

American Chemical Society

Form: Part II - Annual Narrative Report **Optional for EZ Submission**

Organization: Georgia

Year: 2006

A. Activities

Please describe and rank up to ten of your section's activities during 2006. Provide (a) the title of the activity, (b) a one paragraph description of the activity, and (c) an indication if this activity was new in 2006. If you wish to provide details beyond these paragraphs, please do so in Appendix 1.

Activity #1

a) Title: Herty Medalist Undergrad Research Symp.

The Herty Medalist Undergraduate Research Symposium (HMURS) was initiated in 2006 by the Georgia Local Section of the ACS to promote undergraduate chemical research in the metro Atlanta area. In particular, the Herty Medal Committee, and its Chair, Prof. Rigoberto Hernandez, were instrumental in founding and implementing this initiative. The ACS Local Sections Activities Committee awarded the Section an Innovative Project Grant in the Fall of 2006 to help support this initiative, particularly as the 2006 and 2007 HMURS will both held in the same academic year. The symposium features the annual Herty Medalist as well as other local speakers who share their research and experience to inspire and instruct undergraduates interested in pursuing academic or industrial careers in chemistry or chemical research. The first annual Herty Medalist Undergraduate Research Symposium featured the 2006 Herty Medalist, Prof. and Dean Gary Schuster, and was held on Friday September 15th, 2006 at Morehouse College. Twenty-three posters were presented by undergraduates. Two grand-prize winners, Lauren Hayden and John Tortch, were each awarded \$500 travel awards to an ACS National Meeting and 1-year memberships to the ACS. Three alternate prize winners were also awarded 1-year memberships to the ACS. For more information on this continuing activity, please look at the website, <http://chemistry.gsu.edu/ACS/HMURS/>.

Description
(Please limit to

b) one paragraph):

c) This activity was new in 2006

Activity #2

a) Title: GA ACS Mini-Grant Program

The Georgia Local Section invested \$110,000 in the ACS Investment Pool in 2005. By withdrawing only the amount earned in interest annually, we plan new activities such as awarding Mini-Grants much like the LSAC Innovative Project Grant program. The Executive Committee met in 2006 to decide the process for this program. We will award mini-grants up to \$1000, with a \$6000 annual maximum for the section.

Announcements

have been made in our newsletter about the program. The application and details will be available on our website. Anyone located in our geographical section can apply for the grants, but non-members must have a section member sponsor their application.

Description
(Please limit

b) to one paragraph):

c) This activity was new in 2006

Activity #3

a) Title Unique ACS National Meeting Hosting

The five major activities of the Georgia Section's nineteen member Hospitality Committee for the 2006 Atlanta National ACS Meeting were designed to support and relate to ACS President Ann Nalley's "Ensuring the future" theme, the American Chemistry Council's "Essential-2-living" media advertising campaign, and comments about the need for innovation in the physical sciences that were in the 2006 "State of the Union" speech by U.S. President George W. Bush. These efforts also served to introduce meeting attendees to our community and culture, publicize nationally notable Section programs and history, increase visibility of chemistry in our area, help ACS staff in planning for a Hospitality Booth, support hosting by Hospitality Booth staff and volunteers, and demonstrate the feasibility of a relatively inexpensive national image campaign for chemistry-chemists-chemical engineers. Most of these activities were new for the Section, and some are thought to be new with respect to national meeting Local Section hospitality efforts.

Our five major activities included (1) producing and distributing a special 8-page national ACS meeting edition of the Georgia Section Filter Press newsletter to meeting attendees, (2) producing and distributing free chemistry-chemist promoting souvenir magnetic car/bumper stickers to meeting attendees, (3) distributing free chemistry/chemist promoting magnetic car/bumper stickers to area high school teachers and students, (4) providing hosts to staff the hospitality booth for 5 days near the meeting registration area, and (5) producing and displaying three very large free-standing banner signs promoting the Section's best known annual program (the Herty Medal award) and the national significance of Georgia's most famous chemist - Dr. Charles Herty. We also helped ACS staff find over two dozen area college

students to assist with delivery and logistics work at the ACS meeting. Further, we attempted to contact ACS chemistry.org website staff to suggest that the website's "Molecule-of-the-Week" for March 26-31, 2006 be either gamma-decalactone or delta-decalactone, which are significant in the flavor/odor of ripe peaches. But due to a temporary website malfunction, contact was not possible until it was too late to post the peach flavor molecule on the website. A full description of our hospitality committee activities with pictures can be found in Part IV (Award Self-Nominations) of this SOLAR report.

Description
(Please limit

b) to one paragraph):

c) This activity was new in 2006

Activity #4

a) Title: Herty Medal Award Presentation

The 72nd Annual Herty Award Dinner was held on May 18, 2006 in the Renaissance Atlanta Hotel Downtown, Atlanta, GA. Over 50 members and friends of the Section attended. In addition to recognizing the 2006 Herty Medalist, Prof. Gary Schuster (Georgia Tech), the Section also invited and recognized our most recent fifty-year ACS members; one of our outstanding section volunteers, Don Hicks, for his service to the Section; and Barbara Broadway, a local high school chemistry teacher at Tucker High School who is very active in the Section. Among the new initiatives instituted as part of this past year's Herty Medal Committee was the introduction of a web-based submission form by nominees and a secure web site providing the candidate information to all of the reviewers. The new chair of the committee, Councilor Rig Hernandez, developed all of the associated technologies, thereby helping to streamline the process for submission and review of candidates.

Description
(Please limit

b) to one paragraph):

c) This activity was new in 2006

Activity #5

a) Title: POLY Career Day

In January 2006, our local section staged an event in cooperation with the POLY division for graduate students in our area. Erica Martin (Rohm Haas Company) initially approached Councilor Rig Hernandez (Georgia Tech) about the possibility of the local section co-sponsoring an event for Atlanta-area graduate students to provide information about career planning and how ACS divisions can help graduate students. Knowing that grad students would have the best ideas about how to plan an event that would be beneficial for grad students, Prof. Hernandez presented the idea to the Georgia Tech Graduate

Student Forum who agreed to help sponsor the event. A great program was planned that included a discussion of research in industry, a panel discussion featuring professionals (academic and industrial) from the POLY executive board, and a networking reception. Our section publicized the event through our monthly listserve, as well as sending announcements to graduate coordinators and professors in our section. The event was also promoted to graduate students in other departments on the Georgia Tech campus, including Chemical Engineering, Materials Science, and Polymer, Fiber, and Textile Engineering. In all, over 80 graduate students attended the event and heard from seven members of the POLY division about their careers and opportunities with ACS.

Description
(Please limit

b) to one paragraph):

c) This activity was new in 2006

Activity #6

a) Title: Girl Scout Chemistry Events

The Georgia Section and its members sponsored and participated in TWO types of events with the NW Georgia Council of Girl Scouts that engaged at least 460 K-8 girls. About 60 girl scouts in the "junior" and "cadet" age ranges, along with their adult leaders, participated on a Saturday in "CSI" type case studies such as "The case of the mystery skull" at a local technical university. Chemical tests were performed by the girls to solve the case. Chemistry demonstrations were also presented in this first type of event. We received an LSAC financial grant to aid in conducting this activity. In a second and NEW major event that was sponsored and supported by Cytec Surface Specialties and the Georgia Section, Section member JoAnn Arceneaux worked with Girl Scout Troop 20202 (she's a co-leader) to staff one of 36 exhibit tables at a large Girl scout gathering called - - CELEBRATION OF GIRLS AROUND THE WORLD: GIRLS STAY FIT. At least 400 of the ~1000 attendees visited the Troop 20202 exhibit which discussed the sugar chemical content in various snacks and beverages (obtained from the 2004 edition of Celebrating Chemistry). The 400 girls visiting the table during NCW 2006 were given an NCW bag with gift items such as a "celebrating Chemistry" sticker and the Periodic Table of Elephants. All demonstrators and coordinators in these two events were women chemists, and a solid rapport was developed between the women and the Georgia Section, the technical university, and the NW Council of GSA. Pictures are in the "Supporting Documents" Appendix 1 part of this SOLAR report.

Description
(Please limit

b) to one paragraph):

c) This activity was new in 2006

Activity #7

a) Title: High-School Teachers Travel Grants

In conjunction with the Georgia Section's promotion of the ACS National Meeting in Atlanta in March, 2006, and to further our goals of promoting chemical education and K-12 outreach, the Georgia Section supported extensively the all-day Saturday CHED program for high school teachers at the national ACS meeting. We provided fifteen scholarships to high-school teachers in the Atlanta area, which covered registration for the CHED programming and allowed access to the rest of the meeting. We also advertised this event extensively in our newsletter and to area teachers. About 250 car magnet signs/bumper stickers (see ACS Meeting Hosting above) were donated --which were snapped up in about 20 minutes. The workshop program included presentations on edible chemistry (teaching chemistry with food), the Journal of Chemical Education, redesign of the AP Chemistry curriculum, and CHED resources available to high-school teachers. This scholarship program enabled several teachers to participate in this valuable programming who might not otherwise have attended.

Description:
(Please limit to

b) one paragraph):

c) This activity was new in 2006

Activity #8

a) Title: Science Cafe Planning

The Georgia Local Section was contacted by the local PBS affiliate in Atlanta (PBA 30) to see if there was any interest in collaborating with them on a public screening of the new NOVA documentary on Percy Julian. The Section Chair-Elect, Holly Davis, thought this might be a good opportunity to present the new Science Cafe meeting format. She applied for the ACS Science Cafe Mini-Grant and was awarded the \$500 before the 2006 year-end. She began the initial planning of the event which will take place in February 2007 in recognition of Black History Month. The Georgia Institute of Technology (GA Tech), located in metro Atlanta, is providing the venue for the Science Cafe. The Mini-Grant funds will more than likely be used to offset costs for either advertising or refreshments.

Description:
(Please limit to

b) one paragraph):

c) This activity was new in 2006

Activity #9

a) Title: National Chemistry Week

The Georgia Section significantly expanded its efforts in National Chemistry Week this year. Coordinated by alternate councilor David Gottfried, the local section assisted in the planning and staffing of a wide variety of events. The DeKalb County Schools' Fernbank Science Center and the ACS presented a National Chemistry Night featuring hands-on activities for 3rd through 5th graders (approximately 50 attendees); local ACS student affiliates from 4 universities assisted. Section member Leon Venable presented chemistry demos on recycling, heat storage, and water absorption to 4 classes of 3rd grade students (80 students) at Midvale Elementary School (Tucker, GA). Georgia Section member Joanne Arceneaux performed liquid nitrogen experiments at Schreiner Academy (Marietta, GA) for about 40 3rd through 8th graders. Past chair Lillian Johnston Butterworth worked with 4th and 5th grade classes at Putnam County Elementary School. Luella High School and nearby elementary and middle schools shared NCW celebrations in 5th through 8th grades. During Science Day at Bullard Elementary School (Kennesaw, GA), 75 4th and 5th grade students produced posters on the NCW theme for a poster contest. Leon Venable worked with cub scouts Bear Den (Pack 129) to observe corrosion and presented NCW patches upon successful completion of the project. Joanne Arceneaux worked with Girl Scouts (Troop 20202) at the "Celebration of Girls Around the Word 2006" event; at least 400 attendees visited the Troop 20202 table, exhibiting the sugar content of various snacks and beverages. In most or all of these events, the Georgia Section provided NCW reading material (Celebrating Chemistry, ChemMatters), stickers, pencils, etc.

Description:
(Please limit to

b) one paragraph):

c) This activity was new in 2006

Activity #10

a) Title: Earth Day

The Georgia local section participated in Chemists Celebrate Earth Day (CCED) 2006 by hosting a booth at the 9th annual Georgia Tech Earth Day celebration (www.earthday.gatech.edu) on Friday April 21, 2006. This celebration included music, alternative fuel vehicle demonstrations and an interactive trivia maze, and it attracted thousands of visitors from Atlanta neighborhoods, businesses, philanthropic organizations, schools, and the Georgia Tech community. The ACS booth was staffed by volunteer Georgia Tech chemistry students (some from the newly organized student affiliate chapter) and highlighted the ACS theme for CCED 2006, Dig It! . The ACS-Georgia LS booth was one of the few representing scientific societies out of the more than 50 booths present. The Earth Day booth was an opportunity to educate the Georgia Tech and local community visitors on the positive role chemistry plays in the world. Printed material and souvenirs (globe balls and bookmarks) that illustrate the Earth Day theme were provided. In addition, chemistry-promoting magnetic car bumper stickers (created for the Spring 2006 ACS national meeting in Atlanta) were also available.

Description: This was the Georgia local section's first time
(Please limit to participating in CCED.

b) one paragraph):

c) This activity was new in 2006

B. Summary - Overall Section Activities

Please summarize in *1,000 words or less*, the activities of the section in 2006 which have not been already described. Outstanding events should be described in some detail and appropriate attachments included in Appendix 3. Programs described here may be featured in publications produced by the ACS Membership Division and/or at the Local Section Leadership Conferences.

2006 was a big year for the Georgia Section with OUTREACH being the "order of the day." In last year's membership survey, one of the top two preferences for types of Section programming was outreach to various groups. Thus, all of our top 10 activities (above) and self-nominations for awards involved "outreach" to groups such as K-8 students, high school students, high school teachers, undergraduate students, graduate students, future women chemists, the local area general public, and even the national U.S. general public!

In addition to our usual local section meetings, there were a great many special events such as hosting the ACS National Meeting, very strong K-12 outreach, the establishment of new programs such as the Herty Medalist Undergraduate Research Symposium and the Georgia Section Mini-Grants program, a tremendous expansion of our NCW and Earth Day efforts, and more. Several of these activities are described above, and our other activities are briefly summarized here.

The local section was very active in furthering our goals of stronger K-12 outreach. A local section meeting was held in October to introduce ACS members to the Georgia Intern-Fellowships for Teachers (GIFT) program, which pairs Georgia teachers with business, industry, and research sponsors for the summer. The section sponsored fellowships to allow high school teachers to attend special CHED programming for them at the Atlanta national meeting (described above). Our NCW and Earth Day activities, led this year by Alternate Councilor David Gottfried, were stronger this year than any time in recent memory.

Outreach events were held with Girl Scouts on at least two separate occasions. Through the efforts of local teacher Barbara Broadway, many high-school students were very active in local section meetings. Notably, past-chair Lillian Johnston Butterworth spearheaded an effort to teach science and chemistry through the "Green Thumb Garden Club" and related efforts. In this program, 4th and 5th grade students were taught about horticulture and participated in hands-on gardening activities. This program discusses thermometer scales, chemical composition and uses of fertilizers, soil and soil nutrients, and a rudimentary discussion of cation exchange capacity and pH. Related efforts are being made at the middle- and high-school levels. (We are submitting a ChemLuminary nomination for these Garden Club efforts).

This year we took steps to increase member involvement

in the local section. Members volunteering for greater involvement in our last membership survey were contacted for their help on several occasions such as Earth Day. A volunteer coordinator was appointed (Prof. Deborah Sauder), who began organizing our efforts along these lines.

In keeping with our section's tradition, one meeting this year (November) was held jointly with the AIChE. This year, our speaker was Professor M. B. Beck, Professor and Eminent Scholar at the University of Georgia, speaking on sustainability.

Summary of 2006 Georgia Section Meetings

1. January 26, 2006, Douglas Raber, GreenPoint Science, "Science Policy: Advising the Federal Government on Terrorism."
2. February 16, 2006, Paul Philp, University of Oklahoma, "Environmental Forensics, or Who Was Responsible for the Spill?"
3. Marh 25-30, 2006, Hosting of the ACS National Conventioon in Atlanta
4. April 19, 2006, Helen Free, "Chemistry: The Perception of the Public"
5. May 18, 2006, Gary Schuster, Georgia Tech, "Chemistry and Science in a Flattened World" (Herty Medal Awards Program)
6. September 18, 2006, Tracy Hamilton, University of Alabama Birmingham, "Zymurgy: The Art and Science of Making Beer"
7. October 18, 2006, Donna Barret, Georgia Tech, "Georgia Intern-Fellowships for Teachers (GIFT): A Win-Win for Science Educators and Employers in Georgia"
8. November 14, 2006, M. B. Beck, University of Georgia, "Sustainability: An Engineer's 11-Point Check-List" (Joint with AIChE)

C. Local Section and Chair Goals

2006 Goal Attainment. The Local Section Activities Committee strongly encourages local section planning. As a result, the 2006 local section annual report should follow-up on the attainment of goals. Please list the goals you

1. set at the beginning of your term for your section and yourself, and report on the attainment of the goals.

a) Local Section Goals and Assessment:

1. Increase participation by and outreach to K-12 students and teachers. This was a great success, and the summary and top activities above document our K-12 efforts including: the Green Thumb Garden Club, the Girl Scout events, our NCW and Earth Day activities, our interaction with teacher Barbara Broadway's high-school students, our financial support and sponsorship of teachers to attend the CHED events at the national meeting, etc.

2. Enhance Chemistry Olympiad and National Chemistry Week. Thanks to the efforts of Alternate Councilor David Gottfried and dedicated volunteers (including student affiliates), our efforts here were greatly expanded, as discussed in our NCW summary above. We also began better record-keeping and worked harder to incorporate more volunteers in the NCW events (and for the first time started participating in Earth Day along with other organizations). New coordinator Prof. Greg Rushton (Kennesaw State) took over as Chemistry Olympiad Coordinator.

3. Implement the ISAC strategic plan. This was a success. Based on our preliminary analysis of our late-2005 membership survey, and on decisions on investment made by the ISAC committee, we implemented an investment plan and a plan for providing mini-grants (described above). 2007 will be the first year that the mini-grants are awarded.

4. Successfully host the National ACS meeting in March 2006. This was one of our top activities (discussed above) and made a real impact on several levels, thanks to Councilor Don Hicks and the Hosting Committee. Many usually-inactive members pitched in to help with the hospitality booth, we educated attendees about the historical importance of Georgia chemist Charles Herty, and we made a statement with magnetic chemistry bumper stickers handed out at our booth.

5. Host a COLGA-related section meeting in August 2006. Unfortunately this goal was not achieved due to the unexpected and sudden job transfer of our COLGA chair, Austin Lin.

b) 2006 Chair's Goals and Assessment:

1. Re-assess programming and activities in light of the results of our 2005 member survey. This was done in the context of a preliminary analysis of the survey results. We had strong K-12 programming, as supported by the survey. The survey indicated a near-equal preference for programming on Mon-Thurs evenings, with a slight preference for Thursdays. Weekends were not preferred. The current number of local section meetings per year (8) was the most popular choice. The most popular responses for "what would make you more likely to attend a section meeting" were "more relevant programming", "meal optional, or no meal", and "central meeting location". Our meals are indeed optional, although this might be publicized more; the other responses will be kept in mind for future planning. There was a preference for one speaker per meeting (our norm), and a split between general and technical topics. Our future programming should balance with

more technical topics. There was also an indication for more career planning topics, which we can expand in the future.

2. Identify new volunteers for new programming. The identification and involvement of new volunteers was aided greatly by our member survey and also by the appointment of Deobrah Sauder as volunteer coordinator.

This allowed us to access more volunteer help, which enabled expansion of programming and our first involvement in Earth Day.

3. Identify officer candidates by May 2006, in order to continue the momentum of on-time elections. The nominations committee met in time to line up several candidates in May. However, several of the candidates identified were not in fact willing to run for office, delaying the final slate of candidates into the summer.

In the future, our newsletter should solicit for nominations in March to broaden our pool of potential candidates.

2007 Goals. (This section should be completed by the 2006 local section chair.) Please list below at least three

2. goals that you and your local section plan to accomplish during your term as local section chair.

a) 2007 Local Section Goals (Include at least three goals):

1. Successfully implement the Georgia Section Mini-Grants program and learn from feedback in its inaugural year to make it a long-term successful, unique feature of the section.

2. Finish analysis of the member survey and make any warranted additional plans based on its results.

3. Re-invigorate some committees such as Government Affairs, Women Chemists, Minority Affairs.

b) 2007 Chair's Goals:

1. Increase interaction with student affiliates and with K-12 teachers through the development and maintenance of contact lists. With their permission, add student affiliate email lists to our master newsletter email list.

2. Include some more technical programming.

3. Continue to host some of the meetings at colleges to keep student involvement up; consider co-hosting meeting with student affiliates chapter.

D. Suggestions/Concerns

List any suggestions you have for the Local Section Activities Committee (LSAC). How can LSAC specifically help your section?