals have opportunities to advance the chemical sciences by drawing on the full range of their talents.

CWD Members met Saturday from 2:00 to 6:30 where we presented refreshed goals and strategies developed at our strategic planning retreat in May.

On Sunday, we held our full day committee meeting where project teams presented their plans and progress towards current initiatives.

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The committee welcomed our third recipient of the CWD Travel Award at the San Diego meeting. Doctoral candidate, Kirin Furst is presenting her research on environmental engineering as a speaker at the first ACS symposium for Water & Health in Marginalized Communities.

The purpose of the CWD Travel Award is to encourage the participation of undergraduate, graduate students and post-docs with disabilities who will present a talk or poster at the ACS National Meeting. Up to $3,000 is awarded per recipient.

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In collaboration with Michigan State University and Dow Chemical, CWD members have developed a 3D printed periodic table that is on display at the San Diego convention center, Booth number 1012.

Illustrations and computer design for the 3D printed tiles were planned by students from age 6 to 17 as part of an outreach project for home schooled, private, and public school students in Midland and Saginaw counties of Michigan.

In celebration of the international year of the periodic table, this display presents elemental and atomic mass unit information in sign language and braille while utilizing 3-D printing technology to present the identifying information for each element in a tactile form.

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To promote awareness of chemistry students and professionals with disabilities as well as share best practices for teaching chemistry to students with disabilities, content has been developed and delivered via our CWD YouTube channel.

CWD aims to model “what success looks like” for students and educators with unique content from ACS symposia.

Future content will focus on CWD member profiles in order to share our stories with ACS members who may be experiencing similar journeys.

**https://tinyurl.com/ACSCWDYoutube**

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Speaking for all members of CWD, we are proud to be members of the American Chemical Society and appreciate the opportunity to advance the goals and objectives of ACS by leveraging our committee member’s unique perspectives.

Thank you. This concludes my report.