

American Chemical Society

Form: Part II - Annual Narrative Report
 Organization: Kalamazoo
 Year: 2007

A. Activities

Please describe and rank up to ten of your section's activities during 2007. 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 2007. If you wish to provide details beyond these paragraphs, please do so in Appendix 1.

Activity #1

a) Title: Science Cafe's

The Kalamazoo American Chemical Society (KACS) was pleased to receive the Science Café Mini Grant 2007, which evolved into a three part series of local events. The series kicked off in September 2007 with our first event titled "Climate Change" at a local brew pub, Bell's Eccentric Café. We had about 25 people participate in the presentation and discussion. Our second event in October 2007 was "Renewable Resources" where we attracted about 30 people. Our final event was "Sustainable Living" in November 2007 which featured a lively discussion of daily energy consumption with the 25 people in attendance. All in all, we consider our three part series to have been very successful, not only in engaging the community in scientific discussions, but also in encouraging our members to attend the events. It is important to note that these events were publicized via postcards, emails, and Table Toppers at Bell's about two weeks in advance of the seminars.

Description
 (Please limit to
 b) one paragraph):

c) This activity was new in 2007

Activity #2

a) Title: Public Access TV Show - Public Relations

This year, the KACS participated in a live - taped - Public Access TV Show, which was hosted by Keith Roe. The KACS presenters were the Chair elect, past chair, and councilor. The show included a hands on demonstration by two Kalamazoo Area Math and Science students on catalysts, using the classic experiment called elephant toothpaste. The technical support crew from the Public Access program were wonderful. Organizational support was provided by our Chair. The event was a lot of fun and we were asked to do it again next year. The show was called "Monday Night Live". It was shown on Charter Kalamazoo with the following schedule: Monday LIVE (7pm, channel 19), Thursday/Friday/Saturday (tape, 5pm, channel 22), and Sunday (tape, 1pm, channel 21).

Description
 (Please limit
 b) to one paragraph):

<http://www.archive.org/details/MNLWhoNeedsScience10-01-07.mpg>

- c) This activity was new in 2007

Activity #3

- a) Title Postcard / eMail for KACS Communications

This year, we were unable to continue the publication of our bi-monthly newsletter due to the loss of our Editor. We decided to go to a new format for communicating our upcoming events to our membership: postcards and emails. We had several mailings this year: notification of the change in format, new membership, announcement of the three Science Cafe's, announcement of the National Chemistry Event, and our KACS-EC Elections. This new format was a huge success. We observed our membership coming to the Science Cafe's with their post cards in their shirt pockets! This is a new way of getting the word out of membership activities.

Description
(Please limit

- b) to one paragraph):

- c) This activity was new in 2007

Activity #4

- a) Title: National Chemistry Week

For the 21st annual national chemistry event, the KACS section co-sponsored a hands on day of chemistry experiments in cooperation with the Kalamazoo Valley Museum. This year's theme was "The Many Faces of Chemistry". Volunteers from KACS membership, and local primary and secondary schools (Gull Lake, Kalamazoo Christian, and Portage Northern students, KAMSC students) and WMU students participated. Approximately 1000 people attended the function over the four-hour period. The chemistry day included hands on experiments and drum crushing.

Description
(Please limit

- b) to one paragraph): Flyers:

- c) This activity was new in 2007

Activity #5

- a) Title ACS Innovation Grant

Title: Experimental Science Training for Teachers

A demonstration event was held on February 21, 2007 reaching ten area fourth grade teachers. The event was a success with positive feedback at the meeting and appreciation for the gift of the two science kits and supplemental materials. The questions asked during the event gave the impression the teachers were engaged and the selected kits were useful for their classrooms. A feedback form was distributed at the meeting to obtain comments on the kits after they were used. Additional kits were distributed to partner teachers involved with other outreach programs. Each teacher was provided one kit from

each experiment. The Iron in Cereal kit may be used repeatedly by just replacing simple supplies, cereal and plastic bags. The plant science kit could also be used repeatedly by replacing the consumable supplies. The total impact of these kits won't be known until the next school year. Three feedback forms were received with positive comments and are attached with this report. All three teachers expressed gratitude for the kits and desire additional assistance with conducting hands on science in their classrooms. This is just the type of response we were hoping to obtain. The goal was to use this workshop to find additional teachers to partner with to promote science education. Through last year's science fair program and this year's teacher workshop, we are beginning to build a network of elementary school teachers to work with in the area. A definite impression was made with the teachers in attendance at the workshop that both the ACS and the Pfizer Education Initiative were effective partners in the attempts to improve science education in the classroom.

Description
(Please limit

b) to one paragraph):

c) This activity was new in 2007

Activity #6

a) Title: Chemists Celebrate Earth Day Event

On Saturday, April 21, 2007, KACS members Wally and Lydia Hines represented the Section at the Kalamazoo Nature Center Earth Day program on the grounds of the Nature Center in Kalamazoo, MI. From 9 to 3 PM a steady stream of children and their parents discussed chemists' stewardship of resources, focusing on recycling (this year's theme). Posters were handed out along with about 300 Earth Day activity sheets as well as tattoos. This event also promoted interaction with area schools through teachers who came by the table. The large interest from homeschooling families was encouraged.

Description
(Please limit

b) to one paragraph):

c) This activity was new in 2007

Activity #7

a) Title: Competitive Exam

This was the 23rd year that this section has organized and sponsored the High School Competitive Scholarships in Chemistry. Support for the program has been received from Pfizer, Inc., L. Perrigo Company, the AM Todd Company, KALSEC, Inc., and private donations. The purpose of these programs, and of our recognition of Outstanding Senior Students in Chemistry is to acknowledge and encourage academic excellence. It is the fond expectation of the Kalamazoo Section that this recognition will stimulate a continuing interest in science, and by doing so provide to these students - regardless of their ultimate area of study - the knowledge necessary for the thoughtful evaluation of the many issues in science and technology now facing our

Description:
(Please limit to

b) one paragraph): society.

c) This activity was new in 2007

Activity #8

a) Title: Awards Reception

Description:
(Please limit to
b) one paragraph):

The 2007 High School, College and Kalamazoo Section Award Program was held on Monday, May 21, 2007 in the Western Michigan University Chemistry Building. The program included awards for the following categories: 2 - Outstanding College Chemistry Students, 1 - 2006 KACS Outstanding High School Chemistry Teacher, 9 - Outstanding High School Chemistry Students, 2 - Kalamazoo Section Awards, 3 - 50 Year ACS Members, 5 - 60 Year ACS Members, and 10 2006 Competitive Scholarship Winners with 10 - Honorable Mention Awards.

c) This activity was new in 2007

Activity #9

a) Title: Project SEED

Description:
(Please limit to
b) one paragraph):

This year's SEED Reception was held on Monday August 13 in the new Western Michigan University Chemistry Building Lobby. This was the 16th year that the KACS section participated in this program. This summer 2 students participated from area high schools in the 2007 project SEED program. The program kicked off in June and went for 8 weeks. The program concluded with the poster session and reception.

c) This activity was new in 2007

Activity #10

a) Title:

Description:
(Please limit to
b) one paragraph):

c) This activity was new in 2007

B. Summary - Overall Section Activities

Please summarize in *1,000 words or less*, the activities of the section in 2007 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.

not applicable...

C. Local Section and Chair Goals

2007 Goal Attainment. The Local Section Activities Committee strongly encourages local section planning. As a result, the 2007 local section annual report should follow-up on the attainment of goals. Please list the goals you set at the beginning of your term for your section and yourself, and report on the attainment of the

1. goals.

a) **Local Section Goals and Assessment:**

Dramatic changes in the industrial section of our section has us focusing on delivery of core activities while anticipating the impact that membership change will have on budget. The major impact that we will encounter in the coming year is the loss of one councilor and one alternate councilor.

Goals for 2007:

Manage and adjust the 2007 budget while maintaining high quality core events. Be prepared for a potentially smaller budget in the near future as we realize the decreased section head count.

Help to make our community aware that science is fun through interesting seminars and events.

Work with our Kalamazoo College and Western Michigan University affiliates to plan programs for the college students in our community.

b) **2007 Chair's Goals and Assessment:**

Our budget this year did decrease substantially compared to past years. As a result, we reduced the frequency of events for our section. We also lost our newsletter editor, and switched to a new media - post cards and email- which was well received by our membership.

We held three hugely successful Science Cafes' that got our membership together in a fun setting for the first time in quite awhile. These events also drew an audience from the local community!

We also had a relatively big success with this year's national chemistry week event despite the "brain drain". The publication of the TV show, and the placemats prior to the event definitely contributed to this successful turnout.

Our Western Michigan University affiliates are very active...they sell goggles and t-shirts to raise funds. They had several successful events of their own, most notable the beer production and tasting event. The Kalamazoo College affiliates are starting their group up again this coming year.

2008 Goals. (This section should be completed by the 2008 local section chair.) Please list below at least 2. three goals that you and your local section plan to accomplish during your term as local section chair.

a) **2008 Local Section Goals (Include at least three goals):**

Increase activity of current membership through enhanced programs and greater awareness of opportunities. Our section has so much to offer, but most ACS members choose not to get involved. We need

to brainstorm ways that can get people excited about participating in ACS activities.

Continue to evaluate the impact of reductions in membership on the delivery of Local Section programs.

To increase public awareness of the local section and participation in its activities through the continued enhancement of our public relations plan.

b) 2008 Chair's Goals:

Strive to enhance our interactions with the local student affiliates.

To develop, identify, and foster creative ideas that engage our local membership despite a decrease in our numbers.

Support each of the programs above by attending each event and assisting where necessary, to ensure program excellence.

D. Suggestions/Concerns

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