

## **AG/Committee Name: SETAC NA Chemistry Advisory Group (CAG)**

**Submitted by: Daniel Snow**

**Date: 10-31-2014**

**Council/Board Liaison: Charles Wong**

### **Organization**

Membership in the Chemistry Advisory Group is open to all SETAC members, and to all professionals and students interested in the topics addressed by the CAG. Members must have a commitment to the purpose, goals, and operating guidelines of the Chemistry Advisory Group and commit to supporting the CAG. The CAG's activities are guided by the Chemistry Steering Committee (CSC), the leadership of the advisory group. The 2014 CSC included 15 active members evenly divided between government, industry, and academia. One student member was elected and added to the steering committee in January 2014 to increase involvement and ensure future SETAC representation by the CAG. According to the SOP, the CSC is comprised of at least 10 and no more than 15 organizers that are SETAC members in good standing, and provides representation of professionals from government, industry, and academia. (Operating Guidelines for the SETAC North America Chemistry Advisory Group, Approved Aug 18, 2010).

### **Current and Future Activities Summary**

**Chemist Travel Award-** The 2014 CAG New Chemist award was presented to Ching-Hua Huang, School of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Georgia Institute of Technology. The award provides for registration and hotel for the annual North America SETAC meeting and was instituted to introduce chemists and their students/mentees to SETAC.

**SETAC-ACS ENVR student exchange award-** We received 10 excellent applications this year and have narrow that field down to five to be judged in Vancouver. The 2013 winner was Rachel Marek (University of Iowa). The award provides \$1000 in travel support for the student to present their research at an American Chemical Society (ACS) national meeting.

In addition, to improve recruitment and retention of awardees, an informal CAG buddy system has been implemented for these two awards. This system is voluntary and is similar to SETAC North America Buddy System with the added benefit of a shared interest in chemistry. Steering committee members have drafted standard operating procedures (SOPs) to help facilitate and standardize the award process from year to year. All documents are now uploaded to a shared folder accessible by all committee members.

**Sponsored SETAC NA sessions-** The steering committee selected two session proposals to sponsor at the 2014 SETAC NA 35<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting in Vancouver, BC. This year we focused on novel and innovative chemistry session proposals that promote broad reaching science with a trans-disciplinary and integrated approach. The two sessions selected were:

- Advanced Analytical Methods for Contaminant Discovery
- Environmental Chemistry and Toxicology of Chemicals of Emerging Concern in Large Lakes

**Global Horizon Scanning Project.** The CAG Steering Committee was asked to assist in identifying future research questions for the Global Horizon Scanning Project and has been promoting involvement through the website and emails. The CAG will assist with a survey for this project at the Vancouver meeting and has been promoting involvement of CAG membership through its email listserv.

**Survey and Charter for Global CAG (GCAG).** The CAG Steering Committee initiated a survey and, based on responses, began drafting a charter for a Global Chemistry Advisory Group (GCAG) to offer opportunities to SETAC members in other geographic units to interact and address global chemistry topics while maintaining a geographic perspective to the issue. The charter is based on the existing model of SETAC NA CAG but will include members from Europe, Asia, Pacific, Central and South America and help strengthen a chemistry perspective among all GUs. The survey at SETAC Europe showed considerable interest and lack of awareness about the CAG, likely due to its current SETAC NA focus. There is already a draft of by-laws and a call for people who are interested in helping launch this

advisory group in 2015. One current SETAC CAG steering committee member has moved to another GU and has volunteered to help with this effort.

The CSC hosted a very well received CAG social event in Nashville to promote interactions between SETAC chemists attending the national meeting. The event was supported using both external and internal (CAG members) donations. The overall turnout was greater than 100 people and led to additional interest in CAG and support for an annual social event in conjunction with the business meeting. The CAG is planning a similar event, and has generated interest and support from additional sponsors to help with external funding of the event in Vancouver. The CSC provides liaisons to SETAC Membership, Science, and Mentoring Committees.

#### Outreach outside SETAC-

The SETAC-ACS Student exchange award increases visibility and interactions with ACS. We have formed a small workgroup to further advance and solidify the relationship between ACS and SETAC-CAG, especially at the student level. A poster, flyer, and magnets were created with the SETAC approved logo. The poster is updated annually and outreach materials have been provided by CAG members at American Chemical Society and IUPAC meetings.

### **Business and Planning Meetings**

In 2014, Steering committee meetings were held monthly (except December) on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday. The 2013 annual business meeting was held November 18<sup>th</sup> at SETAC in Nashville.

### **Membership Communications**

The CAG Steering Committee recruited a student member (Katie Albanese, Ohio State University) in February 2014 to help increase CAG visibility and relevance to SETAC membership.

There is a monthly to quarterly email update sent to the CAG membership to announce opportunities, publicize upcoming scientific meetings, request volunteers, and solicit feedback. We continue to develop the CAG presence on the SETAC website with updates, announcements, and postings. We published "Harmonizing the Chemistry - Highlights from SETAC North America 34<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting in Nashville, TN" in the February 13, 2014 edition of the SETAC Globe. The news article reported on chemistry related events and activities, including the CAG-sponsored sessions, business and social meetings. We are also planning a similar article for the Vancouver meeting.

A face-to-face business meeting (open to everyone) was held in Nashville with ~15-20 attendees. A similar meeting will be held in Vancouver. Nearly all steering committee email communications are also shared with several SETAC staff members. They are invited and often attend the monthly meetings.

### **Current Steering Committee**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Locale</b>	<b>Sector</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Term</b>
Daniel Snow	USA	Univ	2014 Chair	2011-
Sascha Usenko	USA	Univ	Past Chair (2013)	2010-
Elin Ulrich	USA	Govt	Past Chair (2012)	2009-15
Charles Wong	Canada	Univ	SNA BoD liaison	2009-15
Alan Jones	USA	Univ	Chair Elect 2014	2011-
Angie Perez	USA	Industry		2012-
John Kucklick	USA	Govt		2011-
Ping Sun	USA	Industry		2011-
Jonathan Benskin	Canada	Industry	Nominated to GCAG	2013-14
Jonathan Martin	Canada	Univ		2013-
Lee Ferguson	USA	Univ		2013-14
Pamela Rice	USA	Govt		2013-
Wendy Hillwalker	USA	Industry	Chair- elect 2015	2013-
Katie Albanese	USA	Univ	Student Representative	2014-

**No. active members: 50**

**Total membership: 312**