Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA)

Mr. President-Elect, Members of Council and Guests:

The Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs, known as CEPA, continues its mission to support ACS members in their professional lives. CEPA focuses on identifying, supporting, delivering, and evaluating relevant programs. We also continue to work on improving, updating, developing, curating and disseminating relevant policies and codes of conduct. All this in support of our Members.

[SLIDE 1]

The ACS 2020 Salary & Employment Data Survey went out in May 2020 and the data is currently being analyzed. The survey was sent to over 125,000 ACS members under age 70 with a response rate of 5.4%, which is deemed to be statistically valid at a 95% confidence level. This was lower than the 2019 response rate of 7.2%. ACS will investigate ways of increasing the response rate for next year’s survey. ACS will be able to use this year’s data to update the salary calculator.

As you will see in this slide, domestic unemployment for ACS chemists dropped in 2020 by 1.1%. However, it is important to note that this data is a snapshot from March 1st, 2020, when the economy was healthy and prior to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The survey also asked additional questions to our Members regarding their employment security and most continue to feel secure in their employment. We will continue to have pulse checks to see how our Members are faring as the pandemic continues.

[SLIDE 2]

In response to COVID-19, CEPA has effectively pivoted from traditionally in-person career-related activities to virtual member engagements. We have had close to 900 such engagements since the Spring National Meeting. CEPA has also partnered with ACS staff to implement new programs, such as virtual office hours. In addition to these virtual engagements, CEPA recently finalized a layoff response plan that will roll out September 2020. This plan will include relevant resources and events to assist Members who have experienced a layoff.

Mr. President-Elect this concludes my report.

Eric Bruton, Chair
Report from the Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs

Eric Bruton
COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AND PROFESSIONAL AFFAIRS (CEPA)

MISSION
CEPA supports ACS members in their professional lives.

VISION
ACS members have fulfilling professional lives.
Domestic Unemployment for ACS Chemists dropped in 2020

Adapted from ACS Comprehensive Salary and Employment Survey and ChemCensus 2002 to 2020 and Bureau of Labor Statistics Unemployment (as of March of each year)
CEPA’s response to COVID-19

Virtual Career Programming since Spring 2020 National Meeting

- Two Career Days (247 attendees)
- 1:1 personal career consultations via Zoom and other methods (186 attendees)
- 11 Virtual Office Hours (436 attendees)

Developed layoff response plan

- Will roll out September 2020