

**Council Oral Report  
San Diego, March 28, 2012  
Marinda Li Wu  
ACS President-Elect**

Mr. President and Fellow Councilors,

It is with feelings of great anticipation and responsibility that I look forward to serving as your President next year. I am grateful for your support and that of members from all over the world. Many of you have written to me with ideas and suggestions, which I greatly appreciate. It is critical that we work together to form strategic collaborations as we tackle tough challenges facing our profession and ACS.

Two areas I would like to focus on in my presidential year include jobs and global outreach.

How can ACS help members with jobs and professional development? One way is to increase advocacy to improve the business climate in the U.S. I am working with the ACS Office of Public Affairs, the Committee on Chemistry and Public Affairs, and others regarding advocacy efforts.

In January, I attended our annual ACS Leadership Institute in Fort Worth, and challenged the approximately 350 leaders there to consider recruiting champions to start or re-invigorate a Job Club in their local section. Now, I challenge *you*, our Councilors, to do the same if your section does not have an active Job Club.

Providing ***local*** access to the latest ACS Career resources, help with resumes and interviewing, plus networking opportunities, can be invaluable to the record 4.6 % unemployed members. I know from experience that job seekers help one another, so why not try inviting a couple of job seekers to start a Job Club for ***your*** local section?

I am also seeking input on ways to expand our ***global outreach*** through international exchange and strategic collaborations that will benefit ACS members and the global chemistry enterprise. A top priority for ACS should be to support our domestic members; but in order to remain competitive ACS can and ***should*** do more in the global arena.

During my years in the Presidential succession, I plan to travel abroad to strengthen alliances and cultivate relationships around the world. *Relationship building* has been cited as one of ACS's toughest challenges overseas. I intend to invite leaders from our sister societies to participate in dialogue and explore challenges where we can work together to pursue mutual benefits for the global chemistry enterprise.

I have recently appointed a Presidential Task Force called "**Vision 2025: Helping ACS Members Thrive in the Global Chemistry Enterprise.**" The task force had its first meeting on Sunday. Its general charge is to be visionary and forward looking, to identify challenges and opportunities, and develop recommendations to help members thrive in light of accelerating trends in the global chemistry enterprise.

President Shakhshiri has chosen an excellent theme for this year of "Advancing Chemistry and Communicating Chemistry," and I intend to support him 100% in his efforts. Indeed, I share with him a similar passion and commitment to continue our efforts to support R&D, STEM education, and science literacy! While I certainly have ideas, I always welcome and value *your* suggestions as to what more ACS can do to help its members, particularly in tackling the tough challenges of *jobs* and *globalization*. I look forward to *working together* to turn these *challenges into opportunities* to better serve our members and our Society!

Mr. President and fellow Councilors, this concludes my report.