

# ACS Division of Environmental Chemistry -- Business Office Report

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March 2015

The second century of the Division of Environmental Chemistry is underway, and I am honored to be involved in such a vibrant division. Interest in our programming and events have increased since the centennial meetings, with 498 abstracts/20 symposia in Denver and 32 symposia for Boston, and the Denver reception sold out in February.

## Centennial Wrap- Up

The centennial celebration was an opportunity for several innovative and successful projects:

- Women in Environmental Chemistry symposium that included a Junior Researchers poster session and a luncheon facilitating interaction between the presenters;
- Legends and Leaders Reception in Dallas featuring a poster display of division highlights during the last century;
- Centennial Plenary Session: 100 Years of Scientific Contribution for a Safer and Sustainable Environment;
- A division-wide coffee break on Monday morning in San Francisco;
- Centennial Fall Reception featuring a slide show of comments by former ENVR award winners on how the award shaped their careers;
- Division poster session held in the hotel instead of convention center in San Francisco.

I hope will can continue this momentum in future years.

## Membership

Our overall membership is still dropping. A large percentage of presenters and symposium organizers are not ENVR members. I emailed an invitation to San Francisco, Denver and Boston organizers to join the division, and will continue that practice for future meetings. We may also want to increase membership recruiting efforts during the national meetings.

## Scope of Business Office

The Business Office Committee has received a description of tasks fulfilled by the Business Office Manager. In general, several duties that I have performed in the past (such as agenda preparation and elections) have been moved to the executive committee, which will allow me to focus on the remaining core of business office activities. As a result of the committee's review, the scope of the business office may be adjusted to best serve the Division's needs.

## MAPS (Meeting Abstracts Programming System)

Denver is the inaugural meeting using the new ACS abstract management system (MAPS). MAPS provides presentation data in easy to manage file formats. The system requires much less training and time invested for volunteers, but has one major drawback—the lack of real-time access to submissions. ACS is currently working to resolve that problem for the Boston meeting.

## ACS Leadership Institute

I attended the ACS Leadership Institute in Dallas in January, including 2 workshops “Engaging and Motivating Volunteers” and “Developing Communications Strategies.” I also attended the general sessions for division leaders and social networking events. ENVR and CELL divisions shared the cost of my attendance. I am very thankful for the opportunity to touch base with ACS staff, network with other division and local leaders, and learn so much.

I was introduced to several ACS resources that I plan to utilize for ENVR. The workshops provided me with tools and ideas to better build relationships with ENVR volunteers. The face-to-face contact with

representatives from other divisions that ENVR collaborates with and ACS staff members was valuable for increasing ENVR's recognition in the ACS community. It has been several years since I attended ACS training, and this was good timing because of the MAPS roll-out.

One of the greatest benefits of the conference for me was being reminded that my service to the division is very important in terms of facilitating scientific advancement and assisting individuals in their careers. I returned to my office both inspired and energized.

#### Member Communications

The ACS mass mailing vendor, Real Magnet (Magnet Mail) includes the ability to send messages simultaneously by email, Facebook and Twitter. The Division may want to establish Facebook and Twitter accounts to expand its communications to members, especially younger chemists.

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