

Allison Campbell
Immediate Past President
Oral Report to Council
March 21, 2018

Good morning Councilors and members of governance. I am pleased to report on my activities in 2018.

This past Sunday, in conjunction with the ACS Office of External Affairs & Communications, we hosted a second invitation only, Speaking with Congress Advocacy Workshop, where we trained over 30 ACS members how to effectively engage with their members of Congress. This workshop provided attendees with practical advice on engaging with Congress, as well as hands-on training opportunities via interactive role-playing. In addition, we will be rolling out this program at the Northwest Regional Meeting this year. It is my hope that we can then transform this activity into a “Program in a Box” for our local sections.

On Monday, I co-hosted a second workshop *Science Communications: How Chemistry can Earn Public Trust* with Sir John Holman, President of the Royal Society of Chemistry and Dr Thisbe Lindhorst, Immediate Past President of the Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker, (German Chemical Society). This workshop aimed to highlight the role that trust plays in communicating science to the general public. Through panel discussions and break-out exercises with the audience, we explored how trust is built and lost, what effect this has on science communication, and what those communicating science must do to establish and retain trust among non-scientific audiences. This workshop follows on the heels of a similar collaborative event hosted by our three chemical societies focused on *Science Communications: The Art of Developing a Clear Message* during the fall ACS National Meeting in Washington, D.C.

With input and collaboration of our three Societies, we demonstrated the importance of communications and establishing trust for the best interests of chemistry, enabling chemists around the world with tools to engage within their communities.

Finally, as mentioned in my November 27 comment, this year I will keep working to establish within ACS the means by which ACS local sections and members affected by disaster get the resources needed to recover from devastation. I was able to see firsthand how our ACS communities were affected when I toured our Kanawha Valley Local Section in West Virginia that was affected by historic flooding, and heard from many members disrupted by the hurricanes that hit Houston, Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands. As a Society, we have the capability of reaching out to affected communities, cataloging their needs, and creating a clearinghouse for donations of laboratory instruments, equipment and supplies.

Lastly, I continue to look for your ideas and suggestions, and welcome the opportunity to hear from you.

Please continue to share your ideas and suggestions with me, and contact me at a.campbell@acs.org

Thank you, this concludes my report.