

## **NSYCC at ACS Boston: Young Chemists Engaging Nationally and Internationally**

Catherine Rawlins - NSYCC Chair-Elect, Felicia Lucci - NSYCC Chair

Over the summer, the NSYCC has been keeping busy! During the 250th ACS National Meeting in Boston, we sponsored some great events that appealed to young chemists world-wide. We started the week out right! On the first night of the conference, we hosted a mixer at the Back Bay Social Club and ended up taking over the whole place, hitting their capacity of 250 people! We distributed over 200 custom-made NSYCC lapel pins, and made connections with numerous young chemists in our section, nationally, and internationally.

At the conference, the NSYCC cohosted three symposia on a diverse range of topics appealing to young chemists, including: entrepreneurship, green chemistry, and building international relationships.

The first symposium, was cohosted by Ray Borg and Wasiu Lawal was titled, Careers for Young Professionals in Green Chemistry: Breaking Bad Chemistry Habits. The symposium was also co-sponsored by the ACS divisions of Chemical Education (CHED), and the Green Chemistry Institute (GCI), among many others. The symposium successfully introduced the 50+ young chemists in attendance to the field of green chemistry by presenting them with various career paths in academia, industry, government, and business that utilize sustainable chemistry principles. The symposium also provided online tools, resources, and opportunities allowing young chemist to become active within the green chemistry community. Among the many great speakers was Dr. David J. Constable, the Director of the ACS Green Chemistry Institute. Due to the success of the program, there are plans to organize a similar symposium for the 252nd ACS Conference in Philadelphia.

The second symposium was called the Younger Chemists Exchanging More than Currency: First —Euros and Dollars; Next—Rupees, Rands, and Reais was hosted in collaboration with German Exchange Steering Committee and the National Younger Chemists Committee. Speakers included participants from the various exchange programs hosted by NESACS at the National Meeting. The NSYCC were very grateful to be included in the international exchange programming coordinated by NESACS. The German Exchange Steering Committee invited us to participate in many of the great activities planned for our guests throughout the week (see related article in this issue). As a result, we formed an international connection with young chemists from all over the world.

The final symposium the NSYCC co-chaired was with Small Chemical Businesses (SCHB), and hosted by our very own Past Chair Jackie O'Neil. Speakers discussed the challenges and

surprises with starting up a new company and developing new technology. The symposium provided a platform for questions from potential chemical entrepreneurs in the audience.

### **2016 with the Younger Chemists Committee**

2016 is going to be another great year for NSYCC. We plan to host a chemistry intensive local brewery tour, facilitate an outreach event for local middle school students, and tour several different chemical companies within the Northeastern Section to learn about the diversity of career options available.

Finally, the 18th Annual Northeast Student Chemistry Research Conference and Career Symposium will occur on April 23rd and 24th at UMass Boston's brand new Chemistry Building! We look forward to seeing you! For up-to-date information, visit [nsycc.org](http://nsycc.org) and check out our Events page.



(Chair), Jackie O'Neil (Past Chair), and Tim Bergeron (Secretary) (Photo courtesy of Ray Borg)



(L-R) Catherine Rawlins (Chair-Elect), Primrose Nimnark (Publicity Co-Chair), and Caitlyn Mills (Social Chair) Photo courtesy of Catherine Rawlins

**Not pictured:** Brian D'Amico (Publicity Co-Chair), Kyle Cole (Treasurer), Valerie Ivancic (Webmaster)