

BIOGRAPHY

AGNEW-HEARD, KIMBERLY. *Virginia Section.* Altria Client Services LLC, Richmond, Virginia.

Academic Record: Georgia State University, B.S., 1992; Louisiana State University, M.S., 2000; Georgia State University, Ph.D., 2002.

Honors: Food and Drug Administration (FDA)/Center for Tobacco Products (CTP), Leadership Excellence Award 2014; FDA/CPT Leveraging Collaboration Award, 2014; FDA Group Recognition Crosscutting Award, 2014; FDA/CPT Team Excellence Award, 2013; Boston Scientific Interventional Cardiology Research and Development Recognition Award for Outstanding Contributions, 2007; Georgia Association of Special Programs Personnel Trio Achiever Award, 2003; Georgia State University Outstanding Instruction Award, 2001-02; Louisiana State University Board of Regents Fellowship, 1992-96; Georgia State University Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement, 1991-92.

Professional Positions (for past 10 years): Altria Client Services LLC, Director, Regulatory Affairs, 2020 to date, Senior Manager-Regulatory Sciences, 2017-20; Food and Drug Administration, Senior Chemistry Reviewer, 2014-17, Chemistry Reviewer, 2012-14.

Service in ACS National Offices: Project SEED, Member, 2015-22, Committee Associate, 2013-14.

Service in ACS Offices: *Analytical Chemistry Division:* Immediate Past Chair, 2021, Chair, 2019-20, Program Chair, 2018-19, Chair-Elect, 2017-18, Councilor, 2014-17, Alternate Councilor, 2011-13.

Member (current): Member ACS since 1995. *Georgia Local Section; Virginia Local Section; Chemical Society of Washington; Minnesota Local Section; Kansas City Local Section;* American Chemical Society Project SEED, and National Organization of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers; *ACS Division(s):* Analytical Chemistry.

Related Activities: *Analytical Chemistry Division:* Analytical Chemistry Strategic Planning, Co-Lead, 2019-21; Nomination Committee, Lead, 2020-21; established several formal division committees while Chair, 2019-2021; Altria Client Services, Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Recruitment, 2020-2021; Cooperation Centre for Scientific Research Relative to Tobacco, Heated Tobacco Task Force, 2019-20; Committee for the Advancement of FDA Science, 2014-17; Boston Scientific Bridge (Employee Resource Group) Captain, 2011; Boston Scientific STEM Council Member, 2011; Boston Scientific-Park Center IB World High School, eMentor Program Creator & Organizer, 2010-11; Osseo School District 279, District Planning Advisory Council, 2010-11; published 10 journal articles.

STATEMENT

Dr. Kimberly Agnew-Heard

With humble gratitude, I have accepted the nomination for ACS Director, District II. I have been actively involved with the ACS for over a decade and have been encouraged by the positive changes that have occurred, but there is more work to be done. The ACS was the “gold standard” for all chemists decades ago; however, the value proposition of membership, moderate/inadequate public advocacy, competition with smaller niche chemistry organizations, and struggles with diversity and inclusion, have all resulted in a steady, persistent decline in membership. To grow and meet needs of the modern chemist, the ACS must continue to evolve, both reinvigorating current members and

engaging with those who are no longer active in the Society. The good news is the largest chemistry organization can and will continue to make a positive impact on students, academia, government, private industry, and chemistry policies.

Who am I? I am a nominee, selected by the Committee on Nominations and Elections, who has over a decade of experience working with ACS on the national level. I take pride in being a first-generation college graduate, born and raised in the Midwest (Lima, OH), and now working in Richmond, VA. I strive to be a change agent focused on working with the ACS to best serve its members. I will also strive to help the ACS continue to evolve as a chemistry organization that truly reflects and serves all the members.

Membership value to all chemists. Today, many chemists question the purpose of being an ACS member. I get it! I recall joining the ACS and the excitement of attending conferences in graduate school. Since that time, I have questioned whether I should continue to be involved with the ACS. There is no question that ACS provides an opportunity to volunteer and present innovative research. However, I often wonder, does the ACS provide the level of support for chemists at all stages of their careers? What about those who are not in academia? Does the ACS inform me and advocate for me when it relates to chemistry-governmental policies? Awareness must be raised to highlight the value of an ACS membership for those in non-traditional chemistry careers, as well as those who do not actively participate in publishing primary literature. Most importantly, does ACS publicize to the general public the importance of chemistry to the world, economy, and innovative advancements?

Working with the Project SEED committee has been extremely rewarding in providing first generation and underserved high school students an opportunity to conduct research. Additionally, the ACS Younger Chemists Committee and Women Chemists Committee are active and vibrant. Students are the future of ACS, and we must continue to nurture and engage them, as well as continue to keep them actively involved throughout their careers. Many mid-career chemists tend to experience competing priorities and question what ACS has to offer for them. Most practicing chemists are not in academia - does the ACS have anything to offer mid-career chemist, particularly those who are not in academia? How do we redefine the value proposition for the modern chemist? These are questions I hope to tackle as a Director.

Continue advocating for diversity, equity, inclusion, and respect (DEIR). Membership and volunteerism have decreased over the past decade and the ACS has become less diverse (e.g., age, race, education, and profession, etc.). Members in the US and internationally want to be involved with an organization that makes them feel included and appreciated. There has been a stronger push to raise awareness of DEIR and now it is time for action. An organization is only as strong as its weakest link. How do we increase DEIR with students and in academia, which is our pipeline for the future? Alternatively, are there opportunities to re-engage diverse mid-career and retirees? I strongly encourage and advocate for diversity, equity, inclusion, and respect of chemists at all levels and backgrounds. The future state is to have a space for all who want to positively contribute to the success of the ACS and advocate for the advancement of chemistry.

In contemplating my future involvement with the ACS, my resolve has become steadfast to become part of the solution to help the ACS rise to truly serve all chemists. My charge as Director will be to

advocate, raise awareness of the issues our members are facing, foster opportunities within the ACS that encourage and welcome all chemists in the today's landscape.