

**Diane Grob Schmidt**  
**President**  
**Council Oral Report**  
**Wednesday, March 25, 2015**

Good morning fellow Councilors and members of governance,

Before I begin my report, I would like to once again thank you for allowing me to serve as President of your professional Society. This is truly a wonderful honor. Today I would like to update you on several initiatives under my Presidential theme of “Inspiring and Innovating for Tomorrow.”

As part of my presidential year, it is a special privilege, to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the ACS Scholars Program. I am delighted to serve as Co-Chair with Carlos Gutierrez on the Scholars Anniversary Appeal Executive Committee along with Madeleine Jacobs, in her role as the Honorary Chair. Please look out for an ACS Comment on this amazing program to be published in Chemical & Engineering News next month.

As mentioned in my January 5<sup>th</sup> issue of C&EN, I am also passionate about serving the needs of our industry members. In collaboration with our Executive Director & CEO Tom Connelly, we are working on convening a summit later this year of Chief Technology Officers of major chemical and pharmaceutical companies to interact and share perspectives on a variety of issues critical to the success of the chemistry enterprise. Tom and I will also be conducting joint visits to Chief Executive Officers of these companies to listen to them, see what their needs are, and devise how ACS can align its programs and services to better serve industrial chemists.

I have been working with staff in the Office of the Secretary & General Counsel and Membership & Scientific Advancement to host industry roundtables, allowing scientific peers to discuss issues affecting their business and their science in a neutral setting. ACS has a history of successful roundtables with different models for various issues and industries. The first roundtable, in August, will center on accelerating innovation in the basic chemicals sector. The second roundtable in October will focus on a topic of interest to industry yet to be finalized. I will provide you with an update on this initiative in Boston.

And speaking of Boston, I would like to bring to your attention five Presidential symposia I am hosting:

First: National Science Foundation Centers for Chemical Innovation

Second: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Chemistry Education

Third: ACS Scholars in Industry and Academe

Fourth: Transforming University-Industry Partnerships for an Innovative Future and

Lastly: The Science and Legacy of Henry Hill

Much more information about all my Presidential symposia and events will be forthcoming as we near the Boston Meeting.

Thank you, and this concludes my report.

# Presidential Symposia for Boston



**National Science Foundation Centers for  
Chemical Innovation**

**21<sup>st</sup> Century Chemistry Education**

**ACS Scholars in Industry and Academe**

**Transforming University-Industry  
Partnerships for an Innovative Future and**

**The Science and Legacy of Henry Hill**