

Report of the President

ACS Council

Fall 2013 - Indianapolis

President Marinda Li Wu reported she has been visiting members both in the U.S. and overseas to hear their concerns and ideas. Her presidential theme, Partners for Progress and Prosperity resonates well wherever she travels.

Work continues on the presidential task force, "Vision 2025: Helping ACS Members Thrive in the Global Chemistry Enterprise," which is dedicated to identifying opportunities with respect to jobs, advocacy, and strategic collaborations. Council was reminded of the recommendations for ACS presented at the spring national meeting in New Orleans, namely, that ACS discover and share information about the skills and competencies that a wide range of employers will need; continue to expand resources which help our members to position themselves for successful careers in the global chemistry enterprise; enable entrepreneurs to create and strengthen their startups that hire chemistry professionals; advocate for policies that improve the business climate and promote the creation of chemistry jobs; and work with other stakeholders to understand and influence the supply and demand of chemists and jobs. At the spring national meeting, representatives from the task force met with 27 stakeholder committees and divisions to discuss the recommendations, receive feedback, and hear suggestions on how to help the task force to develop and implement actions.

Actions thus far from the recommendations have included two presidential symposia and an advocacy training workshop at this meeting; the formation of a Task Force on Supply and Demand, which met for the first time at this national meeting; and the first ACS International Chapter Summit, which will be held following this meeting. At the national meeting last spring in New Orleans, there was a Global Collaboration Roundtable, as well as the launch of the International Employment Initiative, which continued at this meeting.