



**Thematic Programming Challenges, Opportunities, and Update
239th ACS National Meeting- San Francisco, CA
March 21-25, 2010**

The theme of “Chemistry for a Sustainable World” has applications in virtually every aspect of the ACS from Divisions and Committees to governance and how we run our meetings. This timely theme is appropriately chosen for our location in San Francisco, which has already established a city sustainability plan. It offers a unique opportunity to examine not only what work we do, but also the methods and processes we use to pursue that work. Above all, we should strive to educate our membership about the broad variety of current initiatives throughout the aspects of the ACS and about how each of us individually can contribute to a collective improvement in our global environment.

In addition to the enthusiastic response from the Division and Committee Program Chairs in contributing programming to the meeting, as Thematic Leader, I challenge the Divisions and Committees of the ACS to add two additional activities to their thematic participation in San Francisco:

Challenge: Can your division or committee go paperless for San Francisco?

The Meetings and Expositions Committee (M&E) has been taking steps toward having greener meetings, but each of us can add to these efforts by changing how we run our own meetings.

Moving toward paperless meetings requires just a few steps:

- 1) Make your agenda available electronically, either via email or via download from a server
- 2) On your room reservation request form, request enough power strips so that your members may power their laptops during your meeting.
- 3) At the Washington DC meeting, communicate the new procedure to your members so they will know to bring their laptops.

Challenge: Use the Sustainability logo, above, on all Thematic content and activities

There are sustainability efforts throughout all the divisions, groups, committees, and activities of the ACS, but they are often not visible to our members. The above logo, to be launched as part of the thematic programming in San Francisco, will allow us to raise awareness of the many individual sustainability initiatives that contribute to a more sustainable society.

Please feel free to contact me with questions or suggestions:

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Planned Thematic Events

Keynote Speaker: Paul Anastas of Yale, Assistant Administrator for Research and Development, EPA and Director of the Center for Green Chemistry and Green Engineering
Monday, 5:00-6:30 PM

Plenary Symposium: Thought Leaders on Sustainability
Sunday 3:00-6:00

Additional events

- Sustainable Energy
- Global Water Sustainability (Monday, World Water Day)
- Sustainability in Action
- Green Chemistry
- Appreciative Inquiry Dialogue with ACS members
- High School Program
 - Green Chemistry Education in High School: Why Now? And How?
- Undergraduate Program
 - Careers in Chemistry: Green Jobs
 - Eminent Scientist Lecture: Dan Nocera on Solar Fuel
- Greener meetings (Joint with M&E)
- “Conversation with California” Town Hall
- Numerous additional symposia on sub-themes related to sustainability.

To suggest additional programming, identify programming to be highlighted as part of the theme, or for questions and suggestions, please contact the thematic leader, Laura Pence, at LPence@hartford.edu, or by phone at 860-768-4356