

2012 Student Leadership Awards Application Form

Please complete all fields and e-mail this form to undergrad@acs.org (include "2012 Leadership Awards" in the subject line) or FAX to 202-872-8068. All paid student members who have completed at least one year of undergraduate studies in the chemical sciences and have held elective office in an active student chapter are eligible to apply. Preference will be given to sophomores and juniors.

All applications must be received by October 26, 2011

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7. Institution name:	Kennesaw State University
8. Faculty Advisor /email	Dr. Brian Keller bkeller4@kennesaw.edu
9. ACS Student Member Number:	30196214
10. Expected Graduation Date:	Spring 2013



Applicant Signature

10/25/2011

Date



Faculty Advisor Signature

10/25/2011

Date

Quinton J. Meisner

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During my life I have been pulled into leadership positions over and over, some I voluntarily walked into other I just ended up in by mere chance. Overall it has made me slightly more outgoing (I'm extremely introverted) and caused me to learn new approaches to problems I already had what I thought was a "one size fits all solution." I will not bore you with drawn out individual detail pertaining to each leadership role I have had the honor of holding but the positions I have held include:

Vice-president (2007-2008), president (2008-2009), and co-founder (2007) of "The Campbell Historical Society" an "active" history club focused on preserving the history around the community of Smyrna, Georgia. Challenges included how to conduct a large group, how to order an organization to allow it to function like a well-oiled machine, and how to create a net of future officers to catch the club when its key members leave. Those challenges were not resolved however during my terms and when I left I believe it fell apart leaving nothing to show for the work I had put into it. In the end however I took away from it the valuable lesson of fostering and molding current members into potential leaders that can take the club to new heights when you leave it. Knowing this now I feel as though I can better prepare my current student ACS chapter to continue when I and the other officers leave, a problem the chapter faced and failed two years ago when all but two members graduated. Currently I am working to bring in underclassmen (which we currently have none of) and working some into potential leaders to take up as the current officers graduate. Unfortunately recognition of the problem is not a solution to the problem, and it is difficult to get them engaged and active.

President (2008-2009) of Campbell High School's Latin club which was focused of enhancing the education of the Latin I and Latin II students. The main issue facing my term was how to get more members; it was very difficult to acquire members for a club no one had interest in. This issue was also never solved and our membership peaked at a grand total of 5 members, however in the process of trying to convince people to join I developed many unique and effective recruitment techniques (despite them being unsuccessful). SAACS however has benefitted from my previous failure and has a reasonably sized group. I cannot take full credit for our chapter's size however as that the president who came before me laid the ground work and brought a good group of future officer into our fold who are now serving as officers. The new challenge we face in this aspect is how to keep all +20 member informed, involved, and happy.

My sponsorship and unofficial leading of my churches' youth group (Smyrna Christian Church) has developed my ability to deal with difficult people in a cooperative and engaging manner. The youth consists of many kids who have issues due to their disadvantaged backgrounds which I will not go into details of. However my status as the head youth (2007-20011) and my new role as official sponsor (20011-present) has shaped me significantly and most importantly taught me that just because you do not like someone does not excuse you from excluding them from the group. As a leader it is your job to ensure that the group dynamics stay fair, balanced, and

healthy; which sounds somewhat straight forward but actually took me several years to learn the hard way. My learning from this position in particular is nowhere near complete as that I feel I will continue to learn from the youth for quite some time. Having this experience prepared me to deal with some of the officers and our new members. A few of KSU SAACS's members do not get along with one another and thanks to having experienced similar situations I can resolve the problem well enough to ensure no one is going to get mad and storm off or quite the group there by leaving us without their input.

My presidency of KSU's SAACS chapter has come with its own set of challenges as one would expect, and I am trying my best to solve these issues with the help of the other officers and our two faculty advisors: Dr. Keller and Dr. Gabriel. Our group has expanded significantly from our humble size last fall thanks mainly to last year's president (Luis Lopez) who brought in ~10 devoted people and gave me a rundown of how to conduct the presidency, a favor that was not given to him. This year we have a group of roughly 22 people and I am finding it difficult to get everyone involved and to get underclassmen as to prevent a significant drop in membership next year when people graduate. I am also concerned with my abilities to prepare the next round of officers, I myself still have another year left to serve as that I am still a junior but I would like to have a whole team waiting in the stands to take up when our current officers (myself included) leave us for their future endeavors. My plan currently is to pull in a few passionate freshmen this year and bring them along to administrative duties so if they do end up becoming an officer they will know exactly what needs to be done both on the ACS end and on the KSU Student Life end to ensure our chapter's healthy growth and success.

Quinton J. Meisner

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Mission:

My hope is to better myself by both leading and learning in classroom and out. By improving and perfecting my leadership skills through trials and challenges it is my desire to contribute to the betterment of my colleagues and those who will choose to learn from me. By fulfilling this goal I believe that both I and my environment will be greatly improved.

Strengths:

- Looks at both sides of a problem to find the cause in order to better understand, fix, and prevent the issue.
- Stays cool and collected under pressure.
- Sets himself outside of an issue in order to take as much bias out of the equation as possible.
- Relates to multiple groups of people very easily.
- Views a leadership position as a position of servitude first and of power second.

Current Leadership Positions:

- (2011-2012) President of SAACS KSU Chapter in Kennesaw, GA
- (2011-Present) Youth Sponsor at Smyrna Christian Church in Smyrna, GA

Past Leadership Positions:

- (2008-2009) President of Latin Club at Campbell High School in Smyrna, GA
- (2008-2009) President of Campbell Historical Society at Campbell High School in Smyrna, GA
- (2007-2008) Vice-President and Co-founder of Campbell Historical Society at Campbell High School in Smyrna, GA

Current Educational Pursuits:

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY, Kennesaw, GA

Bachelor of Science in Professional Chemistry, 2013

Current Employment:

Lab Teacher Assistant at Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA

(August 2011-Present)

Dr. Brian K. Keller
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Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry
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2012 Student Leadership Award Application:

Quinton Meisner has asked me to submit a letter of recommendation to accompany his application for the ACS Student Leadership Award program. Quinton is a junior student in very good standing and pursuing an ACS professional option degree in chemistry at Kennesaw State University. I am the new faculty advisor for the SAACS chapter at KSU and I have been working closely with Quinton to strengthen our program this year.

Quinton is our new president of SAACS this year and has put forth great effort in organizing the group. Just in this semester our SAACS membership has increased from 10 students to 22 current members. One thing in particular that Quinton has done is to foster greater national ACS membership over just local membership in SAACS at KSU. He decided to allow students with national memberships to be automatically enrolled as local members. Quinton has also displayed great organizational skills. He has been very involved in recruiting and getting other student volunteers committed to recruiting new members. This summer Quinton organized three recruitment drives at freshman orientations with KSU student life. SAACS has also presented two presentations so far this fall semester.

On a personal level, Quinton is very well organized and is easily able to coordinate events. Quinton is also a member of PLU (Phi Lambda Upsilon) and a youth coordinator at a local church, so he has a lot of leadership experience already. His desire is to attend graduate school in chemistry and continue his leadership role with the American Chemical Society. Quinton is able to coordinate many tasks and remain collected and organized. He is able to lead other officers in SAACS to facilitate events. He is also able to relate well to younger students and has had some early success in recruiting freshman students.

To conclude, I would like to strongly state my recommendation for Quinton to have the opportunity to attend the ACS Leadership Institute. If you have any further questions regarding Quinton's abilities or this recommendation, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Dr. Brian K. Keller