

Annual Report NESACS Government Affairs Committee 2012

Members: Mukund Chorghade, Jack Driscoll, Kerra Fletcher, Chris Moreton, Don Rickter, Timothy Rose, Sonya Strah-Pleyne, Liming Shao, Michael Singer, Mike Strem, Doris Lewis (chair)

Organizational meeting 2012:

Minutes of Government Affairs Committee meeting, May 11, 2012 at Legal Sea Foods, Kendall:

Present: Mukund Chorghade, Doris Lewis, Kerra Fletcher, Chris Moreton, Mike Strem, Sonja Strah-Pleyne

Agenda item 1, STEM initiative: Committee members shared their considerable expertise on STEM activities. Sonja has been attending the Massachusetts statewide and local STEM meetings; while in San Diego she coordinated a number of biotech/pharma companies on STEM workforce development projects for which the section won an ACS award. Mike has been very active in Newburyport STEM activities; Chris has been making contacts with the Waltham schools; Kerra participated in a science fair activity in Lexington. Jack Driscoll could not attend this meeting, but he has been attending STEM meetings on the Cape. After some discussion it was decided that the committee wants to remain active in STEM projects and wants to begin a NEACS STEM initiative. We will request a NESACS STEM Initiative link on the NESACS website to publicize upcoming Massachusetts STEM meetings and recruit NESACS attendees. Sonja will be contact person for the STEM Initiative; all committee members present wanted to be active in its projects and bring in other NEACS members as well. Sonja will post Mass STEM meeting dates on this web link as they are announced, with the aim of having a NESACS delegation attend. After becoming familiar with existing programs and organizations, the next order of business will be to identify ways that NESACS can best contribute.

Agenda item 2: October 11 small business/innovation afternoon event to precede the October 11 NESACS monthly meeting, and to be held at the meeting site, Nova Biomedical in Waltham. This is being organized by Mukund, in collaboration with Public Relations chair Jack Driscoll. Kerra will assist with organization, and all committee members will help as needed. Mukund will draw up a schedule and list of presenters.

Subsequent meetings this year will consist of subcommittee meetings on the small business/innovation symposium and the STEM activities, as well as the monthly Board meetings.

Co-sponsored activity: NESACS Small Chemical Business Symposium October 11, 2012, at Nova Biomedical featuring Madeline Jacobs and organized by committee members Mukund Chorghade and Jack Driscoll. Evening attendance: 88.



Monthly Meeting
The 926th Meeting of the Northeastern Section of the American Chemical Society
Small Chemical Business Symposium
Henry A. Hill Award
Presentation and Recognition of 50- and 60-Year Members

Thursday, October 11, 2012

Nova Biomedical Corp., 200 Prospect Street, Waltham, MA*

Small Chemical Business Symposium

Starting and Financing Small Chemical Businesses

Sponsors: NESACS, Small Chemical Businesses Division of the ACS

Organized by Mukund Chorghade and Jack Driscoll

Start at 12:00 with light lunch & Networking

Cost: \$50.00 per person for workshop: for the Symposium & NESACS October evening meeting with dinner \$75.00. Pay by Paypal- <http://acssymposium.com/paypal.html>

Program 12.30-5:15 PM

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| 12:30-12:45pm | “Opening remarks about Entrepreneurship”
Mukund Chorghade, President of Chorghade Enterprises, Inc. and Chief Scientific and Technology Officer, THINQ Pharma |
| 12:45-1:15pm | “Starting a Biomedical Company in the Nineteen Seventies: NOVA Biomedical”
Dr. Jack Driscoll, a founder and Director of Nova, President, PID Analyzers, LLC, PR Chair NESACS |
| 1:15-1:45pm | “How to Prepare Your Small Business for Financing”
John Rainey, Regional Director, Mass Small Business Development Center, Worcester, MA |
| 1:45-2:15pm | “Conventional & SBA Financing of Small Businesses”
Beth Chea, VP, TD Bank, Andover, MA, |
| 2:15-2:35pm | Break |
| 2:35-2:50pm | “Educational Resources for Tech Entrepreneurs”
Dr. Peter Hirst, Executive Director of Executive Education, MIT Sloan School of Management |
| 2:50-3:05pm | “TiE Boston Provides Connections and Networking for Entrepreneurs”
Dr. Shankar Hegde, Founder and CEO, Yaana Consulting, The IndUS |

3:05-3:45pm	Entrepreneurs “Non-Dilutive (SBIR) or Dilutive Equity Funding for Startups..”Vinit Nijhawan, Managing Director, Technology Development Office, Boston University
3:45-4:15pm	“Utilizing Social Media to Market Technology Companies” Jennifer McLachlan, PID Analyzers, LLC, PR Chair Small Chemical Business Div. of the ACS & Joselin Mane, founder, Boston Tweetup
4:15-4:20pm	“Short comments on ACS & Job Promotion “ ACS CEO Madeleine Jacobs, Washington, DC
4:20-5:15pm	True Stories of Chemical Entrepreneurs a) “Science, Business and Gambling: Beating the Odds“, Pam Randhawa, Empiriko, CEO and Founder b) “When is a good time to start and what is your business model?“ Raj Rajur, Chairman & CEO, CreaGen Biosciences, Inc.
5:15pm	Adjournment

STEM Activities 2012

As planned at our organizational meeting, Sonja Strah-Pleyne is contact person of our GAC STEM task force and has set up a STEM News section for the NESACS web site www.nesacs.org covering all STEM activities in the Northeastern Section including government-sponsored, volunteer, and business-sponsored activities. A special STEM news email account has been set up so that news can be sent in to a central receiving point that is not tied to a personal email account. This type of email account can be used as a model for other NESACS functions as well.

Sonja Strah-Pleyne continues to represent NESACS in meetings with the MA Council of STEM Professional Societies that is currently forming and in the process of drafting its mission statement. Formal affiliation with this group requires approval of the NESACS Board of Directors followed by approval of the Council Committee on Constitution and ByLaws, acting for the Council. Approval of affiliation with the organization is not currently an action item for the Board, but the mission statement passed by the group in August is attached, and we will continue to explore ways to collaborate effectively with this group in its STEM activities. Sonja attended the Forum on Informal Science Education on April 11, 2012, coordinated by the Boston After School and Beyond’s Boston Youth Environmental Network Initiative, presented in partnership with the United Way and the Boston STEM Network. She also attended STEM Summit 2012 on October 18, 2012. This year’s event was the ninth, and so far the largest Massachusetts STEM Summit, with more than 750 attendees. Throughout the day, plenary sessions and panel presentations addressed the plans and goals of STEM education, bringing leaders from the state’s education, business, and

government sectors together to share information and ideas on topics in early to higher, formal, and informal education, as well as address workforce development and other policy issues faced by the Commonwealth. Mike Strem has been very active in Newburyport STEM activities; Chris Moreton has been making contacts with the Waltham schools; Kerra Fletcher participated in a science fair activity in Lexington. Jack Driscoll has been attending and organizing STEM meetings on the Cape (see Public Relations report). The attendance of our members at these meetings carries out our goal of greater participation and higher visibility at Massachusetts STEM activities.

NESACS and its individual members continue to be active in supporting ACS education activities designed to promote Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics; notably in October NESACS mounted activities at the Museum of Science and the Boston Children's Museum celebrating the 25th anniversary of National Chemistry Week (see National Chemistry Week Report).

STEM Report 2012 for NESACS Long-Range Planning

Doris Lewis, committee chair, was asked to prepare a STEM report to include recommendations for future NESACS STEM involvement, appended below. In accordance with that report, a subcommittee for the NESACS Government Affairs Committee will continue in 2013 to explore possible participation on the Governor's STEM Advisory Council, though no science organizations have yet done so.

As part of the Long Range Planning for the Task Force on STEM Education in June 2012, the Government Affairs Committee (GAC) was requested to prepare a report on what should be the policy of the Northeastern Section in its involvement in STEM activities and to include what the GAC wants to accomplish relative to this involvement of the NESACS. This report was prepared in response to that request.

The Northeastern Section has a long and proud history of supporting education in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields, primarily through the Education Committee and the National Chemistry Week Committee. As STEM activities become more numerous and more visible through government-sponsored and other activities, it will be important for NESACS to be sure that our own activities are mounted with awareness of these other initiatives, and coordination with other initiatives whenever possible. For example, the 2012 NCW Nanotechnology theme activities presented at the Boston Museum of Science and the Boston Children's Museum featured activities from the Nanoscale Informal Science Education Network (www.nisenet.org).

Legislation awareness and involvement on STEM issues, including the national ACS email policy alerts and associated visits to legislators, should continue. The successful monthly meeting in 2000 featuring US congressman and the head of the Mass Senate Committee on Education is an example of possible NESACS STEM initiatives, as is the 2009 visit to the monthly NESACS meeting of state senator Jay Kaufman. These activities are initiatives of the Government Affairs Committee.

STEM issues involve legislation on the national and state level and are closely associated with workforce-related issues; hence workforce-related STEM issues can be among the concerns of the NESACS Government Affairs Committee. In 2010 the GAC at the suggestion of Mike Strem collaborated with the Massachusetts Workforce Board Association to link science workplaces with high school teachers who would benefit from summer externships, co-sponsoring with the WIB an informational table at the Chemical Sciences Symposium. In October 2012 the GAC supported the NESACS Small Chemical Business Symposium.

Government and industry-related STEM activities in Massachusetts have not historically involved science organizations, though this may change in the future. We have been collaborating with the newly founded MA Council of STEM Professional Societies and may affiliate with them in the future; Sonja Strah-Pleyne is our representative to their meetings. Official affiliation under our bylaws would require approval of the national C&B committee. Robert Lichter has reviewed for us the Governor's STEM Advisory Council which is led by the Lt. Governor; any role for science societies there may be in the future, though not at present time. However, Lt. Governor Murray announced the formation of the Boston Regional STEM Network at the 2011 STEM Summit and has focused on building up and supporting Networks in all regions of the state. Jack Driscoll and Jennifer Maclachlan have been very active in presenting activities on the Cape and southeast region and would be willing to facilitate activities in other regions.

Given that STEM activities are so numerous and varied, it will be an important function of NESACS to promote awareness of these activities. Hence under the auspices of the Government Affairs Committee a STEM task force has been formed with Sonja Strah-Pleyne as coordinator. Sonja will be editing a STEM News section of the NESACS web site, which will welcome announcements of all STEM activities in the NESACS area. This new feature should serve to publicize, coordinate, and encourage STEM activities of all kinds.

Respectfully submitted,
Doris I. Lewis,
Councilor
Chair, NESACS Government Affairs Committee

November 8, 2012

Policy Activities 2012

A presentation on “Careers and Internships in Science Policy” by Doris Lewis was featured at the NSYCC Career Symposium on April 14, 2012 at the invitation of the Northeastern section YCC group.

This well-attended event utilized Dr. Lewis’ experience as a member of CCPA to introduce young chemists to career options in science policy.

Small Business and Entrepreneurship support: Please see Professional Affairs and Career Services Committee Annual Report 2012 by Mukund Chorghade

Letter to Congresswoman Niki Tsongas from committee member Tim Rose regarding SBIR Legislation

Doris Lewis, Chair of the Government Action Committee of the Northeast Section of the American Chemical Society, passed along your Year-End Update concerning passage of the SBIR/STTR Reauthorization bill as part of the Defense Authorization bill. We thank you for your effort this program which is vital to many of the members of the small business community who belong to the American Chemical Society. As a recipient of over a dozen SBIR contracts from six different federal agencies when employed at EIC Laboratories in Norwood during the 80's and 90's, I have first-hand experience that can vouch for the importance and success of the program. Your efforts for passage of the multiple year extension of the program will ensure its generates the maximum benefits to the economic growth and national security of the country. Our committee is ready to assist you in promoting legislation connected with any aspect of research and development or STEM education. Please contact Doris Lewis or me.

Letter to the Editor in The Arlington Advocate Supports control of toxics bill

The letter of Senator Kenneth Donnelly, in the Arlington Advocate (May 17) is an excellent statement. As a chemist and an activist citizen, I have been concerned with legislation for alternatives to toxic chemicals for 10 years. Reps. Jay Kaufman and Sean Garballey have been very helpful. I have met with Prof. Ken Geiser at TURI, UMass-Lowell on the goals and strategies for avoiding unnecessary toxic chemicals in contact with consumers.

I am in a group of chemists of the American Chemical Society who focus on state and federal legislation. Some are teachers and others work in industry. All of us are concerned with safety. We have been following the bill that is now

S2079. Apparently it is stuck in the Ways and Means Committee and will stay there until there is a demand to release it. Don Rickter, Hemlock Street

Conference calls:

On Thursday, February 16th Doris Lewis participated in the White House Call on the Science & Technology Budget" along with other members of the Legislative Action Network and other science representatives. Participating from the White House were **John Holdren**, Assistant to the President for Science and Technology, Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, and Co-Chair of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST); and **Sally Ericsson**, Associate Director for Natural Resources, Energy and Science at the White House Office of Management and Budget. The topic was the Federal R&D budget plan for 2013. The President's budget features strong support for science research including +3.11% for basic research components. Budget details were presented in the conference call and have now been published in the February 27 C&E News. John Holdren emphasized that science research is a high priority for the administration, but that in order for the budget to be passed by the Congress, it will be necessary for scientists to advocate strongly with their congressional representatives. Hence advocating for the administration's science budget will be a major objective of congressional visits by our Section members. We welcome to our committee Kerra Fletcher, who will do congressional liaison work as we set up these visits.

All NEACS board members were encouraged to join ACT4Chemistry on the ACS Policy web tab so that they may be included in any future White House conference calls and to contact Dr. Lewis if they would like to plan visits with their congressional representatives.

The potential impacts of budget **sequestration** and across-the-board budget **cuts** on science, technology, innovation, and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) education funding have been the subject of an August ACS Act for Chemistry contact-Congress initiative and an August conference call with Dr. John P. Holdren, Assistant to the President for Science and Technology, Mr. Jon Carson, Director of the Office of Public Engagement; and Mr. Robert Gordon, Executive Associate Director of the Office of Management and Budget. NESACS members were urged to consult the policy tab of acs.org to stay informed on this issue and other current policy issues. Other ACS policy activities that were reported to the November Board meeting included:

- [ACS supports critical minerals legislation](#)
- [ACS opposes publishing legislation](#)
- [ACS opposes amendments limiting conference attendance by governmental employees](#)
- [ACS Supports Legislation on Innovation](#)

Legislative visits

In this election year we had fewer Congressional visits than in some past years. Mike Strem met regularly with Congressman Tierney as chair of his finance committee; Tierney was re-elected to Congress from the 6th District. Ruth Tanner attended local town halls regularly with New Hampshire Rep. Bass, who was defeated in the 2012 election by Ann McLane Custer; Doris Lewis campaigned for Annie Custer, and we are looking forward to meeting with her. Barney Frank, with whom we have had a longstanding relationship, has been replaced by Joe Kennedy III, with whom we hope to meet soon; he has just set up his local office in Newton and has been appointed to the House Committee on Science. Senator Scott Brown, with whose office we were working on SBIR legislation, has been replaced by Elizabeth Warren, with whom we will meet also. Niki Tsongas will now be our best source of interaction on small business innovation and research. The Senate seat held for years by John Kerry will be filled by an upcoming special election.

*Respectfully submitted,
Doris I. Lewis, Chair
Government Affairs Committee
Northeastern Section*