

Committee on Professional Training  
Report to the ACS Council  
August 2015, Boston Meeting

At the March 2015 meeting, the Committee on Professional Training (CPT) evaluated 39 periodic reports from currently approved programs and held conferences with two departments beginning the process of applying for ACS approval. Site visit reports from four programs seeking approval were reviewed, and CPT approved three new programs. There are currently 680 colleges and universities offering ACS-approved bachelor's degree programs in chemistry.

The new 2015 ACS Guidelines for Bachelor's Degree Programs were approved at CPT's winter meeting and published on the ACS website in March. The major changes in this edition include increasing the minimum number of faculty from four to five, an expanded requirement for instrument holdings, increased flexibility in the contact hour requirement for faculty and laboratory instructors, increased expectations that programs promote a safety culture, and required coverage in the certified degree of two of the following systems: synthetic polymers, biological macromolecules, supramolecular aggregates, and meso- or nanoscale materials. At the March meeting, the committee voted to approve updated versions of the five disciplinary supplements to the ACS Guidelines covering analytical, biochemistry, inorganic, organic, and physical chemistry, which will be published on the ACS website.

The committee devoted a substantial portion of the spring meeting to reviewing and updating the various forms used to evaluate programs that are applying for approval and to the development of CPT's strategic plan for 2015-17. The committee discussed and supported the recommendations from the Task Force on International Chemistry Education that were directed to CPT for consideration. A draft of a supplement on developing international competencies as a critical student skill for 21st century chemists will be drafted for review at the next CPT meeting.

A subcommittee discussed strategies to improve the consistency of program reviews as the new guidelines are implemented and the membership of CPT changes. Members received an update on the plans for a CPT symposium on "Promoting Engaged Student Learning through the ACS Guidelines", which will be held at the ACS national meeting in Boston. A progress report was given on the status of the CPT survey of Ph.D. Recipients and the publication of the 9th edition of "Planning for Graduate Work in the Chemical Sciences". The committee finalized plans to meet with the Visiting Associates and Chairs of PhD departments at the ACS national meeting in Boston.

Submitted by,

Thomas J. Wenzel, Chair  
June 2015

Clark R. Landis, Vice Chair

Membership Roster - 2015

Dr. Thomas J. Wenzel, Chair  
Dr. Clark R. Landis, Vice Chair  
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Dr. Ronald G. Brisbois  
Dr. Michelle O. Claville  
Dr. Ron W. Darbeau  
Dr. Bob A. Howell  
Dr. Jeffrey N. Johnston  
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Dr. Stephen Lee  
Dr. Anne B. McCoy  
Dr. Lisa McElwee-White  
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Dr. Richard W. Schwenz  
Dr. Greg M. Swain  
Dr. Suzanne Harris, Consultant  
Dr. Cynthia K. Larive, Consultant  
Dr. Lee Y. Park, Consultant  
Dr. Joel I. Shulman, Consultant  
Dr. Steven A. Fleming, Associate