

2011 Fall Reports

POLY – Councilor’s Report Denver 2011

Frank Blum, H. N. Cheng, Bill Daly, John Pochan

At the Denver National Meeting (August 28-September 1, 2011), POLY was represented at the ACS Council by Bill Daly, H. N. Cheng, John Pochan, and Frank Blum. The following account summarizes some selected activities in the committees and groups that POLY Councilors are involved in.

General Topics:

1. Despite the challenging economy and continued high unemployment, the Society’s overall membership number remains stable at near 163,000. The number of new undergraduate student members is growing rapidly, and as of July 31 the total stands at 15,702.
2. The special discussion topic during the Council meeting was chemical safety, particularly in US universities and colleges. Many suggestions were made by councilors.
3. The Council voted to grant full division status to the previously probationary Division of Catalysis Science and Technology, and to approve the proposed bylaws of this division. The Council voted 53% - 47% to dissolve the Division of Petroleum Chemistry and to combine its assets and members with those of the Division of Fuel Chemistry under the new name of the Division of Energy and Fuels, effective December 31, 2011.
4. The Council voted to approve the Petition on Position Statements, which specifies that the ACS Board of Directors has sole authority in issuing position statements that establish policy for the full Society. An ACS body other than the Board may issue statements on issues that fall solely in its jurisdiction so long as it does not impair other Society bodies’ ability to do the same.

Committee on Committees (H. N. Cheng)

The Committee on Committees (ConC) is responsible for the effective and efficient operation of Council-related committees. In addition to regular reviews of committees, ConC handles several specific tasks in Denver, e.g.,

1. A reimbursement policy for non-councilors participating in committees was presented to the Committee on Budget and Finance and later approved by the Board. Starting in 2012, non-councilors serving in committees will be reimbursed at the rate of 50% of the Councilor travel reimbursement.
2. ConC gave its support, in principle, to convert the Senior Chemists Task Force to a committee; a number of documents are needed to move forward on this issue. The Tuesday Senior Chemists breakfast meeting (with Bassam Shakhshiri as speaker) was sold out.

Meetings and Expositions Committee (M&E) (Bill Daly)

Attendance in Denver was 10019 and only 7295 papers and posters were presented. Over 90 % of the technical sessions were held in the convention center; POLY and PMSE were co-located in a hotel. In contrast, the Anaheim meeting was more successful from the point of view of attendance (over 14,151) and programming (9411 papers and posters). The reviews on the Anaheim meeting were excellent: the site has clearly become more acceptable to the attendees.

The negative revenue from National meeting is a critical issue; ACS lost money on both the

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Anaheim and Denver meetings. A task force charged with reevaluating the method for calculating meeting registration fees has been formed. The early registration fees for 2012 have already been set at \$355.

An on-line digital program was available for the first time in Denver (see <http://denver2011onsite.acs.org/issue/39507>). A PDF version of the program or selected sections could be downloaded easily. The existence of an electronic program should reduce the need for printed programs at National meetings.

Divisional Activities Committee (DAC) (John Pochan)

DAC approved 10 Innovative Project Grant (IPG) proposals totaling \$69,475. DAC will alert all divisions that submitted a proposal as to their outcomes shortly after this national meeting concludes. The committee will consider another set of IPG proposals at the 2012 San Diego Spring National Meeting.

To have your division's proposal considered by DAC in San Diego, please be sure to submit it no later than February 1, 2012.

Operating as a DAC subcommittee, the Multidisciplinary Program Planning Group, in concert with ACS divisions, has selected the following themes for upcoming national meetings:

For the Spring 2012 meeting in San Diego: *Chemistry of Life*.

For the Fall 2012 meeting in Philadelphia: *Materials for Health and Medicine*.

For the Spring 2013 meeting in New Orleans: *Chemistry of Energy and Food*.

For the Fall 2013 meeting in Indianapolis: *Chemistry in Motion*.

DAC was updated by staff on the new software program, known as FORMS, that divisions are required to use to submit their annual administration and financial reports. DAC was pleased to learn that a number of improvements to the program have already been made, and those still to be implemented before year-end are on schedule.

Electronic Distribution of Meeting Content Task Force (EDMC) (Bill Daly)

At the Denver meeting approximately 550 presentations were recorded. Authors of about 65% of the papers designated for recording agreed to allow their talks to be posted. In addition to the thematic programming sessions, 32 divisions and committees provided content for recordings. The recorded talks including those from Anaheim are currently available at www.acs.org/meetingcontent [the content for the Denver meeting will only be available to non-conference attendees as of October 3, 2011]. The search for an editor to supervise the EDMC project is underway.

Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA) (H. N. Cheng)

Cheng serves as ConC liaison to this committee. CEPA deals with employment, career development, salary surveys, and public policy involving workforce issues.

1. At Denver the first ever fully integrated onsite and virtual career fair took place. It offered

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job seekers and virtual participants via webcam the opportunity to interact with each other and to connect with prospective employers and programs to sharpen their career skills.

2. CEPA and Corporation Associates co-sponsored a new program funding request to establish an entrepreneurial initiative, which would implement two of the four recommendations made by the ACS Presidential Task Force on Innovation and Job Creation. They relate to an educational program for beginning entrepreneurs and access to resources that are useful in the formation of new chemical companies.

3. Because networking is especially important in a down economy, CEPA and ACS Career Services co-sponsored the largest networking event in ACS history. The ACS Global Networking Reception allowed Denver attendees and others to attend a seminar entitled “Networking 101 – Making Your Contacts Count” and then practice networking with local sections, student chapters, and individuals.

4. In the “Paying It Forward” campaign ACS members are encouraged to help unemployed members. More information has been given in President Nancy Jackson’s Comments in the August 8 issue of C&EN.

Oversight Committee for ACS Fellows (Frank D. Blum)

Blum serves as a member of the Oversight Committee for the ACS Fellows Program. This year 213 ACS Members were named as Fellows who were honored at a ceremony at the Denver ACS Meeting. To date there are 568 ACS Fellows.

Nominations can be submitted by ACS National Committees, Technical Divisions, Local Sections and individual members. ***The window for submitting nominations for 2012 ACS Fellows will open towards the end of the first quarter of 2012.***

Polymer Preprints Report

Frederick Dammont

Vol. 52.2 (2011, Fall)
CD-ROM Format

As of to date, we have 117 accounts (fully paid-up and complimentary) subscribers for POLYMER PREPRINTS, Vol. 52, (2011) in CD-ROM format. This number indicates a drop of about 10 accounts since the previous issue. We ship the CD’s only to fully settled accounts. By the meeting of the ACS.

Price lists for the year 2012 (Vol. 53) at \$100/year, unchanged from previous year, were sent to all subscription agencies with active accounts in 2011.

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Business Office Report

Neta Byerly , Lesia Linkous, and Kathy Mitchem

The ACS Division of Polymer Chemistry Business Office assists with the day to day operations of this Division. Current activities include:

Budget: The Business Office continues to work with the Treasurer on implementation of the budget.

Workshops: Provides support to workshops to include budgeting, administration, registration, advertising to include web development, materials development, and on site organization

Overhead for 2010: 46,000.00

4 workshop in 2011, overhead estimated at 66,000.00

1 co-sponsored international event (Macromex) in 2011

3 workshops in 2012 (possibly 4)

2 already planned for 2013 (as many as 6)

Awards and Recognition: Assists with the sponsorship collection, plaque creation, poster displays and on site dissemination of awards.

Membership: Act as an available contact to members and assist with their special needs; Responsible for operation of the membership booth in Anaheim and Denver; Support Membership Committee by providing general support with annual awards and recognitions among others.

Elections: Assist in the collection of ballot information and provide administrative support to electronic balloting. Report results to officers.

Preprints/Libraries: Though preprints are available online to its members, these members can purchase hard copies (\$5.00) from this office.

Preprints/Library Orders placed directly with POLY: Maintains an up-to-date mailing list of Libraries for preprint purchase . Assist the circulation manager with the duplicating of preprints and distribution of library orders (50.00 ea).

Newsletter: Assists Secretary with the creation and dissemination of biannual newsletter to its members.

Collect ads, payments, create drafts - Spring Newsletter: June, Fall Newsletter: October

IAB: Assist this committee with administrative tasks to include invoicing and collection of donations and provides on site committee support.

Staff/Office: The Business Office is located on the campus of Virginia Tech.

The university is renovating designated space so the office has moved to a temporary location as of July 2011. Phone/fax/email have not changed though the mailing address may be updated in the future.

Membership Committee Update

The Membership Committee is continuing to work to increase POLY membership and to provide new services to our current membership.

We are offering reduced price memberships to current members of PMSE and Organic Divisions as well as to speakers from POLY sessions at the ACS National Meeting who are not currently POLY members. We are also reaching out to people that have let their POLY memberships lapse to see why they left POLY and how we can make POLY more valuable to them.

Dave Germack and Derrick Patton are working on ways to utilize social media to reach out to our membership and offer them new services. **POLY now has Facebook and LinkedIn pages.** The LinkedIn site, among other things, includes notices of employment opportunities. If you are not registered for both of these sites, please do so.

Kevin Cavicchi is working on increasing the number of **student chapters** and has agreement from the Executive Committees of both POLY and PMSE to institute joint student chapters. Currently POLY has 5 active student chapters and PMSE has 1. We have set a goal of increasing the total number of active POLY/PMSE chapters to 10 by the end of this year. If you are interested in helping start a student chapter at your school or in your region, please contact Kevin.

As always, the POLY Membership Committee wants to hear from YOU. Please let us know how we can make your membership more valuable to you and your colleagues (Mike Meador – Michael.A.Meador@nasa.gov , Mary Ann Meador – Maryann.Meador@nasa.gov , Kevin Cavicchi – kac58@uakron.edu)

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Treasurers Report

Mark Dadmun, POLY Treasurer

The table below outlines the summary and status of the 2011 budget with respect to the current income and expenditures through August 2011 and is compared to the end-of-year figures for 2010 and planned 2011 budget.

We continue to balance the budget and ensure that the expenditures are within the allocated figures agreed upon at the last 2011 Ex-Com meeting. Any questions may be directed to Mark Dadmun, POLY Division Treasurer, dad@utk.edu

Budget Category	2010 Actual		2011 Budget		2011 Actual to Date	
	Income	Expense	Income	Expense	Income	Expense
ACS Dues/Allocations/Awards	\$291,729	\$ 21,863	\$236,500	\$ 29,500	\$	
181,908	\$13,501					
National Meetings						
Activities	\$ 62,297	\$140,233	\$ 36,300	\$121,000	\$ 44,229	\$53,072
Workshop Activities	\$159,315	\$114,012	\$178,000	\$124,000	\$	
198,738	\$87,937					
Administrative		\$166,544		\$150,000		\$102,328
Publications & Advertising	\$ 35,469	\$57,286	\$ 43,000	\$ 57,800	\$ 33,986	\$
35,580						
Committee Activities	\$ 16,342	\$ 28,744	\$ 10,000	\$ 21,500	\$ 8,371	\$ 8,483
Total Budget	\$565,154	\$528,684	\$503,800	\$503,800	\$ 467,234	\$300,903
Current Investment Balance:	\$666,117					

POLYED Report for Denver ACS Meeting, August, 2011

John P. Droske and Charles E. Carraher, Jr. (POLYED Co-Chairs)

Detailed information about POLYED programs is available on-line at www.polyed.org.

The POLYED web site has a new look. The new web site's launch will coincide with the ACS meeting in Denver (the new site should be available on Monday, August 29). Please be sure to let us know of any changes that you'd like to see. As usual, the agenda for the Denver meeting may be found on the POLYED web site at "http://www.polyed.org" under "Info for Committee Members".

The POLYED Undergraduate Award for Achievement in Organic Chemistry continues to recognize undergraduate students, who are planning a career in a chemistry field, for their outstanding performance in sophomore Organic Chemistry courses. Last year, approximately 175 colleges and universities recognized a student on their campus with this award. This year, ~110 award certificates and congratulatory letters were mailed. Last year, a direct mailing about POLYED programs was sent to all chemistry, chemical engineering, polymer science, and material science departments in the United States. To assess if a direct mailing was still effective, it was not done this year. The decline in awards submitted this year appears to be attributable to not doing a direct mailing. A direct mailing will be done again next year.

The ACS-Committee on Professional Training (CPT) has issued new guidelines for bachelor's degree programs. At CPT's request, POLYED has organized a special task force to develop supplements to help faculty incorporate macromolecular science topics into the five foundational undergraduate chemistry courses. To date, POLYED has provided three supplements to CPT. The first addresses macromolecular science/polymer topics in Organic Chemistry courses, the second is for the Inorganic Chemistry foundational course, and the third, intended for a Physical Chemistry course, was sent to CPT earlier this summer. The integration of polymers into these courses has long been a goal of POLYED. CPT has implemented major changes in the recommendations for curricula for undergraduate chemistry programs and polymers have not been formally included as a "foundational course". We ask all members of POLY and PMSE to help us communicate to CPT and others in ACS about the importance of including polymer/macromolecular science topics in the undergraduate chemistry curriculum. As part of the effort to include polymers in the undergraduate chemistry curriculum, POLYED is organizing a symposium for the Philadelphia ACS meeting entitled "Incorporation of Macromolecular Science/Polymeric Materials into the Foundational Course in Organic Chemistry". Contact Warren Ford or Bob Howell for more information about this symposium.

As reported at the Spring meeting, **Cliff Cockerham is this year's winner of the POLYED Award for Excellence in 6-12 Polymer Education.** Dr. Cockerham is the Science Department Chair at Whites Creek High School in Nashville, TN. In his nomination materials, Cliff said "Polymer chemistry is literally everywhere in our daily lives...Polymer science is an ideal way to present chemistry to that "hardest to reach" audience that populates my school." Mary Harris and Anne Padias, co-chairs of the award committee, also have announced that they have begun accepting nominations for this year's award. Applications are available at www.polyed.org. Congratulations, Cliff!

Dr. Rong Tong is this year's recipient of the AkzoNobel Outstanding Graduate Thesis Award. Dr. Tong's Ph.D. dissertation on growth of polylactide from active drugs for polymeric nanomedicine particles and subsequent nanomedicine research was carried out at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with Prof. Jianjun Cheng. Dr. Tong is now a postdoctoral researcher with Profs. Robert Langer and Daniel Kohane at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The award will be presented during a symposium in honor of Dr. Tong at the Denver ACS meeting. We encourage all to attend this symposium and congratulate Dr. Tong. POLYED thanks Guy Berry and Warren Ford for their previous service on this award committee and thanks Eric Amis for agreeing to now chair this award.

POLYED also continues to recognize outstanding **research posters by undergraduate students** at the national meetings.. Anyone willing to assist with evaluation of the posters should contact Bob Howell or Sarah Morgan.

POLYED treasurer, Reddy Venumbaka reported that the POLYED committee finances are in good order.

POLYED is successful because of the contributions of many. We thank all who lead POLYED's programs and especially POLY and PMSE for their support. Any member of POLY and PMSE who would like to become involved in POLYED should contact John Droske at the POLYED Center, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, jdroske@uwsp.edu or Charles Carraher, Jr., Florida-Atlantic University, carraher@fau.edu .