

History of Chemistry (HIST) > Administration Form

*Required Fields

Governance

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

- Yes
- 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. While we believe a hybrid virtual and in-person meeting might allow to the division to engage with more of our members in 2021, 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. 2020 was an election year, so the offices filled were chair-elect, secretary/treasurer, and councilor.

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 believe ACS should conduct elections for the division or at least provide a platform for elections.

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

We have no 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 in 2020? *

Decrease ▼

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

- Yes
 No

Our programming is completely 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), which we don't know how to evaluate yet. The increasing numbers indicated our programming and the Bulletin were reaching our members and others in the ACS. We depend upon walk-in traffic for our programming during national meetings. The disruption in programming and the all-virtual meetings caused a significant disruption for our members and others.

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 serves as an active archive of Division business.

4. What is the URL for your website? *

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

5. When was your Divisions website last updated? *

01/25/2021

6. Does your division have subdivisions? *

- Yes
 No

Archaeological Subdivision

Programming

1. In general, how would you assess the programming your Division delivered during 2020 ACS national meetings? *

HIST had several multi-day symposia planned for the Spring 2020 national meeting. The cancellation of this meeting negated this effort. The Executive Committee decided not to participate in programming for the all-virtual Fall 2020 national meeting. So, the result is no programming was delivered in 2020.

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 in 2020? *

- Yes
- No

Nicolay Tsarevsky, Program Chair, year-to-year, nvt@gmail.smu.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 2020? *

- Yes
- No

Nicolay Tsarevsky, Program Chair, year-to-year, nvt@gmail.smu.edu

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 in 2020? *

- Yes
- No

Arthur Greenberg, art.greenberg@unh.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

Seth Rasmussen, 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. 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. As members become more active in programming, they are also encouraged to participate in HIST leadership roles.

3. How does your Division recognize its volunteers?

Volunteers are thanked verbally for their services. They are sometimes awarded a plaque in recognition of their service. The Division has developed a divisional HIST Fellows program, whose roll-out was going to happen in 2020, but has been delayed to 2021 due to Covid-19 travel restrictions.

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 hardcopy). 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 publication of ACS symposium volumes based on well-attended symposia, as well as publishing symposium proceedings with other publishers. In some cases, options provided by ACS have been utilized to stream talks given at 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 hardcopy). Some of the 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 publication of ACS symposium volumes based on well-attended symposia, as well as publishing symposium proceedings with other publishers. Finally, the division 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 2034 likes and over 2092 follows. 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); directed emails.

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 undergraduates and graduate students at our general sessions. We have our seen our Regular Student members increase to 89 before decreasing to 85 in 2020, and our Student members (undergraduate) increase to 115 before decreasing to 92 in 2020. We hope 2020 is an anomaly. We believe the increase prior to 2020 was a result of our efforts to include these members at both national and regional meetings.

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

The Citation for Chemical Breakthrough Award many times goes to international locations. Of the four awards designated in 2020, four went to three sites in Great Britain and one to two sites in the US. 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.

Seth Rasmussen and Roger Egolf.

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

We do not understand why our nominees for ACS Fellows are not successful. Continued failure of what we consider good candidates will inevitably lead to not wasting our time nominating anyone.

Supporting Materials

Brief Description	File Name	File Size	Date Uploaded
Notes to append to Administration Form	Notes 2020 HIST Administration Form.docx	12.34 KB	2/7/2021