

## 2006 DIVISION ANNUAL REPORT

### Division of: Environmental Chemistry

Report Completed by (please include contact information): Henry Ramsey, 864-260-7464  
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#### Division Governance

1. Are all officer positions filled?  Yes  No

1a. If no, list the positions that are vacant: None

1b. Please provide contact information for the Regional meeting coordinator: Mahesh Karwa,  
213 Quincy Avenue, Apt 1, Kearny, NY 07032 201-970-1369, mk9@njit.edu

2. Were Division elections conducted according to Bylaws?  Yes  No

3. Are bylaws reviewed and up-to-date?  Yes  No

Provide date of last review: 2002

4. Is the Division Procedures Manual reviewed and up-to-date?  Yes  No

Provide date of last review: 2003

5. What is the approximate number of currently active volunteers in your Division? (Volunteer is defined as a member who helps plan or organize a meeting or activity, serves on a committee, or is an elected official.)

fewer than 10  10-20  20-50  50-75  more than 75

5a. What is the percentage of new volunteers in your Division?

fewer than 10%  10-20%  20-50%  50-75%  more than 75%

6. What is the current number of elected officials, councilors, alternate councilors, and committee chairs who:

6a. Have held other ***elected*** positions in the Division?

0  1-3  4-6  7-9  10-12  more than 12

6b. Have held other ***appointed*** positions in the Division?

0  1-3  4-6  7-9  10-12  more than 12

6c. Are in their first two years of service?

0  1  2-4  5-7  7-9  10 or more

7. Do candidates often run unopposed for office in your Division?  Yes  No  
Certain offices... councilor, secretary are often unopposed. The member-at-large positions are opposed and hotly contested.

7a. Number of candidates who ran unopposed in your last Division election:

0  1  2  3  4  5  more than 5

7b. Please list all offices that ran only one candidate: Councilor

8. Does the Division recognize volunteers in some way?  Yes  No

8a. If yes, please check all that apply.

Certificates  Gift  Award  Letter to volunteer  Letter to Volunteer's Supervisor  Recognition at an event  Other (please indicate)

9. Other than the normal succession from chair-elect to chair, how does your Division identify future leaders and get them into the leadership pipeline? Check all that apply.

Self-nominations  Solicitation or Advertising  Outreach to New Members  
 Look to Affiliate Committees (e.g. Local YCC, WCC, Technician Affairs, Student Affiliates)  Formal Succession Planning  Formal Leadership Training Process  
 Arm-Twisting  Other (please indicate)

9a. Does the Division have a succession plan?  Yes  No

**Communication with Members** (check all that apply)

10.  Newsletter  In-Print  Electronic  On Web  
 Division Website Last Updated 2/10/07  
 Open Division Meeting  Open Division Executive Committee Meeting  
Other (please explain)

## **Programming**

11. How far in advance does your division plan its programming?

- 1 year    2 year    3 years    4 years or more

**11a.** Spring National Meeting (*check all that apply*)

- Organized Programming    Cosponsored symposia with other ACS Units  
 Cosponsored Meeting with Other (non ACS) Organizations    Held Workshops  
 Held Tutorials    Other Activities

**11b.** Fall National Meeting (*check all that apply*)

- Organized Programming    Cosponsored symposia with other ACS Units  
 Cosponsored Meeting with Other (non ACS) Organizations    Held Workshops  
 Held Tutorials    Other Activities

**11c.** Regional Meeting

Name and Date of Regional Meeting SERMACS, November 1-3, 2006

- Organized Programming    Cosponsored symposia with other ACS Units  
 Cosponsored Meeting with Other (non ACS) Organizations    Held Workshops  
 Held Tutorials    Other Activities

Explanation (*please explain all checked activities*)

**11d.** Regional Meeting

Name and Date of Regional Meeting MARM, June 4-6, 2006

- Organized Programming    Cosponsored symposia with other ACS Units  
 Cosponsored Meeting with Other (non ACS) Organizations    Held Workshops  
 Held Tutorials    Other Activities

Explanation (*please explain all checked activities*)

**11e. Regional Meeting**

Name and Date of Regional Meeting

- Organized Programming     Cosponsored symposia with other ACS Units  
 Cosponsored Meeting with Other (non ACS) Organizations     Held Workshops  
 Held Tutorials     Other Activities

Explanation (*please explain all checked activities*)

**11f. Local Section Meeting**

Name and Date of Local Section Meeting

- Organized Programming     Cosponsored symposia with other ACS Units  
 Cosponsored Meeting with Other (non ACS) Organizations     Held Workshops  
 Held Tutorials     Other Activities

Explanation (*please explain all checked activities*)

**11g. Local Section Meeting**

Name and Date of Local Section Meeting

- Organized Programming     Cosponsored symposia with other ACS Units  
 Cosponsored Meeting with Other (non ACS) Organizations     Held Workshops  
 Held Tutorials     Other Activities

Explanation (*please explain all checked activities*)

**11h. Other Programming (Non-ACS)**

Name and Date of Other Programming

Description of Other Programming (*please explain activities*)

**Multidisciplinary/Thematic Programming**

- 12.** What activities is the division doing for to demonstrate multidisciplinary aspects?  
(*Please describe*) The Environmental Chemistry Division has cosponsored heavily at national meetings and has been in the foreground in the planning of thematic ACS meetings.

**Divisional Planning**

13. Does the Division have a Vision and/or Mission Statement?  Yes  No

14. Describe how the division does short term and long term planning. Strategic planning meeting was held in January 2007 and long-term planning committee meets at every national meeting.

### **Membership**

15. What is the division doing to address [membership](#)? (Please use link.) The division planned during 2006 and held in January, 2007 a strategic planning meeting that focused on addressing member needs. The initiatives identified during the meeting will be addressed during 2007 and 2008.

### **Awards**

16. Did your Division apply for [Innovative Project Funds](#) in 2006?  Yes  No

16a. If yes, how much was your grant for \$

17. What awards were given by the Division? Distinguished Service Award (3), Certificate of Merit (30), Graduate Student Award (9), Graduate Student Paper Award (7), Outstanding Service Recognition (1)

### **Outreach Activities**

18. What activities (not associated with Programming) does the division participate in (*check all that apply?*)

- Educational Outreach  Public Outreach  Outreach to Government Officials  
 National Chemistry Week  Other (Specify)

19. What activities, during this year, were earmarked to reach out to a specific group of under represented groups (i.e. younger chemists, minorities, women, chemical technicians, undergraduates, other)?

Activity	Group Targeted	Measurement of Effectiveness
Student Awards, Certificate of Merit	Younger chemists	Extremely effective and competitive

20. List Activities/Programs that Support the [ACS Strategic Thrusts](#):

**External Values:**

Enabling Scientific Progress: (a) The Environmental Chemistry Division encourages new scientists with opportunities to present their research and awards at both graduate and undergraduate levels. (b) The Division is fundamentally multidisciplinary, bringing together many chemical disciplines to address environmental issues in the programs that it produces.

Fostering Community: The Division brings together scientists from across the world to share their research.

Transforming the World: The Division's efforts help make possible the innovations that make people's lives safer and healthier.

### **Internal Values:**

Science: The Division provides a forum for timely information through its symposia and a record of that information through its extended abstracts and volumes of symposia papers.

Profession: The Division recognizes professional excellence through the awards listed earlier.

### **Member Value:**

Connection: The Division provides a connection to the ACS through the programs it sponsors at national and regional meetings.

Community: The Division provides a welcoming atmosphere for new scientists through Divisional programs that include poster sessions, open meetings, and a generally collegial atmosphere outside the meeting rooms.

21. What ideas/technical improvements can ACS do to help with the Division's Mission?
22. What barriers prevent the Division from achieving the Division's Mission? What can DAC do to help?
23. Provide any comments/concerns regarding the Annual Review Process?

Continuing its tradition of pioneering new technology as a means of improving service to our members and in accomplishing the Divisions mission, the Environmental Division sponsored the first ever ACS National Meeting “virtual” symposium. Partnering with the USEPA, the symposium featured both the traditional live presentations combined with “virtual” presentations by speakers in three different countries on two different continents. The symposium was also webcast to 20 off site locations which ultimately allowed the speakers to present their findings to an audience of up to 320 people. To further facilitate communications of the findings, the webcast was recorded and continues to be viewable on a web site. While judged a success in its own right, the pioneering experiment provided valuable insight in the challenges in organizing and producing this sort of hybrid symposium. The symposium highlighted the potential value of utilizing available technology to better fulfill the Divisions mission.

The Environmental Division also served as the Society’s pilot evaluation of the benefits and challenges of **providing computer capabilities via the intranet** for all symposia. Having a **host** computer available where all presenters could load their presentations prior to the beginning of the session **minimized** the potential for delays and disruption of the schedule due to switching computers and/or technical problems due to hardware incompatibilities. This pilot was undertaken at the Fall National meeting and met with favorable success.

The Division expanded its awards program this year by partnering with the Division of Chemical Education and offering undergraduate Certificate of Merit awards to notable presentations in the field of Environmental Chemistry at the National meetings. The first time this award was offered was the Fall meeting and participation was excellent.