**ORAL REPORT TO COUNCIL**

**SENIOR CHEMISTS COMMITTEE – AUGUST 28, 2019**

**ACS FALL NATIONAL MEETING – San Diego, CA**

Madame President and fellow Councilors, good morning. The Senior Chemists Committee (SCC) is charged with fostering participation of senior chemists through community outreach, mentorship, networking, and collaboration with other ACS groups. SCC met in-person in San Diego on Monday, August 26 to discuss progress on its strategic goals.

SCC continued its outreach this year with the theme “Senior Chemists on the Move and Paying it Forward!” This was the focus of our Group on the ACS Network where senior chemists are engaged in discussions on current events; it was echoed in our comment in the July 15 issue of *C&EN*, and expressed in the July 26 release of *The Newsletter for Senior Chemists* that has achieved a 35.5% opening rate.

SCC hosted, in co-sponsorship with the Younger Chemists Committee, its third “Networking with Chemistry Professionals” Event in San Diego on Sunday, August 25. Experienced chemists were invited to participate to provide guidance and information on careers in academia, industry, government, small businesses, and nonprofit sectors. There were 119 attendees for the event. There was also a special treat, a gelato bar, which was enjoyed by all.

Our Senior Chemists Breakfast on Tuesday, August 27 featured keynote speaker Ralph Keeling, Professor of Geochemistry at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography and son of Charles Keeling, the creator of the famous Keeling Curve. His talk focused on the merit of framing the climate discussion around the buildup of CO2 and its control. This was once again, a sold out event.

A highlight for us here in San Diego was the “Meyer: The First 100 Years” special symposium and reception held on Tuesday in honor of Gerry Meyer for his leadership and service as an ACS member for 80 years. This event was sponsored by the Small Chemical Businesses Division and cosponsored by ACS Divisions on Business Development & Management, Chemical Education, Energy & Fuels, and the History of Chemistry, and the Senior Chemists Committee. A special Award of Excellence was presented to Gerry at the Senior Chemists Breakfast.

Two SCC ChemLuminary Awards were presented last night to the Corning Section for the “Best Ongoing Senior Activity” and to the Lehigh Valley Section for the “Most Innovative Activity for Senior Chemists”.

Madame President and fellow Councilors, this concludes the final report on behalf of the SCC Chair, Arlene Garrison.