Welcome to Boston and the fall ACS national meeting!

We are pleased to return to the city of Boston, a center of higher education, healthcare, and an economy based on research, finance, and technology - principally biotechnology. It’s an appropriate setting for our national meeting with its overall theme of “Biotechnology for Health and Wellness.” That said, we have accepted over 9,500 papers for this meeting — 31 technical divisions, one secretariat, and five committees are host to 844 half-day oral sessions and 97 poster sessions — it promises to be most exciting.

Our full week together starts off with a keynote presidential event on Sunday, August 19: “Material Innovations: From Nanotech to Biotech and Beyond!” The symposium features five world-renowned scientists and innovation leaders covering a range of topics on interdisciplinary material innovations and concludes with a panel discussion.

Along with a rich program of scientific papers, we will mark the centenary of Chemical Abstracts Service with a presidential symposium and luncheon on Tuesday, August 21. Later that afternoon, we observe the 70th birthday of Roald Hoffman with a special symposium.

Other anniversaries will be recognized with symposia I am also pleased to sponsor: the 20th anniversary of National Chemistry Week, the 25th anniversary of the Division of Chemistry & the Law, the 40th anniversary of Macromolecules, and the 80th anniversary of the Women Chemists Committee. For more information on these and other sessions on the meeting theme, refer to the listings in the technical program or on-line at chemistry.org/meetings/boston2007.

We are offering a wonderful array of continuing education choices through ACS short courses, divisional and professional workshops, and exposition workshops. The Exposition itself will be held at the recently completed Boston Convention and Exhibition Center and is an opportunity to learn about scientific and industrial trends, discover effective technologies and services, and network with more than 315 companies that serve chemical professionals.

On behalf of all of us, I would like to extend a very special thanks to the members of the Northeastern Local Section, the ACS Committee on Meetings and Expositions, and the ACS staff for the time and energy spent to make this meeting a grand success. I’m looking forward to a high-energy week with all of you – reigniting our commitment to science and technology – education, collaboration and innovation!

Catherine T. (Katie) Hunt

ACS Vision: Improving People’s Lives Through the Transforming Power of Chemistry