

## American Chemical Society

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Form: Part II - Annual Narrative Report  
 Organization: Northeastern  
 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: Advances in Chemical Sciences Symposium

A seminal event this year was the inaugural "Advances in Chemical Sciences Symposium" conference, held on March 30, 2007: it was a spectacular success. The symposium was a day-long celebration of Chemistry and was held at the Royal Sonesta Hotel in Cambridge, MA. Under the auspices of this conference, eminent scientists from the strategic triad of government and industry and academia delivered plenary lectures. The conference brought together 230 scientists for a scholarly event focusing on medicinal chemistry, organic synthesis and methodology. This year's plenary lecturers included, Robert Grubbs (Caltech), Steven Ley (Cambridge), Eric Jacobsen (Harvard), Tomi Sawyer (Pfizer), William Greenlee (Schering Plough) and Mark Murcko (Vertex). The topical focus areas - medicinal chemistry, pharmaceutical and organic synthesis are areas where the chemical enterprise in our area has a well deserved reputation for excellence.

A large number of pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry professionals from the metropolitan area joined us for this event, shared ideas and built networks. The response was extremely enthusiastic. A sell out symposium crowd was treated to some exhilarating science from some of the finest practitioners of the discipline. A vendor show was well attended and appreciated. The symposium was co-sponsored by the US (East Coast) Section of the RSC, and IUPAC. This helped cement our relationships with our colleagues from other societies. Represented on the organizing committee were scientists from many of the Pharma companies in our area. We thus built a nucleus for the future: there is a lot of enthusiasm for having this as an annual event; the 2008 event is being organized: the scheduled date is April 11

Description (Please limit to one paragraph): 2) Planning for ACS collaboration with the Indian Chemical Society and the hosting of ACS Prospectives conferences in India are in full swing

c)  This activity was new in 2007

#### Activity #2

a) Title: Fostering Interactions with Chem Societi

Description (Please limit to one paragraph): The annual symposium described above will be routinely co-sponsored (intellectually and financially) by the Royal Society of Chemistry and the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry. All our other meetings will be publicized to the membership of these organizations.

c)  This activity was new in 2007

**Activity #3**

## a) Title                      Refining Career Services Events

The NESACS Professional Career Services Committee is dedicated to providing ACS Members with the best and latest tools to manage careers: we offer career guidance and focus on the components of targeting the job market, personal assessment, identifying market trends, credentials, research and networking. We have a comprehensive (lecture, demo and review) program that provides assistance in writing winning resumes and cover letters, learning various techniques and skills needed for a successful job interview and negotiating an attractive job offer.

Mukund Chorghade, as Chair of this committee, attended both National Meetings and actively participated in the work of the ACS Department of Career Services and Professional Development in reviewing resumes and conducting mock interviews. Dr. Daniel Eustace has been a most welcome and effective contributor to these. Special accolades are due to him for helping in redesigning and participating in several innovative ACS presentations and personally leading highly and superbly interactive and novel workshops on interviewing, career development etc. There has been considerable audience participation from employers and interviewees. Both Dan Eustace and Mukund Chorghade have been selected to participate in the ACS National "Train the Trainer's Program"

Dan Eustace also presented at the afternoon Career Services Employment Seminars that were held preceding the regular meeting of the Northeastern Section. We introduced this as a regular feature in all the monthly meetings (January-June). Typically, a lecture on resume presentations was presented and publications of the ACS National Employment Services were distributed. These publications were also distributed at each of the monthly meetings in the evening. Also, at the monthly meetings assistance with employment was available. This year as an innovative attempt to network employment-seekers with professional recruiters, we co-opted two highly respected industry professionals Megan Driscoll and Jennifer Sass, Pharmalogics recruiting, to our team. These two reviewed resumes and provided guidance on careers. As an added bonus, they assisted some job-seekers get interviews and eventually placements within the pharmaceutical and biotech industries even in locations such as Kansas. Mukund also presented workshops at the Mass College of Pharmacy, University of Wisconsin, Madison, and University of Toledo. Requests have now come in from India and from the Royal Society of Chemistry to do so in London

Description  
(Please limit

b) to one paragraph):

c)  This activity was new in 2007

**Activity #4**

## a) Title:                      Science Cafes organized by Speakers Bure

As discussed, we embarked on a mission to revitalize the speaker's bureau. We assembled the best talent in our section and have got a list of refined presentations of broad general interest. We have circulated this list to many schools and community organizations.

A major event that we organized was a "Science-Café"

in collaboration with Professor Kathi Browne of Natick High School: we organized this two-hour in-house field trip for 150 of the best students at Natick high and also for some faculty colleagues.

The program, on October 26 was as follows:

- 1) Kathi Browne: General introduction
- 2) Steve Lantos: Ashdown and other scholarship exams, Chemistry Olympiad
- 3) Mukund Chorghade: The use of chemistry, setting up a Science Club
- 4) Dan Eustace: Show and Tells regarding the excitement of chemistry and Science
- 5) John Amedio: Careers, internships etc

Based on the feedback received, the speakers were well appreciated. Students are interested in internships and hearing about additional career opportunities in science. Some have also expressed an interest in joining a science club and in taking part in the various science competitions. Two of the biology teachers present at the assembly asked about the possibility of arranging another assembly where we bring in speakers from the biotech industry. We were able to organize this second event and have Dr. David Pizzi, Sr. Director, Shire Therapeutics and his colleagues visit the school for individual classroom discussions and Q & A.

Description  
(Please limit  
b) to one paragraph):

- c)  This activity was new in 2007

#### Activity #5

- a) Title                      Events organized by Education Committee

Ø            The 2007 Connections to Chemistry program was held at Burlington High School on Wednesday, October 17th. There were 112 High School Chemistry teachers from 72 schools from Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire and Connecticut. Each received a bag with the ACS logo. Among several items in each bag were a copy of the October issue of the Journal of Chemical Education with a username and password for temporary full access to JCE Online (October 17 - November 17, 2007), a copy of the October issue of ChemMatters, and a copy of a recent issue of C&EN that was provided by the ACS. In addition, each participant received a year's subscription to ChemMatters, and a certificate for three hours of Professional Development.

o            The participants were welcomed by Mukund Chorghade, the NESACS chair, and by Terri Taylor from the Office of High School Chemistry, ACS Education Division, Washington, DC.

o            Five workshops were offered in the late afternoon: each teacher participated in two of them. Mukund Chorghade presented a workshop on Careers in Chemistry

o            Terri Taylor presented a workshop at the program on the high school chemistry initiative by the ACS.

o            After dinner, the keynote address was given by Dr. Lori Krim Gavrin in Chemical and Screening Sciences from Wyeth Research.

o            Following the keynote speaker, a raffle was held that included three one-year subscriptions to the Journal of Chemical Education, three one-year memberships in the Division of Chemical Education's/ CTC (Chemistry Teacher Connection), /and various items with the ACS logo

Description  
(Please limit  
b) to one paragraph):

- c)  This activity was new in 2007

**Activity #6**

- a) Title: NCW Event at Museum of Science Boston

This was a celebration of chemistry in the truest sense of the word

Ø Seventeen posters were submitted for the NCW poster competition. These posters were judged by the scientists who participated in the Monday program.

o The winners from the NESACS were:

Ø K-2: Adam Canfield and Jordyn Cooper (joint entry from the Young Scientists Club, Littleton MA)

Ø grades 9-12: Marina Kem from Malden High School.

Ø October 21, 2007

o More than 50 volunteers from nine organizations assisted in the running of the hands-on activities and demonstrations.

o Approximately 300 individuals attended Dr. Bassam Shakhashiri's lecture demonstrations at the Museum.

o A Salutes to Excellence Award was presented to Dr. Bassam Shakhashiri.

Ø October 22, 2007

o More than 200 students attended the event. Many visitors to the Museum were also able to talk with the scientists in attendance.

o Students were asked to complete a word splash at the beginning and at the end of the event to see whether the event positively impacted students' perception of chemistry.

o One student has submitted an essay for the interview a scientist option.

Ø For Saturday, October 27, 2007

o More than 40 volunteers from nine organizations assisted in the running of the hands-on activities and demos.

o Over 1300 individuals came to the BCM that day and our activities were tried by the majority of those visitors.

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

- c)  This activity was new in 2007

**Activity #7**

- a) Title: Organization of Science Club--Natick HS

A delightful spin-off of this event was the organization of a Science Club at Natick High School. For helping the students of NHS in promoting the study of science. Kathi Browne of Natick High School was successful in securing a grant to obtain materials to organize a science club, the goal being to encourage students to participate in and compete in local science competitions such as the Science Bowl and the Women in Science Competition. Our local section helped organize this and provided adult support. The school now has a time and location where students can compete in a friendly sort of way and learn additional science concepts as they do.

We were able to help Amrita Karambelkar secure an internship at Tufts Medical School. She was very excited about this, did a project and is now a co-author of a published paper. She was the first high school senior (accepted at Harvard and MIT) to write a special article for the Nucleus.

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

- c)  This activity was new in 2007

**Activity #8**

- a) Title: Ongoing collab. with GDCh and Symposium

There were several technical symposia at which NESACS members presided. On Sunday, August 19th, former NEASCS Chair and current Councilor, Mort Hoffman, delivered the keynote address, Exploring the High School-College Interface, at the Division of Chemical Education's High School Program. That same afternoon, the Division of Chemical Education, collaborating with many other ACS Divisions and Committees, sponsored the symposium, Connections to Germany: Research and Education Opportunities, at which participants in NESACS's signature German Exchange Program were featured. A grand reception followed, at which many of NESACS's activities were highlighted.

On Tuesday, August 21st, the Younger Chemists Committee and the Division of Business Management sponsored the symposium, Changing Landscapes of the BioPharma Industry, which highlighted the many novel accomplishments of the biopharmaceutical industry. Symposium organizer and NESACS member, Michael Hurrey, of Vertex Pharmaceuticals gathered an impressive group of presenters: Patrick Connelly of Vertex Pharmaceuticals talked about translational product development and the application of advances in physical chemistry and materials science to enhance drug discovery & development. NESACS Chair, Mukund Chorghade, CEO of Chorghade Enterprises, discussed the multi-disciplinary nature of biotechnology and its effect on the job market. Susan Wollowitz, Vice President of Medivation, Inc, addressed the changing landscape of dosage forms, changing industry needs and science challenges.

Later that afternoon, the Division of Professional Relations held a symposium in honor of NESACS's Arlene and Ted Light, the 2007 recipients of the ACS Henry Hill Award conferred by the Division. Organized and moderated by NESACS Chair, Mukund Chorghade, the symposium included Elaine Diggs and John Sophos of ACS, who had worked with the Lights from the ACS Department of Career Services; Dan Eustace of Multi-Layer Coating Technologies and organizer of many ACS career workshops; and James Burke, former Chair of the ACS Board of Directors. The symposium proved to be a fitting tribute to the Lights' many contributions to ACS and to the career development of its members. The award was presented at a reception following the symposium, to which all are invited.

Wednesday afternoon, August 22nd, the Division of Professional Relations, with the assistance of the Women Chemists Committee, hosted another symposium, Sisters in Science. Organizer Pam Mabrouk, Past Chair of NESACS, assembled a distinguished array of speakers who illuminated accomplishments of African American women chemists. Jeannette Brown described some of her findings during the preparation of her history of African American women chemists. Esther Hopkins, retired from a variety of careers including those of chemist and patent attorney, and who is currently an elected legislator, described a certain restlessness. NESACS Board member and ACS Councilor, Dorothy Phillips of Waters Corporation, highlighted the roads that unite R&D and business careers. Gilda Barabino, Professor at Georgia Institute of Technology, spoke on African American women and

research in the Academy. And Sharon Neal, Professor at the University of Delaware gave her view of the life of an African American woman in academia.

These symposia illustrate the range of interest and engagement that our NESACS members displayed. Michaeline Chen reminded the committee of the erstwhile custom of opening the Council meeting with a trumpet fanfare played by then-Councilor John Verkade. Suggesting that we try to revive this tradition, Michaeline identified a Boston University music student, Patrick Doyle, who was available to perform, and at a very reasonable rate. The ACS leadership approved this activity and agreed to keep it secret. At the beginning of the Council meeting, Mr. Doyle performed a fanfare of his own composition, which was greeted by enthusiastic applause and cheering. Appropriately, Michaeline was publicly thanked in the Council meeting.

A short time after the end of the ACS meeting, ACS President Katie Hunt sent the following email:

Bob,

I just have to tell you that Patrick and his trumpet fanfare started Council off on a magnificent note!

This is a Council meeting that I will not soon forget! Thank you again for a your part and your section's part in "making this so"!

p.s. I do owe you an official THANK YOU but I wanted to get at least an 'unofficial' thank you ...ON THE RECORD!

very best regards,  
Katie

Description:  
(Please limit to  
b) one paragraph): Many thanks to Michaeline for conceiving of the idea and carrying it out.

c)  This activity was new in 2007

#### Activity #9

a) Title: Formation of Special Govt. Affairs Comm

Description:  
(Please limit to  
b) one paragraph): Doris Lewis spearheaded the formation of a special Government Affairs Committee to more effectively liaise with our Congressional leaders at the local and federal government level. The section efforts will be tremendously enhanced by having a person with Doris s stature

c)  This activity was new in 2007

#### Activity #10

a) Title: Networking & Fund-raising --- Golf Tourn

Networking and fund-raising events such as golf tournaments: These provided a great and fertile forum for NESACS members to relax and meet fellow chemists in a very informal but professional setting. Amy Tapper hosted a golf tournament at which several leading executives from the innovator companies and contract research organizations intermingled for friendly rivalry , camaraderie and sportsmanship. There were other networking get-to-

- gethers all designed to afford our members to expand their intellectual and professional horizons.
- Description:  
(Please limit to  
b) one paragraph): Needless to say, these proved to be a great boon for our fund-raising committee
- 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.

It has been a singular honor and privilege to serve as Chair for the Northeastern Section. The breadth, depth and sophistication of the talent and creativity of the individuals in the section are truly outstanding. We have eminent researchers and professionals from all sub-disciplines of chemistry. We enjoy a cherished and hallowed tradition of excellence. The warmth and gracious hospitality with which we welcome participation by our members, collaborators and distinguished guests has been the hallmark of our tradition and the well-spring of our progress

The ambitious goals we set ourselves were (1) Foster greater interactions between the ACS and the other professional bodies catering to the cause of chemistry - The American Institute of Chemists and the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry come readily to mind. This has been met in good measure and has exceeded all our expectations This will be the forerunner of an annual Life Sciences Symposium and could provide a useful forum for productive exchange of ideas. (2) Encourage a vitalized speakers bureau to provide guest lectures to schools, universities and civic and community groups. The topics can encompass issues of topical interest, e.g., chemical safety, environmental and the contributions made by chemists/chemistry to the benefit of society at large. This goal has been met, beyond expectations by the assembling of a very talented team and organizing two major events at Natick High School. We will expand this to other area schools (3) Expand the activities of the Professional Training/Education and Career Services committees. Regular workshops will be used to educate students at local colleges/universities and mid-career professionals about the diverse opportunities in chemistry, current trends in globalization, resume writing, interviewing skills/techniques and related topics. Such workshops will also benefit mid career and chemists undergoing a career transition. We exceeded all these goals. Dan Eustace also presented at the afternoon Career Services Employment Seminars that were held preceding the regular meeting of the Northeastern Section. We introduced this as a regular feature in all the monthly meetings (January-June). Typically, a lecture on resume presentations was presented and publications of the ACS National Employment Services were distributed. These publications were also distributed at each of the monthly meetings in the evening. Also, at the monthly meetings assistance with employment was available. This year as an innovative attempt to network employment-seekers with professional recruiters, we co-opted two highly respected industry professionals Megan Driscoll and Jennifer Sass,

Pharmalogs recruiting, to our team. These two reviewed resumes and provided guidance on careers. As an added bonus, they assisted some job-seekers get interviews and eventually placements within the pharmaceutical and biotech industries even in locations such as Kansas. Mukund also presented workshops at the Mass College of Pharmacy, University of Wisconsin, Madison, and University of Toledo. Requests have now come in from India and from the Royal Society of Chemistry to do so in London

(4) Build a much-needed bridge between the medicinal and process chemistry groups and facilitate via symposia and discussion groups new perspectives on the progress of a drug from conception to commercialization. This has been met by organization of the symposia described above (5) Increase opportunities for networking among chemists. Greater emphasis will be placed on attracting chemists in the biotechnology / biopharmaceutical industries and participation of their employers via corporate sponsorships. This goal has been met and all our expectations have been exceeded. The symposia drew a lot of corporate sponsorships from companies and vendors alike. Successful golf tournaments also provided a very exciting forum for networking (6) Stimulate additional participation of the section in the international activities of the ACS. Our members are involved in a wide array of activities here-the collaboration with the German Chemical Society has been outstanding! Plans are well under way for extensive collaboration with the Indian and the Chinese Chemical Societies. One of ACS's most successful mechanisms for delivering highly focused technical content in the United States has been through the ProSpectives series of conferences. The prestigious ProSpectives conference will be organized at various locations in India and China. We were pleased to exceed all these goals

So, my eternal debt of gratitude goes out to our members, who joined us in what was an outstanding year of progress and additional programs. Volunteers like these are a tremendous source of ideas that constitute the lifeblood of an organization. They have rendered yeoman assistance in providing creative inputs into the programs and increasing the public's awareness and enjoyment of Chemistry

## 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) Build a much-needed bridge between the medicinal and process chemistry groups and facilitate via symposia and discussion groups new perspectives on the progress of a drug from conception to commercialization.

Goal 1 Assessment: This has been met by organization of the symposia described above

(2) Increase opportunities for networking among chemists. Greater emphasis will be placed on attracting chemists in the biotechnology /

biopharmaceutical industries and participation of their employers via corporate sponsorships

Goal 2 Assessment: This goal has been met and all our expectations have been exceeded. The symposia drew a lot of corporate sponsorships from companies and vendors alike. Successful golf tournaments also provided a very exciting forum for networking

(3) Stimulate additional participation of the section in the international activities of the ACS.

Goal 3 Assessment: Our members are involved in a wide array of activities here-the collaboration with the German Chemical Society has been outstanding! Plans are well under way for extensive collaboration with the Indian and the Chinese Chemical Societies. One of ACS's most successful mechanisms for delivering highly focused technical content in the United States has been through the ProSpectives series of conferences. The prestigious ProSpectives conference will be organized at various locations in India and China. We were pleased to exceed all these goals

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

(1) Foster greater interactions between the ACS and the other professional bodies catering to the cause of chemistry

Goal 1 Assessment: The American Institute of Chemists and the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry come readily to mind. This has been met in good measure and has exceeded all our expectations. This will be the forerunner of an annual Life Sciences Symposium and could provide a useful forum for productive exchange of ideas.

(2) Encourage a vitalized speakers bureau to provide guest lectures to schools, universities and civic and community groups. The topics can encompass issues of topical interest, e.g., chemical safety, environmental and the contributions made by chemists/chemistry to the benefit of society at large.

Goal 2 Assessment: The topics can encompass issues of topical interest, e.g., chemical safety, environmental and the contributions made by chemists/chemistry to the benefit of society at large. This goal has been met, beyond expectations by the assembling of a very talented team and organizing two major events at Natick High School. We will expand this to other area schools

(3) Expand the activities of the Professional Training/Education and Career Services committees. Regular workshops will be used to educate students at local colleges/universities and mid-career professionals about the diverse opportunities in chemistry, current trends in globalization, resume writing, interviewing skills/techniques and related topics. Such workshops will also benefit mid career and chemists undergoing a career transition.

Goal 3 Assessment: We exceeded all these goals. Dan Eustace also presented at the afternoon Career Services Employment Seminars that were held preceding the regular meeting of the Northeastern Section. We introduced this as a regular feature in all the monthly meetings (January-June). Typically, a lecture on resume presentations was presented and publications of the ACS National Employment Services were

distributed. These publications were also distributed at each of the monthly meetings in the evening. Also, at the monthly meetings assistance with employment was available. This year as an innovative attempt to network employment-seekers with professional recruiters, we co-opted two highly respected industry professionals Megan Driscoll and Jennifer Sass, Pharmacologics recruiting, to our team. These two reviewed resumes and provided guidance on careers. As an added bonus, they assisted some job-seekers get interviews and eventually placements within the pharmaceutical and biotech industries even in locations such as Kansas. Mukund also presented workshops at the Mass College of Pharmacy, University of Wisconsin, Madison, and University of Toledo. Requests have now come in from India and from the Royal Society of Chemistry to do so in London

**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):

NESACS has a very stable, dedicated and talented Board of Directors. Many of these participants are older chemists and a large number are retired or nearing retirement age. There is a significant body of student chemists, academic chemists, and industrial chemists in our section but very little participation by these groups in the monthly meetings or in the activities of section committees. This needs to change. Therefore, the section leadership must:

1. Create and identify attractive opportunities for active participation in section activities by current/new members;
2. Effectively and efficiently communicate these;
3. Add new active participants to the section leadership core.

It should be noted that the section has made some progress in recent years towards these fundamental goals (reenergizing the YCC, creation of an annual golf tournament, etc.). We plan to build on these initial efforts as we continue working towards our goals.

b) 2008 Chair's Goals:

Goal 1: Work with the Program Chair/Chair-Elect to identify and implement different programming types for the section's monthly meetings, with the goal being to increase average attendance at and interest in the monthly meetings.

Goal 2: Continue to explore possible collaborations with special interest groups such as Silver Circle and WCC with an eye to incorporating branches of these groups within the section.

Goal 3: Work with the Board of Publications to improve communication within the section (monthly newsletter, website, blog, perhaps targeted emails), in order to inform the membership in as many ways as possible

about new section activities.

#### **D. Suggestions/Concerns**

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