

Committee on Ethics

[Committee SLIDE 1] Mr. President-Elect, Members of Councilor, and Colleagues:

The Committee on Ethics met for an action-packed four hours on Saturday, August 15, via Zoom. During our meeting, we held a lengthy discussion on diversity and inclusion, a critical ethical issue, and listened to a presentation about the ACS Leadership Development Program.

[SLIDE 2] ETHX is proud to unveil its new Web site, located at www.acsethics.org. We are in the process of populating the Resources section of the site with a variety ethics-related tools and publications, so, please check back regularly to see our progress.

[SLIDE 3] The committee approved a white paper entitled, "Introduction to the Ethics of Scientific Conflict of Interest," which will be posted in the Resources section of our Web site. Committee members are finalizing an article entitled "Why Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle" for *Celebrating Chemistry*, the first of several planned ethics articles for Committee on Community Activities publications.

[SLIDE 4] We look forward to presenting our ChemLuminary Award for Outstanding Programming by a Local Section Related to the Promotion of Ethics in Chemistry later this year. We hope to expand our awards program and have charged a small working group with developing the scope for a second award. In the meanwhile, we urge all local sections to consider adding an ethics program or twelve to your schedules and keep those self-nominations coming!

[SLIDE 5] The move to digital meetings and events has not put a damper on our programming activities. In addition to cosponsoring two programs at this meeting, members of ETHX gave two talks on ethics topics in the Project SEED virtual summer camp; presented a workshop about publishing and ethical authorship to the Northeastern Section Younger Chemists Committee; and helped develop a two-day conference about responsible conduct of research training for the Big Ten. We are always on the lookout for potential collaborators; [SLIDE 6] please e-mail us at ethics@acs.org if you are interested.

In March 2018, I chaired my first ETHX meeting from the study of my house using Skype, having just given birth to my youngest child. It is vaguely fitting that I chaired my last formal meeting from behind the same desk, albeit with different technology. I would like to thank the Committee on Ethics for an exciting three years of in-person and virtual meetings as I conclude my final report to Council.

Judith Currano, Chair



Report from the Committee on Ethics

Judith N. Currano

New ETHX Web Site: <https://www.acsethics.org>



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The American Chemical Society Committee on Ethics



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ABOUT THIS SITE

The website for the Ethics Committee of the American Chemical Society

Links to ACS and ETHX publications on ethical issues, committee white papers, and external resources

The Committee on Ethics provides and promotes resources and activities that educate, guide, and recognize chemists in ethical decision making.

ETHX Committee White Paper on Conflict of Interest



Ethics Committee Monograph

Introduction to the Ethics of Scientific Conflict of Interest (COI)

Patrick Knerr, Ph.D. and Ronald P. D'Amelia, Ph.D.

Committee on Ethics, American Chemical Society June 2020

Ethics consists of the fundamental issues of practical decision making, such as the standards by which human actions can be judged right or wrong and how to prioritize competing values. Scientific progress necessitates the ethical conduct of research. Some examples of ethical research behaviors include honest reporting of methods and results, fair allocation of credit, humane treatment of experimental subjects, and the proper handling of resources and waste. However, there are many more ethical considerations in scientific research, and this document seeks to introduce one of the less recognized and understood situations: the conflict of interest (COI), also referred to as a competing interest.

ETHX ChemLuminary Award



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Awards

The Committee on Ethics' **ChemLuminary Award** recognizes outstanding programming by a local section related to the promotion of ethics in chemistry.

2020: to be awarded in August at the fall virtual ACS national meeting.

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ABOUT THIS SITE

Photos and citations for past ChemLuminary Awardees

ETHX Programming Activities



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ACS FALL 2020 VIRTUAL MEETING

The Committee on Ethics is presenting two symposia hosted by the Division of Professional Relations (PROF):

1. Ethics and Research in Chemistry Education
2. Commonly Accepted Science Ethics: Key to International Collaboration in Industry and the Academy

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ABOUT THIS SITE

The website for the Ethics Committee of the American Chemical Society

Current and forthcoming programming related to ethics



ethics@acs.org