



American Chemical Society

Nebraska Section Newsletter

<http://www.nebraska.sites.acs.org/>

FEBRUARY 2014

2014 OFFICERS

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Hector Palencia
University of Nebraska-Kearney

Haishi Cao
Univ. of Nebraska-Kearney

Jason Kautz
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

From the Throne

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Mark A. Griep, 2014 ACS Nebraska Section Chair NEACSCair@gmail.com

Congratulations to the 2014 Local Section Officers

Please join me in congratulating the 2014 Officers, who were elected by the largest voter turnout yet.

Chair: Mark Griep, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Chair-Elect: Jacob Friest, Novartis Consumer Health, Lincoln
Secretary: Macduff Okuom at Doane College, Crete
Treasurer: Richard Hartung, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Members-at-Large:

Jason Kautz, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Haishi Cao, University of Nebraska at Kearney
Hector Palencia, University of Nebraska at Kearney

These folks plus our LS Councilor Dr. James Takacs, UNL, and our Alternate Councilor Desiree Wineland, Veteran Vineyards, constitute the Local Section Executive Board. Following the pattern established in 2013, the Executive Board will meet twice for dinner this year at Chances R in York to discuss local section business.

Dr. Rachel Lloyd, NHCL

The ACS National Historic Chemical Landmark committee has conferred Landmark status to "Dr. Rachel Lloyd and the Nebraska Beet Sugar Industry". The Local Section pledged \$6000 for the associated plaque, booklet, and webpage. Her analysis of the sugar content from beets grown on farms across Nebraska led directly to the construction of three beet sugar factories in the State within a decade of the publication of her results. She was also an inspiration to the female and male undergraduates such that the University of Nebraska had the greatest concentration of women chemistry graduate students in the nation for over two decades.

The dedication ceremony and banquet will take place on Wednesday, October 1 at UNL. All members should plan to attend. The details about the location and cost of the banquet will be forthcoming. On the following day, there will be an all-day "Women in Science" Conference in the Auditorium of UNL's Union Building. The current plan is for 3-4 speakers working outside Nebraska and 2-4 speakers from Nebraska. Each speaker will talk for 10 min on how she reached their current position and then 30 min on her research.

The ACS NHCL Program was founded in 1992 and has created over 70 Landmarks since then. This will be the first one in Nebraska.

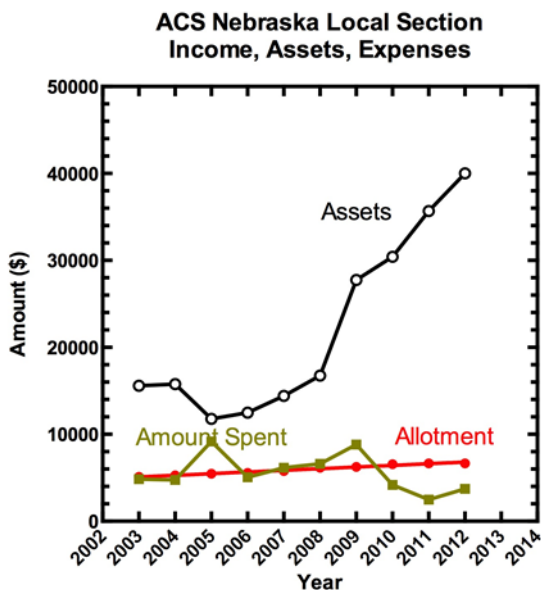
Plan to Attend a 2014 Local Section Meeting

Our 2014 Local Section member meetings will take place using approximately the same schedule as 2013. Even though the exact schedule hasn't been arranged, this schedule will let you know approximately when there will be a talk in your area.

Month	2014 Tentative Schedule	
February	Hastings College, Hastings	Wednesday at 7 pm, February 19th Speaker: Hector Palencia, UNK Topic: Chemistry of Biofuels
March	Doane College, Crete	Tuesday at 4 pm, middle of the month
April	Nebraska Wesleyan University, Lincoln	Tuesday at 5 pm, early in the month
April	Concordia University, Seward,	Tuesday at 6 pm, late in the month
May	Science Café at a Nebraska Winery	To be determined
October	University of Nebraska-Lincoln	Dr. Rachel Lloyd, National Historic Chemical Landmark Banquet, Wednesday Oct. 1 Women in Science Conference, Oct. 2
October	Wayne State College, Wayne,	Tuesday at 7 pm, late in the month

Our Assets and the 2014 Budget

Help us spend the Local Section assets by helping you achieve your goals. As a non-profit agency, our Local Section has nothing to gain by accumulating assets but that is exactly what has happened (see Figure below). From 2003 to 2009, we spent an amount that was nearly equal to our annual allotment without dipping into our assets. Over the past decade, the number of LS members has risen and so has the size of our annual allotment. Keep in mind that a portion of your national dues goes to the Local Section to create our allotment. Starting in 2010, LS spending decreased for a variety of reasons. For instance, we don't buy much postage anymore and it accounted for about \$500/year. In addition, our use of local speakers has increased the attendance at our local section meetings but they don't need a hotel room, food, or honorarium. When you add up all these factors, we now have total assets in excess of \$40,000. If you figure that the national organization recommends that Local Sections keep their assets to less than twice their annual expenses, we should spend about \$30,000.



In the face of this interesting development, the last two Executive Boards have developed three programs that seek to use our local section funds to meet the needs of our members. In the "Opportunities Await" section, you can learn how to access these funds. For 2014, the Executive Board set aside the following amounts for each program.

Item	2014 Reserved Amount
Outreach Grants	\$3000 (= 5 x \$600)
Guest Speakers	3000 (= 5 x \$600)
Meals	600
Travel Awards	4000 (= 5.3 x \$750)
NHCL Plaque & Brochure	6000
Officer Travel Subsidies	2000

In 2013, six people expressed a strong interest in the Outreach Grants. Of those, three applied and two were approved. The Local Section seeks at least five applications in 2014. No one applied for Guest Speaker funds in 2013. Nevertheless, we held seven meetings in 2013 and six of them featured Local Section Chair Griep as the guest speaker. The seventh meeting was coincident with UNL's PLU Holiday Party. The six meetings incurred snack expenses of about \$80 each. Another meal expense is that the Local Section pays for dinner at the twice-yearly Executive Board meetings. One travel request was submitted and awarded in 2013 but we would like to receive at least five approvals in 2014. The National Historic Chemical Landmark for Dr. Rachel Lloyd was described earlier in the newsletter and will be a one-time expense. As part of its normal operation, the Local Section subsidizes travel to two meetings for the Councilor and strongly encourages one of its officers to attend an ACS Officer Training Workshop in January.

Volunteers Needed

Help us spend more of our assets. If we spend at the rate of twice our annual allotment per year (about \$12,000), we'll reduce our reserves in about 7 years. The Executive Board has discussed several ideas that require a lead volunteer. A demographic analysis might help you understand the issue. The Nebraska Local Section has just over 300 members. Of the 224 affiliations identified from email suffixes (plus a little sleuthing), 165 are faculty & students at Universities, Colleges, and Community Colleges, 55 are in industry, 4 appear to be High School teachers, and 4 are in the government. Therefore, one idea would be for a volunteer to organize a Job-Hunting Skills for Chemists Workshop. Another example would be for one or more volunteers to judge chemistry posters at the handful of Science Fairs in our area and then to award prizes of \$100, \$75, and \$50. Please let us know whether you'd like to volunteer to develop these or other activities.

Opportunities Await

The travel grants are now set to \$750 maximum and are open to students and faculty.

A. Outreach Grants (Download the Application Form from the website): Beginning in 2013, the Local Section is offering \$400 outreach grants to the Chemistry Clubs of the colleges and universities within our Local Section. Departments and Industries are eligible for \$600 outreach grants. The activities must relate to the ACS-sponsored Chemists Celebrate Earth Day (every April) and ACS-sponsored Nebraska Chemistry Week (in October). For those Chemistry Clubs without any ACS members, we will accept submissions from ACS member sponsors on their behalf. Submit your application to the Nebraska Local Section Chair Mark Griep at NEACSChair@gmail.com. The request includes:

1. Applicant's Name (must be a member of the Nebraska Local Section; or sponsored by a member)
2. Email Address (for communication) and Mailing Address (to receive the check)
3. Institutional Affiliation (Chemistry Club at XYZ; Faculty Member at ABC; other)
4. Who is your outreach target (Middle School; High School; the Public; other)
5. What sorts of activities you will do (gather ideas from the ACS website or local section members)
6. Approximate Date of the Event
7. Location of the event (at JKL School; in the HYD Mall; other)
8. How will your outreach target learn about the event (we'll coordinate with teacher Smith; we'll contact Principal Gonzales; other)
9. Promise to have at least one planning meeting two days prior to the event to discuss the entire plan with all helpers.
Discuss: Who will bring the materials; Who will do which activity (be sure to Practice the activity); Who will clean up [It helps to give helpers a T-shirt both as a gift and as a way to distinguish helpers from the participants during the event]
10. Within a few days after the event, send a thank you to all helpers. Remind them to put this volunteer activity on their resume. Within one month after the event, send a short summary to the Chair of the Nebraska Local Section (how many helpers, how many participants, any feedback or thoughts). These will be edited for publication in the Nebraska Local Section Newsletter.

11. You will be reimbursed when you send your itemized receipts.

We will have a rolling deadline so you can submit any time you are ready.

Opportunities Await Contd

B. Guest Speakers: As of 2012, the Local Section is offering up \$600 reimbursement for a presentation by a guest speaker to your academic department or industrial institution. The funds can be used to pay for speaker travel and room accommodation and/or nosh for those attending the presentation. Each department and institution can apply for funds once a year. Submit your application to the Nebraska Local Section Chair Mark Griep at NEACSCChair@gmail.com with:

1. Applicant's Name (must be a member of the Nebraska Local Section)
2. Email Address (for communication) and Mailing Address (to receive the check)
3. Academic Department or Institution
4. Name of guest, affiliation, and possible lecture title
5. Approximate Date and location of the Event so the Local Section can advertise it
6. Promise to send a short summary of the presentation to the Chair of the Nebraska Local Section (how many helpers, how many participants, any feedback or thoughts). These will be edited for publication in the Nebraska ACS Local Section Newsletter.

7. You will be reimbursed when you send your itemized receipts.

We will have a rolling deadline so you can submit any time you are ready.

C. Travel Awards (Download the Application Form from the website): As of 2012, the Local Section is offering \$750 travel awards to assist your travel to give presentations or posters. Priority will be given in the order of **undergraduates, graduate students, postdoctorals, faculty at 4-year colleges, and then others** at the colleges and universities within our Local Section. We have reserved \$4000 total per year for the travel awards. The awards are for attendance at a regional or national ACS meeting to present research results. Submit your application to the Nebraska Local Section Chair Mark Griep at NEACSCChair@gmail.com with:

1. Applicant's name and contact information (must be a member of the Nebraska Local Section),
2. A brief summary of the proposed research presentation (poster or talk),
3. The regional or national ACS meeting and why you should attend,
4. A summary of other available travel funds, and
5. A proposed budget of \$750 or less.

6. Upon your return, you will be reimbursed when you send your itemized receipts.

We will have a rolling deadline so you can submit any time you are ready.