



Central Pennsylvania Review Form 2013

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Lawrence Steffen: Dear Central Pennsylvania ACS Section Leaders,

Thank you for submitting your 2013 Local Section Annual Report. Please consider the following comments as you move forward this year.

The Central Pennsylvania Section has had some success this past year in delivering programming. The total number of meetings and events is low, but the attendance is very respectable. From pyrotechnics, to food, to forensic DNA, the topics looked interesting, informative, and in line with ACS goals to inspire the next generation of chemists and communicate chemistry's role in society (www.acs.org/strategicplan). The Willaman Undergraduate Poster session is a great opportunity for young scholars. Great job getting your councilor to the National meetings.

It was a challenge to find information on events and for next year it would be helpful if the section used the new "Events, Activities, and Meetings" section on the FORMS page (located below the main sections). Your web page was helpful although in need of some updating. One piece of information I was not able to sort out was to whom the \$5K in scholarship money was given to in 2013. Was it for Dixon student travel awards?

What are the challenges facing the Section? With no committees with two or more members and a relatively low number of active members, the section's greatest challenge is getting volunteers. This is, as you might guess, the number one challenge facing many local sections. You may find it helpful to send one of your volunteers to the ACS Leadership Institute. Visit www.acs.org/leaderdevelopment and email leaders@acs.org for information about scholarships. The challenge of providing activities that will interest graduate students and research active faculty is real. Maybe a talk/workshop on careers in the chemical sciences? How about supporting a local or regional science fair? Does the local section help with the Chemistry Olympiad exams? Mole day quiz show competition? These suggestions might not fit you, the key is to discern local members interests, and then institute new activities that are in line with these interests. Resources for outreach events can be found here: www.acs.org/outreach.

Please contact the LSAC if you have any questions and good luck in the coming year.

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Response To Review Comments		

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