

ANNUAL REPORT 2015

# Executive Director's Message

## A Focus On Members

The American Chemical Society (ACS) is guided by its vision and mission—"to improve people's lives through the transforming power of chemistry," and "to advance the broader chemistry enterprise and its practitioners for the benefit of Earth and its people"—which are supported by four goals: Provide authoritative and comprehensive chemistry-related information, advance member careers, improve chemistry education and communicate chemistry's value to the public and policymakers.



Thomas M. Connelly, Jr.  
ACS Executive Director &  
CEO

In [everything we do](#) here at ACS, we strive to live up to our vision, mission, and goals.

Furthermore, as we position the Society for the 21st century, we are critically reexamining our activities and approaches to ensure our resources are directed toward our most important and useful services and programs for members, staff and the public.

In 2015, that meant we launched [ACS Central Science](#), a free, highly selective, interdisciplinary journal, as part of our commitment to open-access publishing. Meanwhile, our [established journals](#) continued to provide a highly respected scientific publishing platform for authors and readers, with impressive impact factors and growing numbers of citations. We also introduced [ACS2Go](#) to optimize full text access to our journals on smartphones and tablets.

Our [award-winning Chemical & Engineering News](#) experimented throughout the year with new forms of storytelling, including "Top Startups to Watch" and a "Talented 12" package that highlighted innovative young chemists who are tackling global problems. In a collaboration with the Spanish organization Divúlgame.org, *C&EN* began offering a selection of [content in Spanish](#).

Beyond *C&EN*'s audience, ACS [conveyed](#) the impact and excitement of chemistry to the general public through press releases, press conferences, videos, podcasts, social media postings and community events that reached a potential audience numbering in the hundreds of millions. In addition, the Society's [outreach to Capitol Hill](#) helped lead to passage of federal legislation that strengthened science education, chemical safety and research and development support.

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[Chemical Abstracts Service](#) (CAS) registered the 100 millionth unique chemical substance in the CAS Registry—the world's largest database of unique chemical substances—and celebrated the Registry's 50th anniversary. CAS also introduced new products in 2015, including PatentPak™, which helps scientists quickly zero in on the chemical information within patent documents.

In addition, ACS launched [ChemIDP](#), an online tool to help graduate students and post-docs with self-assessment, skill strengthening, career exploration and goal setting. We served the K-12 educational community through multiple programs including the [American Association of Chemistry Teachers](#). Dow Chemical [pledged a \\$1 million gift](#) as ACS's sole founding partner in the organization, whose membership topped 3,000 as of the end of 2015, its first full year in existence.

ACS's own membership at year-end 2015 was slightly lower than in the prior year, and efforts are underway to bolster growth, in part by strengthening support and value for industrial chemists. For example, our Presidential task forces explored employment issues, including how to meet the industry's workforce needs. We visited CEOs and chief technology officers (CTOs) and held the first ACS Chemical Sciences CTO Summit to hear about the challenges and opportunities that industry and our industrial members face, and to learn how we can better serve their needs. And we collected and reported [employment data](#) about ACS members and new graduates as part of our extensive [career services](#).

Also in 2015, the Society held two national and six regional [meetings](#). And in partnership with six other chemical societies from around the Pacific Basin, ACS hosted the International Chemical Congress of Pacific Basin Societies, also known as [Pacifichem](#). This scientific conference, which is held every five years in Honolulu, offers a chance for chemists from around the globe to talk face-to-face about their work.

Pacifichem is just one manifestation of the increasing globalization of chemistry. Several of our other programs are designed to assist our members in this new reality, helping them connect to what's going on around the world. For instance, ACS members helped to establish [chapters](#) in countries including India and Taiwan, met with Cuban chemists to explore mutual interests and enhanced CAS's global presence in nations including Mexico, Brazil, China, Korea and Russia.

We also continued to nurture the chemists of the future. For instance, our 20th Anniversary Appeal for the [ACS Scholars Program](#)—which provides scholarships to underrepresented minority undergraduates who want to work in chemistry-related fields—attracted nearly \$1.7 million in new gifts and pledges from generous donors. The [Petroleum Research Fund](#) awarded \$18.6 million in grants for education and research.

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ACS as a whole surpassed its [2015 financial targets](#) thanks to the leadership of Board Chair Pat N. Confalone, 2015 President Diane Grob Schmidt, Immediate Past President Tom J. Barton, and President-Elect Donna J. Nelson. As a result of strong performance in ACS Publications and CAS and continued streamlining efforts in several administrative units, the Society ended the year with a net from operations of \$16.6 million, some \$3.2 million more than budgeted, marking our 12th consecutive year of positive operating performance.

On a more personal note, 2015 marked my first year as ACS Executive Director and CEO following a [long career](#) in industry. I'd like to thank my predecessor, [Madeleine Jacobs](#), as well as the members and staff of ACS for their warm welcome and their advice as I transitioned from member to CEO of the largest scientific society in the world.

Before that transition, I knew that ACS members were dedicated, but I didn't realize the true depth of that commitment until I joined the staff. Through your role as [Chemistry Ambassadors](#) participating in a host of programs and activities, including [National Chemistry Week](#), [Chemists Celebrate Earth Day](#) and [contacts with legislators](#) and [the media](#); your service as Councilors, committee members, and division and local section officers and members; and your conversations with friends and neighbors about the joys of our science, you have made a difference in the way the world views and utilizes chemistry. On behalf of the ACS staff and Board of Directors, I thank you.

## International Engagement And Presence

The ACS Division of Membership & Scientific Advancement (M&SA) continues its international scientific engagement and presence by promoting and implementing global ACS member-serving research collaboration and exchange programs, network development opportunities, and scientific events through the ACS Office of International Activities (OIA). OIA organized a number of key activities in 2015, advancing chemistry and the Society's constitutional commitment "*to cooperate with scientists internationally and be concerned with the worldwide application of chemistry to the needs of humanity.*" In so doing, OIA also helped develop new international chapters and alliances and advance science and human rights. OIA highlights from 2015 include:

- ACS Board approval of new chapters in Australia, Brazil, India, Nigeria, Peru, Taiwan and the UAE—bringing the total number of international chapters to 16, in addition to the collaborative M&SA / Education Division establishment of International Student Chapters where International Chapters exist.
- Engaging the U.S. Department of State and the Organization for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and their partners to ensure understanding and support of plans for a global code of ethics.
- Expanding the role of the virtual [ACS International Center](#) which attracted more than 30,000 visitors in 2015. The site was enhanced in 2015 to improve content, navigation and search and is a premiere online resource for chemistry-related scientists, engineers and educators looking for opportunities to study abroad and engage in globally related internships and research openings.

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- Coordinating the selection and placement of 17 US students in the UK, Germany, Italy and Singapore with funding from the NSF as part of the International Research Experience for Undergraduates (IREU) program.
- Conducting six workshops in Thailand - ACS Building Opportunities Out of Science and Technology (BOOST) - that reached more than 800 scientists. Leveraged this program to connect with ACS members, gather information about their membership experiences and needs, and create networks for ACS International Chapter development and capacity building.

ACS President Diane Grob Schmidt helped to officially open Quimicuba 2015 held in Havana, where she and staff also met with representatives of the Cuban Chemical Society, the Cuban National Academy of Sciences, the University of Havana, The Center of Molecular Immunology, the U.S. Embassy and with numerous chemists from around the world. Their visit culminated with an ACS proposal for future engagements with the Cuban Chemical Society that are currently under review and development.

## ACS Publications - Journals

Living up to their reputation as “most trusted, most cited, and most-read,” ACS Publications developed new and enhanced content and delivery options. At the same time, its 47 peer-reviewed journals continued their preeminence in citations and Impact Factors. According to 2014 Journal Citation Reports®, which were released by Thomson Reuters in June 2015, ACS journals continued to perform extremely well. They lead 14 categories in either citations or Impact Factor, including six core chemistry areas, and received more than 2.4 million total annual citations.

ACS Publications advanced the Society’s mission through the publication of new peer-reviewed journals and books. The Publications Division completed the successful first full calendar year of publication of *ACS Biomaterials Science & Engineering* and *ACS Infectious Diseases*, expanding into these key scientific fields. The Division also successfully launched its first completely open access journal, *ACS Central Science*, first publishing content in March 2015. As the capstone of the ACS Open Access programs, *ACS Central Science* provides a venue for the publication of exceptional multidisciplinary research. Marked by high editorial rigor, the journal debuted in March 2015 under the leadership of Editor-in-Chief Carolyn Bertozzi, Stanford University Professor and Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator in chemical biology.

The journal published more than 50 high-quality research articles from across chemistry and the allied sciences, including two articles authored by Nobel Laureates. *ACS Central Science* collaborated with *C&EN* staff to publish more than 20 feature articles and interviews in the journal. In collaboration with the ACS Office of Public Affairs, the journal introduced embargoed press releases to bolster media coverage, resulting in significant global media coverage, with more than 250 news stories published across more than 150 different media outlets with a combined total circulation of more than 500 million people. The journal also upheld rapid time from submission to publication of just 9 weeks, faster than all competitors, and engaged global readers with published articles. *ACS Central Science* is already laying claim to be a top-tier multidisciplinary journal that will rival the elite weekly science journals.

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The Division's "ACS is Open" initiative successfully expanded the Society's position as an Open Access Publisher by growing its various open access initiatives. *ACS Editors' Choice* continued making available one noteworthy article from the portfolio each day as open access, selected by the journals' chief editors. *ACS Editors' Choice* featured articles from every ACS journal and those articles attracted almost 2 million page views in 2015. Starting in January 2015, authors were able to redeem their *ACS Author Rewards* credits which were provided to more than 40,000 corresponding authors in 2014. The *ACS ChemWorx* app enabled authors to easily track their available vouchers throughout the year. 2015 also saw significantly more authors choosing *ACS AuthorChoice* open access licenses.

ACS Publications strengthened connections around the world through key strategic outreach initiatives and a strong presence at conferences and exhibits. In 2015, an ACS Publications delegation visited Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Beijing to build relationships with more than ten leading universities, institutes, and organizations. Three [ACS on Campus](#) events convened in Hong Kong, Harbin and Changchun in conjunction with this delegation. ACS Publications also maintained strong ties with researchers in India and in other key regions. These outreach trips have resulted in new editorial appointments and manuscript submissions from around the world. ACS Publications also expanded its global customer reach in 2015 with the hiring of Market Development managers in Hong Kong and India.

Usage of the ACS Publications web platform continued to rise. In 2015, the platform delivered over 1 million original research articles, book chapters and news stories, and registered over 300 million page views each year from a global community of scientists. ACS ID registrants now exceed 400,000 individuals thanks in part to a new internally developed e-alert registration widget that simplified the process. This audience collectively received over 50 million e-alerts with reading recommendations tailored to their preferences.

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In 2015, the Division introduced *ACS2Go*, its new mobile delivery capability that enables users complete access to the ACS Publications suite of journals on smartphones and tablets even when not directly connected to their campus network. [ACS2Go](#) enables users to browse journals and articles; download articles to mobile devices for offline reading; search journals by keyword, author or title; scan recently published ASAP articles; view and search references and related links; share articles and links via email; and select journals/articles as favorites for quick reference from a user's home screen. To enhance the mobile user experience even further, ACS upgraded its proprietary ACS ActiveView document viewer to support HTML, offering device independent screen configuration, high resolution image handling and display and faster document load time.

ACS Publications implemented a strategic partnership with Figshare, an open repository that promotes broad discoverability of scientific research data. The ACS-Figshare partnership provides for improved archiving and access to open data sets and other supporting information that often accompanies articles published in ACS journals. The new technology also enables interaction with the research material via a new visualization tool on journal websites. This new functionality has been extended for compatibility with crystallographic data and many other file formats, including video and other multimedia.

ACS Publications integrated the use of social media to reach audiences beyond its typical marketing outreach. In 2015, the Division's total "followers" on Twitter and Facebook increased significantly. A key new effort in social media is the new content marketing blog, ACS Axial. Patterned after the award winning "Marketing Elements" blog launched by *C&EN* in 2014, this program encourages engagement with ACS as users subscribe to receive information in their areas of interest.



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## ACS Publications – C&EN

C&EN innovated under a new Editor-in-Chief in 2015. December marked Dr. Bibiana Campos-Seijo's first anniversary at the helm of the Society's news periodical. The magazine has evolved existing features (such as Global Top 50) and also experimented with new ways of storytelling, including creation of excellent editorial packages such as "*Talented 12*" and "*Top Startups to Watch*." The former was a "talent search" for a dozen young, innovative chemists, with papers published in ACS journals. Several events at the ACS Fall National Meeting celebrated the winners, including interviews at the ACS booth. The *Top Startups to Watch* feature presented the stories of 10 early stage companies that are working on promising technologies across a wide range of fields in the chemical sciences. In collaboration with the ACS Office of Public Affairs, C&EN organized a standing room only symposium at the 2015 ACS Spring National Meeting on *Public Perceptions of the Chemical Enterprise*. C&EN continued its emphasis on global outreach during 2015, producing a wide range of relevant content, including international coverage of business, science, policy and educational matters as well as guest editorials and opinion pieces from non-US sources. Most recently, C&EN introduced a web-based feature called '*C&EN en Español*,' a collection of translations into Spanish of some of the more popular stories published in the magazine's weekly issues. The initiative is part of a collaboration with Divúlgame.org.

During 2015, C&EN streamlined and simplified many of its internal publishing processes, while striving to ensure that content and all publishing formats (print, online, mobile) remain of the highest quality and are fresh and attractive to readers and advertisers. In Spring 2015, C&EN launched a new weekly curated e-newsletter that is delivered to the full ACS membership, and that is supported by advertising sponsors.

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*C&EN* won Folio's prestigious 2015 Eddie and Ozzie awards for *When Chemicals Became Weapons of War* by Sarah Everts and for the magazine's video product *Speaking of Chemistry*. The Eddie and Ozzie annual awards honor the best design and editorial products in the magazine and publishing industry.

*C&EN* continued to provide valuable scientific and new technology information to ACS members and the broader scientific community in 2015, including 44 sponsored webinars on a broad range of technology topics. In September 2015, *C&EN* convened a one-day virtual symposium on *Advances in Drug Discovery and Development*, attracting a global audience of some 7,000 pre-registered viewers.

## Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS)

### **CAS — powering innovative solutions that enable breakthroughs and empower scientific discovery**

At Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS), a division of the American Chemical Society, scientists, technologists and business leaders continuously and passionately pursue new knowledge to fuel scientific discovery and empower innovation.

Dedicated to the ACS vision of improving people's lives through the transforming power of chemistry, the CAS team of highly trained scientists finds, collects and organizes all publicly disclosed substance information, creating the world's most reliable collection of content that is vital to innovation worldwide. CAS provides a suite of solutions relied on by researchers, patent professionals and decision-makers around the world that advance the scientific enterprise by enabling discovery and facilitating workflows.

### **POWERFUL NEW SOLUTIONS FUEL DISCOVERIES**

CAS added several new solutions to its portfolio in 2015.

- NCI™ Global provides regulatory information for organizations that manufacture, import, export or transport chemicals. Updated weekly, inventories and regulatory lists are organized by country, so users can get right to the information they need.

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- Enhancements to CHEMCATS® allow researchers to conveniently find chemicals for purchase from reputable chemical suppliers as part of their SciFinder search.

**AUTHORITATIVE CONTENT BUILDS THE FOUNDATION**

More than 1,000 scientists around the world assemble, curate, and assure the quality of the CAS content, so researchers can efficiently and reliably explore the largest collection of disclosed chemical synthesis information from 1840 to the present. Consistent with past performance, CAS databases experienced robust growth, with more than 1.5 million patents, journal articles and other disclosed research sources added, for a new total of more than 42 million records available in the CAPlus<sup>SM</sup> database. Updated daily, CAS added more than 1.7 million new single-step reactions to CASREACT®, with more than 85 million single- and multi-step reactions, plus synthetic preparations now available to researchers.

The CAS REGISTRY<sup>SM</sup> is the largest and most authoritative collection of chemical substance information available to researchers and covers 63 worldwide patent authorities. In addition to covering substances from journals and patents, CAS REGISTRY includes substances from chemical catalogs, worldwide governmental regulatory agencies and reputable web resources. In 2015, more than 13.5 million new substances were added to CAS REGISTRY, which now contains more than 105 million unique organic and inorganic substances. The 100 millionth CAS Registry Number® (CAS RN<sup>TM</sup> 1786400-23-4) was assigned June 29, 2015, from a substance reported in a World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) patent (WO 2015081280). The inventors from Coferon Inc. in Stony Brook, N.Y., claim the molecule is a novel therapeutic designed to treat acute myeloid leukemia.

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CAS ensures comprehensive patent information within its databases, including multiple basics coverage from all covered authorities. Supplementing the disclosed chemistry added to CAS databases from document analysis, CHEMCATS®, the CAS chemical catalogs database, helps researchers more quickly locate the chemicals they need with direct access to hundreds of commercial chemical suppliers.

## SCIFINDER PROVIDES THE MOST RELEVANT INFORMATION SOLUTIONS FOR SCIENTISTS

Organizations around the globe rely on SciFinder for research discovery with access to comprehensive scientific information using an array of powerful tools that drive more confident research decisions. The world's leading commercial, academic and government organizations recognize the value of ensuring unlimited access to SciFinder for their entire research teams spanning disciplines including chemistry, pharmaceutical, agrochemical, biotechnology research, and more.

In addition to making PatentPak available in SciFinder during 2015, CAS continued to add more content than any other scientific resource, enhanced the most frequently sought after physical properties and additional experimental procedures, and increased visibility of chemical suppliers.

The SciFinder Future Leaders program celebrated its sixth year in 2015, with 20 new students participating from 17 countries. New for 2015, CAS also hosted the first ever SciFinder Future Leaders alumni program, with all previous program participants invited to return to Columbus, Ohio for the event. SciFinder Future Leaders provides students and post doctorates with the exclusive opportunity to share their research experience with CAS scientists and each other, and to take part in the Fall ACS National Meeting. To date, the program has hosted more than 100 students and post doctorates from 50 countries.

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## **STN DELIVERS UNIQUE CONTENT, UNPARALLELED SEARCH POWER AND PRECISION, AND PROVEN RELIABILITY FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROFESSIONALS**

As the premier single source for the world's disclosed scientific and technical research, intellectual property professionals and patent examiners at the world's major patent offices and research organizations rely on STN to answer business critical questions and make informed decisions. In 2015, new STN was enhanced with new biomedical content, including BIOSIS®, MEDLINE® and Embase®, as well as adding life science databases CABA and FSTA. New features and interface refinements also enhanced usability. A new release of BizInt Smart Charts for Patents was also integrated with new STN to enable more efficient, insightful reporting and analysis of search results.

## **RESEARCHERS AROUND THE WORLD RELY ON CAS**

CAS continued to invest in providing authoritative and innovative solutions dedicated to advancing the scientific enterprise. Investments in its strategic framework in 2015 added an innovation function to identify and prioritize new market opportunities, as well as a program management office to provide consistency across initiatives. Significant modernizations to CAS's content and development architectures also poise CAS to more effectively support research now and into the future, and expansion of dedicated global representatives enhanced global customer support. With several new solutions planned for 2016 and beyond, CAS is continuously investing for the future.

## Careers & Professional Advancement

The Division of Membership and Scientific Advancement (M&SA) continues to offer innovative solutions to better serve ACS members. The ACS Career Navigator™ continues to provide members and other chemistry-related professionals with a one-stop-shop of key resources to help them succeed in the global chemistry enterprise at all stages of their careers. The ACS Career Navigator™ seamlessly combines the offerings of Career Services (Career Fairs, Career Consulting, ACS Career Pathways™ Workshops), Professional Education (Short and Online Courses), Leadership Development (Facilitated and Online Courses), and Market Intelligence (Employment Dashboard, ACS Salary Calculator™) into a single, unified experience for ACS members and potential members.

This unified brand touches every ACS member. It is responsible for training governance leaders, assisting and facilitating employment searches, improving technical and managerial skills, informing on job trends, and connecting and mentoring. The Navigator brand's central theme of "Your Competitive Advantage in a Global Workforce" speaks to the value that this product mix provides ACS members. Specifically, the ACS Career Navigator™ seeks to:

- Enhance the professional skills and career knowledge of chemical scientists and engineers by providing a seamless product portfolio responsive to their needs,
- Develop a diverse and coordinated portfolio of products, programs and services containing something for members and potential members at all career stages,
- Serve the employment and advancement needs of members in a coordinated and seamless manner, and

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- Craft a member benefit with tremendous value important to constituents.

In 2015, the ACS Career Navigator™ achieved more than 8,700 substantial interactions worldwide with ACS members and potential members to meet their professional needs, exceeding its goal of 8,000. This included over 1,500 participants in professional education and leadership development courses, 1,750 personalized career consulting sessions, 2,000 career workshop attendees, and 3,400 job seekers at the career fairs. The ACS Career Navigator™ further grew its relationship with corporations and government laboratories around the globe through onsite, customized training that provided solutions to their technical and personnel challenges. The ACS Career Fair in Boston was a success with several new features and offerings for job seekers and employers alike; resulting in the most employers participating and positions posted since 2011 and the most attendees since 2013. Additionally, M&SA began awarding a new ACS Career Navigator™ Certificate in Polymer Chemistry: Principles and Practice for learners who attend and successfully complete the 5-day polymer lab/lecture course held three times a year in Blacksburg, VA.

In 2015, 47 [ACS Leadership Development System](#)® (ACS LDS) courses were offered at the ACS Leadership Institute, National Meetings, Regional Meetings, and Local Section events. In addition to providing leadership skills training for individuals, the ACS LDS conducted 11 Strategic Planning Retreats for ACS subunit groups.

In 2015, a symposium entitled “Leadership Skills as a Strategic Advantage: The Chemist’s Competitive Edge,” was held during the Boston National meeting. The symposium featured perspectives from corporate and academic leaders on what chemists need to start, grow and succeed in their careers. The symposium was organized by the ACS Leadership Advisory Board in celebration of 50 years of leadership development at ACS.



## Promoting Education

Teaching and learning chemistry in the context of our world is a hallmark of the resources, services and products produced by the American Chemical Society. Students and educators equate ACS with quality. As a leader in science education, we strive to inspire students to seek knowledge and careers in science and prepare them for the realities of the global marketplace.

In 2015, we reached out to thousands of eager, young elementary and secondary school students in new and innovative ways. We provided a new generation of undergraduate and graduate students with opportunities to learn skills they will need to compete and succeed as they move forward with their careers. We also provided professional development experiences for hundreds of K–12 teachers of chemistry—in person and virtually through dozens of workshops and webinars held during 2015.

The American Association of Chemistry Teachers (AACT) ended the year with more than 3,000 members, 88 percent of whom are K-12 teachers. In 2015, AACT received \$100,000 in grants from the Camille & Henry Dreyfus and Ford Foundations to support the development of online resources. The inaugural Dow & AACT teacher summit was held in Michigan in July. Twenty-one teachers and six pre-service teachers attended. On a five-point scale, with five being the most positive, attendees rated their overall summit experience a 4.8 and rated their overall impression of AACT a 4.9.

The [ACS High School Chemistry Club Program](#) celebrated its 10th anniversary with a virtual party. Over 120 clubs registered for the party and received a box full of activities. The program now has more than 485 clubs including 11 international clubs.

The [ACS Science Coaches](#) program was reauthorized by the ACS Board of Directors in August. More than 250 coach-teacher partnerships are being supported during the 2015–2016 school year.

The Society's resources for [middle school classrooms](#) were also well received. The website has received more than six million visits from 234 countries and territories since launching in 2010. Site visits grew 55 percent in the last year alone.

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ChemIDP, a new online Individual Development Plan tool designed specifically for graduate students, launched on September 30. Four key parts make up the ChemIDP platform: self-assessment, skill strengthening, career exploration, and goal setting. Over 125 interviews with graduate students, postdoctoral scholars, faculty, university administrators, ACS staff, and career consultants informed the development of ChemIDP.

The number of undergraduate student chapters has grown to 1,118, with 19,880 ACS student members. The number of ACS International Student Chapters grew to 24 in 2015. Chapters have been established in Brazil, China (2), Colombia, Egypt, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, India (4), Italy, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mexico (2), Nigeria (3), Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, and the United Arab Emirates.

The ACS Committee on Professional Training (CPT) released the new ACS Guidelines and Evaluation Procedures for Bachelor's Degree Programs in March. A major change to the Guidelines is the requirement for instruction on macromolecular, supramolecular, mesoscale, and nanoscale systems. There are 680 approved programs.

Updated guidelines for two-year college chemistry were released in November following approval by ACS Society Committee on Education (SOCED). Significant revisions include incorporating recommendations regarding chemistry-based technology programs and chemical safety, online courses, internships, transfer students, mentorship and advising, and partnerships.

ACS, in cooperation with the Society of Chemical Industry (SCI) America International Group, and the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, continues to collaborate in offering the [SCI Scholars](#) summer industrial internship program, which introduces chemistry and chemical engineering undergraduate students to careers in the chemical industry. The program hosted 30 internships in summer 2015. Every SCI Scholar selects a high school chemistry teacher to receive recognition and a \$1,000 award.

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The [ACS Scholars Program](#) continues to help underrepresented minority students achieve their dreams of degrees and careers in a broad range of chemical sciences. In all, 2,840 African-American, Hispanic/Latino, and Native American students have participated in the program since 1995. Of those, 1,590 have earned bachelor's degrees in a chemical science. More than 240 of these ACS Scholars have gone on to earn doctoral degrees in chemistry, chemical engineering, or a related discipline.

The ACS [Project SEED program](#) places students in academic, government, or industrial research laboratories for eight to ten weeks during the summer to engage in hands-on science research projects under the supervision of volunteer scientists. In 2015, 460 volunteer scientists and coordinators mentored 423 students, in nearly 130 institutions in 39 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. For the 2015–2016 school year, the Project SEED Scholarship Subcommittee awarded 28 Project SEED College Scholarships, totaling \$140,000, to former SEED students for their freshman year. In addition, three Project SEED college scholars received the Ciba Specialty Chemicals scholarships for three renewable years beginning in their sophomore year.

The Office of Research Grants had a successful year, with the Petroleum Research Fund (PRF) awarding 187 grants worth \$18.62 million. Teva Pharmaceuticals renewed its agreement with ACS, and the three 2015 recipients of the Teva Pharmaceuticals Marc A. Goshko Memorial Grants were announced at the end of the Teva symposium at the National Meeting in Boston. Each grantee will receive \$100,000 per year for three years (2015–2017) to support research in the area of organic chemistry, with potential or direct connections with medicinal or pharmaceutical chemistry.

## Communicating The Value Of Our Science

The ACS Office of Public Affairs (OPA) in the Office of the Secretary & General Counsel is a leader in communicating about chemistry's central role in solving global challenges with policymakers and the public.

In 2015, news about chemistry from ACS journals, *Chemical & Engineering News* and national meetings reached the public in record numbers. Independent monitoring data for 2015 shows that ACS-generated publicity resulted in more than 49,000 news articles, a significant increase from 2014 that resulted in potential readership or viewership of billions. These stories appeared in media outlets such as *ABC News*, *BBC News*, *CBS News*, *Fox News*, *Huffington Post*, *National Public Radio*, *NBC News*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post* and *Yahoo! News*. The ACS Office of Public Affairs (OPA) generated this news coverage by issuing press releases (including the weekly *ACS PressPac*), holding press conferences and using social media.

The award-winning OPA video team produced more than 250 videos in 2015. These videos were viewed or downloaded more than 15.6 million times in 2015. They include popular YouTube series such as [\*Reactions\*](#), [\*C&EN's Speaking of Chemistry\*](#), and [\*Headline Science\*](#).

*Reactions* was launched in 2014 and is the ACS' most popular ongoing video series. It explores chemistry's role in everyday life. More than 110 episodes have been produced on topics such as why people are allergic to peanuts, whether vitamin supplements really work, and the chemistry of addiction. These episodes received more than 16 million views and have more than 100,000 subscribers. The series, which is now the most popular YouTube channel ever launched by an organization (scientific or otherwise), has been featured on NPR, in *Wired*, *Time*, and *The Washington Post*.

OPA played a key role, along with M&SA, in organizing a Chief Technology Officer (CTO) Summit. We brought together CTOs from 17 leading chemical companies in Washington, D.C. OPA arranged for key external stakeholders from government, trade associations, and scientific and technical organizations to attend the opening reception and interact with the CTOs. OPA arranged for all programmatic aspects of the Summit.

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In its seventh year, [ACS Chemistry Ambassadors](#) has more than 10,000 volunteers. These ambassadors do many things to promote better understanding of chemistry and its role in our everyday lives. This year OPA designed and launched as a pilot, a mobile game to engage members in a fun way to share chemistry in their communities. Players earned points and badges by completing missions such as giving ACS scholarship information to teachers and guidance counselors; talking to elected officials about why funding for research matters; and having a great answer ready for the inevitable “So what are you studying in chemistry?” question at family reunions, backyard barbeques, and in countless plane trips all around the world.

In 2015, OPA promoted Chemistry Champions, a contest designed to engage young members in communicating chemistry to the public via social media and ultimately live performance. In the final week of competition, including live events and YouTube videos by 4 finalists, knowledge of and conversation about the contest reached over 200,000 Twitter accounts and generated nearly 5 million impressions.

OPA hosted five [Science & the Congress](#) briefings during 2015. These events resulted from partnerships with the ACS Board Committee on Corporation Associates, the ACS Committee on Chemists with Disabilities, the National Academies University-Industry Demonstration Partnership, and the Arizona State University Center for Nanotechnology in Society. OPA also supported two events on STEM education through its advocacy program, supported two congressional events for the Council of Scientific Society Presidents, and hosted a National Science Foundation workshop on nanotechnology governance in association with one of the briefings.

The ACS Experts program continues to grow and demonstrate impact. The 41 trained Experts made chemistry understandable for general audiences, policymakers, and student groups and were interviewed by numerous media outlets including *Time*, *Wired*, *Yahoo Health*, *Huffington Post*, *Discovery News*, *BBC*, *Slate*, *Forbes*, *Science News*, *Nature*, and *CNN*. There were more than 160 placements from ACS Experts in 2015—up from 100 in 2014.

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ACS and its members celebrated [National Chemistry Week 2015](#) (NCW). The theme "Chemistry Colors Our World" attracted thousands of families and children of all ages to events nationwide. More than 90 percent of ACS local sections participated, distributing nearly 140,000 copies of Celebrating Chemistry, the hands-on activity publication. The print editions were made available in English, Spanish, and Portuguese, with French and Mandarin versions available online. ACS received a letter from President Barak Obama recognizing NCW. Also, the U.S. Senate issued a resolution sponsored by U.S. Senators Chris Coons (D-Del.) and Pat Toomey (R-Pa.) praising NCW.

In 2015, the [National Historic Chemical Landmarks program](#) celebrated four developments in the history of chemistry: The invention of Polaroid instant photography, the Keeling Curve measurements of atmospheric carbon dioxide, the isolation of the plant pigment phytochrome, and the pneumatic iron process used in steel making. The program reached more than 425,000 visitors through its website and thousands of others through dedication ceremonies, articles in general press and announcements to ACS members.

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# Financials

## Financial Highlights

The American Chemical Society (the Society) ended 2015 with solid financial results marking its 12th consecutive year of positive operating performance. As noted in the accompanying financial summary, the Society generated a net contribution of \$10.4 million. The favorable operating performance was attributable to a combination of strong financial results from the information services divisions and a continued emphasis on expense management across all operating units.

The Society's overall financial position, excluding the Member Insurance Program and Petroleum Research Fund, strengthened in 2015 with unrestricted net assets increasing from \$144.7 million at December 31, 2014, to \$163.3 million as of December 31, 2015. This increase is attributed to the \$16.6 million favorable operating performance and a \$17.7 million reversal of accounting charges related to an improvement in the funded position of the Society's postretirement benefit plans (PRBP). These improvements in the Society's financial position were partially offset by investment losses of \$15.7 million.

To access the ACS audited financial statements and obtain additional financial information on the Society, visit the [ACS website](#).

# ANNUAL REPORT 2015

## Financials

## Financial Summary

(\$ in Thousands)

### Statement of Financial Position

#### ASSETS

Cash and Cash Equivalents	
Accounts and Pledges Receivable	
Investments	
Buildings, Land, and Other Property	
Interfund (Payable) Receivable	
Other	

#### Total Assets

#### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

##### LIABILITIES

Accrued Expenses and Accounts Payable	
Deferred Revenues	
Short and Long-Term Debt	
Postretirement Benefits and Other	

#### Total Liabilities

#### NET ASSETS

Unrestricted	
Temporarily Restricted	
Permanently Restricted	
Total Net Assets	

#### Total Liabilities and Net Assets

2015			2014
ACS Programs	Petroleum Research Fund	Total	Total
\$ 42,409	\$ 20,174	\$ 62,583	\$ 54,864
125,122	-	125,122	116,753
470,000	513,687	983,687	1,042,293
109,759	87	109,846	106,146
(13,788)	13,788	-	-
25,900	52	25,952	24,162
<b>\$ 759,402</b>	<b>\$ 547,788</b>	<b>\$ 1,307,190</b>	<b>\$ 1,344,218</b>
\$ 65,021	\$ 13,397	\$ 78,418	\$ 83,077
197,119	-	197,119	187,101
-	-	-	853
189,721	4,345	194,066	225,748
451,861	17,742	469,603	496,779
202,321	-	202,321	190,103
39,686	457,546	497,232	508,648
65,534	72,500	138,034	148,688
307,541	530,046	837,587	847,439
<b>\$ 759,402</b>	<b>\$ 547,788</b>	<b>\$ 1,307,190</b>	<b>\$ 1,344,218</b>
2015			2014
ACS Programs	Petroleum Research Fund	Total	Total
\$ 447,010	\$ -	\$ 447,010	\$ 436,084
12,003	-	12,003	12,102
10,457	-	10,457	10,744
9,923	-	9,923	13,805
9,216	83	9,299	9,535
7,227	-	7,227	8,073
3,859	-	3,859	4,740
6,566	23,226	29,792	29,113
6,176	-	6,176	6,520
<b>512,437</b>	<b>23,309</b>	<b>535,746</b>	<b>530,716</b>
382,180	-	382,180	376,136
45,292	-	45,292	43,261
16,502	-	16,502	15,517
3,544	21,483	25,027	24,996
46,870	1,826	48,696	44,906
7,611	-	7,611	7,754
<b>501,999</b>	<b>23,309</b>	<b>525,308</b>	<b>512,570</b>
<b>10,438</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,438</b>	<b>18,146</b>
(16,985)	-	(16,985)	15,428
18,765	-	18,765	(94,201)
<b>12,218</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12,218</b>	<b>(60,627)</b>
5,558	-	5,558	4,139
(535)	2,698	2,163	37,176
(6,565)	(23,226)	(29,791)	(29,113)
<b>(1,542)</b>	<b>(20,528)</b>	<b>(22,070)</b>	<b>12,202</b>
10,676	(20,528)	(9,852)	(48,425)
296,865	550,574	847,439	895,864
<b>\$ 307,541</b>	<b>\$ 530,046</b>	<b>\$ 837,587</b>	<b>\$ 847,439</b>

### Statement of Activities

#### REVENUES

Electronic Services	
Dues	
Registration Fees and Booth Sales	
Member Insurance Premiums, Refunds, and Fees	
Investment Income	
Advertising	
Printed Services	
Net Assets Released from Restriction	
Other	

#### Total Unrestricted Revenues

#### EXPENSES

Information Services	
Member Programs and Services	
Member Insurance Program	
Grants and Awards	
Administrative	
Other	

#### Total Expenses

#### Net Contribution

Net Investment (Losses)/Gains	
Change in Pension Funding Status	
<b>Change in Unrestricted Net Assets</b>	
Contributions	
Investment Income and Net Investment (Losses) / Gains	
Net Assets Released From Restriction	
<b>Change in Restricted Net Assets</b>	
Change in Total Net Assets	
Beginning Total Net Assets	
<b>Ending Total Net Assets</b>	



# ANNUAL REPORT 2015

## Financials

### Allocation Of Dues & Member Status

#### 2015 Allocation of Dues

(\$ in Thousands)		
C&EN	\$ 6,305	42%
Support for Society Programs	2,215	15%
Member Services	3,377	22%
Local Section Allotments	1,766	12%
Division Allotments	1,371	9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 15,034</b>	<b>100%</b>

Excluding the impact of Local Section and Division Allotments and adding AACT dues, 2015 net dues revenue totaled \$12,003,000 as reported on the [Financial Summary page](#).

#### Membership Status\*

Year-End 2015	
Emeritus Member	13,063
Regular Member	97,168
Regular Student Member	18,667
Retired Member	5,542
Society Affiliate	1,179
Student Member - Undergraduate	19,863
Unemployed Member	1,394
<b>Total</b>	<b>156,876</b>

\*Source: ACS Demographics

#### 2015 Division Year-End Membership Summary

Name	Total
Agricultural & Food Chemistry Division	2,625
Agrochemicals Division	1,950
Analytical Chemistry Division	6,621
Biochemical Technology Division	2,776
Biological Chemistry Division	5,601
Business Development & Management Division	847
Carbohydrate Chemistry Division	741
Catalysis Science and Technology Division	3,233
Cellulose & Renewable Materials Division	2,541
Chemical Education Division	4,764
Chemical Health & Safety Division	1,049
Chemical Information Division	2,362
Chemical Toxicology Division	1,341
Chemistry & the Law Division	1,167
Colloid & Surface Chemistry Division	2,369
Computers in Chemistry Division	2,057
Division of Energy and Fuels	2,402
Environmental Chemistry Division	4,378
Fluorine Chemistry Division	563
Geochemistry Division	814
History of Chemistry Division	813
Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Division	4,666
Inorganic Chemistry Division	5,329
Medicinal Chemistry Division	8,465
Nuclear Chemistry & Technology Division	968
Organic Chemistry Division	11,649
Physical Chemistry Division	4,685
Polymer Chemistry Division	4,232
Polymeric Materials Science & Engineering Division	3,852
Professional Relations Division	587
Rubber Division	1,721
Small Chemical Businesses Division	642
<b>TOTAL DIVISION MEMBERS</b>	<b>97,810</b>

## ANNUAL REPORT 2015

# 2015 Highlights

## ACS By The Numbers

The American Chemical Society achieved significant milestones in 2015 and we are pleased to present a fun summary of the highlights. These selected accomplishments were achieved through a robust partnership of American Chemical Society members, governance and staff, often in collaboration with other organizations. Go to [www.acs.org/acshighlights2015](http://www.acs.org/acshighlights2015) to download the complete 2015 Highlights of ACS Achievements.

**7,417**

ACS membership in 1915.

**Nearly 157,000**

ACS members as of Dec. 31, 2015.

**30,000 +**

Combined attendance at 2015 ACS National Meetings in Boston and Denver.

**20,000 +**

Number of papers submitted for the 2015 ACS National Meetings.

**78**

Number of scientists inducted into the 2015 class of ACS Fellows during the Boston National Meeting.

**3**

Number of 2015 Nobel Laureates in Chemistry – – Tomas Lindahl, Paul Modrich and Aziz Sancar.

**7**

Years since ACS inaugurated the ACS Chemistry Ambassadors program.

**10,000 +**

Number of ACS Chemistry Ambassadors.

**49,000 +**

News media stories generated by ACS press releases and social media activity in 2015.

**1,500+**

ACS Scholars who have earned at least a bachelor's degree in a chemical science.

**24**

Total number of International Student Chapters.

**1.5 Million+**

Indexed records added to CAplus<sup>SM</sup> in 2015.

**77**

Countries where SciFinder® is used.

**103 Million**

Chemical substances in the CAS REGISTRY<sup>SM</sup> at the end of 2015.

## ANNUAL REPORT 2015

# 2015 Highlights

**3,400+**

Job seekers who participated in ACS Career Fairs.

**94**

Number of employers recruiting applicants.

**350+**

Job opportunities available.

**187**

Total number of ACS Petroleum Research Fund (ACS PRF) grants awarded in 2015.

**\$18.6 Million +**

Total funding awarded to 2015 ACS PRF grantees.

**27**

Number of ACS PRF grantees who received the Nobel Prize.

**22.1 Billion +**

Combined unique visits to websites and circulation of newspapers and magazines that ran stories on ACS journals and National Meeting research in 2015.

**15.6 Million +**

Downloads/views of Office of Public Affairs videos and podcasts in 2015.

**400+**

Number of economically disadvantaged high school students who participated in Project SEED in 2015.

**400+**

Volunteer scientists and coordinators who mentored these Project Seed students.

**21**

Years since ACS inaugurated the ACS Scholars program.

**66 Million**

Sequences in the CAS REGISTRY<sup>SM</sup> at the end of 2015.

**85 Million**

CAS's collection of searchable single and multi-step reactions from 1840 to the present.

**41,000 +**

Number of peer-reviewed articles published in ACS Journals in 2015.

**6**

Number of core chemistry categories in which ACS Journals rank #1 in total citations and/or ISI Impact Factor<sup>TM</sup> as reported in the 2014 Journal Citation Reports® from Thomson Reuters.

**250 +**

Number of ACS Science Coaches during 2015-2016 school year.

## ANNUAL REPORT 2015

# 2015 Highlights

### **\$500 Million +**

Value of the ACS PRF endowment at year-end.

### **2,800 +**

Number of students from underrepresented backgrounds who have participated in ACS Scholars since 1995.

### **4**

Medals won – one gold, three silver – by the American team at the 47th International Chemistry Olympiad (IChO) in Baku, Azerbaijan, in 2015.

ANNUAL REPORT 2015

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## 2015 Board Of Directors & Officers



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## Iron

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## ACS Legacy Leaders:

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