

Highlights from Board Meeting Minutes for January and February

Compiled by Michael Singer, NESACS Secretary

From the January Minutes

NERM: M. Hoffman

- Northeast Regional Meetings (NERM) will not be held in 2017 or 2018 due to a lack of local sections willing to serve as hosts in those years. The next annual meeting of the NESACS Board will take place at noon on Tuesday, August 22, 2017, in Washington, DC, on the occasion of the ACS national meeting. The Atlantic Basin Conference on Chemistry (ABCChem) will take place on January 24-27, 2018, at the Iberostar Resort in Cancun, Mexico.

Special Committees

Fundraising: Brian Chamberlain for the committee

- January 2017 Fundraising Report: Restart of NESACS Golf Tournament
- The NESACS golf tournament is a scramble format fundraiser and networking event last held in 2014. A fundraising committee has been formed to organize an NESACS golf tournament for 2017.
- Members of the new committee include Brian Chamberlain, Meredith Eno and Leland Johnson. The committee has connected with members of the previous committee consisting of Harry Mandeville and Amy Tapper on email and conference call.
- Tournament goals, format, location and timeline were discussed. Historically, the goal of the organizing committee was to keep the price of the golf and dinner near cost and raise money through corporate sponsorship.
- Harry has provided the committee with a recommended site, past email lists, player registrations, and corporate contacts. Brian, Meredith and Leland will meet at the NESACS meeting on 1/12/17 and discuss next steps for the 2017 tournament, which include securing a venue and date.

Government Relations: Doris Lewis

Govt. Affairs Planning Meeting Dec. 10 at the Newton Marriott:

Doris Lewis, Matthew Jacobsen, and Catie Rawlins met to plan the upcoming meeting at Joe Kennedy's office and to organize resources for future meetings with congressional representatives.

Catie has opened a Google Drive Folder to compile resources and notes to share with the group including the ACS video "Tips for a Successful Meeting", and will start a spreadsheet to keep track of interested members with congressional district and representative.

Catie will make up the info sheet for NESACS & NSYCC. Matt will print copies of ACS policy info, the info sheets on ACS, NESACS, and NSYCC and the talking points; Doris has contacted OPA for updated numbers of ACS constituents in the Fourth District.

Our group will gather at Whole Foods Cafe immediately before the meeting for final planning and distribution of materials. This activity was valuable not only in setting up this meeting, but in training our younger chemists and assembling materials and meeting format to be used in future meetings.

Meeting with Congressman Joe Kennedy Dec. 12 at his Newton office:

Joe Kennedy represents the 4th Congressional District in which we have over 900 ACS member constituents. **Attending:** Doris Lewis, GAC Chair, Matthew Jacobsen, Policy Liaison, Catherine Rawlins, 2016 YCC Representative, Caitlyn Mills, 2017 YCC Representative, Sonja Strah-Pleyner, STEM representative.

We had more younger chemist volunteers for this event than we had available spaces, and have a waiting list for future visits. The congressman was very generous with his time and shared an overview of policy issues related to science, very much appreciated by our younger chemists for whom this was a first congressional visit; all participants are enthusiastic at the prospect of future meetings. The "ask" was for Rep. Kennedy to attend one of our monthly section meetings, and the response was a definite "Yes."

Our next congressional office meeting will be in early 2017 with Rep. Mike Capuano of the 7th Congressional District in which we have over 1900 ACS member constituents, to be arranged by Matt Jacobsen. (Thanks to Dorothy Gray of OPA for the constituent figures!)

From the February Minutes

Chair Elect: Mindy Levine

Women Chemists Committee:

The WCC hosted a very successful women chemistry lunch last month with Dr. Allison Campbell.

The chair of the local WCC, Carol Mulrooney, went to the ACS Leadership Development Institute in Dallas Texas and received more formal training in leadership.

Current plans are underway for a wage gap panel discussion to take place at some point this spring. The local WCC is very interested in recruiting more members to be active in this committee.

The Chair Elect: The Chair-Elect attended the leadership development institute in Dallas and made some important connections. We ran a very successful January monthly meeting and received great feedback from Dr. Allison Campbell about her experiences. We are tentatively planning a long range planning meeting in the June time frame. Stay tuned for more information.

- I am in contact with tonight's speaker and Novartis regarding rescheduling the dinner and lecture. Current target is February 23, 2017.
- The Dallas Leadership conference was a great experience.

Budget Committee: James Piper

- No changes from the Jan 2017 budget proposal were made.
- The proposed budget is an \$11K deficit budget. There is enough cash in the operating fund from 2016 to cover the deficit budget.
- With an active fund raising committee planning a golf tournament – will have a positive impact on the deficit budget.
- The FY2017 budget was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Awards: Mukund Chorghade

- The NESACS Fellows committee is looking for good quality candidates from both academia and industry. Requirements have been circulated to the Board. The committee will pre-screen potential candidates for both scientific contributions and ACS activities at both the National and Local levels.
- The Committee will help to coordinate nomination papers and supporting documents.

Membership: Brian D'Amico

➤ We now have a NESACS email address: membership@nesacs.org

- This gives us an official looking email address to use to contact new members. It's still best to contact me via my personal email for a more timely response.

I'm working on rewriting the new member letters to be sent out electronically, based on the ones that were sent out by mail by the previous chair.

I am looking into making revisions to the volunteer brochure, at the suggestion of Michael Singer, as a way of encouraging new members to get involved in the section.

Ideally we could produce versions both for printing as a tri-fold brochure, as well as one that displays well electronically.

If no one is opposed to this being updated, I will be reaching out to the various committees in the previous brochure to seek out updated statements. If anyone has any feedback or items for inclusion, feel free to reach out to me.

Public Relations: Jack Driscoll

A. STEM Journey:

For January & February most of our time is spent on STEM Journey. We met with the Sandwich School committee on Feb. 1 and made a 25-minute presentation on STEM Journey.

They are very pleased to have STEM Journey at Sandwich High School. We will be interviewed by Cape Cod communications on Feb. 8 for the Sunday morning Journal which will be heard on 99.9, 104 and 104.7 FM. We were also interviewed by the Sandwich Chamber of Commerce last week about PID analyzers and STEM Journey.

We continue to add exhibitors like the Rhode Island Section of the ACS, NEACT etc. Dr. Luke Roberson will wear his NASA zero G uniform since the ACS President-elect will wear his eagle scout uniform.

We will have a number of Exhibitors outside from MA including Liquid Robotics (CA based), Exxon Mobil (NJ) STEM exhibit, Oceans Wide (Maine), Teledyne Marine (CA) etc.

We have seven local colleges including Suffolk University, Ben Franklin Institute of Technology, Mass Maritime, Cape Cod Community College, Bristol Community College,

and Northeastern University. We expect to have 12-15 college admissions tables at our mini-college fair. This will be a great event.

B. Family Science Days- Feb. 18-19, 2017 at Hynes Convention Center

We will have a NESACS table at AAAS. This is a free event and we expect ACS President Allison Campbell and past ACS President Bassam Shakashri to drop by.

At AAAS In 2013, there were between 3,000-4,000 people in attendance. If you are in the area drop by with your kids. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Jennifer at pidgirl@gmail.com.

C. ChemLuminary Awards

We are working on three ChemLuminary Awards:

- STEM Journey III
- Climate Science
- Wicked Cool autumn Festival for National chemistry week

Special Committees

Fundraising: Brian Chamberlain

The NESACS Scramble Golf Tournament fundraiser is tentatively scheduled for Monday, Aug. 14th at Wedgewood Pines Country Club in Stow, MA.

The fundraising committee is reviewing and negotiating the pricing and terms of the contract. The committee is planning to have the details finalized in time to include an announcement in the April issue of The Nucleus.

Government Relations: D. Lewis

- The Northeastern Section Younger Chemists (NSYCC) are taking a leading role in government affairs with congressional visits planned to Representatives Mike Capuano and Katherine Clark and an upcoming mixer featuring science policy. A brief planning meeting will be held immediately after the February Board meeting.
- ACS has published a policy statement on the Presidential Executive Order: “Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States” that was emailed to all members by NESACS and ACS and published on the NESACS web site.
- AAAS has announced an event Defending Science and Scientific Integrity in the Age of Trump

Date: Saturday, February 18

Time: 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Location: Sheraton Boston Hotel (Back Bay A Room), 39 Dalton St., Boston, MA 02199

The panel will be moderated by Andrew Rosenberg, director, Center for Science and Democracy at UCS. Confirmed panelists include:

- Lewis Branscomb, visiting scholar, School of Global Policy & Strategy, University of California San Diego
- Gretchen Goldman, research director, Center for Science and Democracy at UCS
- John Holdren, former assistant to the president on science and technology
- Jane Lubchenco, university distinguished professor, Oregon State University
- Amy Luers, director, climate change, Skoll Global Threats Fund
- This event is open. Registration at AAAS is not required.

NERM: M. Hoffman

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- The Atlantic Basin Conference on Chemistry (ABCChem) will take place on January 24-27, 2018, at the Iberostar Resort in Cancun, Mexico. This new conference, which will be in symmetry with and complementary to PacifiChem, is a collaborative effort with the sister societies of the ACS around the Atlantic Basin region. These include the European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences (EuCheMS), Mexican Chemical Society (SQM), Canadian Society for Chemistry (CSC), Brazilian Chemical Society (SBQ), Federation of African Societies of Chemistry (FASC), Latin American Federation of Chemical Associations (FLAQ), and the South African Chemical Institute (SACI).

Project Seed: J. Sacher

Applications have been submitted for 7 students this summer as part of Project SEED.

Stonehill College (Easton, MA)

- Louis Liotta (2)
- Marilena Hall (1)

Dartmouth (Hanover, NH)

- Ivan Aprahamian (1)

- Chenfeng Ke (1)

Broad Institute (Cambridge, MA)

- Carol Mulrooney (1)
- Joshua Sacher (1)

The stipend of \$2,500 per student (\$17,500 total) will be split between NESACS and the national Project SEED program (\$8,750 each).

Project SEED future goals:

- Contact school districts, guidance counsellors, and chemistry teachers in local school districts to make them aware of the program and to help identify applicants. (Feb)
- Plan enrichment activities for the students as a group [potential difficulty due to long distance travel]. (Apr-Jun)
- Develop contacts within industry and encourage industry involvement in Project SEED (May-Nov)

Women's Chemist Committee: C. Mulrooney

- The Women Chemists Lunch with Allison Campbell was held during the day of the NESACS January Meeting. It took place at Catalyst Restaurant as an informal gathering with 10 participants who were able to introduce themselves and get to know our 2017 ACS President. The lunch was enthusiastically received and we would like to host more gatherings of this type with future female speakers at monthly meetings, to enable more women chemists to connect with speakers and with each other.
- I would like to note that Allison gave very positive feedback for the January 12 events, expressed her appreciation of us as hosts, and said that it was a very good start to her tenure as ACS President. Thank you to all involved in planning and participating on this day!
- From January 27-29 I attended the ACS Leadership Institute and participated in the following workshops: Engaging Colleagues in Dialog, Engaging and Motivation Volunteers, and Planning Successful Activities. I came out of these workshops with a lot of ideas and resources to support WCC events this year. Mindy and I also met members of local sections in Eastern New York, Rhode Island, and Connecticut Valley, and would like to co-sponsor an event with them this summer.
- An IPG grant proposal titled: The NESACS Multi-Generational Mentorship Initiative was submitted in collaboration with the YCC and SCC. We will be planning multiple events through 2017 and 2018 around the theme of mentorship.

YCC: C. Rawlins

1. Chemistry Supplies Donation Outreach with UMSS and NESTS
 - a. Catie Rawlins (NEU), Meredith Ward (UMB), Clifford Ellstrom (UMB), and Amanda Vo (BU) were all on a Career Panel at Urban Science Academy January 17th as a part of their Science Week. We visited the chemistry classroom, met the students, and delivered the supplies donated by the NSYCC. Some of the panelists served as judges for their Science Fair as well.
 - b. Next visit to East Boston High School planned for February 17th (tentative)
 - c. Keeping this as an ongoing event/ collaboration
2. Submitted IPG Grant Jan 31st for YCC, WCC, and SCC collaborative activities!
 - a. “The NESACS Multi-Generational Mentorship Initiative”
 - b. Made possible thanks to Carol Mulrooney’s hard work. Thank you to Mort and Lee for feedback.
3. Winter Science Policy Mixer with Govt. Affairs Committee
 - a. February 13th at 6 PM - Landsdowne Pub
 - b. Decided to spin our usual Winter Mixer into a Science Policy event to capitalize on this surge of younger chemists interest in policy
 - c. All ages welcome!
4. Northeastern Student Chemistry Research Conference
 - a. April 8th at Harvard University, Mallinckrodt Building
 - i. Call for abstracts sent out - March 8th deadline
 - ii. Plan to charge \$10 for registration again - waiting to determine space constraints before accepting all submissions
 - iii. Laura Pence – District 1 ACS Director will be the keynote speaker.