

Chicago > Administration Form > 2023

***Required Fields**

Governance

Please input your responses to all questions based on the annual reporting year (unless otherwise instructed.)

1. How many times did the executive committee meet to conduct governance business? *

2. How many members were there in the executive committee? *

3. How did the executive committee communicate with one another? (Check all that apply.) *

 Email Teleconference Zoom/Gotomeeting/Webex ACS Network Other

4. What percentage of your councilors were in official attendance at the Spring Virtual Council Meeting? *

5. What percentage of your councilors were in official attendance at the Fall Hybrid Council Meeting?

6. Did your local section have a succession and/or leadership development plan? *

- Yes
- No

7. Did a member of your local section attend the Local Section Leaders Track at ACS Leadership Institute? *

- Yes
- No

8. How did your local section identify future leaders and get them into the leadership pipeline? (Check all that apply.) *

- Self-nomination
- Solicitation or Advertising
- Identify Active Committee Members
- Formal Leadership Training
- Long Term Plan
- Outreach to New Members
- Arm-Twisting
- Other

Online volunteer interest form

9. Did your local section conduct an officer election? *

- Yes
- No

10. Did your local section conduct its elections electronically? *

- Yes
- No

11. How many members voted in your local section election?

267

The following questions provide the opportunity for your section's leadership to communicate successes, challenges, goals, and progress towards meeting those goals. We want to hear from you! Please use the required comment boxes to share your thoughts about your section. Do not feel limited by having spaces indicated for the top three goals. Other goals can be added in the comment box if needed.

12. Chair's Report: Please provide a narrative of the past year's activity/successes/challenges *

The Chicago Local Section had a fruitful and enriching year for its members and beyond in 2023. We elected to continue holding monthly virtual board meetings with good results, while the monthly programs were a mix of in-person, hybrid and virtual. In this quasi-post-pandemic period of time, many organizations are having to re-think how best to hold meetings and communicate effectively with one another. Here are some of the section's accomplishments in 2023, particularly in the area of Member Communities. **NEW MEMBER RECRUITMENT.** Through a sustained effort by the Chair and many other section members, newer members were invited to meet for an online orientation and were assigned tasks in their areas of interest. The new volunteers chose from a range of activities including running for office, helping at outreach events, working on Project SEED, writing for the bulletin, etc. **YOUNGER CHEMISTS COMMITTEE REBOOTED.** This committee got a fresh start by (i) holding in-person brunch gatherings, (ii) successfully applying for an Innovative Program Grant, (iii) obtaining funding to attend the ACS Leadership Institute's younger member track, and (iv) networking at monthly program meetings. **WOMEN CHEMISTS COMMITTEE REBOOTED.** Under the leadership of Anita Mehta, the WCC participated for the first time in IUPAC's Global Women's Breakfast. In addition, the WCC held two informative virtual networking events with expert panels. **SENIOR CHEMISTS INITIATIVE.** Thanks to a senior chemists grant, the SCC sponsored 10 younger members at the annual Basolo Medal Event. The younger chemists heard the award lecture, met the medalist, Dr. Paul Alivisatos, and enjoyed networking at the social hour and dinner. **CHEMISTS WITH DISABILITIES INITIATIVE.** Section member Inessa Miller saw a need to start working on this membership issue, out of her own experience. Legislators were contacted, and we laid the groundwork for future initiatives by reading articles and preparing reports for publication in our newsletter. **NOMINATIONS & ANNUAL ELECTION.** We successfully recruited a full slate of nominees and conducted an online election using Association Voting as the web platform. Nominations progress is efficiently tracked by the team using a shared Google spreadsheet. Thanks to the initiative and expertise of member Josh Kurutz, the Chicago Section has been conducting online elections for over a dozen years now. **SECTION OFFICE CLEANUP.** With Tim Marin taking the lead, we carried out a major cleanup of our office in Park Ridge. Files, small equipment and junk had accumulated over a period of years. Teams of volunteers worked to toss and/or recycle unneeded items while retaining items of current and historical importance. **CHALLENGES.** Only about 10% of our section's members voted during the recent election. We are also losing members over time. With so many committees and events, the section is spread a bit thin at this time. We are also challenged by the sheer amount of time required for keeping up and managing the section's website, event data, and archival records; a much expanded web team will be needed in the near future.

Responses to be provided by the Chair-elect for the annual reporting year.

13. Chair-Elect's Goals *

a . Please list first of top three goals

Expand outreach to existing section members to increase participation, meeting attendance and volunteer engagement.

b . Please list the second for top three goals

Explore options for collaborations with STEM societies outside chemistry to enhance our ability to do science outreach.

c . Please list third of top three goals

Continue navigating the balance between virtual, hybrid and in-person events to optimize our reach and impact.

To be completed by the Chair-elect for year following the annual reporting year.

14. Next Year's Chair-elect's Goals *

a . Please list first of top three goals

Expand outreach to existing section members to increase participation, meeting attendance and volunteer engagement. Will organize career events to attract young chemists who can benefit from ACS resources and experienced volunteers.

b . Please list second of top three goals

Explore options for collaborations with STEM societies outside chemistry to enhance our ability to do effective science outreach.

c . Please list third of top three goals

Work to increase participation by Chicago-area companies like Abbvie, Abbott, Baxter, Siemens, and Regis where there has been little involvement to date.

15. Does the Local Section have a Vision and/or Mission Statement *

- Yes
- No

16. What was the month and year of the last Local Section strategic planning session?

01/28/2021

17. If your section had a strategic plan, what has been your success in implementing the plan?

- Very Successful
- Somewhat Successful
- Not Successful

18. What obstacles if any, have you had in implementing your strategic plan?

1. The Chicago Section has 3000 members but only about 10% participate, as judged by participation in the annual election. We need more active members to support the section's goals: we are spread a bit too thin and have some difficulty naming members to all the

volunteer roles. 2. Past efforts to find outside financial support have come up short. Here we would do well to consult with other local sections who have more success in this area. 3. The section covers a large geographic area, yet our program meetings tend to be clustered in a central zone. Because of long distances to in-person meetings (which means traveling during Chicago rush hour), members in outlying areas do not attend. Unlike other sections (New York), we do not have subsections at present. 4. Nowadays there are many demands on members' time - family and work obligations, other society involvement, older age, etc. This limits active participation. 5. As more and more communication has gone online, we have struggled to recruit enough volunteers to manage the website, section updates, meeting registrations and the like. We are working on this!

Organization

1. Did your local section have active coordinators for the following?

Activity	Coordinator Names
Awards	Michael George Koehler
Awards	Fran Karen Kravitz
Budget/Finance	Timothy W Marin
Budget/Finance	Mark C Cesa
Career Assistance/Employment	Anita Mehta
Chemistry Olympiad	Russell Kohnken
Community Activities	Milton Levenberg
Community Activities	Sherri Conn Rukes
Continuing Education	James J Kiddle
Educational	Robert L Chapman
Educational	Fran Karen Kravitz
Educational	Matthew W Van Duzor
Environmental	Irene G Cesa
Environmental	Gowri Udayangani Kuda Singappulige
Environmental Health and Safety	Michael George Koehler
Government Affairs	Michael George Koehler
Membership/Membership Retention	Kenneth Paul Fivizzani
Minority Affairs	Inessa Miller
Newsletter/Publications	Matthew W Van Duzor
Nominations	Nicolas Gerst
Project SEED	Raelynn Miller
Project SEED	Claire E Baxter
Project SEED	Paul F Brandt
Public Relations	Russell W Johnson
Senior Chemists	David S Crumrine

Senior Chemists	Susan Shih
Senior Chemists	Milton Levenberg
Senior Chemists	Kenneth Paul Fivizzani
Strategic Planning	Margaret E Schott
Women Chemists	Anita Mehta
Younger Chemists	Ana Clara Leal
Younger Chemists	Gowri Udayangani Kuda Singappulige

2. How many subsections were active in your local section? *

0

3. How many subsection meetings were held? *

0

4. How many topical groups were active in your local section? *

0

5. How many topical group meetings were held? *

0

*A person who is not a member of the SOCIETY shall not become a member of any Local Section, but Local Sections may provide in their bylaws to have Local Section Affiliates, not members of the SOCIETY, who shall be entitled to all the privileges of membership in the Local Section, as provided in the Local Section bylaws, except that of holding an elective position of the Local Section, or voting on Articles of Incorporation and bylaws for the Local Section, or serving as a voting member of its Executive Committee or equivalent policymaking body, or voting for Councilor(s) or Alternate Councilor(s) from the Local Section. In their bylaws, Local Sections may either provide or withhold the privilege of voting by Local Section Affiliates for an elective position (other than Councilor or Alternate Councilor) of the Local Section. Local Section Affiliates may be appointed as Committee Chairs, if allowed by the bylaws of the Local Section.

6. How many dues-paying local section affiliates* were there in the local section? *

1

7. Did your local section support (financial or otherwise) an existing Technician Affiliate Group (TAG) *

- Yes
- No

8. What was the approximate number of active volunteers in your local section? *

65

9. Please estimate the number of volunteers that were new. *

10

10. Please indicate all the ways that your local section recognized volunteers? *

Awards

Certificates

Letter to Volunteer

Letter to Volunteer Supervisor

Recognition at Event

Recognition in Newsletter

Recognition on Web

Other

Welcoming new volunteers at open board meetings

Communication

Please input your responses to all questions based on the annual reporting year (unless otherwise instructed.)

1. Did your local section have a representative on your Regional Meeting Board or Steering Committee? *

Yes

No

2. How did Councilors report to your local section members about national ACS matters? *

At an Executive Committee Meeting

At a Section Meeting

In an email

In the newsletter

On the local section website

Other

3. On average, how many members attended a local section meeting? *

42

4. How many local section meetings were held? *

10

5. How does the section's leadership communicate information to its members (including social media channels)?

a . General description of communication:

through the newsletter, website, social media (facebook, instagram, linkedin), email blasts and word of mouth

b . How Often do these communications occur? Number of newsletters published:

The Chemical Bulletin is published monthly from September to June (10 issues)

c . How Often do these communications occur? Number of meeting notices:

10 meetings per year, 3 notices per meeting plus notices for other events (YCC, Women Chemists, etc)

6. What social media does your local section use? (If selected, the link is required.)

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/ChicagoACS/>

Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/chicagoacs/?hl=en>

LinkedIn

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/chicago-section-american-chem/>

Snapchat

TikTok

Twitter

Chicago YCC uses ACS link

Other

7. Did your local section have a website? *

- Yes
- No

If the answer to above question is YES, what was the URL for your website?

<https://chicagoacs.org>

8. Did your local section post its Annual Report on the website? *

- Yes
- No

Nomination

The Local Section (LS) Outstanding Performance (OP) ChemLuminary Award is given annually to a local section in each section size category by the Local Section Activities Committee. This award recognizes the most outstanding performance of a LS in a particular size category in supporting ACS, its section members, students, the public, the education enterprise, industry, other ACS sections, other professional societies, and partnering organizations. The review is based solely on the LS FORMS annual report (AR), considering primarily the summary self-nomination statement below and the summary descriptions contained within Events, Activities, and Meetings. Other performance indicators may include administrative (e.g. participation in elections) and financial (e.g. sound budgetary policy) aspects. Timely submission of your administration and financial forms is a major factor in the evaluation of your LS for the Outstanding Performance Award.

1. Our Section would like to self-nominate for the Local Section Outstanding Performance Award *

- Yes
- No

Please provide a summary self-nomination statement of 500-word or less. The summary statement should highlight local section's activities to support your nomination.

500 words – ChemLuminary The Chicago Local Section had a productive and enriching year for its members and the wider community. In this quasi-post-pandemic period of time, many organizations are having to re-think how best to hold meetings and communicate effectively with one another. We decided to continue holding monthly board meetings virtually, while the section's monthly programs were a mix of in-person, hybrid and virtual formats. We are proud of our contributions to ACS through annual events like the Gibbs Medal Award, the Basolo Medal Award, local section and regional awards, intellectually stimulating program meetings with a networking component, outreach and education activities and much more. As members of a local section we work collegially, often in teams, to accomplish important tasks. Here are some of the section's highlights in 2023. In particular, we can point to the vibrancy of Member Communities that uplift and give new life to the section. **NEW MEMBER RECRUITMENT.** Through a sustained effort by the Chair and many other section members, newer members were invited to meet for an online orientation and were assigned tasks in their areas of interest. Several new volunteer members, including younger chemists, chose to participate in activities including running for office, helping at outreach events, assisting with Project SEED, proof-reading or writing articles for the bulletin, etc. **YOUNGER CHEMISTS COMMITTEE REBOOTED.** The YCC committee got a fresh start by (i) planning and hosting in-person brunch gatherings, (ii) successfully applying for an Innovative Program Grant, (iii) obtaining funding to attend the ACS Leadership Institute's younger member track, and (iv) networking at monthly program meetings. **WOMEN CHEMISTS COMMITTEE REBOOTED.** Under the leadership of Anita Mehta, the WCC participated for the first time in IUPAC's Global Women's Breakfast. In addition, the WCC held two informative virtual networking events with expert panels that attracted dozens of participants. **SENIOR CHEMISTS INITIATIVE.** Thanks to a senior chemists grant, the SCC sponsored 10 younger members at the annual Basolo Medal Event. The younger chemists heard the award lecture, met the medalist, Dr. Paul Alivisatos, and enjoyed networking at the social hour and dinner. **CHEMISTS WITH DISABILITIES INITIATIVE.** Section member Inessa Miller saw a need to start working on this membership issue, out of her own experience. Legislators were contacted, and we laid the groundwork for future initiatives by reading articles and preparing reports for publication in our newsletter. **NOMINATIONS & ANNUAL ELECTION.** We successfully recruited a full slate of nominees and conducted an online election using Association Voting as the web platform. The progress of nominations was efficiently tracked using a shared Google spreadsheet. Thanks to the initiative and tech-savviness of member Josh Kurutz, the Chicago Section has been conducting online elections for over a dozen years now. **CHEMICAL BULLETIN.** Our monthly newsletter, now in its 111th year, published 10 excellent issues and involved volunteers at every stage of preparation. Articles of special note included health/environment/safety, history of chemistry, teacher resources, safe at-home experiments for kids, and information about upcoming programs. We recommend reading it!

Supporting Materials

Brief Description	File Name	File Size	Date Uploaded
Chicago Section Organizational Chart	__2023 DIVISIONS & COMMITTEES.pdf	511 KB	2/5/2024
Demographic data derived from eRoster	Data slides_Chicago Section.pdf	2.09 MB	2/13/2024

