

Division of Chemical Technicians, Inc.



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Chair: 2009

AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY



February 19th, 2009

Chair Report

I accepted the Chair gavel on August 18th, 2008 at TECH's open meeting in Philadelphia. At this meeting, I had the honored to lead this meeting and pass out 3 TAG awards and small token gift to the past chair Mary Moore.

Best Over All - West Pennsylvania Technician Affiliate Group
Best Local Section Interaction – Mid Michigan Technician Affiliate Group
Best Innovative - Northeast Tennessee Technician Affiliate Group

At the Philadelphia meeting, I attended the TECH /CTA Leadership meeting which was dedicated to talking about the upcoming Applied Chemical Technology Summit to be held on Dec 12th – 14th. I was also the secretary for the Summit Team (of which was turn over to Jodi Wesseman after this meeting).

I also present at TECH "Women in Chemical Technology symposium on August 17th. I present "Surfing the Surface of Microscopy."

I also attend and helped teach (very small section) the Leadership Training for the TAG leadership on August 20th.

After the Philadelphia meeting, TECH's Committee members were selected along with 3 voting members (**). Below is a list:

Program Chair

****Kristin Hayslip** The Procter & Gamble Company
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2010 NCTA Award:

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Membership:

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Historian:

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Please Note the By-Laws Chair will be the secretary's job for 2009

Open positions are as follows:

Newsletter Editor: Potentially Kenny Rankin

Marketing Director:

On October 24th, I attend the ACS Midland Local Section Fall Scientific meeting. I gave a poster presentation on the "Technician Affiliate Groups". (Mary Moore and Craig Dunn were authors of this poster.)

On November 14, I was invited to speak at 60th Southeastern Regional Meeting for the TECH symposium "Why I Chose The Applied Chemistry Profession." I present "Workin' 9 to 5, More than Just a Livin'."

In November, I also completed my first Chair article for the Connect TECH.

December 12th – 14th, I attended the Applied Chemical Technology Summit in Washington DC. After the summit, Mary Moore the Chair of the Applied Chemical Technology Summit sent the note below to the TECH executive team to review

To TECH and CTA

"Fifteen ACS members and nine staff gathered this past weekend at the Applied Chemical Technology Professionals Summit. The conversation was lively and the results are noteworthy. A full report on the weekend's discussions and decisions will be available by early February. Until then, please see the attached summary of the weekend's conversations. We want you to be aware of the recommendations from the participants and welcome your comments and suggestions. We anticipate holding a conference call with the organizing committee to debrief the meeting in mid-January and establish a timeline for implementation. Further discussion will take place in Salt Lake City. You will be advised of the progress of the initiative."

To organizing committee (Richard Cobb, John Engelman, Mike Mautino, Kristen Hayslip, Deb Bailey, Mary Moore, Jodi Wesemann, Blake Aronson, and Kathleen Thompson. Barbara Moriarty joined as the DAC liaison to TECH)

"Thank you for the tremendous effort and energy expended over the last several months in preparation for this past weekend's Applied Chemical Technology Professionals Summit. Those of you who were present know that the conversation was lively and the results noteworthy. We anticipate that drafts of the full report on the weekend's discussions and decisions will be available by mid-January and the completed final report by early February. For the present, please see the attached

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summary of the weekend's conversations. . Further discussion will take place in Salt Lake City at the regularly scheduled meetings of CTA and TECH."

To: Executive Committee members, Division of Chemical Technicians
Members of the Committee on Technician Affairs

From: Mary Moore, Chair, Applied Chemical Technology Professionals Summit organizing committee

Re: Applied Chemical Technology Professionals Summit

The words participants used to describe the Applied Chemical Technology Professionals Summit held this past weekend included "optimistic," "hopeful," "excited," and "future." It was a weekend filled with challenging discussion and great thinking about the future. A complete report on the Summit will be completed by early next year, but we wanted to share some of the highlights.

The participants included Tom Lane, the current ACS President-elect, representatives from CTA, TECH, DAC, WCC, YCC, CEPA, and ACS staff from various departments. All engaged in a discussion of topics ranging from a description of an Applied Chemical Technology Professional to the Environment of Applied Chemistry in 2015 to the characteristics of the Applied Chemistry Practitioner in 2015.

Key issues/concerns/needs that were identified included:

- Job security
- Keeping skills current—both technical and soft skills
- Work/life balance
- Balance of working independently and in teams
- Oral and written communication skills

Potential core solutions to these challenges included:

- Continuing education that is accessible and affordable and includes technical education in areas such as engineering, biology and biotech, nanotechnology, and informatics.
- Mentoring that emphasizes career and leadership development as well as work/life balance.
- Networking opportunities to foster job-specific and global opportunities

Some of the most significant barriers that discourage use of current ACS programs, products, and services were identified as communication, perceived value of existing benefits, lack of marketing, and cost.

To begin to address the issues, solutions, and barriers the following actions were proposed for ACS to initiate in 2009:

- Engage in relationship building with industry through Corporation Associates and the Division of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry.
- Participate in Regional Programming.
- Incorporate networking opportunities, mentoring, and continuing education into the initiatives with CA and the regions.
- Catalogue tech-relevant ACS professional development offerings and communicate to appropriate audience.
- Recommend a single entity at the national Society level to focus all efforts directed to the technician community. To initiate this action, a study will take place to consider the implications and consequences of dissolving the Division of Chemical Technicians with the goal of having the Committee on Chemical Technicians become that primary entity.

The organizing committee will follow up with these recommendations and action items to create a plan for implementation that will be discussed during TECH, CTA, and other meetings in Salt Lake City in March.



After this note went out 6 motions were made by the TECH executive meeting:

1st: Mary Moore made motion to move forward with the recommendation from the Summit – Recommending a single entity at the national Society level to focus all efforts directed to the technician community. Via dissolving the Division of Chemical Technicians with the goal of having the Committee on Chemical Technicians become that primary entity? Dick Cobb seconded this motion

- **9 out of 10 were All in Favor **This motion passes!**

2nd: Dick Cobb has also made a motion: TECH's elected officials who would normally end their terms at the fall National Meeting will stay on until December 31st, 2009. This motion is seconded by Mike Mautino.

- **There was a motion to stop this motion. Please see motion 4!**

3rd: Dick Cobb has also made a motion: That TECH funds be available to assist any Executive Committee person in attending the Salt Lake meeting. Funds should be sought from as many other sources as possible and this should only be used to help fund some of the expenses incurred for individuals, but preferably not all of the expense. This motion is seconded by John Engelman.

- **8 out of 10 were All in Favor **This motion passes!**

4th: Dick Cobb formally made a motion to withdraw my original motion (motion 2) that TECH's elected officials who would normally end their terms at the fall National Meeting will stay on until December 31st, 2009. This motion is seconded by Mike Mautino.

- **10 out of 10 were All in Favor **This motion passes!**

5th: Mary Moore made a motion to extend the Distinguished Service Award and the Michael Shea award nominations until Jun1st and that the Special Awards and TAG award be awarded in Washington DC at an Awards program. The date for the Tag Award reports are due January 15th. This will be unchanged.

- **This motion has passed! 9 voted and 9 out of 9 were in favor!**

6th: John Engelman made a motion: I make a motion that we accept the member's notification as written and to distribute to TECH membership by 6 February 2009. This motion was seconded by Mary Moore.

- **This motion has passed! 6 voted and 6 out of 6 were in favor!**



On January 15th, all TECH committee chairs were notified of TECH path forward. The TECH executive team gave feed back on this note, which after motion 6 was sent to the member on February 6th 2009. Please see the note below: (This note was compiled by Mary Moore was approved by executive team)

ATTENTION TECH MEMBERS

In recent issues of **ConnecTECH**, we sent **TECH Members** an important message concerning the urgent need for volunteers, for candidates for office and the future of the **Division of Chemical Technicians (TECH)**. This was the time for all members to speak-up and let their voices be heard. Unfortunately, we received no responses to these articles. Silence was interpreted as apathy by the membership of the **Division of Chemical Technicians**.

We needed to address this issue, by exploring the following two questions:

- Is there a future need for the **Division of Chemical Technicians**?
- If there is a need for our division, then who is willing to step up to volunteer for these roles?

We developed a process to address these questions and concerns—a process that culminated in an **Applied Chemical Technology Summit**. A taskforce was established that was empowered to evaluate the roles of **TECH** and the **ACS's Committee on Technician Affairs (CTA)** and how **ACS** reaches out to applied chemical technology professionals. The taskforce identified key focus areas for the Society to address the needs of chemistry-based technicians now and in the future. The summit was broken into two phases.

Phase I

Information was gathered from chemistry-based technicians, educators in chemical technology programs, and employers of chemical technicians. Several surveys were sent out. Responses were received from over 600 participants.

Phase II

A facilitated summit was held in Washington, DC with representatives of **ACS** governance, staff, **TECH**, **CTA**, and the **ACS's Local Section Activities Committee (LSAC)** and **Divisional Activities Committee (DAC)**. This summit was used to:

- Correlate the needs of technicians to the services presently offered by the **ACS**, **TECH** and **CTA**.
- Perform a gap analysis based on the results from **Phase I**.
- Evaluate the results of that gap analysis.
- Decide what path or paths, if any, make the most sense for continued technician involvement within the **ACS**.
- Identify possible solutions with maximum potential impact in order to close the gaps.
- Develop action plans integrating the involvement of the **ACS** governance, **TECH**, **CTA** and other **ACS** identities.

With the results and input from **Phase I**, the **Applied Chemical Technology Summit** was held Dec 12-14 in Washington DC. Over Twenty participants from **CTA**, **TECH**, the **Woman Chemists Committee (WCC)**, **Younger Chemists Committee (YCC)**, **Corporation Associates**, and **ACS Staff** meet to address the needs of the **Applied Chemical Technology Professionals** and how **ACS** could meet these needs.

The following were the recommendations of the summit to **TECH** and **CTA**:

1. Recommend a single entity at the national Society level to focus all efforts directed to the technician community. To initiate this action, the implications and consequences of dissolving the **Division of Chemical Technicians** have been addressed with the goal of having the **Committee on Chemical Technicians** become that primary entity.
2. Engage in relationship building with industry through **Corporation Associates** and the **Division of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry**.
3. Participate in regional programming.
4. Incorporate networking opportunities, mentoring, and continuing education into the initiatives with **ACS Corporation Associates** and the regions.
5. Catalogue tech-relevant **ACS** professional development offerings and communicate to appropriate audience.

Between December 2008 and January 2009, the **TECH** Executive team addressed the above recommendations as follows:

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1. "In light of the recent Bylaw and Constitutional changes approved by the membership of the American Chemical Society, the leadership of the Division of Chemical Technicians (TECH) now feels that the main purposes for the formation of the division 15 years ago have come to fruition. Technicians are indeed fully welcomed into the ACS! With this realization and looking towards the future, the TECH leadership feels that the division, specifically built around technicians, no longer needs to remain in place. It is vital now that technicians continue their participation within the ACS in a division aligned to their professional efforts. In this proposal, the TECH leadership recognizes the need for a technician voice within the ACS that can represent technicians on the governance level. We also feel that there are some key aspects of TECH that should continue into the future. Thus, we believe that a re-aligned Committee on Technician Affairs (CTA) should be the identifying voice for technicians. We feel a reorganized CTA, much like the model already used by the Younger Chemists Committee (YCC) and Women Chemists Committee (WCC), would be the strongest home for these efforts. Along with a refocus of efforts by CTA, it is important that the ACS jurisdiction over CTA represents the working technician in industry and/or governmental labs. To this end, the TECH leadership is bringing forth to its members the proposal to finish the work of the Division of Chemical Technicians by year-end 2009. This year would be used to work with the Committee on Divisional Activities (DAC) in this effort and, if appropriate, working with CTA as it deals with the Committee on Committees (ConC) to restructure itself more like the YCC and WCC by 1-1-2010." The TECH Executive Committee is designing a plan to address these needs and we need your input. Part of the plan is to address the continuation of the following activities: the WEBSITE, Newsletter, Programming, leadership opportunities, and Awards, to name a few.
2. We now have a liaison to Corporation Associates through CTA.
3. Item #3 above was addressed with LSAC, TECH and CTA, More information will be available in the near future.
4. A list of potential courses that would interest technicians has been presented to representatives from the ACS Office of Continuing Education. The communication also addressed concerns of price and availability. TECH also debuted the new WEBSITE.
5. Item #5 above will be addressed in future meetings, ACS Staff will assist.

I have also been spending time working on the website roll out. The website was rolled out to the members on January 19th, 2009.

On February 5th, 2009 TECH co-sponsoring a lunchtime seminar with ACS and Mid-Michigan Technician Affiliate Group (MMTG) featuring Dr. Thomas H. Lane 2009 ACS President. His presentation is entitled "Find Your Career Fast **LANE** And Your Secure **LANE** for the Future." This lunchtime seminar was organized by Gerard Nowaczyk (MMTG Chair) and me. I organized the location, advertising, money to pay for this event (Given to TECH by Dr. Tom Lane 2009 ACS President and the Dow Corning Foundation), and catering. Gerard helped with initial planning and RSVP collection and emails. This event had approximately 70 people in attendance and was a huge success. The Midland local section even donated some tee-shirts and coffee mugs to raffle off. Dr. Lane also personally offer to pay MMTG dues for any one at that wanted to join MMTG that day (11 people joined).

On February 6th, I held an Executive team teleconference to talk about the budget, grants, give an update on TECH dissolution survey, and develop a packet for CTA for the meeting at SLC. Please see the agenda and minutes from this meeting for details.

On February 16th, I was invited to speak to Chem Tech student at Delta College on my career and the opportunities I have had through ACS.