

Official Reports from the Boston, Massachusetts Meeting

The major actions taken by the ACS Board and Council during the national meeting in Boston, Massachusetts were reported in C&EN, August 24, page 7.

Reports of Society Committees

Budget and Finance

The Society Committee on Budget and Finance (B&F) met on Saturday, August 15, 2015, to review the Society's probable financial results for 2015. ACS is projected to end the year with a net contribution from operations of \$15.5 million, or \$2.1 million favorable to the Approved Budget. With the exception of the Fund Balance Ratio, a measure of reserve adequacy, the Society is projected to end the year in compliance with the Board-established financial guidelines.

The committee received a report from the B&F Subcommittee on Communications. The subcommittee reported that brief presentations will be given at each District Councilor Caucus session in Boston; that web analytics are available for the B&F web pages; and that the ACS public website had been updated with the Society's 2014 financial information.

The committee received a report from the B&F Subcommittee on Program Review. The subcommittee reported on its activities and participation in the Society Program Portfolio Management (SPPM) process since the Spring national meeting in Denver, Colorado.

The committee received a report from the B&F Subcommittee on Financial Impacts of Constitution and Bylaw Amendments. Two revised petitions (*Petition on Preferential Voting* and *Petition on Member Expulsion*) are up for action by Council at its meeting on August 19, 2015. The subcommittee evaluated the revised petitions and concluded that there are no changes to the financial impact statements which the committee reported at the Spring national meeting in Denver, Colorado.

Kristin M. Omberg, Chair

Education

The Society Committee on Education (SOCED) voted to approve revisions to the *ACS Guidelines for Chemistry in Two-Year Colleges*. Key changes include the integration of safety throughout the document and guidance applicable to three different types of programs: Transfer, chemistry-based technology, and support. The committee voted to make the pilot program of ACS International Student Chapters a permanent feature of the student chapters program. ACS has chartered 15 International Student Chapters since the pilot launched last year. SOCED received an update on the new American Association of Chemistry Teachers (AACT), which now has more than 2,500 members, 88 percent of whom are K-12 teachers. The committee provided input on a coordinated strategy to better address the needs of faculty at various stages of their careers at two- and four-year institutions. Approximately 500 faculty members responded to a survey that assessed faculty development needs. SOCED received updates from ACS staff on federal and state science education policy, the 10th anniversary of ACS ChemClubs, Education Division strategic planning, and the launch of an Individual Development Plan (IDP) tool for graduate students. The online IDP resource is expected to launch at the end of September. The U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad team earned one gold medal and three silver medals at the International Chemistry Olympiad in July in Azerbaijan. The top U.S. student also achieved the highest score on the laboratory practical.

Diane Krone, Chair

Board Committee Reports

Standing Committees

Grants and Awards

The American Chemical Society (ACS) Board of Directors (Board) Standing Committee on Grants and Awards (committee) met virtually on August 7, 2015.

The committee reviewed a letter from Pat Confalone, Chair, ACS Board of Directors, and Tom Connelly, ACS Executive Director and CEO, regarding an update on the Society Program Portfolio Management process. In addition, a document utilized within that process was reviewed by the committee for the Awards Group, which includes the ACS National Awards program, the ACS Fellows program, and the Heroes of Chemistry program.

The chair of the Fellows Oversight Committee, reported that 204 nominations were received and 78 Fellows were selected for a 38% selection rate. He also noted that the number of women selected dropped from 33% in 2014 to 31% in 2015 and the number of recipients from industry increased from 18% in 2014 to 21% in 2015.

The chair of the Awards Review Subcommittee (ARC), provided an update to the Committee. ARC met via conference call on July 14, 2015 to review the 2015 ARC goals and timeline, discuss the ARC review form with weights and assign reviewers for the at-risk awards. ARC will review six awards in 2015 and provide a final report to the committee in December. In addition, ARC will explore other areas within the chemical enterprise that are not adequately represented by the existing national awards, e.g., nanoscale research, patent-based awards, and industry globalization.

The call for nominations for the 2017 ACS National Awards appeared in *Chemical & Engineering News* on July 6, 2015; nominations will close on November 1, 2015.

A “Committee Self Nomination Form” is now available on the National Awards website. ACS members are encouraged to complete the form if they are interested in serving on a National Awards Canvassing or Selection Committee.

A total of 985 nominations were received for the 2016 ACS national awards, 40% of which were new. The number of women and industrial scientists nominated for national awards remains low.

The committee was briefed on the Prized Science Video Series. The ACS Office of Public Affairs is working with staff from the American Association of Chemistry Teachers to set up a virtual focus group of about 5 to 8 teachers. The focus group will meet in October and discuss how Prized Science can be retooled to be more useful to teachers.

The committee voted to recommend to the ACS Board Chair a list of candidates for new appointments to the ACS PRF Advisory Board. The newly appointed ACS PRF Advisory Board members will serve a three-year term, which will commence with the Spring 2016 ACS PRF AB meeting and run through the Fall 2018 ACS PRF AB meeting.

Valerie J. Kuck, Chair

Professional and Member Relations

P&MR convened a small group to discuss the funding challenges confronting governance groups that wish to conduct periodic strategic planning retreats. The group concluded that local sections and divisions, generally speaking, have the necessary financial resources to pay for these retreats. Committees confront a different situation, however. To compensate for committees' inability to set aside money each year to pay for a retreat, the group approved the following guidance for ACS committees interested in having a LAB-facilitated strategic planning retreat:

- Alert their staff liaison no later than August 31 of the year prior to the desired retreat.
- The staff liaison, in turn, is responsible for submitting a committee budget request that takes into account the expenses of running a strategic planning retreat.
- Keep in mind that LAB can handle a finite number of retreats in a given year.
- LAB and P&MR recommend that committees conduct a strategic planning retreat every four years.

In July, the committee held its first P&MR webinar in lieu of sponsoring a breakfast at the national meeting in Boston. "ACS Science & Human Rights – Past, Present, and Future" attracted 18 registrants, comprised of ACS committee chairs, ACS Councilors, and former board members. While the audience initially targeted for these webinars was ACS committee chairs, the offer was extended more broadly to include ACS councilors, among others.

The Board's Science and Human Rights representative, updated P&MR on several matters including updates on Mohammad Rafiee Fanoood and Dr. Abdul Jalil Al-Singace, both of whom are imprisoned and whose cases are being followed by multiple human rights organizations.

The American Chemical Society (ACS) has been involved in issues of science and human rights since the 1970's. As Article II, Section 3, of the ACS Constitution states, "The SOCIETY shall cooperate with scientists internationally and shall be concerned with the worldwide application of chemistry to the needs of humanity." Through this statement the ACS works to address how to best contribute to human rights issues and initiatives, from availability of basic rights, such as food, clean water and health care, to access to education (particularly science education), and monitoring/advocacy.

Under delegated authority, P&MR voted to approve the following ACS Science and Human Rights Charter:

This charter aims to define the scope of the ACS Science and Human Rights program in terms of activities, initiatives, and case monitoring. The program strives to highlight the contributions of the chemical sciences to the advancement of humanity. When possible, ACS Science and Human Rights will also find avenues for international collaboration to further science diplomacy. This is in line with the ACS Board approved Statement on Freedom of International Scientific Exchange: “It is important for organizations that represent scientists and educators to advocate the most open and fair exchange among scientists without limitations imposed by national and global political concerns.”

Case Monitoring

As of 2011, the ACS will consider primarily cases of at-risk chemists, chemical engineers, or chemically related practitioners for monitoring. Cases can be brought forward by ACS members, as well as external human rights groups and networks. Case response will be approved by the Board of Directors before any actions are fast-tracked.

Activities and Initiatives

The program will pursue activities that highlight the role that chemistry and related sciences play in addressing the human rights issues of the world. This will involve raising awareness of these issues among the ACS membership through initiating letter writing campaigns, publishing articles, organizing symposia, hosting webinars, and other related activities. Meetings with human rights, governmental and other relevant organizations will also be conducted to build and develop the Society's networks and/or to raise awareness of cases

ACS International Activities Update

Complementing the full descriptions in the P&MR Agenda, staff provided the committee a report on the ACS Building Opportunities Out of Science and Technology (BOOST) program for Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand and potential for its extension to Southeast Asia, North Africa and Latin American in 2016. At the ACS Council meeting in Boston, five International Chemical Sciences chapter candidate applications are ready for action including Australia, Brazil, UAE, Peru, and Nigeria. Each member-initiated application meets the requirements established in ACS Bylaw IX and has been reviewed and approved by the ACS International Activities Committee. There was discussion about whether there is a need to further strengthen the Australia Chapter application through a support letter from the Royal Australian Chemical Institute in addition to the five jointly organized chapter candidate / RACI / ACS Technical Division symposia planned in Australia for later in 2015. Finally, an update was given on new alliances in development with the Mexican Chemical Society, the

Brazilian Chemical Society and the Federation of African Societies of Chemistry. Staff will also follow up on a P&MR member request for a tally of ACS Scholar participation in the ACS International Research Experiences for Undergraduates program.

The committee received an update on the status of the implementation of the Meeting Abstracts Programming System. The findings from a recent survey of regional meeting organizers were shared, changes that are being implemented for MAPS, and details on National Meeting Programming Summit to be held on Wednesday-Thursday of the Boston National Meeting. The Programming Summit will focus on providing the participants with MAPS training, as well as information and networking opportunities for developing their San Diego technical programs.

The chair, Task Force on Implementing the National Meetings and Expositions Financial Targets Recommendations, updated the committee on the recent efforts to provide Councilors with details and rationale supporting the plan for a \$15 incremental adjustment to the national meeting registration fee.

While the Board has previously endorsed the general plan to improve the financial state of the national meeting and exposition, it will act in Boston on the recommendation regarding 2016 meeting registration fees. A distilled slide deck will be prepared in the event it is needed to address any lingering concerns about the recommendations from the task force.

The committee voted to dismiss the Task Force on Implementing the National Meetings and Expositions Financial Targets Recommendations with gratitude and appreciation.

Under new business, there was discussion on the ability of other ACS entities and officers to contribute funds to external organizations when the Board has declined to do so.

Barbara A. Sawrey, Chair

Public Affairs and Public Relations

The Board Standing Committee on Public Affairs and Public Relations (PA&PR) met virtually on August 4, 2015, at 12 noon (EDT). The chair opened the meeting by welcoming committee members and highlighted several items in the information distributed prior to the meeting:

- PA&PR Committee Information Sheet
- Message points for communicating with policymakers on ACS top-tier policy priorities
- Chart of major ACS coalitions and partnerships associated with policy statements
- Federal legislation tracking chart
- Snapshot of Governance Advocacy

The Chair provided:

- An update on key legislation: passage of the Senate's Every Child Achieves Act, which includes ACS policy priorities; Senate committee approval of the Fair Access to Science and Technology Research Act, which addresses two main ACS policy principles; and an update on the Senate's version of the Toxic Substances Control Act, which contains sustainable chemistry provisions championed by ACS.
- An update on the status of the Society Program Portfolio Management project and the four program groupings within the ACS Office of Public Affairs that are among the 13 ACS program groupings being reviewed.
- A reminder of the August 13 ceremony at the MIT Museum designating Edwin Land and Instant Photography as a National Historic Chemical Landmark.

National Historic Chemical Landmarks Program

The chair led the committee in a discussion of ways to increase geographic diversity of National Historic Chemical Landmarks (NHCL). The chair of the PA&PR NHCL Subcommittee participated in the discussion and gave an overview of the Landmark selection criteria and current geographic distribution of the approximately 75 destinations. Committee members made several suggestions for increasing geographic diversity that the subcommittee will discuss at a future meeting.

ACS Experts Program

ACS staff presented the committee with an update on the ACS Experts program, which recruits and trains ACS members to be effective media spokespersons and communicators. ACS has trained 41 Experts through two training sessions in 2013 and 2014. ACS Experts agree to a two-year

commitment to engage a variety of audiences. In a recent survey of the 2013 class, 18 of 20 agreed to another two-year commitment, and they rated the training 4.6 on a 5.0-maximum scale. Two ACS Experts joined the committee discussion and shared how the program and training allowed them to be effective communicators. Both shared their personal communications engagement success stories.

Chemistry Ambassadors

The committee received several updates from ACS staff under the Chemistry Ambassadors umbrella, namely, Speaking Simply video training provided at ACS national meetings and other venues; a pilot gamification mobile application designed to encourage ACS members into doing outreach and communicating with the public; and the 2015 Chemistry Champions contest, which will culminate at the Boston national meeting.

RSC Public Attitude to Chemistry Study

ACS staff presented the highlights of a public opinion survey conducted by the Royal Society of Chemistry – Public Attitudes to Chemistry. The survey found the public perception of chemistry, chemists, and chemicals to be far more positive than professional chemists generally believed. The study report addresses this disparity by offering several recommendations geared to enabling more effective communications with the public. It was noted during the presentation that many of these recommendations are already embodied in current ACS programs and practices. Committee members expressed interest in an ACS-commissioned complementary study, and staff agreed to investigate the feasibility and cost of such an undertaking and to report back to the committee.

National Meeting Press Center

ACS staff presented media publication statistics resulting from its national meeting press center in Denver. One-hundred percent of the 21 science-based press releases were publicized in the media, with a potential print and online audience of 3.5 billion. Plans for press conferences at the Boston national meeting were shared, and committee members were invited to visit those that their schedules permitted.

John E. Adams, Chair

Other Board Standing and Joint Board-Council Committees

Chemical Abstracts Service

The CCAS Committee met in Executive Session on August 14, 2015, where CAS management reported on highlights from the first half of 2015 including updates on the portfolio of new solutions designed to enable discovery and advance workflows for scientific researchers and patent professionals around the world. CAS President Manuel Guzman reported that CAS continues to execute on its Strategic Plan for Growth and Optimization with the launch of three new products thus far in 2015 (PatentPak™, NCI™ Global, and CHEMCATS®) while sustained financial performance continues to support ACS initiatives.

Committee members were pleased to learn that development on new technology platforms for the CAS flagship products, SciFinder and STN continues, with another release of new STN launched in August, and completion of the product roadmap along with defined product capabilities for revitalizing SciFinder. In addition, CAS assigned the 100 millionth CAS Registry Number® to a substance designed to treat Acute Myeloid Leukemia, in the 50th anniversary year of the CAS REGISTRY®, the world's largest database of unique chemical substances.

A preview demo of MethodsNow™ delighted committee members – this new solution for analytical scientists, coming later in 2015, provides access to the largest collection of methods and will save researchers time making method selection and optimization simple and efficient.

CCAS held a lively discussion and gave CAS management useful input on a range of topics and issues including new product concepts. CCAS continues in its important role as a conduit of information between Society members, the ACS Governing Board for Publishing and CAS management, providing valuable feedback on current and future initiatives.

Grace Baysinger, Chair

Chemical Safety

CCS has continued its strategy to help strengthen academic safety culture by providing authoritative resources for the ACS community. In response to the 2011 explosion at Texas Tech University, the U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) released its investigative report and requested ACS assistance in developing methods to recognize, assess, and control hazards in research laboratories. The CCS, along with the Division of Chemical Health and Safety released its response document– *Identifying and Evaluating Hazards in Research Laboratories*. After reviewing this report, the CSB commented that “the thoroughness of the publication, accompanied by the additional publications on safety culture, is beyond what the CSB requested.” The status of the action became, “Closed-Exceeds Recommended Action.” The CCS urges research institutions to consider using this guidance to keep its laboratories safe. This report is available online at www.acs.org/safety. The CCS Task Force for Safety Education Guidelines is developing guidelines for laboratory safety education for secondary, undergraduate, and graduate education. First drafts of the guidelines were presented in Boston. The CCS Safety Advisory Panel (SAP) is a group of technical environmental, health, and safety experts that assist CCS in addressing emerging and complex chemical safety and regulatory issues. The panel began two projects: 1) Development of a user-friendly web version of– *Identifying and Evaluating Hazards in Research Laboratories*; 2) Development of best practice guidance for organizations that are interested in producing and sharing *Lessons Learned* from laboratory incidents. The panel is developing a document describing the efficient collection and organization of the data, along with the value of sharing lessons learned. The CCS solicits input from interested parties.

Elizabeth M. Howson, Chair

Chemistry and Public Affairs

The Committee on Chemistry and Public Affairs (CCPA) is responsible for providing ACS with advice and recommendations for action on public policy matters that impact the chemical sciences and technology.

CCPA considered and approved draft policy position statements on innovation and energy. The committee also began preliminary consideration the ACS policy statement on peer review, which is up for renewal in 2016.

Annually, the CCPA selects and ACS supports two congressional fellows to work in a congressional office for a year. These fellows bring informed scientific perspectives to issues on the congressional agenda. In addition, ACS supports a science policy fellow, who learns about public policy by working in the ACS Office of Public Affairs for a one or two-year term. In Boston, ACS Congressional Fellow Marianne Lalonde reported on her fellowship experiences working with Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH). In addition, ACS Science Policy Fellow Stephanie Hirsh DeLuca reported on her fellowship experience working with the ACS Office of Public Affairs. Recent graduates as well as seasoned chemical professionals are encouraged to apply for the ACS Public Policy fellowships. The deadline to apply for the 2016-2017 fellowships is December 31, 2015. More information can be found on the ACS website at www.acs.org/policyfellow.

CCPA also discussed ACS member advocacy efforts. With help from OPA staff, CCPA members will experiment with a more targeted approach to engage key members of Congress in selected states and districts, and will report back on their success at the San Diego meeting.

Susan B. Butts, Chair

Chemists with Disabilities

ACS Diversity Reception: In conjunction with the ACS Diversity Reception, the Committee on Chemists with Disabilities (CWD) hosted a celebration honoring the:

- 35th Anniversary of the Committee on Chemists with Disabilities
- 25th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act
- Lifelong accomplishments of Virginia Stern, one of the founding members of CWD and leader of AAAS Entry Point program which provided paid internships for people with disabilities in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

CWD Strategic Planning: In June 2015, CWD held a strategic planning workshop. Workshop accomplishments include refined mission and vision:

- Vision: All individuals have equal opportunities to advance the chemical sciences by drawing on the full range of their talents.
- Mission: to facilitate educational and employment opportunities for persons with disabilities in the chemical sciences.

Strategic Planning Workshop also produced 4 Goals for CWD:

- Goal 1: Promote and facilitate awareness of the value and capabilities of Persons with Disabilities (PWD) in the chemical sciences.
- Goal 2: Create alliances within ACS to increase visibility and impact.
- Goal 3: Develop a premier network for disseminating accurate information on effective accommodations for PWD involved in chemistry within 5 years.
- Goal 4: Facilitate making all ACS products and services fully accessible and inclusive.

CWD developed multiple strategies to facilitate the realization of these goals.

CWD Poster Project: CWD is developing posters of famous scientists with disabilities. To increase awareness and receptiveness to scientists with disabilities these posters are displayed in the Expo and other locations at national meetings. At the request of teachers, these posters have been made into bookmarks and posters suitable for classrooms.

CWD & ACS Standard Exams: CWD is communicating with ACS Exams Institute Director, Kristen Murphy regarding Exam and study materials accommodations for students with disabilities.

As the Chair of CWD, I am honored to be associated with the ACS. While my initial attraction to the Society was in terms of scientific exchange and career advancement, I've recently discovered that ACS is a leader with respect to promoting dignity and human rights for all segments of society.

John J. Johnston, Chair

Community Activities

The Committee on Community Activities (CCA) held its Presidential Outreach Event at the Boston Children's Museum on Saturday, August 15. Volunteers from the Boston area Local Sections and members of CCA presented eight tables of hands-on activities from 10 am – 1 pm, reaching an estimated 200 members of the public.

The Tools and Training Subcommittee formed a working group to develop a Volunteer Coordinator Toolkit. The toolkit is modeled after resources found in the coordinator handbook *Guaranteed to Succeed*.

The Volunteer Engagement and Recognition Subcommittee proposed and CCA approved a new ChemLuminary Award titled "Outstanding Ongoing Chemists Celebrate Earth Day Event," recognizing a local section for an outstanding CCED event that has been conducted for at least three years. The subcommittee also proposed a rebranding of Chemists Celebrate Earth Day to a week-long celebration. Two concepts were suggested which will be vetted to outreach coordinators via an online survey. The potential implementation of the new brand is slated for 2017.

The theme title for NCW 2015 was decided and is "Solving Mysteries Through Chemistry." In connection with this theme, CCA is piloting a video demonstration program to provide coordinator's with engaging, theme-related experiments accompanied by a how-to demonstration with step-by-step instructions.

CCA is looking for theme team members for 2016 and beyond. Those interested in joining a theme team should contact outreach@acs.org for more information.

George L. Heard, Chair

Environmental Improvement

The Committee on Environmental Improvement (CEI) focused on strategic planning for 2016-2018, which advances CEI's vision of "a sustainable world enabled through the sustainable practice and use of chemistry." The plan is built around an updated mission statement to "advance sustainability thinking and practice across ACS and society for the benefit of earth and its people" and is organized under three principle goals:

1. Engage key researchers, industry decision makers, and consumers to incorporate sustainability into their practice and use of chemistry.
2. Equip ACS members and advocates to be influential voices about policies in sustainable chemistry via development of appropriate tools for the relevant audiences.
3. Engage networks of chemists and citizens to advance sustainability education and communication.

The plan will be formally launched in 2016, but several new projects have begun. Moving forward, ongoing activities will be reassessed and integrated with new starts. The plan will be dynamic with new projects routinely replacing completed ones in each goal area.

The committee passed updated public policy drafts for consideration by the ACS Board of Directors on energy policy, testing of endocrine disrupting chemicals, and inherently safer technologies. CEI also launched 2016 policy work by hosting a novel program, in cooperation with the Division of Environmental Chemistry, organized as a debate on climate change.

CEI continues to support local sections and regional meetings programming related to sustainability and climate through grants. The Portland Local Section was awarded funds in Boston.

Laura E. Pence, Chair

International Activities

At its meeting in Boston on Saturday, August 15, 2015, IAC continued to make progress in its efforts to help fulfill the Society's constitutional commitment to *cooperate with scientists internationally and be concerned with the worldwide application of chemistry to the needs of humanity.*" Article II, Section 3, ACS Constitution.

IAC welcomed dignitaries from our sister societies from Canada, Cuba, India, Germany, Taiwan, the UK, as well as leadership of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the US National Academy of Sciences, the Iraqi Chemical Society, EUChEMS, ACS International Chapters, and ACS International Student Chapters.

The committee approved the ACS Global Innovation Initiatives (Gii) Singapore White Paper and chose South America and Mexico for the 2017 joint ACS-Pittcon program. The committee reviewed and approved an international chapter request initiated by our members in Southwestern China. IAC was also involved with several professional, scientific, and global networking events. Among them, a delegation of Cuban scientists for a timely symposium on 'Opportunities for US/Cuba Collaboration in Chemistry and Chemical Engineering', a symposium on International Entrepreneurship in collaboration with ACS President Dr. Diane Grob Schmidt as well as three successful IAC Global Regional Networking Events, and a launch of the International Young Chemists Network.

Finally, IAC sought and received approval at ACS Council for the establishment of ACS International Chemical Sciences Chapters in Australia, Brazil, Nigeria, Peru and the United Arab Emirates.

The IAC Boston meeting furthered the committee's tradition of excellence, made possible through member volunteer contributions of time, talent and enthusiasm for ACS International Activities.

H.N. Cheng, Chair

Minority Affairs

The Committee on Minority Affairs (CMA) focused its activities at this meeting on the 20th anniversary celebration of the ACS Scholars Program.

The ACS Scholars Program is an undergraduate program for gifted minorities who are under-represented in the chemical sciences and engineering. This year Procter & Gamble pledged \$325,000 to bring the company's cumulative gifts to the \$1 million Benefactor level. Pfizer became a National Partner with a first-time gift of \$112,000 and Gilead became the first corporate donor to give \$100,000 to endow a Gilead Scholar. The new Scholars Endowment Fund now has commitments of more than \$2 million as generous members recognize the imperative to continue this effective program.

Since its inception, the program has awarded more than \$17 million in scholarship assistance to enable 2,500 talented minority students to pursue their dreams of a degree in the chemical sciences. More than 220 alumni have earned Ph.D.s. CMA partnered with Corporation Associates in a special anniversary lunch at which we honored the ACS Scholars and major corporate donors.

In San Diego, CMA will host a symposium "How to Foster Diversity in the Chemical Sciences: Lessons Learned and Taught from the Stories of Recipients of the Stanley C. Israel Award." Dr. Israel was a well-known polymer chemist who served on the ACS Board and supported diversity in many areas. Please visit www.acs.org/stan-israel-award to learn more about the award.

The Committee on Minority Affairs presented its Chemluminary Award for the Best Overall Local Section Minority Affairs Committee to the North Carolina Local Section.

CMA continues to focus on diversifying speakers at ACS National Meetings. We invite all technical divisions to contain a diversity statement on their websites similar to that for the Organic Division. CMA is also working on ways to increase representation of under-represented groups in the nominee pool for National Awards, and working with the ACS Leadership Advisory Board to develop specific training modules on Diversity and Inclusion. Please contact us for help in diversifying your meetings and awards at cma@acs.org.

Madeleine Jacobs, Chair

Patents and Related Matters

The Committee on Patents and Related Matters (CPRM) serves the ACS in a number of ways. The committee monitors legislative and regulatory developments influencing intellectual property; provides ACS members and the general public with information about patents and other intellectual property issues; and provides a website that is updated frequently and contains a wealth of helpful information about intellectual property matters relevant to those of us in the chemical enterprise.

CPRM also prepares nominations of notable inventors for external national awards recognizing the inventions of chemical professionals. The committee welcomes your suggestions for possible nominees. See our contact information on our website.

<http://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/about/governance/committees/patents.html>

Recently, CPRM submitted suggestions to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) to improve the quality of patents and the patenting process. Last month, the committee partnered with the Chemical Society of Washington and the ACS Office of Public Affairs to participate in the PTO's Technology Fair, and provided speakers who provided patent examiners with hour-long updates on the latest developments in the chemical sciences. The committee is hoping to make this participation an on-going effort. If you would like to participate in these efforts, please let us know.

CPRM has reorganized the committee to encompass such diverse topics as intellectual property aspects of entrepreneurship, technology transfer and sponsored research. As part of these efforts we have begun drafting a Strategic Plan and a Job Manual. When completed, these documents will be posted on our website.

Sadiq Shah, Chair

Professional Training

At the August 2015 meeting, the Committee on Professional Training (CPT) evaluated 51 periodic reports from approved programs and held conferences with six departments applying for ACS approval. CPT reviewed site visit reports from two programs seeking approval and approved two new programs. Currently, 682 colleges and universities offer an ACS-approved bachelor's degree program in chemistry.

The committee voted to approve updated versions of seven supplements to the ACS Guidelines, which will be published on the ACS website. In response to one of the recommendations from the Task Force on International Chemistry Education, a draft supplement on developing international competencies as a critical student skill for 21st century chemists was discussed and scheduled for final review at the next CPT meeting. The possibility of approving chemistry programs outside of the United States was considered. At their next meeting, the committee will explore the resources necessary and the appropriateness of the current approval requirements and process in reviewing international chemistry programs.

A breakfast meeting was held with Visiting Associates to review the changes in the 2015 ACS Guidelines and answer questions about the site visit process. The committee also met with the chairs from 40 PhD-granting chemistry departments. Discussions covered developing a safety culture, individual development plans for graduate students, and the preparation of undergraduates for graduate study. The committee discussed the results of the survey of PhD recipients conducted earlier this year. The final report will be published in the CPT Newsletter and the ACS website later this fall.

Thomas J. Wenzel, Chair

Publications

The Joint Board–Council Committee on Publications (JBCCP) met and the monitoring reports for *Biochemistry*, *Journal of Proteome Research* and *Journal of the American Chemical Society* were presented, discussed thoroughly and accepted with thanks. Editor reappointments were reviewed and recommendations were made.

Staff presented an overview of C&EN's significant editorial and marketing initiatives. C&EN's Talented 12 issue highlighted 12 path-paving young researchers and entrepreneurs who are using chemistry to solve global problems. C&EN is collaborating with the Spanish organization Divulgame.org to translate a selection of content into Spanish and offer it to readers via C&EN's website and social media channels. C&EN also created *ACS Chemoji*, a mobile keyboard app for Android and iPhone that allows users to share chemistry-themed “emojis” via text message and social media. This app was built in collaboration with ACS Publications and Chemical Abstracts Service, and was launched at the Boston ACS National Meeting. Marketing initiatives in support of C&EN's advertising sales goals were summarized for the committee.

Journals Publishing staff presented the early results of a systematic survey of ACS corresponding authors. Initial responses indicate that authors choose a journal for submission on the basis of scope, impact, citations, and speed to decision. Authors are generally satisfied with the current peer review system, and rank interactions with ACS editors very highly. The committee suggested that free form comments be returned to the respective journal to inform both operational and strategic planning.

Staff will ask the Editors-in-Chief of ACS Publications to refine their respective policies of what constitutes Supporting Information with respect to both data and to references at its 2016 Conference of Editors, and to clarify such policies in published information for authors.

Stephanie L. Brock, Chair

Public Relations and Communications

CPRC co-sponsored several events in Boston that showcase ways to increase public appreciation for chemistry. While the events are over, there are follow-up opportunities for all ACS members:

1. Watch the new PBS series that was previewed in Boston, “Mystery of Matter: Search for the Elements.” Encourage friends and family to do the same. Presented in three one-hour segments, the content is engaging, entertaining, and informative, and includes several ACS members among the cast. See www.pbs.org for more information.
2. In a symposium on science communication, the committee heard about public attitudes toward chemists, chemistry and chemicals. That research was done by the Royal Society of Chemistry, with some surprisingly positive outcomes. Still, there is a need for chemists to do a better job of explaining what they do, in a way that is accessible and relevant to non-scientists. Find tips for doing that at the ACS Chemistry Ambassadors site www.acs.org/chemistryambassadors.

CPRC also supported the second annual ChemChamps competition among younger members who used social media to reach thousands with clear explanations of their reach. See more at www.acs.org/chemchamps.

In a brand new national meeting offering, the committee participated in a Wikipedia-Edit-a-Thon, adding coverage of chemists and chemistry to this popular online resource.

Finally, CPRC presented three ChemLuminary awards in Boston: the Helen Free Award for Public Outreach to Regina Malczewski and outstanding awards for new and continuing public relations programs to the North Jersey and Indiana local sections, respectively.

David S. Gottfried, Chair

Science

The Committee on Science (ComSci) focuses on increasing understanding of emerging frontiers in science, developing public policies to advance science in society, and recommending outstanding chemical scientists for external awards.

In Boston, ComSci voted to recommend approval of the draft ACS policy statement on energy. The committee also agreed to form a writing team to update the ACS policy on forensic science by next spring.

Regarding emerging science frontiers, the emphasis this year is on advanced materials; and in particular how to accelerate innovation through cross-sector R&D collaboration. The first symposium on this topic in Denver focused on advanced materials for solar energy. The second forum, held in Boston, featured a roundtable discussion with leaders of divisions, journals, and outside experts on moving advanced materials from discovery to application. The forum illuminated key challenges and barriers to enhancing partnerships among industry and academia. The third forum on advanced materials innovation and public-private collaboration will focus on computational design of advanced materials and will take place next spring.

ComSci submitted an ACS nomination in April for the Presidential National Medal of Science—the nation's highest honor for a scientist. Currently the committee is receiving suggestions from various ACS groups on future nominees, following a recent C&EN comment and other outreach, and coordinating efforts with other committees on the companion National Medal of Technology. ComSci also will recommend nominees for the 2016 French Grand Prix Award and the 2017 Dreyfus Prize in chemistry.

Katherine C. Glasgow, Chair

Senior Chemists

The Boston National Meeting marked the third anniversary of the formation of the Senior Chemists Committee (SCC). In these three years, the necessity of the SCC has become obvious. SCC has the most widely read newsletter that the ACS distributes, and the responses to it from members of all ages have elucidated the many needs that these members perceive the ACS should address. Some, such as finding jobs for retired chemists, changing corporate policy for retirees, or changing ACS policies, are not amendable to direct action by the SCC. However, SCC has been able to establish a number of initiatives thru our provision of mini-grants to local sections to sponsor senior related activities, several of which were recognized by the committee's initial ChemLuminary awards at this meeting. The SCC congratulates the St. Louis and Toledo Local Sections for outstanding efforts in promoting senior involvement in their local areas.

The SCC initiated a new Planning and Priority Program to explore how best to meet the many expectations. A committee retreat is being planned for this fall to identify priorities that will serve our constituency as well as meeting the strategic goals of the committee.

The Senior Chemists Breakfast continues to be a sold-out event at each meeting. In Boston, the SCC proudly featured George M. Whitesides of Harvard University as the keynote speaker. SCC also co-sponsored the Undergraduate Speed Networking with Chemistry Professionals event where the majority of committee members participated.

George E. Heinze, Chair

Women Chemists

At the Fall National Meeting in Boston, the Women in the Chemical Enterprise Breakfast featured Maya Ollsen who spoke on the topic of managing transitions. As a continuation of the theme of managing transitions, WCC sponsored two symposia; “After School: Diverse Paths in the Chemical Enterprise” and “Life’s Ups and Downs: Changing Directions, Switching Employers, and other Mid-career Challenges.”

WCC was also a co-sponsor of the “Women in Innovation” symposium organized by Division of Professional Relations (PROF).

The WCC recognized the recipients of the 2015 Fall Eli Lilly/WCC Travel Award with a poster session. Immediately following the poster session was the WCC Luncheon featuring Dr. Kathryn Uhrich, a Professor in the Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology at Rutgers University, and founder of Polymerix Corporation. The winners of the IUPAC 2015 Distinguished Women in Chemistry and Chemical Engineering and the Overcoming Challenges award recipient were also recognized at the luncheon.

The Awards Task Force of the WCC is focusing its energy on increasing the number of women nominated and eventually awarded ACS National Technical Awards. We are in the planning stages of developing a webinar on the topic, “How to create a successful nomination package,” in an effort to increase the number of women award winners.

The WCC in collaboration with Springer, is in the process of creating the second edition of the book, “Mom the Chemistry Professor.” It promises to be a diverse collection of personal accounts and advice from chemistry professors who are mothers.

The committee is pleased to announce a new Research Award sponsored by Merck & Co. and administered by the WCC. It was designed for female graduate students entering their 3rd and 4th year in the areas of Organic, Medicinal, Analytical, Computational, or Structural Chemistry and related disciplines. Up to eight women will be chosen to present their research at the 2016 Fall ACS National Meeting. The application deadline is December 1, 2015. Look for more details soon on our website- <http://www.womenchemists.sites.acs.org>

Amber F. Charlebois, Chair

Younger Chemists

During the 250th ACS National Meeting in Boston the YCC continued to push forward with efforts aimed at serving our younger chemist constituency and the broader Society. These include new innovations in social media and the development of synergistic programming activities.

A highly visible activity is the Program in a Box effort which continues to grow rapidly with a 43% increase in the number of disseminated boxes between the Fall 2014 and most recent YCC Program in a Box in February 2015, where 181 boxes were delivered to local sections and international chapters engaging more 1000 live participants. This activity consists of a kit put together by YCC and ACS Webinars which is sent to local section level groups who register. The kits include items which allow the webinar to become a fun and interactive experience. The YCC is currently coordinating two of these events a year, but the concept of the program has activated other Program in a Box webinars that are now being directed at other constituencies, such as industrial members.

In addition to YCC's focus on the local section level, we continue to work on expanding the interaction we have with younger chemists around the globe, working closely with IAC in the process. At this meeting we have the 5th instance of Younger Chemists Crossing Borders, and the 3rd on U.S. soil.

The YCC has numerous activities, trainings, and awards geared towards young chemists. Learn more about what we have to offer by visiting our website at <http://ycc.sites.acs.org/>.

Douglas B. Hausner, Chair

Council Committee Reports

Elected Committees

Committees

In Boston, the Committee on Committees (ConC) approved recommendations from its subcommittee on Diversity and task forces on the Society Committee Bylaws and the Performance Review Process.

ConC is developing its recommendations for 2016 Committee Chair, member, associate, and consultant appointments for consideration by the President-Elect and the Chair of the Board.

ConC will hold its annual New Chairs Training Session in Dallas, Texas, from January 22-24, 2016, as part of the ACS Leadership Institute.

Finally, on behalf of the Council, ConC recognized 28 Councilors who will have served the statutory limit or otherwise completed their service on ACS governance committees at the end of 2015; 13 Committee Chairs who will have served the statutory limit on the committee they chair; and 32 Councilors serving 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, and 40 years as a Councilor.

Wayne E. Jones, Jr., Chair

Council Policy

The Council Policy Committee (CPC) remains quite active between meetings through its subcommittees and task forces.

Petitions to amend Bylaws are handled within CPC by its Subcommittee on Petitions, Constitution & Bylaws. A Petition and methods for removal of Councilors and Alternate Councilors from office for failure to carry out their responsibilities as a Councilor or Alternate Councilor, as well as authorization for Local Sections and Divisions to remove elected officers from office for neglect of duties, is expected to be submitted for consideration in San Diego.

As a follow up to the recently announced Councilor divisor formula for Local Sections and Divisions for 2016-2019, the Subcommittee on Long Range Planning (LRP) has been asked to review the way Local Sections and Divisions are currently represented on Council. The Task Force is now proceeding to look at other issues that affect the Divisor formulae set out in the Bylaws; for example, should there be more Division representation on Council and what would be the impact? Should a cap be placed on the number of Councilors per Local Section and Divisions to ensure more balance? There were also questions regarding the representation of international members within the Divisions and Local Sections. Comments can be submitted to President@acs.org.

Strategy Cafes continue to be scheduled and have grown in popularity as an assist to our bottom-up strategic planning efforts.

Finally, the Guidelines for Special Discussion Items at Council Meetings were approved by CPC earlier this year. They can be found at <http://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/about/governance/councilors.html>.

Alan M. Ehrlich, Vice-Chair

Nominations and Elections

The Committee on Nominations and Elections (N&E) received positive feedback on the improved format of the Town Hall Meeting for Directors-at-Large conducted in Boston. There has been an increase in the number of questions submitted and the number of evaluations returned, which helps the development of future town hall meetings.

Ballots for the 2015 fall national election were mailed on October 2, with a voting deadline four weeks later on October 30. Members will have the option to vote electronically or by the traditional paper ballot. The candidates who will appear on the ballot for the 2015 national election for President-Elect, 2016, are G. Bryan Balazs and Allison A. Campbell. For Directors-at-Large (2016-2018), the candidates are Lee H. Latimer, Willem R. Leenstra, Ingrid Montes, Mary Jo Ondrechen, and Thomas W. Smith. For District I Director (2016-2018), the candidates are Thomas R. Gilbert and Laura E. Pence. For District V Director (2016-2018), the candidates are John E. Adams and Kenneth P. Fivizzani. You can view candidate information on acs.org under “Elections”.

In its executive session, the committee developed slates of potential nominees for President-Elect-2017 and Directors of Districts II and IV for 2017-2019, as well as a slate of potential candidates for Director-at-Large, for 2017-2019. The pertinent biographical information will appear in the Council agenda book for the spring ACS national meeting in San Diego, and posted on acs.org under “Elections.”

D. Richard Cobb, Chair

Standing Committees

Constitution and Bylaws

In 2015, the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws (C&B) certified 14 bylaws to date. This number includes 8 bylaws that were certified since the spring meeting in Denver, three of which were certified under C&B's expedited bylaws process. All certified bylaws and the status report are available at www.acs.org/bulletin5.

C&B discussed and voted on changes to the Charter bylaws for Local Sections, Divisions, and International Chemical Sciences Chapters. The committees on Local Section Activities, Divisional Activities, and International Activities, respectively, will be asked to review and approve changes to the Charter bylaws and also the templates, which C&B approved in the spring. We hope that they can approve the changes by the spring meeting so that C&B can get Council's approval at the 2016 fall national meeting.

Seventy-nine Local Sections and four Divisions have not updated their bylaws since 2000. These and other Local Sections and Divisions should be concerned about the validity of their elections if they conduct electronic balloting, which may not be authorized in their bylaws. Contact C&B at bylaws@acs.org for further information on easy and quick options that are available for updating bylaws.

New petitions to amend the Constitution or Bylaws must be received by the Society's Executive Director by November 25 to be included in the Council agenda, for consideration at the spring 2016 meeting. Petition guidelines are in Bulletin 5: www.acs.org/bulletin5.

James C. Carver, Chair

Divisional Activities

The Committee on Divisional Activities, DAC, in partnership with the Committee on International Activities (IAC), recently completed a review of a white paper to help divisions identify, evaluate, and pursue international engagement opportunities. Final edits will be made to the document prior to sharing it with the divisions in September.

DAC continues to implement a plan designed to permit divisions to share best practices. Among the next steps in this process, DAC will hold a webinar with division leaders in September or October to better understand the areas in which division leaders are most interested in learning about best practices.

DAC voted to fund 14 Innovative Project Grants (IPG) totaling \$77,050. The committee will consider another set of IPG proposals during the San Diego National Meeting next March; the deadline for that round of submissions is February 1, 2016.

The committee received an update on the Meeting Abstracts Programming System, also known as MAPS. Staff outlined several changes to MAPS, as well as a number of changes to the process by which the programs are developed. Web-based training will be available beginning in October.

DAC was briefed on a recently-created task force seeking to enhance the content and functionality of the acs.org web pages that help division and local section volunteers execute their duties. The task force, which is being led by the Board Committee on Professional and Member Relations, will address other issues as well, and will include representation from DAC.

Michael J. Morello, Chair

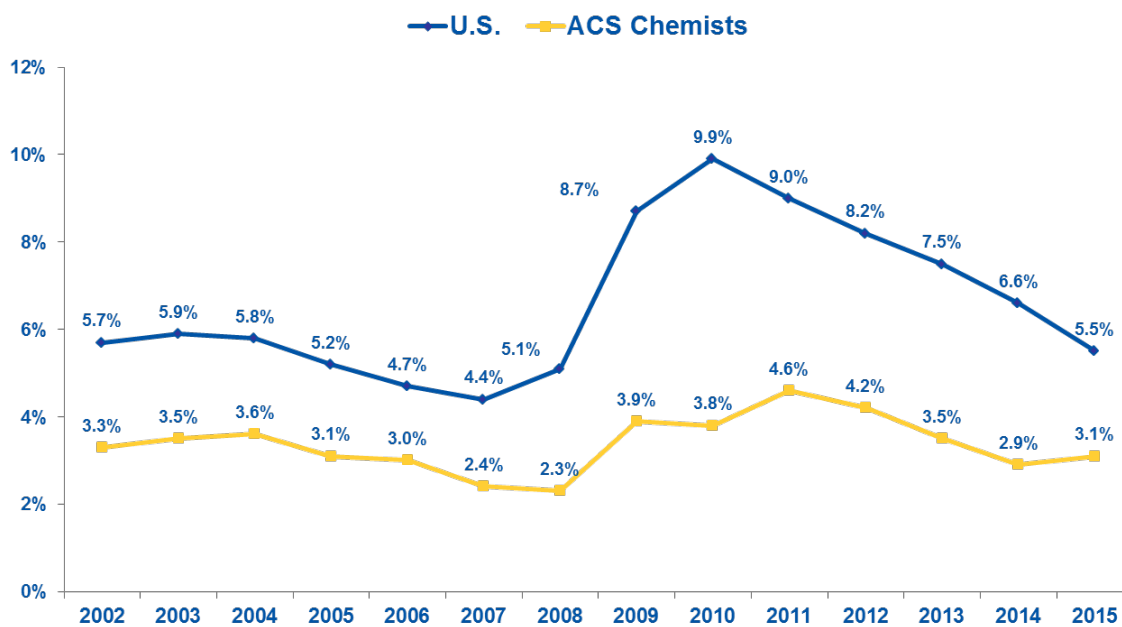
Economic and Professional Affairs

The Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs' (CEPA) four subcommittees worked on a variety of efforts in Boston:

- The subcommittee on events, volunteers, and employment services provided a preparatory panel on networking basics for undergraduate students.
- The subcommittee on public policy finalized revisions to the healthcare policy statement which will now go to the ACS Board of Directors for approval at its next meeting.
- The subcommittee on standards and ethics finalized revisions to the Chemical Professional's Code of Conduct which will now go to the ACS Council for review at its San Diego meeting.
- The subcommittee on marketing and research reviewed the ACS ChemCensus 2015 data, described in more detail below.

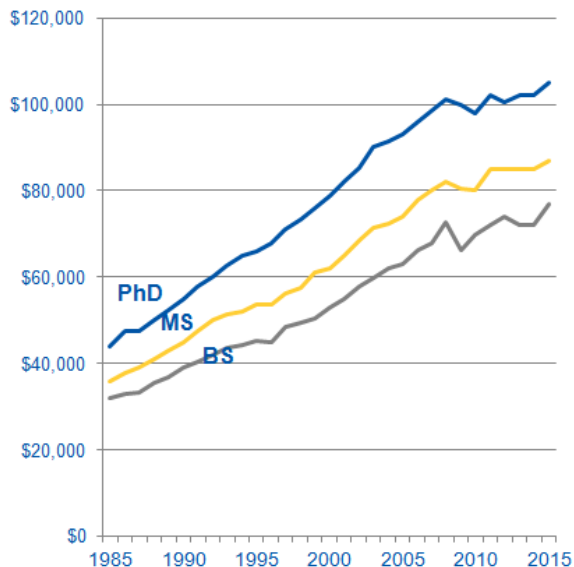
The ChemCensus received roughly 24,000 responses—a nearly 33% response rate. The data showed that domestic unemployment among ACS member chemists edged slightly upwards in the last year from 2.9% to 3.1%. The ChemCensus also reported a modest salary increase year-over-year in current and constant dollars.

Domestic Unemployment

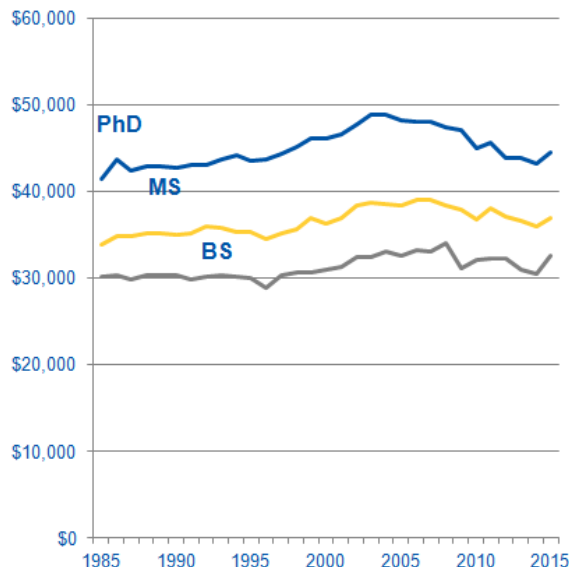


Adapted from ACS Comprehensive Salary and Employment Survey and ChemCensus 2002 to 2015 and Bureau of Labor Statistics Unemployment (as of March of each year)

Full-time Median Salary of ACS Chemists (Current \$)



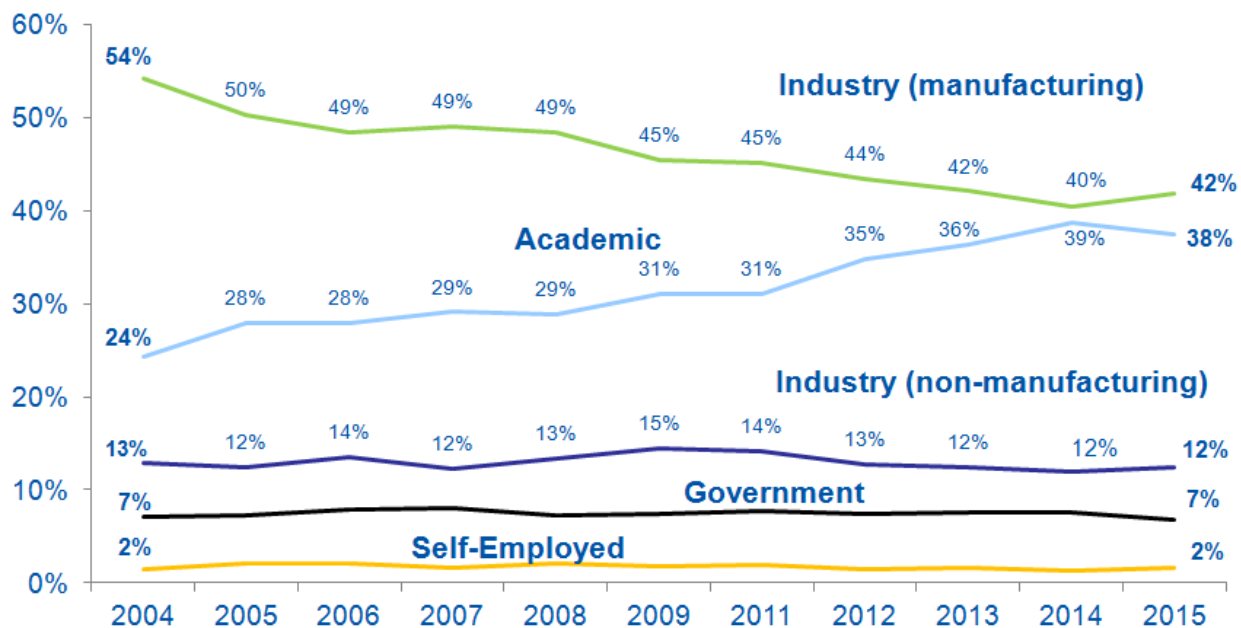
Full-time Median Salary of ACS Chemists (Constant 1984 Dollars \$)



Adapted from ACS Comprehensive Salary and Employment Survey and ChemCensus 1985-2015

For the first year since 2004, the percentage of ACS members working in manufacturing increased, and the percentage working in academia decreased. Other workforce categories remained relatively flat.

ACS Workforce by Field



Adapted from ACS Comprehensive Salary and Employment Survey and ChemCensus 2004 to 2015

Several new initiatives, including professional head shots, debuted at the Boston Career fair to further enhance participation and satisfaction of both employers and job seekers. These efforts, plus the location of Boston, resulted in the second most employers and positions since the downturn of 2008. The candidate per position ratio was the lowest in the last four years.

	Job Seekers	Employers	Positions Available	Job Seekers per Position
San Diego 2012	943	31	85	11.1
Philadelphia 2012	999	45	148	6.8
New Orleans 2013	863	38	131	6.6
Indianapolis 2013	561	29	99	5.7
Dallas 2014	770	30	91	8.5
San Francisco 2014	651	38	95	6.9
Denver 2015	715	27	85	8.4
Boston 2015	846	58	229	3.7

William R. Ewing, Chair

Local Section Activities

The Committee on Local Section Activities (LSAC) presented the 2014 Awards for Outstanding Performance for Local Sections at the 16th Annual ChemLuminary Awards celebration. The award-winning sections were New York, Pittsburgh, Nashville, Midland, Savannah River and the Erie local sections. Other local sections receiving ChemLuminary Awards from LSAC included Ole Miss, North Carolina, Maryland, and Northeastern. Local sections must submit their annual reports and self-nominations by February 15, 2016 to be eligible for these awards recognizing their 2015 activity.

The reviews of all annual reports that have been submitted have been completed. After receiving notice of the completed review, sections are encouraged to log into FORMS to download their review. Sections may provide a response to LSAC within the following 6 weeks. The Statistical Review of all local section activity can be found at www.acs.org/getinvolved. Beginning in 2016 the Statistical Review will include the voluntary dues amount collected by each local section.

LSAC reviewed the June 30th Innovative Project Grant (IPG) proposals and will award 20 grants totaling \$39,886. This brings the total for 2015 to 34 IPG awards totaling more than \$75,000.

As a result of the LSAC Strategic Planning Retreat the committee approved new mission and vision statements and goals for 2016-2019. A new subcommittee structure was also approved to carry out the action plan associated with these goals.

LSAC voted to keep the current local section allotment formula in place for the next three years. LSAC developed a new process for managing the annexation of unassigned territories by multiple sections.

Martin D. Rudd, Chair

Meetings and Expositions

The Committee on Meetings and Expositions (M&E) accepted 9,271 papers for the 250th National Meeting in Boston, MA. The total attendance for this meeting was 13,938. The Exposition had 475 booths with 325 exhibiting companies.

M&E is reviewing site selection options for the Fall meeting in 2024. Potential locations include Philadelphia, PA and Denver, CO.

Due to space restrictions for the Boston meeting, there were no exemptions to the even programming rules. M&E would like to thank the Division leadership for their understanding.

ACS was recognized in Convene Magazine's August 2015 annual Best in Show issue for "Best Corporate Social Responsibility Initiatives." In continuing efforts to green the national meetings, M&E confirmed its conversion to electronic versions of the program book starting with the Spring 2016 meeting. The hard copy program book will be available for attendees to purchase (at cost) when they register for the meeting and onsite. The PDF version of the national meeting program will be more prominently displayed on the ACS website for those who would like to print portions for themselves. There were nearly 5,500 downloads of the Boston Mobile App.

The Regional Meetings Subcommittee is initiating efforts to partner with minority chemical societies such as NOBCChe and SACNAS to increase participation and diversity in our Regional Meeting attendees.

The committee established a new subcommittee titled "operations" which is responsible for monitoring the financial success of the national meetings, compliance with the National Meeting Long Range Financial Plan and the recommendations of the 2015 Task Force on Implementing National Meeting Financial Targets.

Will E. Lynch, Chair

Membership Affairs

The Membership Affairs Committee (MAC) continues to focus on new efforts to recruit and retain members. As of July 31, the ACS membership was 156,561. The committee is pleased to report that the number of international members has grown to nearly 26,000. The number of new members who have joined this year is 14,457, and the Society's overall retention rate is 84%.

MAC's efforts to recruit and retain members include the offering of a membership dues auto renewal option. Since its launch in July of 2014, nearly 5,000 members have chosen the option, and, of these, 520 were new members.

Two of the early market data collection tests are due to expire in 2016. MAC intends to submit a petition for consideration at the next ACS national meeting in 2016 to permanently extend the Unemployed Member Dues Waiver Benefit period from two years to three years. Plans are also underway to more broadly promote availability of the dues waiver as well as career services for ACS members.

The committee also favors the continuation of a test that provides \$15 commission payments to ACS International Chemical Sciences Chapters for the recruitment of new members.

The committee recommended and the Council approved an amendment to the ACS Bylaws of the petition and procedure on Expulsion of a Member. The revised and simplified language can be found on acs.org under About ACS/Governance/Bylaws & Petitions/Petitions...to amend the Society's bylaws.

James M. Landis, Jr., Chair

Other Committees

Ethics

The ACS Committee on Ethics (ETHX) met on Sunday, August 16, 2015, and received a report from the Committee on Chemical Safety Taskforce for Chemical Education. The discussion included mechanisms that could be used by the committee to inform both secondary and undergraduate students of ethical topics in a manner similar to those used by the Committee on Chemical Safety to distribute safety information.

Ethics co-sponsored a workshop at the Great Lakes Regional Meeting, and also provided technical support to gather quantitative data to determine the workshop effectiveness. The presenters provided a review of the workshop and mechanisms used for data collection.

The committee also heard a presentation from staff regarding use of the ACS Network to more efficiently accomplish some committee business. The committee agreed to expand its use of this tool for both internal and external communication.

Discussions were held pertaining to two petitions for action at the Council meeting. No formal position from the committee was proposed regarding either of these action items.

ETHX continues to examine the structure of the committee as recommended by ConC in their most recent review, and we request assistance from anyone involved with programming at national and regional meetings to inform us of any ethics-related programming as part of our charge to coordinate the ethics-related activities of the society.

Keith R. Vitense, Chair

Nomenclature, Terminology and Symbols

The ACS Committee on Nomenclature, Terminology, and Symbols (NTS) met in open session in Boston on Monday, August 17, 2015, with 27 attendees (one by Skype from Cleveland). With respect and regret, the committee took note of the recent deaths of two long-time members of NTS, Derek Horton and Peter A. S. Smith.

A task force reported on its extensive consideration of the request from the Committee on Technician Affairs for potential alternatives to the title “Chemical Technician” and proposed that this term be subdivided into Technician and Chemist, depending on academic credentials. Updates for the ACS online Periodic Table Live were proposed, focused on elements 114 and 116, flerovium and livermorium, respectively. The Outreach subcommittee reported plans in development stage for the upcoming ACS National Meetings in San Diego and Philadelphia as well as for interactions with specific Society Divisions. Brief guides to IUPAC nomenclature for inorganic and organic chemistry are scheduled for publication within the next several months.

The detailed response of NTS to a questionnaire from IUPAC about definitions and use of *mole* and *amount of substance* will be made available on the NTS page of the ACS website; the term *amount of substance* is disfavored by NTS because of its ambiguity and infrequent use in the chemical literature and pedagogical practice. A preliminary report by the IUPAC Mole Project Task Group detailed the responses of seventeen National Adhering Organizations (NAO) to this questionnaire. A final report on the task group findings and recommendations on redefinitions for the mole and kilogram is expected to be released in the near future.

NTS announced its co-sponsorship of the full day symposium “Chemistry and the International System of Weights and Measures”, with speakers from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), the International Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM), and the Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt (PTB). The symposium was held on Wednesday, August 19, at the Boston Convention Center.

Current projects on the IUPAC International Chemical Identifier (InChI) algorithm include extensions to polymers and chemical reactions. Other IUPAC projects are developing possible applications of InChI in a 2D bar code format in *Health and Safety* and in *Registration*.

Albert C. Censullo, Chair

Project SEED

This year marks the 47th year of Project SEED. The program has provided research opportunities to nearly 10,000 students from low-income families. This summer 411 high school students were placed in more than 100 laboratories across the nation, under the supervision of more than 400 volunteer scientists and coordinators in 39 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. As a result of establishing the Geographic Expansion Subcommittee this summer five new states, Alaska, Hawaii, Nevada, North Dakota, and Utah held a Project SEED program.

The committee awarded 32 first year non-renewable College Scholarships to Project SEED alumni from 17 states and Puerto Rico.

In Boston, the committee adopted new rubrics for the selection of college scholarships, and approved new questionnaire for the ChemLuminary self-nomination. In addition, the committee voted to establish a Taskforce that will develop a plan to increase the fellowship and scholarship awards.

On Monday evening in Boston, twenty-four high school students from the Central New York, Indiana, New York, Northeastern, North Jersey, and Trenton Local Sections presented their research at SciMix.

The Chemical Society of Washington received the 2014 ChemLuminary award for Outstanding Project SEED Program.

The committee has set an ambitious goal to expand the program to all fifty states by the program's 50th Anniversary in 2018. To expand these educational opportunities for high school students we need more volunteers and additional funding. Please donate to Project SEED by using the dues check-off option on your ACS membership renewal. Thank you for your support and for making a difference.

Anna G. Cavinato, Chair

Technician Affairs

The Committee on Technician Affairs accepted nominations for the 2016 National Chemical Technician Award until September 30, 2015. This annual award is presented in recognition of outstanding technical and communication skills, reliability, leadership, teamwork, publications, and presentations. The winner will be honored in the spring at the ACS Diversity Reception in San Diego. For more information about the award, please visit the CTA website at acs.org/cta.

CTA is pleased to announce that the Midland Local section was honored at the Chemluminary Awards in Boston as the local section with the Best Technician-Related event. CTA would like to encourage all local sections and divisions who hold technician-related events to please submit them for consideration for the 2016 Chemluminary Award. Interested local sections and divisions may nominate themselves for the award with their annual reports.

As I end my term as Chair of CTA I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Committee for a successful two years. During my tenure CTA celebrated its landmark 50th anniversary in 2014 for which various events were held, awarded its first Chemluminary Award and gave two Distinguished Service Awards. CTA also worked much more closely with Diversity & Inclusion than in the past and cosponsored the Sunday evening Diversity reception in the spring.

I look forward to seeing what CTA will accomplish in the future as I am sure there are many more successes to come.

Susan S. Marine, Chair