

History of Chemistry (HIST) > Administration Form > 2022

*Required Fields

Governance

Please input your responses to all questions based on the annual reporting year (unless otherwise instructed.)

1. Does the Division have a Vision and/or Mission Statement? *

- Yes
- Yes
- No
- No

2. What was the date of the last Division strategic planning session? *

04/07/2008

3. What are the primary challenges confronting your Division? *

With the advent of all-virtual meetings in 2020, our programming suffered significantly. In 2021, there was one virtual meeting and one hybrid meeting. While this allowed HIST to engage with more of our members than in 2020, it also reduced the number of members willing to give talks via virtual formats. In 2022, both meetings were hybrid and we found more members willing to engage in person. The average age of HIST members is higher than in other divisions: 28% of our members are 70+. The covid pandemic has seemed to cause many of them to rethink attending national meetings in person. Engaging with this group is a significant challenge for the division. How the division will address changes in ACS meetings and provide suitable options in programming delivery for our membership will remain a significant challenge.

4. Were Division elections conducted according to its Bylaws? *

- Yes
- No

5. What offices were filled by elections during the past year? *

Elections are held every two years. 2022 was an election year and the offices filled by elections were: chair-elect, secretary/treasurer, two councilor positions, two alternate councilor positions.

6. Were any positions unfilled that were expected to be filled? Please provide a brief explanation why. *

No.

7. What additional support do you need from DAC or ACS staff? *

We continue to advocate that ACS should provide a platform for elections. Also, getting ACS staff to engage with our officers, particularly the program chair, has become increasingly difficult. When emails go unacknowledged, phone messages are ignored, and it becomes almost impossible to print our program abstracts for national meetings, there is a problem.

8. What can DAC do to improve the Annual Review Process? *

It was a pleasant surprise that the 2022 Budget items appeared in the Financial form. It would be useful if the Administrative report was available as an MS Word file to fill out prior to using the on-line form. We have no other specific recommendations.

9. How many Executive Committee meetings were held during the calendar year? *

2

10. Did your Division hold an open meeting for Division members? *

- Yes
- No

11. Do the Division by-laws require an open meeting? *

- Yes
- No

Member Relations

1. Did your total membership increase or decrease? *

Decrease ▼

What do you think prompted the decrease?

The changes ACS implemented in their new membership model went into effect in the April 2022 rosters. HIST lost about 100 members and it is likely all division and local sections had a similar decrease. We are monitoring to see how this will continue to affect our membership numbers.

2. Did the Division have an adequate number of volunteers to cover your requirements? *

- Yes
 No

If the answer to the above question is No, please explain.

Our programming is totally dependent upon volunteers. We continue to try to involve members in participation in programming. We saw an increase in Division membership from 2017 (675) to 2019 (1122), before the decrease in 2020 (876), 2021 (788) and 2022 (674). So, in 2022 we end up with a membership number similar to that in 2017. The change in the membership model is directly related to the 2021 to 2022 decrease. We do not know how this will continue to affect the Division.

3. How does your Division use its website to serve its members? *

The website allows us to notify members of current news and events. It is the gateway to the HIST journal, the Bulletin for the History of Chemistry. The website also serves as an active archive of Division business.

4. What is the URL for your website? *

<http://acshist.scs.illinois.edu/>

5. When was your Divisions website last updated? *

02/05/2023

6. Does your division have subdivisions? *

- Yes
 No

If the answer to above question is YES, please list.

Archaeological Subdivision

Programming

1. In general, how would you assess the programming your Division delivered during ACS national meetings? *

The programming continues to recover from pandemic programming. At the Spring National meeting there was full day symposium honoring the 2021 HIST Award winner, as well as a full day session with general papers. At the Fall National meeting, there was a half day symposium honoring the 2022 HIST Award winner and 1-1/2 day sessions of general papers. There was a good attendance at the majority of the sessions.

2. How far in advance does your Division plan its national meeting programming? *

- Less than 1 year
- 1 Year
- 2 Years
- 3 Years
- 4+ Years
- Other

3. Do you have Program Chair(s) or Programming Admins for your Division? *

- Yes
- No

Please provide contact information: First Name, Last Name, Division Title and Term, and Email

Nicolay Tsarevsky, Program Chair, year-to-year, nvt@smu.edu Mihaela C. Stefan, Assistant Program Chair, year-to-year, mihaela@utdallas.edu

4. Would you like to add additional Program Chair or Programming Admin contacts? *

- Yes
- No

5. Did the Program Chair attend a planning session last year? *

- Yes
- No

6. Does your division know who will serve as a program chair beyond this year? *

- Yes
- No

Please provide contact information. This is optional but could be very valuable in identifying future division program planners

Nicolay Tsarevsky will continue to serve as Program Chair, as will Mihaela as Asst. Program Chair.

7. Would you like to add additional contact(s) for Program Chair(s) beyond 2020? *

- Yes
- No

8. Do you have a Multidisciplinary Program Planning Group (MPPG) Representative for your Division? *

- Yes
- No

If the answer to above question is YES, provide contact information for your Division's Multidisciplinary Program Planning Group (MPPG) Representative.

David Lewis, Phone: (715) 563-2633 Email:lewisd@uwec.edu

9. Did the Multidisciplinary Program Planning Group (MPPG) Representative attend a planning session last year? *

- Yes
- No

10. Do you have a Regional Meeting Coordinator for your Division? *

- Yes
- No

If the answer to above question is YES, provide contact information for your Division's Regional Meeting Coordinator.

Seth Rasmussen, Phone: (701) 231-8747; Email: seth.rasmussen@ndsu.edu

11. Did the Regional Meeting Coordinator attend a planning session last year? *

- Yes
- No

Best Practices

1. Please describe techniques used to develop volunteers.

Volunteers are developed via participation. Input is requested from the membership on programming and division activities via the Newsletter, USPS, email, and the HIST website. If the members attend symposia, they are invited to express their opinion about programming and asked to suggest ideas for future programming. Those who give talks in general sessions are approached, when appropriate, to submit a paper to the Bulletin for the History of Chemistry. They are also asked whether they have an interest in organizing a symposium on their specific interests in the history of chemistry.

2. Please describe how you recruit volunteers to serve the Division.

Volunteers are developed via participation, as outlined in part 1 above. As members become more active in programming and/or Bulletin publications, they are also encouraged to participate in HIST leadership roles. Recently, targeted efforts have been made to add younger members to HIST leadership.

3. How does your Division recognize its volunteers?

Volunteers are thanked verbally for their services. Individuals may also be honored with a HIST Certificate of Appreciation plaque in recognition of their service. The Division has developed a HIST Fellows program, whose first class was honored in 2022.

4. How does your Division provide meeting content to its members?

We make all meeting abstracts available via the HIST website (and via USPS for those members who request a hard copy. Some meeting talks also develop into papers, which are published in the Bulletin for the History of Chemistry and received by all members. Furthermore, we have also been very successful in the publications of ACS symposium volumes based on well-attended symposia, as well as publishing symposium proceedings with other publishers. We believe the ACS should continue to provide the option to stream talks given at national meetings, i.e., continue the hybrid model for national meetings.

5. Describe outreach activities to serve members who don't attend national meetings.

Through options given by ACS, such as streaming talks given at national meetings. We also make the meeting abstracts available via the HIST website (and via USPS for those members who request a hard copy. Some meeting talks also develop into papers, which are published in the Bulletin for the History of Chemistry and received by all members. We have also been very successful in the publications of ACS symposium volumes based on well-attended symposia, as well as publishing symposium proceedings with other publishers. Finally, the division maintains a strong presence at regional ACS meetings and has recently sponsored and organized multiple history symposia for regional meetings.

6. What are the most important benefits your Division provides to its members?

The Bulletin for the History of Chemistry, the HIST Newsletter & Abstracts, and member-focused awards such as our new HIST Fellows program.

7. How does the Division provide information to its members on Divisional activities?

The Bulletin for the History of Chemistry; the HIST Newsletter & Abstracts; the HIST Facebook page (which has now exceeded 2.3K likes and over 2.3K followers (HIST now has a Facebook following that is comparable to most of the "big" divisions of the ACS, which speaks to the inherent interest in the history of our science throughout the chemical community); HIST LinkedIn page; emails. HIST recently started the LinkedIn page to assist with outreach and inform about news and other programming opportunities. We are hoping to expand our communication platforms to our membership and raise awareness of HIST among non-members in the community.

8. Describe activities aimed at students and young professionals.

HIST encourages students to give talks and posters at national meetings. We continue to have talks given by undergraduate students and graduate students at our general sessions. We have seen our Regular Students members increase to 89 before decreasing to 85 in 2020 and to 38 in 2022. Our Student members (undergraduate students) increased to 115 before decreasing to 92 in 2020 and to 66 in 2022. We believe the increase prior to 2020 was a direct result of our efforts to include these members at both national and regional meetings. The new ACS membership model continues to be a challenge.

9. List any Division awards.

The HIST Award; the Paul R. Jones Outstanding Paper Award; the Citation for Chemical Breakthrough Awards; the HIST Fellows Award.

10. Did the Division engage in any international outreach or activities, beyond inviting international speakers to present at a symposium or general session? *

- Yes
- No

If yes, please describe.

The Citation for Chemical Breakthrough Award many times goes to international locations. Of the five awarded in 2022, one went to Ghent University and one to Médecine de l'Université Paris-Cité. See information available at http://acshist.scs.illinois.edu/awards/citations_chem-breakthroughs.php. We routinely include news from the British Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry and the History of Science Society in the HIST Newsletter.

11. List nominations for ACS Fellows.

David E. Lewis

12. Does the Chair have any other issues to be considered?

Nothing specific.

Supporting Materials

Brief Description

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