

## American Chemical Society

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**Form:** Part II - Annual Narrative Report

**Organization:** New Haven

**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: Dinner Meetings of General Membership

Description  
(Please limit to  
b) one paragraph): The Section held seven meetings of the General Membership in 2007. These dinner meetings were held at various restaurants within the boundaries of the Section. During a short business segment members in attendance were briefed on Section operational issues, current activities and future programs.

c)  This activity was new in 2007

#### Activity #2

a) Title Speaker Presentations at G.M. Meetings

Description  
(Please limit  
b) to one paragraph): Each of the dinner meetings described above featured a speaker on a topic selected to be of interest to the majority of members in attendance. Several topics presented in 2007 included; The Role of Bio-Diesel in Connecticut, Nanostructured Materials, and "Glow", Green Fluorescent Protein in Plants and Animals.

c)  This activity was new in 2007

#### Activity #3

a) Title Executive Board Planning Meetings

Description  
(Please limit  
b) to one paragraph): A total of four Executive Board Planning Meetings were held in 2007. With few exceptions these meetings were usually attended by all Executive Board and activity committee members. Agenda items included; Section viability and operational issues, discussion of the Section Budget and expenditures, critique of recent G.M. meetings and activities, items of importance from National ACS, Councilor reports, and plans for upcoming G.M meetings and programs in progress.

c)  This activity was new in 2007

#### Activity #4

a) Title: Participation in National Chemistry Week

Description  
(Please limit  
b) to one paragraph): As in the past 17 years, the Section has participated in the National Chemistry Week Program. In 2007 we limited our focus to a poster contest for elementary, middle, and H.S. students. During National Chemistry Week, posters were on display, in the auditorium of the Ct. Agricultural Experiment Station in New Haven, for viewing by Section members, and students and teachers who participated in the contest.

- c)  This activity was new in 2007

**Activity #5**

- a) Title: National Chemistry Olympiad

Description:  
(Please limit to one paragraph): After a one year hiatus the Section resumed its participation in the National Chemistry Olympiad. The Section's participation was coordinated by Prof. Olivier Nicaise, a member of the Chemistry Department faculty at Southern Connecticut University, where the Local Section Competition and the National Examination were held. Twenty-four students from six local high schools participated in the Local Section Competition. Ten of the 24 students qualified to take the National Examination.

- c)  This activity was new in 2007

**Activity #6**

- a) Title: Bulletin Publication

Description:  
(Please limit to one paragraph): In 2007, four Bulletins were published announcing 6 meetings of the G.M. These Bulletins were mailed to each member of the Section. In addition to announcing the time, date and venue of the meetings, speakers and abstracts of their presentations, the bulletins also informed members of operational issues and the status of programs in progress. Other items published in the Bulletin included member recognition, help wanted and situation wanted ads, appeals for member participation in governance and activities, and the annual ballot for election of officers.

- c)  This activity was new in 2007

**Activity #7**

- a) Title: Recognition

Description:  
(Please limit to one paragraph): During 2007 the Section recognized volunteers for service to the Section, members for length of service to the Society and other accomplishments, and teachers and students from local schools who participated in contests and competitions sponsored by the Section. Those recognized were guests of the Section at G.M. meetings. Other forms of recognition included pictures and articles of recognition appearing in the Section Bulletin and local news publications, and the presentation of certificates, plaques, and other mementos.

- c)  This activity was new in 2007

**Activity #8**

- a) Title: Local Section Website

Description:  
(Please limit to one paragraph): The Section maintained an updated website where members can obtain information regarding Section operation, activities, and meetings.

- c)  This activity was new in 2007

**Activity #9**

- a) Title: Grant-in-Aid to H.S. Chemistry Teacher

- Description: A \$250 GIA was made to a high school chemistry teacher for use toward the purchase of an electronic balance to be used by students in the classes she teaches.
- (Please limit to one paragraph):

- 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 goals.

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

1. Recruit individuals from the General Membership to serve on the Executive Board as Officers of the Section: Several members have expressed an interest in volunteering. They are presently gathering information on Section function and are considering running for office in the future.
2. Resume participation in the Nat. Chem. Olympiad: As discribed earlier in this report we have resumed participation in this program.
3. Continue participation with local schools in Nat. Chem. Wk. activities: We have participated in these activities.
4. Continue recognition programs for outstanding Section members, students and teachers: Our recognition programs have been successful.
5. Provide at least 6 meetings of the G.M.: We have provided 7 meetings.
6. Initiate Science Cafe program: We have been unable to intitiate the Science Cafe Program due to lack of volunteer help to coordinate the program.
7. Keep expenses associated with operation of the Section within budget: We have accomplished this.

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

**2008 Goals.** (This section should be completed by the 2008 local section chair.) Please list below at least 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. Continue to focus on recruitment of individuals from the G.M. to serve on the Executive Board as Officers of the Section. Seek participation from

retirees and others who don't normally attend G.M. meetings.

2. Continue to provide oversight and a venue for Section H.S. student participation in the Nat. Chem. Olympiad Program.
3. Continue participation with local schools in Nat. Chem. Wk. activities.
4. Continue recognition programs for outstanding Section members.
5. Provide at least 6 meetings of the Gen. Membership.
6. Update list of chem. teachers at H.S. within the Section.
7. Prepare a job manual.
8. Keep expenses associated with operation of the Section within budget.

b) 2008 Chair's Goals:

## D. Suggestions/Concerns

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

The officers of the Section are not pleased with the tour speaker program offered by the National Office. It appears that we are having more difficulty getting tour speakers now than we have been in the past and are not sure why this is happening.

The officers are concerned about the number of industries in the Section which have employed chemists, that -within the past year - have reduced the size of their work force (ex. Chemtura), or have left the area entirely (ex. Bayer). We anticipate a significant drop in membership numbers in the near future. We suggest that ACS should take a firmer stand against outsourcing of U.S. jobs to foreign countries.