

Council remarks – Peter K. Dorhout

Madam President and Fellow Councilors,

(Slide 1) The ACS Scholars program continues to be an important part of my agenda to broaden participation in the profession. We celebrated over 100 Scholars and their successful careers through our virtual yearbook in 2018, growing the endowment and the total number of undergraduates supported with scholarships and mentoring. In 2020, ACS will celebrate 25 years of the Scholars program, and I hope you will join me in continuing to support these talented students beyond my term in the presidential succession.

At this meeting, I organized a symposium on inclusive excellence in leadership development to build diverse leadership in chemistry and physics programs. Last year, ACS included Respect in our Society Core Values – inclusiveness and respect create an environment of belonging in a research group or team, in a division or local section, or as part of a large or small working group or company. Having an environment for students, faculty, and staff to pursue their passions in chemistry without discomfort or fear of intimidation should be the goal of any professional society, and it remains mine. I appreciated the difficult discussion on Council floor in Boston, which has informed my perspectives on what ACS should and could do.

(Slide 2) Following the Boston meeting, a group of leading societies, including the American Geophysical Union, AAAS, and ACS came together to form a consortium of more than 50 societies that are working together to create model policies and procedures for society honors and awards, behavior at meetings, and developing an environment of respect in academic and professional settings. I'm pleased that ACS has

taken this bold step to be a leading professional society in building a respectful community of practitioners.

Demonstrating an environment of inclusion and respect to students and early-career professionals builds generations of new practitioners who will embrace the perspective that we are more creative and innovative when we are welcoming hypotheses and views that are different from our own. This environment is also safer – safer because we can rely on a trusted colleague to challenge our preparedness, processes, or procedures because they genuinely care about our safety and well-being.

(Slide 3) Last fall, I moderated a safety webinar that included over 700 logins. President Charpentier has taken up the mantle of safety that we've started with the 2018 Safety Summit. I continue to advocate for what we members can do together as a team with CHAS, CCS, and CPT to advance a culture of safety in our academic laboratories. We should be creating a world-respected chemical professional workforce with a culture of safety. This culture comes from building teams, like the joint safety teams that so many colleges and universities are creating now; teams of students, staff, and faculty who lead. I invite you who are in the academy to start a team today.

Thank you to all the volunteers of the Society who advance our members and the profession.

Madam President, this concludes my report.

American Chemical Society



Report of the 2019 ACS Immediate Past President

Peter K. Dorhout, Ph.D.
American Chemical Society
Council Report
Orlando, FL
April 3, 2019

ACS Scholars Promotion



- Weekly recognition on social media
- Total of 102 Scholars featured to date
- In 2020, ACS Scholars will be 25!

90% of Scholars complete a Bachelor's degree in 6 years!

<http://www.acs.org/scholars>



Skye Fortier

Assistant Professor, University of Texas at El Paso

[View Profile](#)



Marsha Cole

Lecturer, Louisiana Tech University

[View Profile](#)

Joining national leaders in combatting sexual harassment



- ACS continues the dialog around sexual harassment in academic laboratories
- “Respect” becomes a core value of ACS
- NSF, NIH declaration on reporting harassment

ACS joins consortium to confront sexual harassment in the sciences

by Linda Wang

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The American Chemical Society has joined more than 50 other academic and professional societies in forming the Societies Consortium on Sexual Harassment in STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and medicine). The consortium aims to advance professional and ethical conduct, climate, and culture across the scientific fields. The initiative was announced on Feb. 15 at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Washington, DC, and is being led by AAAS, the Association of American Medical Colleges, and the American Geophysical Union. The commission “will provide research and evidence-based resources and guidance to address sexual harassment in the member societies’ operations and more broadly within the fields they represent,” an AAAS statement says. “Initial work will focus on model policies and procedures for society honors and awards.” “Sexual harassment in STEM is something that impacts all of the scientific disciplines. Our goal is to leverage the collective power of a consortium like this,” says Mary Kirchoff, executive vice president for scientific advancement at ACS. “By pooling resources and working together, we’re trying to identify what are the best practices in addressing sexual harassment that all of us can benefit from.” ACS publishes C&EN. The consortium’s overall budget will be determined by the number of societies that join, with each society contributing funds on a sliding scale. ACS has contributed \$25,000 to the consortium this year. ACS’s participation in the consortium “demonstrates the society’s commitment to our core values of professionalism, diversity, and inclusion,” Kirchoff says. “It sends a very strong message to our members, and to the profession as a whole, that it is a serious issue that we need to address more intentionally.”

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Safety Webinar



- Follow up to the Presidential Symposium in Boston
 - Moving the safety values of ACS forward
 - Building Joint Safety Teams
- 716 registered computer sites for 90 min. webinar

A promotional graphic for a webinar. The background is dark blue. On the left, there are four circular headshots of speakers: a woman with glasses, a woman with short blonde hair, a man with glasses, and a man with glasses and a beard. To the right of the headshots, the text 'Creating a Lab Safety Culture' is written in large white font. Below this, a yellow box contains the text 'Featuring ACS President Peter Dorhout and a Panel of Safety Experts'. At the top, there are three logos: 'ACS Committee Chemical Safety', 'ACS Technical Division Chemical Health & Safety (CHAS)', and 'ACS Chemistry for Life'. At the bottom left, there is a red play button icon followed by the text 'FREE | Thursday, October 11 at 2pm ET'. At the bottom right, there is a microphone icon followed by the text 'ACS Webinars'.

<https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/acs-webinars/professional-development/safety-culture/video.html>