

Immediate Past President Ton Barton
Report to Council
Boston, August, 2015

As this will be my sixth and final report to you, the Council, I will tell you that this has been an incredibly rewarding and enriching ca. 3-year period for me. When running for the office of President of the ACS, I said that I would focus on three areas, Education, Internationalization and Industrial membership, and that is indeed what I have done.

In **Education** I have preached far and wide against the various obstacles facing attainment of uniform high-quality K-12 science education in the U.S., and I have enjoyed funding and attending sessions designed for high-school chemistry teachers at our regional meetings. Nothing I have done in education would have been possible without the incredible assistance of the Director of our Division of Education, who I can't name because of a rule forbidding me from thanking ACS staff by name. I will be forever in your debt, "Little lady quite contrary". I am pleased to inform you that almost all the money I have left over in my presidential term budget (more than \$60K) will be turned over to existing ACS education projects such as ACS Scholars, ACS Science Coaches, Project Seed, and continuing the sponsorship of high-school chemistry programs at all of our regional meetings.

In the arena of **Internationalization**, I am probably most proud of being a part of strengthening our relationships with chemical societies south of our borders, in particular, the Mexican Society of Chemistry. Of course the jewel in that relationship's crown has been the incredibly successful jointly-produced webinars in Spanish, which most definitely would never have happened were it not for the talented and dedicated work of Dr. Ingrid Montes, who I can name because she is not ACS staff.

Finally, in efforts to find **better ways to serve our invaluable industrial members**, I am pleased to have been a force in establishing a more meaningful relationship with the American Chemical Council, which currently has resulted in us establishing a task force to design community college programs to provide our chemical industries with workers ready to hit the ground running in the various aspects of manufacturing. One can confidently imagine our relationships with industry to go far beyond this with the already tremendous efforts of our current president, Diane Schmitt, with whom it has been a great pleasure to work. While it is an ongoing project, I can tell you we are getting valuable feedback from industrial members in our regional-meeting sessions designed to seek their ideas on improving the ACS.

In closing, it would be impossible (and against the rules) for me to individually thank all that have freely contributed to any success that I may claim. Many of you are sitting out there right now. However, I refuse to sit down without publically thanking four staff members, my keepers, mentors, helpers, collaborators and friends, code named "Mama A", "Mad Max", "Friar Frank" and "Favorite Girl", for all they have done to make my life easier, and for putting up with my idiosyncrasies. I love you guys.