

When writing this annual report, three words came to my mind: Enthusiasm, Dedication, and Innovation. As Chair of the North Jersey Section, I had the distinct honor of working with a large group of excellent volunteers. Their “can do” attitude was probably the single most important contributing factor for another phenomenal year for NJACS. My top three goals for the year were:

- 1) Deliver high-quality and diverse scientific programs
- 2) Provide services to the membership in today’s challenging environment
- 3) Communicate the importance and excitement of chemistry to the general public

Major accomplishments of the Section can be summarized with five bullet points starting with the letter C:

Creative Programming:

NJACS is fortunate to have an unprecedented level of commitment from leaders of its 8 Topical Groups who strived to deliver numerous high-quality technical programs. World-class scientists and technology-leaders in their respective fields were invited to present their work in the 32 symposia and meetings throughout the year, and 13 of which had attendance ranging from 100 to 460. Through innovative programming, our Chromatography and Mass Spectrometry Discussion Groups increased the meeting attendance by 50% from previous years.

The Teacher Affiliates group created the Kids Teaching Kids Chemistry program, bringing high school and elementary school students together to explore the joys of chemistry.

NJACS has one of the most active YCC and Women Chemists Committees in the country. This year, both groups initiated new activities to expand their membership and recruit new volunteers.

Career Counseling:

High unemployment remains a daunting challenge, and chemists in the North Jersey Section have been hit particularly hard. NJACS made further enhancements to the exceptional services provided by its Careers in Transition Team in the past 10 years. The group now has bi-monthly meetings for job seekers. Over 90 individual counseling sessions were held, a similar number of job openings were posted, and many job seekers were introduced directly to hiring managers.

Community Involvement:

To celebrate the International Year of Chemistry, NJACS made substantial efforts to communicate the importance and excitement of chemistry to the general public. We had a strong presence at Green Day as well as Rutgers Day in April, Merck State Science Day in May, and National Chemistry Week in October. Each of these events was attended by thousands of people. NJ ACS also raised over \$1,000 from its members through the “Pennies for PÜR™ Water” campaign, enough to purify 70,000 gallons of safe drinking water for children in developing countries. In addition, we held four Science Cafés: “Pharmaceutical Innovations” at the Bergen Academy and the Rotary Club in Newark, “Chemistry in Everyday Lives” at the Liberty Science Center, and “The Many Colors of Chemistry” at Watchung Booksellers.

Chemical Education:

Many NJACS volunteers are career educators who ran outstanding programs for high school and college students. The Section gave out 125 Project SEED grants to encourage economically disadvantaged high school students to pursue careers in chemistry. In addition, through a partnership with Student2Science, 100 NJACS members mentored nearly 1,000 students during the year, and 2011 marked the 8th straight year a high school student from North Jersey is represented in the U.S. Chemistry Olympiad team. Furthermore, the 63rd Undergraduate Research Conference was held in April, an annual tradition dating back to the 1940s. Finally, Anita Brandolini, a long-time NJACS volunteer, was recognized with the E. Emmet Reid Award in Chemistry Teaching at MARM.

Chemistry, Health, Environment, and Energy:

Due to the high concentrations of pharmaceutical scientists in North Jersey, we have always excelled in scientific programs on Chemistry as a life science. This year we had two highly successful symposia on chemical approaches to solving challenging issues related to the environment and energy. In the first event, Professor Louis Brus delivered the Cecil Brown Distinguished Lecture on nanotechnology. In the second event, we put together the Baekeland Award Symposium honoring professor Peidong Yang of UC Berkeley. Along with the awardee, four of his collaborators gave presentations on using novel materials for better energy generation and conservation. Notably, three of the Symposium speakers were among the top 10 most cited chemists in the past decade. The event was attended by over 200 NJACS members.

The approximately 85 meetings and activities that NJACS organized throughout 2011 are a strong reflection of our commitment to providing high-quality scientific programs and career services to the membership, to making tangible impacts to the communities we live in, and to improving people's lives through the transforming power of chemistry.

The attached table is a partial list of meetings and events at NJACS in 2011, designed for a wide range of audiences and interests.

NJ-ACS Calendar for 2011

Topical Group	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Chromatography <i>Stephen Toth</i>		Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting	one-day symposium				monthly meeting	monthly meeting	monthly meeting	
Career in Transition <i>Bill Suits & Val Kuck</i>	Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting	bi-monthly meeting	bi-monthly meeting	bi-monthly meeting	bi-monthly meeting
Drug Metabolism <i>Lian Zhou</i>				one-day symposium						one-day symposium		
Mass Spec. <i>Mingxiang Lin</i>		Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting				Distinguished Lecture	Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting
NMR <i>Cindy Li</i>	Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting		Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting			Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting
Minority Affairs <i>Jeannette Brown</i>												
Organic <i>Daniel Seidel</i>	symposium											
Polymer <i>Willis Hammond</i>					symposium							
Teacher Affiliates <i>Eve Krupka/Paul Sekuler</i>	Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting			Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting	Monthly meeting
ChemTag <i>Bobbi Gorman</i>			workshop		workshop				14, MHA 27, SHU	workshop	workshop	
YCC <i>Lauren Castelli</i>			social	Rutgers Day		Picnic				NCW, social	Lecture Series	
Street Fair <i>Jeannette Brown</i>				Green Day, Rutgers Day	Merck Science Day							
Formulation Chemistry Phil Oths												
Regulatory CMC									symposium			
NJACS Exec. Meeting Jiwen Chen	EC meeting	EC meeting	EC meeting	EC meeting	EC meeting				EC meeting	EC meeting	EC meeting	
Metro Woman Chemists <i>Kelly George & Amber Charlebois</i>	meeting	22, FDU		award							meeting	

Legislative Activity Day <i>Maureen Chan</i>												
Cecil Brown Lecture										Lecture		
NCW <i>Bobbi Gorman</i>										public event		
Laboratory Robotics			symposium		symposium							symposium
50 Year Dinner <i>John Penna</i>					award dinner							
Baekeland Award										symposim		
Chemistry As a Life Science			symposium									
Project SEED <i>Susan Fahrenheitz</i>									poster session			
National Meeting			27-31					28				
MARM					21-24, UMD,MD							