

## American Chemical Society

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Form: Part II - Annual Narrative Report  
Organization: Maryland  
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: Student Awards Dinner

Description  
(Please limit to one paragraph): This awards ceremony/meeting was initiated more than 20 years ago and allows students from community colleges as well as 4-year colleges/universities to be honored for their efforts in chemistry (as recommended by their professors). The student awards are an incentive for area students to work hard in chemistry class. Students receive a certificate, a Merck index (donated by Merck), and dinner. It is also a chance for these students to socialize with other students. Parents of the students also participate in the evening. This year's speaker was from Towson University and spoke about Forensic Science Education.

c)  This activity was new in 2007

#### Activity #2

a) Title: Energy Alternative Symposium

Description  
(Please limit to one paragraph): The Maryland ACS Section hosted an all-day symposium on Energy Alternatives as a Joint ACS Section (Western MD and Washington, DC) meeting. The symposium was funded through an Innovative Grant from National ACS. The speakers were invited from industry, government, and academia to cover the topics of: Photovoltaics, Wind Power, Fuel Cells, and Alternative Fuels. The symposium was held at Hood College in Frederick, MD on Saturday, October 13. Members from the various local sections attended the meeting for a turnout of 40 people.

c)  This activity was new in 2007

#### Activity #3

a) Title: Braude Award

The Braude Award, a relatively new award, honors chemistry professionals who are recognized in education and who are leaders in the nation in that area. This year the winner was Bassam Shakhshiri from the University of Wisconsin-Madison who is famous both for his ability as a lecture demonstrator and his being a candidate for the presidency of the

- Description  
(Please limit  
b) to one paragraph): national society a year ago. He gave an inspiration lecture on the Enlightenment and Responsibilities of the Enlightened in Communicating Chemistry. The lecture also included a short demonstration. The meeting was well attended by students, professional chemists, and faculty from nearby universities.

- c)  This activity was new in 2007

**Activity #4**

- a) Title: Chemists Celebrate Earth Day

- Description  
(Please limit  
b) to one paragraph): This outreach event was held in April at many locations in our area as a clean up of wildlife areas (Herring Run Watershed) with over 100 people in attendance. One notable hands-on event was held at the Maryland Science Center in Baltimore on Saturday April 21. Over 200 students were helped by volunteers during the event. The science center event was organized by Paul Smith.

- c)  This activity was new in 2007

**Activity #5**

- a) Title Chemistry in the Library

- Description  
(Please limit  
b) to one paragraph): The Chemistry in the Library Program is one of the most popular programs in our section. It is a hands-on science activity held at public libraries for kids (grades 1-9) staffed by volunteer scientists from the MD ACS local section, Kids&Chemistry Program, and US Army Research Laboratory at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds. Over 12 libraries in Baltimore City and 5 other counties in MD participated and over 25 events were hosted throughout the year on different topics, including Earth Day, Magnetism, National Chemistry Week, and Forensics working with over 450 students.

- c)  This activity was new in 2007

**Activity #6**

- a) Title: NCW

- Description  
(Please limit  
b) to one paragraph): NCW events were held on October 21-27 with this year's theme of "The Many Faces of Chemistry". Chemists from the Army Research Laboratory and Edgewood Chemical and Biological Command in Aberdeen ran hands-on experiments as a celebration to NCW in several local libraries and elementary schools. All participants received ACS balloons, pencils, and a Celebrating Chemistry booklet. This year a poster contest was also held for area elementary schools and homeschool groups. Winners from 2 groups (Hebbsville Elementary from 8 students and Homesteaders Homeschool Group from 2 students) were given a NCW T-shirt.

- c)  This activity was new in 2007

**Activity #7**

a) Title: 50 Year Members Luncheon

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

The MD section honored 10-50 year ACS members (Michael Chaykovski, Robert Curley, Howard DeVoe, Morton Jacobs, Stoddard Knowles, Julius Menn, Melvin Miller, Joseph Pistritto, Edward Reichert, and Joseph Skorcz) and 1-60 year ACS member (Frank Satkiew) at a luncheon at Belmont, part of Howard Community College. Guests were also present. Each member spoke for 10 minutes about their career in chemistry. A good time was had by all.

c)  This activity was new in 2007

**Activity #8**

a) Title: Student Affiliate Social

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

A networking event was held at Dave and Busters in Arundel Mills Mall on April 27 for student affiliates to meet other students from the various universities and MD ACS representatives. 25 students, 2 faculty advisors, and 3 schools were represented.

c)  This activity was new in 2007

**Activity #9**

a) Title: MD Chemist Award

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

Dr. Paul Dagdigian was awarded the MD Chemist award. This award was established in 1962 to recognize and honor a member of the MD Section for outstanding achievement in the field of chemistry. The award may be in pure or applied chemistry, chemical engineering or chemical education. Dr. Dagdigian's work with laser spectroscopy has made advances in explosives detection.

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.

## 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:

Increased communication with members continued with updates to the section website and streamlining of the section newsletter. Communication within section executive committee also improved by using email to complete some tasks-this prevented the physical assembly of the committee members and produced results much quicker. With the appointment of a student affiliate representative to the section executive committee, interactions with the students were much improved. Changes to the monthly dinner meetings were introduced this year. More change is still needed.

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

1. Maintain Communication with Members
  - " Focus on E-mail and Website Interaction
  - " Rethink Dinner Meetings how to increase attendance meeting topics, meeting locations, other ways to hold meetings podcasting, etc?
2. Maintain Interaction with Student Affiliates Groups
  - " Student Travel Awards
  - " Project SEED Awards
  - " Green Chemistry Initiative
3. Contact between Chair/Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect
  - " Transition Seamless
  - " Lessen Workload for All
  - " Ideas for New Events
4. Maintain/Increase Volunteer Base
  - " Maintain Section Executive Committee
  - " Groups for Outreach Programs
  - " High School Science Teachers and Students
    - Contact interested people,
 recognition events
5. Maintain Outreach Programs
  - " High School and University Levels
 Determine what volunteers need and provide that help
6. Interaction with Other Local ACS Sections in the Area
  - " Tri-Section (Maryland, Western Maryland, and Washington, DC) Meeting in Fall 2007 on Alternative Energy Sources

**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):

1. Work to increase volunteerism
2. Section needs must keep up with technology and change--changes in education curriculum and employment (academic and industrial) and ways to interact with members.
3. Determine ways to improve member participation in activities.

b) 2008 Chair's Goals:

1. Move forward to holding elections on-line. With By-Laws changed, an election service needs to be found and implemented.
2. Improvements to the section newsletter, especially its dissemination and website upkeep.
3. Updates to monthly dinner meeting format--making the event more informal and holding fewer meeting throughout the year.

## **D. Suggestions/Concerns**

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