

Report to the Executive Committee  
of the  
Virginia Section of the American Chemical Society

May 15, 2015

Chair Elect Report

**2015 Programming**

Programming was successfully scheduled and completed for the January- April speaker's season. Speakers are scheduled for the remainder of the year with the exception of September. I have a couple of potential leads and hope to finalize the September speaker by the end of May.

**YCC- VCU and VUU Participation**

I arranged for students from Virginia Commonwealth University and Virginia Union University to act as Chemistry Ambassadors for the Pfizer Consumer Health Care-Richmond's Earth Day Celebration held on April 17, 2014. Two students from Virginia Commonwealth University and two students from Virginia Union University presented their work. Also, for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row, Pfizer Consumer Healthcare Wildlife Habitat Committee hosted the Earth Day Illustrated Poetry Contest along with the ACS. Two students were announced as our Pfizer winners and presented with gift cards at our annual Bring Your Children to Work Day- April 24, 2015. All entries were given to Kristine Smetana for the Virginia Section to include in the state wide and national competitions.

**Minority Affairs**

On March 30<sup>th</sup>, as one of the minority affairs objectives, I gave a presentation on Careers in Chemistry at Virginia Union University along with my colleague Kamala Payne. We shared an overview of the opportunities in chemistry, the number of chemistry related jobs in the US and contribution to the GDP, shared the list of specific areas from the ACS website and then shared our personal stories and chemists. I also met with the minority affairs committee on April 14 to continue our planning.

**Bridging the Gap YouTube Contest**

We now have a committee for the You Tube contest: Kathleen Sink, Colleen Taylor, Steven Harris, Joe Pompano, and James Ciszewski. We met several times, exchanged emails and set up a file sharing site on the ACS website. As a result we have put together and begun distribution of the flyer announcing the contest, posted the legal release form on the ACS website and created a rubric for judging. Winners will be announced at the November Section Meeting. What remains is 1) ensure advertising in all affiliated sections, 2) receive and rate entries, 3) select and notify winners.

Respectfully,

Denise Walters, Chair Elect, Virginia Section American Chemical Society