



ACS
Chemistry for Life™

**Local Sections Activities Committee (LSAC)
Leadership Advisory Board (LAB)
Report from 242nd ACS Meeting, Denver, CO
August 26 – September 1, 2011
Lucy Eubanks, Councilor**

This report covers what I learned from the meetings of the **Local Section Activities Committee (LSAC)**. My subcommittee assignment is **Technology, Tools & Operations (TTO)**. I continue as the LSAC representative to the **Leadership Advisory Board (LAB)**, the group responsible for overseeing the ACS Leadership Development System (LDS). Within LAB, I serve on the **Assessment Subcommittee**. This part of my Councilor's report touches on each area and on other Councilor activities while in Denver.

Local Section Activities Committee (LSAC):

These action items may be of interest to WCACS members.

- **Speaker Service** We reviewed the experience of Local Sections with the newly-revamped service and learned that there is still the need to nominate outstanding speakers to help the service grow from the 80 speakers currently available. The goal is to double that number. Suggestions can be made to speakers@acs.org.

- **Review of Petitions** LSAC had primary substantive responsibility to review and recommend action on the Petition on Position Statements, which was up for action at the Council meeting. After discussion within TTO and then with the full LSAC, the petition was supported by LSAC and ultimately passed easily in the full Council. Other petitions up for consideration but not action in Denver were briefly discussed.

- **Leadership Institute** LSAC is working on the Local Section Track for the 2012 Leadership Institute to be held in Fort Worth on Jan 20-22, 2012. The goal of the institute is to help members develop their leadership and management skills. Attendees represent local sections, technical divisions, national committees, younger chemists, and student members. All local sections are encouraged to send their **2012 Chair-Elect** to attend this valuable leadership training. All **2011 Chairs-Elect** are encouraged to participate in a local section leader webinar being planned for late September or early October. The date and time, when chosen, will be widely advertised.

- **FORMS** Many enhancements have been made to the new online

reporting system that Local Sections (and Divisions) use for their Annual Reports. As a representative of TTO and LSAC, I attended a meeting at ACS in June, 2011, at which we met with developers and worked through many of the challenges of using the system for the first time this year. The highly revamped system with enhanced functionality will be available for beta testing this fall, and WCACS will have the opportunity to participate. Both TTO and LSAC had the opportunity to review the latest iteration of FORMS and make further suggestions. Just two examples of improvements include stated character limits for text boxes and the ability for a Treasurer to pull down a financial form, work on it off-line, and then reload the form. These and many other changes should lower the frustration level for many local section and division officers!

• **Pennies for PUR™ Water** LSAC continues to support and promote this fundraiser during the **International Year of Chemistry 2011** celebration. Recognizing that several billion people around the world live without clean water and that more than 4,000 children die every day from diseases caused by drinking unsafe water, this project provides low-cost packets capable of purifying drinking water. Each packet costs only 3.5 cents and safely treats 2.5 gallons of water. ACS is proud to be partnering with Proctor & Gamble's Children's Safe Drinking Water program. The goal is to raise enough funds to be able to provide over 1.5 million gallons of clean water. All ACS local sections are encouraged to work in their communities to raise money and awareness of this important initiative. Checks or money orders (do not mail cash) should be made payable to and mailed to: American Chemical Society, 1155 Sixteenth Street NW, Washington, DC 20036 Attn: Accts. Receivable

• **Tools and Tips for Local Sections** If you have not done so recently, check into the **Get Involved, Stay Involved** section of the ACS website, www.acs.org/getinvolved. There you will find many resources for planning community outreach programs, applying for grants, membership recruitment and management, and much, much more. There are also direct links to the ACS Leadership Development program as well as the ACS Leadership Institute.

Leadership Advisory Board (LAB):

These action items may be of interest to WCACS members.

• **Reauthorization of the Leadership Development System:** A major activity for the LAB and particularly its Assessment Subcommittee this spring was assisting in preparation of the documents needed to make the case for reauthorization of the ACS Leadership Development System (LDS) for the period 2012-2014. ADVANTIS Research & Consulting completed their comprehensive evaluation of the ACS Leadership System in late May. They considered two major questions.

- Has the ACS Leadership Development System program achieved its stated mission and vision?
- Is the program providing the Society a high return on its leadership development investment?

Based on the results of their research, ADVANTIS concluded that the answer to

both questions was a resounding “yes”. Within the non-profit world, ACS is a leader in providing innovative leadership skill development opportunities. The LDS helps insure a cadre of future leaders for ACS and enables members to experience a positive impact on their professional lives and career goal attainment. LAB submitted a Program Funding Reauthorization proposal that was reviewed by the Committee on Budget & Finance during this national meeting in Denver. I am very happy to report that the reauthorization was approved!

- **Leadership Courses** There were five Leadership courses offered at the Denver meeting. Other opportunities for taking courses include the Joint Midwest/Great Lakes Regional in October, at SERMACS in October, and at the Southwest Regional Meeting in Austin in November. Full details are available at the Leader Development website, www.acs.org/leaderdevelopment, or at the Center for Professional Development, www.acs.org/professionaldevelopment. Look for a new Leadership Institute testimonial video to be posted soon!

- **FREE ACS Webinars** LAB sponsored two free Webinars in June. The first was a one-hour webinar on Engaging Colleagues in Dialogue on June 21, and the second was a one-hour webinar on Fostering Innovation on June 23. Each had close to 700 registrants with nearly 400 attending live. Feedback was excellent, including this comment from one enthusiastic participant. “The free webinars are one of the best activities that ACS has offered to its members since I have been a member.” All members can take full advantage of these **free** opportunities for developing leadership skills.

Other Councilor Activities Other meetings attended included the Town Hall and the District IV caucus. I was unable to attend the open joint meeting of CCA and LSAC because of a conflict with my presentation in the Profiles of Past ACS Presidents Symposium. The new website unveiled at the symposium is now available at www.acs.org/acspresidents. Because this is a work in progress, you have the opportunity to correct errors or to submit additional information by going to prehistory@acs.org.

The best event of all was attending the **ChemLuminary Awards**. It was a great honor for the Western Carolinas Section to be nominated as Outstanding Local Section (in the medium large category). Our competition was the Detroit Section and the Indiana Sections, with Indiana claiming the award. Although we did not win, we should be proud of the successes we achieved during 2010 while Sid Parrish was Chair. Hopefully you will soon see pictures of the excellent poster prepared by John Kaup and Sid – they did an outstanding job of communicating the many events that took place in our Section.

If you need more information or have any questions about this report or the Councilor’s Report from the Council meeting, please feel free to contact me at eubankslucy@bellsouth.net.