

**Reports from Committees meeting in Orlando, Florida
March 29-April 3, 2019**

Society Committees

Budget and Finance

The Society Committee on Budget and Finance (B&F) met on Saturday, March 30, 2019, to review the Society's 2018 financial performance. The Society ended 2018 with a net contribution from operations of \$41 million, on revenues of \$572 million and expenses of \$531 million. This was \$12 million favorable to the 2018 Approved Budget. After including the results of the Member Insurance Program, the Society's overall net contribution for 2018 was \$39 million, which was \$8 million favorable to the Approved Budget. In addition, ACS ended the year in compliance with all of the five Board-established financial guidelines. The Society's overall financial position improved in 2018 with unrestricted net assets increased by \$8 million to \$292 million December 31, 2018. The year-end balance includes the aforementioned \$41 million net from operations, offset by investment losses of \$25 million and a \$9 million increase in the Society's underfunded postretirement benefit liability.

In other actions, B&F elected Dr. Bryan Balazs as Vice Chair, and voted to recommend to Council that, in light of the Society's strong financial results, there be no increase for 2020 to the current dues rate of \$175.00. B&F further recommended that steps be taken to ensure the pause in dues does not negatively impact local sections and divisions. In addition, B&F received a report from the Subcommittee on Financial Impacts of Constitution & Bylaw Amendments on the financial impact of one bylaw petitions up for action by Council in Orlando. Finally, B&F received reports regarding ACS Publications, CAS, and Membership and Society Services.

Joseph A. Heppert, Chair

Education

The Society Committee on Education (SOCED) has approved and begun implementation of its 2019-2021 strategic plan. Fulfilling our vision of the future of chemistry teaching and learning, and our mission to develop and implement policies and resources to advance chemistry education and to connect its diverse communities, requires increased collaboration within ACS and across the scientific and educational communities.

SOCED was among the committees and divisions represented on the organizing committee for the 2019 Safety Education Summit held by the Committee on Chemical Safety. The emerging themes regarding chemical safety instruction and competencies, reviewed during the SOCED meeting, set the stage for future collaborations.

SOCED revisited its portfolio of ChemLuminary Awards, voting to establish a new Outstanding Partnership with the American Association of Chemistry Teachers (AACT) award and to change the name of the Outstanding Kids & Chemistry award to the Outstanding Engagement with K-8 Students award.

In response to the growing number of ACS International Student Chapters and the importance of promoting inclusive global student engagement in the SOCED awards program, SOCED voted to pilot a recognition program for ACS International Student Chapters.

SOCED continues to fulfill its duty of developing reports and recommendations to the Board and Council on Society policies related to chemical education. Revisions to the ACS Science Education Policy Statement, which expires at the end of 2019, are being considered. SOCED voted to propose that the ACS Board of Directors adopt the statement, Workforce Related Immigration, as public policy of the Society.

Jennifer Nielson, Chair

Council Elected Committees

Committee on Committees

During the meeting in Orlando, the Committee on Committees (ConC) gave presentations on the committee appointment process, as well as an update on the 2019 committee demographic survey to the 32 Council-related committees. As of April 2 - ConC was pleased to announce that, the committee demographic survey had a 71 percent participation rate. ConC also voted to endorse the Petition to Streamline the ACS Governing Documents.

ConC was pleased to host Committee Chairs during an interactive session to improve collaboration and communication between committees.

ConC participated in an orientation session that was held for new Councilors and Alternate Councilors to better acquaint them with the Council and its structure, and to encourage them to consider service through one of the Society's Council-related Committees.

Based on their performance reviews, ConC recommended to Council, and CPC concurred, that the Committee on Nomenclature, Terminology and Symbols be continued and that, subject to concurrence by the Board of Directors, the Committee on Senior Chemists be continued. Council approved both these recommendations.

ConC has begun developing its recommendations for 2020 Committee Chair appointments for consideration by the President-Elect and the Chair of the Board of Directors. The online committee preference form opened on March 18 at <https://www.yellowbook.acs.org/>. Completing the form is especially important for committee associates, consultants, those finishing a term, those who will reach the statutory limit (final year) on their present committee, and those who are up for reelection as Councilor for a division or local section.

Carolyn Ribes, Chair

Council Policy Committees

The Council Policy Committee (CPC) Long Range Planning Subcommittee hosted a New Councilor Orientation for new Councilors and Alternate Councilors on March 30th, with 33 new Councilors and Alternate Councilors in attendance. The subcommittee is also planning a Strategy Café for all Councilors at the fall meeting in San Diego.

The CPC Working Group on Future Council Representation continued its discussions on how to design a Council that best serves the Society in its advisory role to the ACS Board of Directors. The Working Group discussed what function Council currently serves, and what its function should be. Ideas were brought forth on how to serve our international members with representation, the best methods for allocating representation between local sections and technical divisions, and how best to involve younger members into the national governance structure.

As required by the Society's Bylaws, CPC has set the divisor for allocation of Councilors seats among Local Sections and Divisions for 2020-2023. The formula is based on membership numbers as of December 31, 2018. Official notification of the Councilor divisor and its impact on the number of Councilors will be sent to Locals Sections and Divisions, well in advance of the required May 1st deadline, in order to accommodate elections in 2019.

Along with the Board of Directors, CPC created the Task Force on Governance Design, whose work led to the Petition to Streamline the ACS Governing Documents, which is up for action at this meeting. The committee supports the petitioner's intent to the ACS Governing Documents by moving text from the Constitution to the Bylaws and from the Constitution and Bylaws to Standing Rules; CPC believes that

these changes will simplify our governing documents and make it easier for committees and members to propose changes. CPC voted to endorse the Petition to Streamline the ACS Governing Documents.

Lisa Houston, CPC Vice-Chair

Nominations and Elections

The Town Hall Meeting in Orlando, sponsored by the Committee on Nominations and Elections (N&E), provided an opportunity for Councilors and other interested members to hear the positions of the four nominees for ACS President-Elect. During the Council meeting, Council selected H. N. Cheng and Carol A. Duane as candidates for President-Elect from among the four nominees. N&E welcomes suggestions for qualified individuals for President-Elect and/or Directors for future consideration. Members may send suggestions, supported by rationale, to the committee at nomelect@acs.org.

N&E has begun to consider a new focus and strategy around the identification of candidates for ACS national offices, the challenge of cultivating a more diverse leadership pipeline that befits inclusive governance, and ultimately, the screening process for candidates. The committee will examine more thoroughly why some members identified as qualified nominees for elected offices decline the nominations to serve. This will help N&E to develop value propositions and craft comprehensive communication pieces around the scope, expectations, and campaign requirements for these national offices.

N&E annually reviews the distribution of member population within the six electoral districts to assure that the districts have equitable representation to elect district directors. The 2018 year-end report was not in compliance, and N&E will recommend to Council in August redefined district boundaries as are necessary to satisfy the Bylaws.

The committee developed slates of potential candidates for the Council Policy Committee and the Committee on Committees for 2020-2022 terms. The names of the candidates will appear in the fall San Diego Council agenda.

Amber S. Hinkle, Chair

Council Standing Committees

Constitution and Bylaws

Council voted to approve the Petition to Streamline the ACS Governing Documents, which was up for *action*. The petition must be approved by the Board of Directors and the Constitution changes must be approved by ACS members for the changes to be effective. There were no petitions that were up for *consideration* by Council.

New petitions to amend the Constitution and/or Bylaws must be received by the Executive Director by May 8 for consideration by Council at the fall 2019 meeting in San Diego, or by December 4 for consideration by Council at the spring 2020 meeting in Philadelphia. The Committee on Constitution and Bylaws (C&B) is happy to assist; we suggest that you submit your draft petitions to bylaws@acs.org at least three weeks before these deadlines if you would like C&B to review your draft before you formally submit your petition.

C&B has certified 3 unit bylaws so far in 2019. C&B certified 18 bylaws in 2018, including eight bylaws that were certified after the fall ACS meeting in Boston. All bylaws, options to update bylaws, and the ACS Governing Documents (Bulletin 5) are available at www.acs.org/bulletin5.

Thirty-one Local Sections and two Divisions have not updated their bylaws since the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s. Many of these bylaws require that elections be conducted by U.S. mail. If so, and if electronic

balloting is used, the elections might be invalid. We contacted these and other Divisions and Local Sections last year regarding their bylaws and are working with DAC and LSAC to follow up with them.

V. Dean Adams, Chair

Divisional Activities

The Committee on Divisional Activities' (DAC) four subcommittees met Saturday, March 30 to discuss issues related to communication and technology, governance, divisional enhancement, and collaborative programming. The full committee met Sunday to review their recommendations and discuss related divisional issues.

In September 2018, a survey designed to identify key challenges related to collaboration, engagement, and the recruitment and retention of division membership was developed by the ACS Technical Divisions Office and sent to division leaders. The committee reviewed the results of that survey and is considering ways to follow up with divisions.

Since March 2018, new members have been given the option to join up to three divisions at no cost for the first year. More than 13,000 free divisional memberships were activated in 2018 compared to fewer than 7,000 in 2017. However, retaining new members remains challenging. Enhanced efforts and new strategies are being developed.

The committee continues its initiative called "Division Row", placing divisional posters in a well-trafficked area of Sci-Mix. The objective is to provide divisions with more exposure to younger chemists in attendance. Seventeen divisions participated in Orlando.

DAC wants to enhance collaborative programming between divisions on emerging topic areas. It is continuing to develop a concept and plans to share the idea with division officers and Councilors for comment before the San Diego meeting.

The committee voted to fund nine Innovative Project Grants (IPG) totaling \$59,904. Included are strategic planning proposals from three divisions. Another group of IPG proposals will be considered at the fall meeting. The deadline for submissions is July 1, 2019.

The committee wishes to acknowledge the efforts of the divisions and the Multidisciplinary Program Planning Group in organizing and delivering a wide range of excellent programming in support of the Orlando theme: "*Chemistry for New Frontiers*".

James Takacs, Chair

Economic and Professional Affairs

The Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA) evaluates and implements the portfolio of career-related programs, products and services to ensure balance and alignment with members' needs.

There will be a new member employment and salary survey implemented for 2019. This year's survey will return to the format previously used and will replace the modular format. This survey will be distributed shortly with pre-communication to alert members of its arrival with clear markings that it is indeed from The American Chemical Society. The goal is to increase participation and deliver data that is more accurate.

In the ongoing effort to expand events offered by ACS Career Services, CEPA is pleased to announce the pilot of the Korn Ferry 'KF' Advance Program. This pilot, which will go out to 1,000 members at random, will offer 24/7 interview assessment, resume parsing, traits assessment, career development

videos and more. The ultimate goal is to meet members where they are regarding career services and allow the resources to be readily accessible.

CEPA continues to develop and recruit Career Consultants to assist members one on one with their career ambitions. Five potential consultants were reviewed and approved to serve electronically as well as at career events at the local, regional and national level.

Frank Romano, Chair

Local Section Activities

The Committee on Local Section Activities (LSAC) recognized local sections celebrating significant anniversaries in 2019: 25th Tampa Bay; 50th Central Utah; 75th Hampton Roads, Northeastern Ohio, Southern Nevada, Wabash Valley; 100th Midland, Oklahoma; and 125th Lehigh Valley.

At the National Meeting, LSAC approved the funding of 13 new IPGs totaling over \$38,000. The deadline for the next round of IPG proposals is June 30th. LSAC will soon request proposals for Science Café Mini-Grants, which will be due on May 31st and the Members Engaging Through Technology (METT) grants which will be due in October. LSAC is developing ways to share best practices, learned through its grant programs, via our Local Section Digital Resource Guide and a planned webinar series.

LSAC has begun the review of the 2018 Local Section Annual Reports, and reported that 153 local sections have completed their reports. LSAC will follow-up with those local sections that have not yet submitted their Councilor- approved annual reports in an effort to expedite their submission. LSAC expects to complete its review of annual reports by June 1st.

LSAC reviewed the procedures for calculating local section allocations and made a recommendation to Council to maintain the existing allocation formula. The allocation formula, which has been in place since 2013, applies fixed percentages for a base and per capita allocation, as well as funds for LSAC grant programs.

Jason Ritchie, Chair

Meetings and Expositions

More than 12,830 scientific contributions were made at the 2019 ACS Spring National Meeting and Exposition in Orlando, Florida. Total attendance for this meeting was 15,605 (unaudited). The Exposition had 369 booths with 235 exhibiting companies, including the career fair.

As part of M&E's sustainability plan, last fall M&E voted to eliminate the print version of the program book. A PDF version of the technical program was available for download on the ACS National Meeting website. The mobile app received more than 11,000 downloads, and the online planner was accessed more than 160,000 times.

Due to the success of ongoing meetings cost reduction efforts, including the concentration of the technical program in the convention center, this allowed M&E to recommend that we not enact the final \$15 registration fee escalator. M&E, therefore, recommended that the Early Member Registration Fee for the 2020 national meetings be \$505.

The M&E Technical Program subcommittee is focusing on setting later meeting abstract submission deadlines to occur after the spring meeting concludes. This will be achieved by enacting early room assignments for the fall 2020 meeting. Discussions will be held with divisions and program chairs at the 2019 spring meeting in San Diego to help plan a new process together.

There were issues of poor audio quality in the presentation theaters that were set up to accommodate the unexpectedly high number of concurrent technical sessions during the spring national meeting. These theaters were used successfully for technical sessions at the New Orleans and Boston national meetings on smaller scales. The equipment used in Orlando was different from that used in the past and proved, unexpectedly, to be insufficient to deliver needed performance. The ACS staff acted quickly and new replacement equipment was brought in to help address the situation, somewhat improving audio quality, but issues persisted. M&E apologized for the inconvenience this caused speakers and organizers, and we will ensure that the situation is improved for San Diego.

The Exposition and Industry subcommittee continues to work on the M&E strategic goal of increasing industrial participation in the Exposition. Over 40 different industry-recommended programs and events were held in Orlando, many of which took place on the show floor in the theaters, the ACS booth, and in the Career Fair area.

More than 4,400 attendees participated in nine regional meetings in 2018. The Regional Meeting subcommittee and ACS staff will continue to create and implement resources to support local section volunteers, who create the regional meetings. The Regional Meeting Planning Conference once again took place in conjunction with the Leadership Institute, held this past January in Atlanta.

Finally, M&E voted unanimously to endorse the petition to streamline the ACS governing documents.

Kevin J. Edgar, Chair

Membership Affairs

The Committee on Membership Affairs (MAC) continues to focus on the value provided to ACS members. The committee's interest is both the value of the package of benefits offered and relevant ways to incentivize renewals and joins. MAC strongly believes that membership is everyone's responsibility and members themselves are our best ambassadors. Members should continue to share the value of ACS with their friends, family, and colleagues.

MAC is also delighted to report that in 2018 we saw a net membership growth of a tenth-of-one-percent. This is the first membership growth ACS has recorded in the better part of a decade.

MAC was encouraged that about 20% of our 25,000 new members last year were incentivized by market testing initiatives. Without these new members, we would have seen continued declines.

One such test is the international country pricing chartered by MAC in 2016. This test provides reduced dues for international members residing in emerging nations. For all of last year, only 18 countries met both the World Bank criteria for income and hosted an ACS international chemical sciences chapter or international student chapter.

In January 2015, as MAC began discussing the concept, the 18 countries participating had more than 3,700 members. By December 2018 that more than doubled to over 8,800. Surveys are being conducted presently to determine more about these members' decision processes.

At its recent meeting, Council at the request of MAC, extended this test for an additional three years through August 2022 to allow for additional data collection and understanding to be developed.

Finally, MAC will be launching a new Chemluminary award in 2020 to recognize novel and creative recruitment and renewal efforts by the local sections and technical divisions.

Brian Mathes, Chair

Board Standing Committees

Corporation Associates

The Committee on Corporation Associates (CA) met on April 1, 2019 and is now working to refocus its activities per the future state plan it developed in 2018. One of the next steps is to construct a compelling value proposition statement. With a value proposition statement, the committee will re-examine its subcommittees and activities.

In conjunction with developing a value proposition statement, the committee is evaluating its dues structure. The committee seeks to develop a simpler structure, which is more representative of the value, reducing some of the disparity between the high fees paid by companies with larger numbers of chemists. In addition, the committee will consider the role of a revised dues structure and a value proposition statement in providing new companies incentives to join CA.

CA is developing forums for the industrial community to discuss issues of interest in a pre- and non-competitive environment. The first CA forum on Industrial Safety has held two teleconferences as a beta test. A working group is developing a framework for future forums including topic selection, finances, and metrics, and evaluation.

CA has delayed the selection of recipients for the 2019 local section and seed grants until after the national meeting. The committee approved a total budget of \$20K for 2019 local section and seed grants. The 2019 Heroes of Chemistry winners were announced and include teams from Paratek Pharmaceuticals, DuPont, Pharmacyclics LLC, and PPG. These teams will be recognized on Sunday at the fall meeting in San Diego.

CA approved the proposed Immigration and Work Visas Policy statement with no changes.

CA also approved to nominally support a new ChemLuminary Award (cosponsored by MAC) to recognize novel activities in membership acquisition by local sections.

R. J. Wolcik, Chair

Professional and Member Relations

The Chair briefly reviewed the committee's 2019 priority areas, and staff then delivered a presentation on 2019 Membership and Society Services (M&SS) division plans to recruit and retain increasing numbers of ACS members. It was noted that 2019 will bring even more challenges than did 2018 in achieving this goal. A large number of initiatives are planned – or underway - to meet the challenge. The presentation concluded with a specific focus on ACS industry members, and the new activities being implemented to more securely connect ACS to its industry members, and provide them with more value. They include a specific version of ACS Matters for industry, a one-day workshop targeting non-technical workplace skills, and several other initiatives.

The Chair of the National Awards Advisory Board (NAAB), noted that NAAB populated the Selection Committees for ACS National Awards, and is working to finalize Selection Committees to support the grouped awards. The chair also reported on the proposed policy on conflict of interests regarding selection of ACS National Awards.

Staff shared the Award endowment financial data. It was reported that ACS had secured two ACS National Awards sponsor agreements (1) Arkema will sponsor in 2021-2022 the ACS Award for Creative Work in Fluorine Chemistry, and (2) Strem Chemicals will support in 2021-2025 the ACS Award for Distinguished Service in the Advancement of Inorganic Chemistry. A brief timetable was presented regarding the 2019 ACS Fellows nomination process, as well as the schedule for the ACS National Awards Banquet in April in Orlando.

Staff then briefed the committee on the challenges surrounding a request to enable International Chemical Sciences Chapters to submit ACS Fellows nominations in the same manner as ACS Local Sections and Divisions. Several obstacles were cited that are impeding staff from making the necessary changes to enable online submission for International Chapters, one of which focused on a perceived lack of governance authorization.

With the ACS Secretary, the committee discussed the need for the ACS Fellows Guidelines to explicitly authorize International Chapters to make Fellows nominations. However, a subsequent review by the Secretary of the amendments previously brought to the committee by Fellows Oversight Committee Chair (and approved by the committee) in November 2019 revealed the language in those amendments sufficiently authorized International Chemical Sciences Chapters to submit one ACS Fellows nomination per year.

Committee members then reported on recent activities related to P&MR's efforts to better understand the finances supporting ACS National Awards. Questions such as the following will be tackled in the coming months: What is the cost to fully fund an award? How do the costs compare in terms of endowed vs. sponsored awards? What is the relationship between what we charge groups to sponsor/endow awards and the actual costs of distributing these awards? Can ACS find a way to permit annual payments for those benefactors who prefer doing so? More detail will be shared with the committee at its next meeting in June.

Finally, staff shared the 2019 focus areas with the committee. They include the following: (1) Enhancements to acs.org, (2) Component Group/Volunteer engagements, (3) Personalized Interactions, and (4) Prototyping activities. Regarding prototyping activities, staff cited ongoing efforts to replace the application that component groups use to produce their annual reports, and reported the replacement is not expected to be implemented until 2020.

Dorothy J. Phillips, Chair

Public Affairs and Public Relations

The Board Standing Committee on Public Affairs and Public Relations (PA&PR) met virtually on March 22, 2019. The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming members, expressed his enthusiasm for the privilege of serving as the new chair of the committee, reviewed the agenda, and highlighted several issues of interest:

- **PAPR Reference Materials** – standard reference materials included in all agenda books – committee information sheet, policy messages, policy coalitions and partnerships.
- **Chair's Communication to ACS Policy Making Committees** - reminding them of their important role in the ACS policy-making process and asking for inclusion of process materials in their agenda books.
- **Recent Activities Toward Preventing Sexual Harassment in the Sciences** – press release announcing the launch of the Societies Consortium on Sexual Harassment in STEMM (ACS one of 52 organizations in the consortium) and a science community letter (with ACS as signatory) to the Department of Education expressing concerns with their proposed Title IX regulations that are seen as weakening protections against sexual harassment.
- **Congratulatory Letters from ACS Executive Director** – to U.S. Representative Eddie Bernice Johnson on being appointed Chair of the House Science, Space and Technology Committee and to Dr. Kelvin Droegemeier on his Senate confirmation as Director, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.
- **C&EN Comments** – from the Chair entitled “Introducing ACS and Chemistry to the 116th Congress” and the other from Board member Dorothy Phillips entitled “ACS Science and Human Rights in 2019 and Beyond”.

ACS Public Policy Statement Prioritization - The Chair introduced the annual exercise to prioritize individual ACS public policy statements and thanked committee members for submitting their input via a survey instrument. ACS staff presented the background for the prioritization process and explained

how the committee's input helps set the ACS advocacy agenda. Based on survey input received from both PA&PR members and ACS External Affairs & Communications (EAC) staff, policy statements were put into four tiers. The committee reviewed the tiering and discussed the statements proposed for inclusion in each tier. After discussion, the committee VOTED to approve the advocacy prioritization for 2019.

National Historic Chemical Landmark (NHCL) Program - The committee received an update from EAC staff that included a review of the 2019 NHCL subcommittee member roster; qualifications and the nomination progress for NHCL; recap of designation ceremonies for St. Elmo Brady, the first African American to receive a chemistry Ph. D. in the United States; upcoming 2019 NHCL designation ceremonies and nominations in the pipeline; including one for the Periodic Table, and development and use of NHCL curriculum and website analytics demonstrating academic use of NHCL materials. Committee members offered suggestions for the nomination and designation sites for the Periodic Table.

Capitol Hill and Advocacy/Member Engagement – The committee received an update from EAC staff on the ACS Public Policy Agenda for the 116th Congress and plans to advance its attainment on Capitol Hill and outreach to new members of Congress. The update also included a review of the President's 2020 Budget Request and its major cuts in funding to federal science agencies, efforts to grow the Congressional Chemistry Caucus and a recap of the February Board Fly-In to Capitol Hill and the overview for the April 30-May 1 annual ACS Legislative Summit that will involve ACS Board members along with representatives from the Committee on Chemistry and Public Affairs (CCPA).

International Year of the Periodic Table (IYPT) – Several IYPT 2019 first quarter activities were highlighted for committee members by EAC staff that included participation of ACS President Bonnie Charpentier at the IYPT launch at UNESCO headquarters in Paris, France; hosting of an IYPT Women's Breakfast at ACS headquarters to coincide with other global breakfasts; an IYPT presence at the AAAS Family Science Days; a widely attended ACS hosted IYPT Capitol Hill Reception featuring remarks from ACS Past President Peter Dorhout and planned IYPT activities at the upcoming Orlando national meeting as well as the at the fall national meeting in San Diego.

External Affairs & Communications Activities at the Orlando National Meeting - EAC staff provided the committee with an overview of their activities at the Orlando National Meeting, including staff support for eight governance committee meetings, operation of the ACS Press Center and conduct of press conferences, several training workshops and an International Welcoming Reception for international visitors at the meeting. Committee members were encouraged by the Chair to try to find time to stop by and observe some of these activities.

Advocacy Outreach to Local Sections – Committee member gave an update on plans being developed with the EAC government affairs team to increase member engagement on the local section level with state and federal policymakers that is a priority for ACS President Bonnie Charpentier. Key outcome desired is an increased number of local sections with a government affairs committee.

Old/New Business – Two items presented – a brief update on the Campaign for Science, of which ACS is a participating member, and discussion of the 2018 Society Program Portfolio Management program grouping reports for External Affairs & Communications as PA&PR is the main cognizant committee for these activities. A committee member called attention to the upcoming 10th anniversary of the AAAS Science & Human Rights Coalition, in October of this year.

Paul W. Jagodzinski, Chair

Joint Board- Council and Council Other Committees

Chemical Abstracts Service

The Committee on Chemical Abstracts (CCAS) met in Executive Session on March 29, 2019 and heard an update on the latest CAS products and services. CAS continues to introduce solutions beyond the market leading franchises of SciFinder and STN. SciFinderⁿ has already been implemented at more than

500 customer sites worldwide. This solution, which is the most powerful chemically relevant search engine, is easier to use than any other existing Scientific Discovery Search solution and will be further enhanced with the integration of ChemPlanner. CCAS members were pleased to learn that the initial ChemPlanner implementation will be based on experimental data and will continue to evolve to predictive data.

Updates were provided to the committee regarding the 2020 ACS Committee appointment cycle and demographic survey as well as a review of the ACS Code of Conduct at National Meetings. The remainder of the agenda was devoted to the continuation of discussions to define a work product for CCAS. CCAS Chair Kevin Gable reviewed the stakeholder analysis with the committee and then divided the group into two teams to deliberate and help define an effective or impactful work product/process for CCAS. Suggested outcomes from the groups included contacting leadership of various technical divisions to survey members regarding CAS services and products, marginal users, ACS member benefit awareness and barriers to access chemical literature. The teams also suggested defining a chemical information award as well as creating an awareness of chemical information at the high school level.

Kevin Gable, Chair

Chemical Safety

The Committee on Chemical Safety (CCS) has been actively working to address the strategic opportunities that were identified at the 2018 ACS Safety Summit. The accomplishments listed below represent just a few of the activities undertaken this year as the committee continues to support ACS members in living out our Core Value of Professionalism, Safety, and Ethics.

- In March, the committee, along with other ACS stakeholders and subject matter experts, organized the second ACS “Safety Summit” to identify and develop key strategic opportunities for the ACS to support chemical safety education. Summit participants identified six opportunities, including the development of a safety education toolkit and a system for disseminating case studies and lessons learned reports.
- The CCS, in partnership with the Division of Chemical Health and Safety (CHAS) and the ACS Office of Safety Programs, have been developing short two-minute videos which can be used by instructors to address key chemical safety concepts in the laboratory. The first of these has received more than 4000 views as of this date. The ACS safety videos are available at the [Chemical Safety Playlist at the ACS YouTube Channel](#).
- With the support of the Committee on Divisional Activities Innovative Project Grant, the Safety Advisory Panel of the CCS is collaborating with CHAS and the Division of Chemical Information to develop teaching resources for risk assessment in undergraduate organic teaching laboratories.

In Orlando, CCS started strategic planning conversations to review and update its strategic plan from 2014 and update it to reflect the many changes in the ACS safety environment since that time. As we move this strategic planning process forward, the CCS seeks ideas, suggestions, and feedback to make chemistry safer and to help the ACS continue to be the global leader in laboratory chemical safety. Please send your comments to safety@acs.org

Ralph Stuart, Chair

Chemistry & Public Affairs

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

At the Orlando meeting, CCPA voted to recommend that the ACS Board of Directors adopt the draft Workforce-related Immigration policy statement, as public policy of the Society. Furthermore, CCPA applauded the thoughtful efforts of the working group, led by Susan Butts, in researching and developing the draft statement.

2018-2019 ACS Congressional Fellow Teresa Williams shared her experiences working with the U.S. House Committee on Energy & Commerce. CCPA selects and ACS supports two Congressional Fellows to work on Capitol Hill for a year and one Science Policy Fellow to work in the ACS Office of External Affairs & Communications. More information can be found on the ACS website at www.acs.org/policyfellow.

CCPA heard from several speakers from federal agencies. Karen Howard from the U.S. Government Accountability Office shared her agency's unique role in assisting Congress with its oversight, insight, and foresight responsibilities. Recently, the Congress tasked the GAO with expanding its role in providing scientific and technology-related information, expertise, and support.

Kristin Kulinowski, the Interim Executive Authority, U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigations Board, shared insights gained from directing a federal agency, including the role that scientific societies play in Washington.

The three speakers -- Williams, Howard, and Kulinowski -- spoke as a panel about the different types of technical information policy makers use, and the role ACS can play.

Ray E. Forslund, Chair

Chemists with Disabilities

The Chemists with Disabilities Committee (CWD) promotes chemistry through educational and professional opportunities for persons with disabilities. CWD leverages its resources for impact beyond the community of chemists with disabilities, for the betterment of ACS and society as a whole.

1. CWD sponsors a student travel award that will continue in 2019. The purpose of the ACS-CWD Travel Award is to encourage the participation of undergraduate/graduate students and post-docs with disabilities who will present a talk or poster at the ACS National Meeting.
2. CWD promotes the capabilities of persons with disabilities with its famous scientists with disabilities posters. These posters are displayed throughout various venues at ACS national meetings. CWD also created posters suitable for classroom use. By displaying these posters in schools, we encourage youngsters, with and without disabilities, to overcome life's hurdles and to achieve their full potential.
3. The New York Local Section of ACS held a day-long symposium in October 2018 on methods for adapting chemistry lectures and laboratories for students with disabilities at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. This symposium was supported by a Local Section Activities innovative project grant. Speakers were sourced from CWD, and local ACS sections in New York and Philadelphia. The audience included high school and college science faculty, graduate teaching assistants, and disability services administrators. The symposium was also streamed via Facebook live and Vimeo.
4. The committee has developed a guide for composing accessible power point presentations that will be available via the American Chemical Society Committee on Chemists with Disabilities website.

James Schiller, Chair

Community Activities

Forty-eight volunteers from the Committee on Community Activities (CCA), Local Sections, and Student Chapters engaged with 344 people during the biannual ACS Presidential Outreach Event. This event was held at the Orlando Science Center from 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 30. ACS President Dr. Bonnie Charpentier presented a Salutes to Excellence award to the Orlando Science Center in recognition of their work preparing for and executing an engaging event. President Charpentier was joined by future chemist, Ms. Meg. A. Mole. Both dignitaries enjoyed activities developed from a collaboration with the National Informal STEM Education Network, included in “Explore Science: Let’s Do Chemistry” kits, and preparations for this year’s Chemists Celebrate Earth Week (CCEW) celebration.

This year’s theme is “Take Note: the Chemistry of Paper.” All CCEW resources were released on February 1, and celebrations will take place from April 21 – 27, 2019.

CCA met for their executive session on Sunday, March 31. During this session, the theme for NCW 2020 was approved and six new associates were welcomed to the committee. CCA organized a workshop, primarily for undergraduate students, to help prepare volunteers to observe CCEW on Monday, April 1 for approximately 40 participants. On Tuesday, April 2 a joint open meeting was held with the Local Section Activities Committee followed by a reception thanking outreach volunteers.

CCA welcomes participation of any ACS Member on NCW and CCEW Theme Teams for 2019 and beyond. Please contact outreach@acs.org for more information.

Holly Davis, Chair

Environmental Improvement

At its meetings in Orlando, the Committee on Environmental Improvement (CEI) continued to work on a wide range of projects from its strategic plan to advance sustainability thinking and practice across ACS and society. The plan has three goals:

- Engage stakeholders to incorporate sustainability into the practice and use of chemistry;
- Equip advocates to be influential voices about policies in sustainable chemistry; and
- Engage networks to advance sustainability education and communication.

In the first area, CEI continues to support sustainability programming by local sections. In Orlando, CEI voted to provide grants to the North Carolina and Orange County Local Sections. The committee also identified the finalists for the 2019 ChemLuminary Award for Outstanding Sustainability Activities: the Central New York, Georgia and Northeastern Local Sections.

The committee continued planning for its support of the theme, Chemistry of Water, for the upcoming fall 2019 National Meeting. The committee will be hosting a film festival competition (<https://ceifilm.wixsite.com/2019>) in conjunction with the theme.

The committee also continued its work to identify the most appropriate connections for ACS and chemistry to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals 2030. In Orlando, the committee received a presentation from the ACS Office for Scientific Advancement and discussed which of the 17 goals should be priorities for ACS activities and attention.

For the second goal, CEI continues to develop draft public policy statements for consideration by the ACS Board of Directors. Currently, CEI is reviewing and updating of the expiring ACS statements on chemical risk assessment and regulatory decision-making and on climate change. To provide input to this work, ACS members can comment (via cei@acs.org) based on the current versions that are located in the sustainability section of www.acs.org/policy.

Christopher W. Avery, Chair

Ethics

The ACS Committee on Ethics (ETHX) met in open session on Sunday, March 30, 2019, in Orlando, FL. Most committee members and liaisons attended. As customary, the committee has devoted the morning to subcommittee work sessions and the afternoon to transacting full committee business. The committee has divided into four working groups to move swiftly on four short-term projects, including a redesign of our Web space, programming at national meetings and beyond, and a census of existing case studies on ethics-related topics. ETHX is also trying to increase communication with other ACS entities interested in ethics through expansion and strengthening of our liaison network. If your committee, division, or local section has a group devoted to ethics, we would love to get in touch!

ETHX is actively preparing for a strategic planning retreat that will be held at the beginning of June. We believe that this will help us to focus our efforts, making us an even more effective committee and the first stop for any individual interested in learning more about ethical issues in the chemical enterprise. In order to get a better sense of the topics of interest to ACS members, we constructed two questions for distribution to the membership as part of the Salary Survey. To date, we have received just over 2500 surveys, indicating that the top ethical issue on the minds of ACS members is data integrity. Our fourth working group is currently analyzing the data from the survey questions to try to determine the interests of different demographics of the ACS membership. This will help us to develop goals as we enter the strategic planning process, and it will also help to focus our ongoing efforts to become a clearinghouse of essential ethics resources for the ACS.

Members of the committee received a report on the ACS policy on sexual harassment and the Volunteer/National Meeting Attendee Conduct Policy. We also discussed ways in which the ACS could assist volunteers performing chemistry outreach activities in complying with state and local laws surrounding the protection of minors.

Judith N. Currano, Chair

International Activities

The International Activities Committee (IAC) Open Session on Saturday, March 30, 2019, began with reports from the IAC subcommittees on their morning meetings as well as a presentation from representatives of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. ACS groups that presented on their international programs and events included DivCHED, LSAC, YCC, SOCED, and MAC. IAC endorsed MAC's proposal for Council consideration to extend the International Dues Discount Program Based on World Bank Country Income Levels test.

The IAC Executive Session included reports from the IAC subcommittees on their morning executive session meetings and reviewing annual reports of ACS International Chapters. Presentations without any action items included a survey from the Committee on Committees and ACS leaders presenting on plans for summits of ACS International Chapters.

IAC recommend that ACS Council review and approve to establish an ACS International Chemical Sciences Chapter in the Republic of Georgia. IAC then chose neither to register endorsement, opposition, or a "no position stance" for the Petition to Streamline the ACS Governing Documents. Finally, IAC proposed that the ACS Board of Directors adopt the Workforce-Related Immigration statement, as public policy of the Society.

Jens Breffke, Chair

Minority Affairs

The Committee on Minority Affairs (CMA), in conjunction with the Diversity & Inclusion Advisory Board (DIAB), is in the process of developing new strategies to diversifying the regional and national awardees. CMA also unveiled the personal pronoun pins as a way to increase the welcoming, inclusive, and respectful ACS conference environment.

Additionally, CMA continues to work towards our goals of dynamic national programming within the technical divisions by sponsoring “Here we are: Leading and Emerging Black Chemists in Analytic Chemistry” (ANYL) and “Therapeutic Developments in the Area of Health Disparities” (MEDI).

CMA heard highlights on the Dept. of Educational Programs staff support restructuring for the ACS Scholars and Project Seed Programs. There was an additional discussion about the economic problems that some of the Scholars have endured as some schools practice financial aid recalculation as a result of receiving this scholarship. The committee also heard a passionate plea for more people to participate in the Scholars selection process as they currently have a 50% increase in applications submitted.

Furthermore, there was a discussion about the sexual harassment policy and code of conduct. As a result, mechanisms were suggested to help the implementation on the regional and local level such as training at the leadership institute/webinars on guidelines, best practices of professional conduct, and directions to find local laws that may be applied in various situations.

Finally, CMA hosted Dr. Jani Ingram as its luncheon speaker. As a part of her lecture, Dr. Ingram spoke about the interplay between cultural norms, exposure, and career trajectory. She also gave an impactful description of her research that addresses chronic uranium, lead, magnesium, and other radioactive elements that the Navajo have been exposed to as a result of mines related soil, water, and livestock contamination.

Ann Kimble-Hill, Chair

Nomenclature, Terminology and Symbols

The Committee on Nomenclature, Terminology, and Symbols (NTS), an ‘other’ committee of Council, has been actively engaged in multiple initiatives and has brought several to successful completion.

NTS’ projects are aligned to the mission to “educate, facilitate, and advocate for the use of chemical representations that support a universal understanding of chemistry.”

NTS, in collaboration with the Braille Authority of North America, has facilitated discussions with visually impaired chemists to standardize the Braille code for chemistry. Through this collaboration, we jointly are working to improve the ability of the code to represent chemical structures, increase the usage of the code through advocacy and outreach, and remove redundancy in the existing code. Discussions have been held with Braille transcribers and the project is on track for targeted completion by the end of 2019.

AACT High School Day in Orlando featured programming sponsored by NTS. A project is underway to develop a Program In a Box that will include history and nomenclature materials for secondary and undergraduate students.

CINF and HIST and NTS are collaborating on a symposium on nomenclature and structural representation in San Diego for the Fall National Meeting entitled "Chemical Nomenclature & Representation: Past, Present and Future". This symposium will have twenty-two invited talks that focus on history of nomenclature and structural representation issues; stereochemistry; nomenclature for carbon nanotubes; CAS’ nomenclature past present, and future; human computer interface; cheminformatics data standards.

NTS contributed to the revision of the ACS Style Guide for a chapter on chemical nomenclature and collaborated with CAS nomenclature experts in the chapter's development.

Michelle Monnens Rogers, Chair

Patents and Related Matters

The Committee on Patents and Related Matters (CPRM) met in Orlando on March 30, and serves the ACS in several ways. The committee monitors legislative and regulatory developments influencing intellectual property. Recently, CPRM spearheaded the successful effort for ACS to adopt a new IP Policy Statement. This Statement provides a vehicle for ACS to actively support the continued development of a robust IP system. In addition, the committee continues to educate ACS members about key intellectual property issues impacting the chemistry community, including patents, trade secrets, copyrights, and technology transfer. CPRM makes publications and informational materials on these and other topics freely available through the committee's website, including a new edition of "What Every Chemist Needs to Know About Patents."

CPRM works to promote recognition of chemist and chemical engineer inventors' contributions by recommending that the Board nominate deserving chemists and chemical engineers for external awards, such as the National Inventors Hall of Fame. CPRM also makes recommendations on nominations for the National Women's Hall of Fame and the National Medal of Technology and Innovation. CPRM welcomes suggestions for these important awards.

The committee helps provide speakers for the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's Technology Fair. These speakers provide patent examiners with hour-long updates on the latest developments in the chemical sciences. If you would like to participate in these efforts, please let us know via the committee's email address: Patents@acs.org.

Kirby Drake, Chair

Professional Training

The ACS Committee on Professional Training (CPT) met at the Spring National Meeting held in Orlando, FL, March 29 – 31, 2019. We completed the review of 50 periodic reports, reviewed site visit reports from 5 programs seeking approval, and then voted to approve those 5 new programs. There are currently 694 ACS approved programs.

The ACS approval program is transitioning to a new reporting process that includes the development and implementation of a new online system. This will offer significant advantages to all users, but requires transfer of records, validation, and testing, which is expected to take one full year. To ensure that the review process is not affected by this shutdown, the periodic review process will be suspended in 2019 and will be reinitiated in 2020. The deadlines for all programs will be moved ahead by 1 year.

CPT has five active subcommittees focused on initiatives related to our strategic plan: 1) Curriculum Assessment, 2) Student Skills, 3) Value of ACS-Approval, 4) Guidelines Revision, and 5) Global Activities. There are also working groups focused on 1) the implementation and deployment of a faculty status survey and 2) the definition of a supplement on best practices for diversity and inclusion among faculty. At the spring meeting, each of the subcommittees made progress toward its respective strategic goals and defined priorities to continue working offline during the summer of 2019. Special emphasis was placed on activities related to Guidelines Revision which will consume the majority of the committee's time during the periodic report hiatus of 2019-2020. Related to guidelines revision, we also approved the formation of a Task Force to define workloads in academic settings. Workloads defined in

terms of contact hours for faculty who meet with students has been a controversial criterion in the ACS-approval process and the community has requested reassessment of such criterion. We will define the specific charge and composition of the Task Force, which will begin its activities in summer 2019.

Edgar Arriaga, Chair

Project SEED

The year 2018 marked the 50th anniversary of Project SEED. During the Orlando meeting, the 50 Forward Campaign came to a close with acknowledgement of Sir Fraser Stoddart for serving as a Project SEED champion. Additionally, the entire 50 Forward fundraising committee were celebrated for their efforts that successfully built the Project SEED Endowment to \$8.45 MM.

For 2019, the selection committee reviewed 475 submitted projects, which will support 396 Summer I students and 139 Summer II students, for a program spending total of \$1.407 M. Currently, over 445 of the projects have been approved and the remainder are currently under review. There have been 47 scholarship applications submitted for 31 available scholarship slots, and recipients will be selected by the end of April.

The results of the 2018 coordinator/mentor and student participant experience surveys were shared at the executive session. The coordinators and mentors overwhelmingly point to administrative barriers and student stipend amounts as the biggest obstacles for hosting a Project SEED site. The amount of paperwork and limitations of existing ACS technology render program management particularly challenging. Also, low stipend amounts, compared to other summer employment opportunities, increases the difficulty in attracting a high number of applicants, including those who are suitably qualified and highly interested in chemistry. The committee voted in favor of upgraded technology management platforms to address administrative issues for coordinators. The awareness and expansion sub-committee also started hosting a series of webinars geared towards coordinators and mentors to ease first-time participation challenges.

Don Warner, Chair

Publications

The committee elected Jerzy Klosin as vice chair, who will serve in that capacity from March 29, 2019 to December 31, 2019.

The journal monitoring reports for *Biomacromolecules*, *ACS Biomaterials Science & Engineering*, *ACS Infectious Diseases*, *ACS Central Science*, *Organometallics*, *The Journal of Physical Chemistry A, B, C*, *The Journal of Physical Chemistry Letters*, *Environmental Science & Technology* and *Environmental Science & Technology Letters* were presented, discussed thoroughly and accepted with thanks. Editor reappointments were reviewed and recommendations to the ACS Board were made. The next publications to be monitored in Fall 2019 will be *Journal of Chemical & Engineering Data*, *Journal of Medicinal Chemistry*, *ACS Synthetic Biology*, and *Journal of the American Chemical Society*.

Division management reported on the ACS Conference of Editors that was held in January 2019, chaired by Professor Scott Miller, Editor-in-Chief of *The Journal of Organic Chemistry* and Vice Chair, Professor Jillian Buriak, Editor-in-Chief of *Chemistry of Materials*. Topics included updates on operational issues and a review of ongoing developments across all aspects of the Society's publishing activities. The theme for this meeting was "The Pursuit of Excellence" which featured speakers from among the editors, staff, and the president of the US National Academy of Sciences.

The committee briefly discussed the JBCCP Strategic Planning Retreat action items from its August 2018 meeting. Each sub-group will be prepared to report back at the committee's August 2019 fall meeting.

Julia Laskin, Chair

Public Relations and Communications

The Committee on Public Relations and Communications met during the 2019 ACS Orlando national meeting on April 1 in the Orlando Hilton. During the meeting, Chair Amber Charlebois discussed her vision for the committee, including plans to update the CPRC manual and to do strategic planning in 2020. The committee also heard from the chair of the Committee on Public Affairs and Public Relations, about ways the two committees can work together; The assistant general counsel for ACS, about the ACS policy on sexual harassment; and the liaison from the Committee on Committees, about how to choose and express interest joining an ACS committee. An update on the communication activities of External Affairs and Communications was presented by the committee staff liaison. Reports were given by the four subcommittees – the Awards Subcommittee; the LSAC/DAC Public Relations Subcommittee; the Outreach and Advocacy Subcommittee; and the Programming Subcommittee. Reports was also made from liaisons to and from other ACS committees. Before concluding, the committee agreed that future meetings would lock in to the Monday morning of the national meeting.

Amber Charlebois, Chair

Science

The Committee on Science (ComSci) voted to approve the policy statement on workforce-related immigration. The committee plans to make minor updates to the existing forensic science policy statement, and continues its work to develop a new policy statement on synthetic drugs. The Chair of the Committee on Divisional Activities (DAC) met with ComSci to share information about DAC's work and identify potential areas for collaboration. Several opportunities for ComSci to use DAC mechanisms to engage with divisions were identified during the discussion. The committee discussed chemistry's role in the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and considered how ACS might address the SDGs. Suggestions included targeted programming at ACS National and Regional Meetings, special issues of ACS journals, and policy statements. ComSci organized a symposium in Orlando on "Exploring the Frontiers of Chemistry through NASA Research", and is planning a "Water for Two Worlds" symposium in San Diego. This session will be organized in collaboration with the ACS journal *Accounts of Chemical Research*. On behalf of ACS, ComSci is preparing nominations for the U.S. National Medal of Science and the National Medal of Technology and Innovation. ComSci submitted a nomination for the Dreyfus Prize on behalf of the Society earlier this year.

Martin G. Kociolek, Chair

Senior Chemists

The Senior Chemists Committee (SCC) began its activities in Orlando, FL on Sunday, March 31 at the ACS Expo Welcome Reception. Attendees were greeted at the SCC Booth and received information on a number of projects for engaging senior chemists. SCC met on Monday, April 1 to welcome new members, hear updates on the progress of its subcommittees, and review plans for SCC events scheduled to take place during the ACS Spring National Meeting. Communications and outreach have been very successful for SCC. The fall issue of *The Newsletter for Senior Chemists* received its highest

open rate at 30%. The SCC Webpage on acs.org achieved more than with 1,200 unique visitors and 49 downloads of the SCC Starter Kit for Local Sections (August 2018-February 2019). Membership for the SCC Group on the ACS Network, “Senior Chemists on the Move,” has increased and had 350 unique visitors for the year. On April 1, SCC sponsored a “Networking with Chemistry Professionals Ice Cream Social” in partnership with the Younger Chemists Committee. There were nearly 200 attendees, which included undergraduates and younger professionals. SCC and the Small Chemical Businesses Division cosponsored a well-attended “Career Stories” symposium that was also held on April 1. The Senior Chemists Breakfast was held on April 2 with keynote speaker Peter Hancock, Provost Distinguished Research Professor in the Department of Psychology and the Institute for Simulation and Training at the University of Central Florida who gave an engaging talk on “Sleights of Mind: Mysteries and Myths of Cognitive Deception.” SCC has established presence with ACS Regional Meetings for 2019 and 2020. Representatives were identified for each region and plans are underway to cosponsor events to encourage more engagement for senior chemists.

Arlene A. Garrison, Chair

Technician Affairs

The Committee on Technician Affairs (CTA) met on Sunday, March 31, 2019 in Orlando, Florida. During the meeting, the committee welcomed the new associate members; the Staff Liaison and Project Manager, Industry Member Programs; Committee on Committees (ConC) Liaison; Program Manager, Industry Member Programs; and Assistant Director, Member Programs.

CTA honored Ms. Laura Nielsen of the Northern Oklahoma Local Section. Ms. Nielsen, Technician, Organic Photovoltaics at Phillips 66, is the 2019 National Chemical Technician Award winner. CTA hosted a luncheon in Ms. Nielsen’s honor, with a plaque presented by the CTA Chair, and ACS President Bonnie Charpentier.

CTA also acknowledged the success of its webinar, led by the Professional Development subcommittee, *How to Develop your Career as a Chemical Technical Professional*, held on Tuesday, September 25, 2018, with 607 registers and 196 live attendees, and available for on-demand streaming on www.acs.org/cta.

Stakeholders Outreach is a subcommittee’s new name, which was also a theme of the Boston 2018 Fall Meeting. The Stakeholders Outreach subcommittee reported that 69 individuals completed the demographic survey and that the results were informative as CTA finds and serves stakeholders.

CTA acknowledged four official and approved communication tools: new business card-sized cards, a CTA pin for each member at the Orlando meeting, as well as Twitter (@CTA_ACS), and a LinkedIn group: ACS Committee on Technician Affairs (CTA).

CTA met with its three subcommittees in smaller groups. The Awards and Recognition subcommittee chose the winner of the CTA ChemLuminary Award, which will be presented in San Diego in August.

In addition, an update was presented from the Office of Industry Member Programs.

CTA is seeking to serve new and diverse stakeholders and gain associate members of the committee. For more information about CTA, please connect with us on LinkedIn and/or Twitter, visit the CTA website at www.acs.org/cta or email cta@acs.org.

Jennifer McCulley, Chair

Women Chemists Committee

The Women Chemists Committee, also known as WCC, partnered with ACS Webinars on the program, “Advocating for Yourself: Stop Looking for Yoda to Advance your Career”. This webinar, which took place Thursday, March 21, featured 3 panelists: 2 members of the ACS Board of Directors, as well as, Pushpa Murthy of COACH and Michigan Tech. Over 500 people tuned into the webinar, from 47 states or territories and 31 countries and the feedback received was overwhelmingly positive. WCC looks forward to future collaborations with ACS webinars on topics of interest to women chemists.

WCC is extremely grateful to be celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the WCC/Eli Lilly & Company Travel Award during 2019. Since its establishment in 1989, the generous financial support of the Eli Lilly & Company, of over a half a million dollars, has allowed WCC to support over 700 scientists to attend and present the results of their research at a national meeting. In addition to the current cohort of winners who presented posters before the WCC Luncheon at this meeting, the committee also featured past-winners of the award at both the WCC Breakfast, as well as a half-day symposium. The WCC Just Cocktails event, focused on celebrating this momentous anniversary.

The WCC luncheon celebrated the accomplishments of Dr. Lisa McElwee-White, recipient of the 2019 Francis P. Garvan-John M. Olin Medal, who was also honored during multi-day symposium sponsored by the inorganic division. Dr. Ruth Baltus, recipient of the 2019 ACS Award for Encouraging Women into Careers in the Chemical Sciences, also was honored during a half-day symposium. Finally, the winners of the eighth annual WCC Rising Star award, which recognizes early to mid-career women chemists with exceptional accomplishments in their fields, spoke at a half-day symposium.

WCC is looking forward to a year filled with continued advocacy efforts in the areas of nominating women for national technical awards, supporting non-tenure track faculty members, and sexual harassment prevention and awareness, as well as supporting the rights and safety of women chemists who are pregnant or breastfeeding. I encourage all of you to continue to recognize the achievements of women and underrepresented minorities through nominations for prestigious national awards. Every one of us has something to contribute to a positive shift in our cultural climate, which depends on and values the perspectives and experiences of ALL of our members.

Kim Woznack, Chair

Younger Chemists Committee

The ACS Younger Chemists Committee (YCC) completed a successful meeting at the 257th ACS National Meeting in Orlando, FL. The YCC held a closed-door session on Saturday, April 30th and an open-door session Sunday, April 31st.

On Saturday morning, staff from Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) engaged the committee on ways that CAS interacts with younger chemists and held a discussion on how to better this demographic group during the early stages of their careers. The ACS President-Elect Luis Echegoyen then shared his key initiatives aimed at creating opportunities for younger chemists to become more active, both nationally and internationally. On Saturday afternoon, the committee broke out into various working groups related to Membership Engagement (ME), Governance Interface and Outreach (GIO), and Communications (COM). Each group, led by a subcommittee chair, made significant progress on their respective projects: ACS National Meeting programming, fostering international partnerships, supporting local and regional younger chemists, facilitating YCC sponsored awards, bolstering the YCC Liaison program, expanding YCC social media presence, and supporting external and internal communications.

On Sunday morning, the YCC welcomed external visitors to learn about the activities of the working groups, the committee, and as an opportunity for liaisons to report back from their committees and organizations. Liaisons from the Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs and the Committee on Chemists with Disabilities also reported following a discussion of the official ACS Sexual Harassment Policy with ACS legal staff. Additionally, one of our CIBA award winners, Amanda L. Patrick, was in attendance to accept her award. Other visitors from sister societies, local sections, partnerships, and younger chemists looking to gain more knowledge of the YCC were also in attendance. The committee adjourned with a reflective look on the weekend and an excitement for the projects and opportunities to come.

Matthew Grandbois, Chair

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