

Committee on Science

Mr. President-Elect and Members of Council:

The Committee on Science, ComSci, held its virtual meeting on Saturday, August 15, 2020. The Committee supported four policy statements on A Competitive U.S. Business Climate; Science and Technology in the Budget; Sustainability and the Chemistry Enterprise; and Visas for Scientific Collaboration and Academic Study.

ComSci organized a symposium at this meeting on “Critical materials: Perspectives from the industry, government, and research communities.” The Committee is planning a symposium and town hall meeting at the Spring 2021 National Meeting on “Chemistry and the Future of Plastics.”

The manager of ACS social media shared best practices with ComSci as it seeks to expand its social media presence. The Committee has established accounts on LinkedIn and Twitter and is developing a timeline for social media outreach.

The awards subcommittee invited ComSci members to suggest nominees for the Dreyfus Prize. Awarded every two years, the theme of this year’s Dreyfus Prize is environmental chemistry.

Committee members provided input on a draft strategy for ACS to have a measurable impact on the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals. The strategy proposes that the Society’s efforts focus on three themes: Research, innovation, and translation; sustainable manufacturing and chemicals management; and chemistry education.

ComSci discussed the Society’s core value of diversity, inclusion, and respect in the context of the Committee’s work. ComSci members offered several suggestions designed to enhance inclusion across the Committee’s activities.

Mr. President-Elect, this concludes my report.

Martin G. Kociolek, Chair