

Richland &gt; Administration Form

**\*Required Fields**

## Governance

**1. How many times did the executive committee conduct governance business during 2020? \*****2. How many members were there in the executive committee during 2020? \*****3. How did the executive committee communicate with one another during 2020? (Check all that apply.) \*** Email Teleconference Zoom/Gotomeeting/Webex ACS Network Other**4. What percentage of your councilors participated in the Spring Special Meeting of Council (to hear nominees for President-Elect)? \*****5. What percentage of your councilors were in official attendance at the Fall Virtual Council Meeting? \*****6. Did a member of your local section attend the Local Section Leaders Track at the 2020 ACS Leadership Institute? \*** Yes No

**7. Did your local section have a succession and/or leadership development plan during 2020? \***

- Yes
- No

**8. How did your local section identify future leaders and get them into the leadership pipeline during 2020? (Check all that apply.) \***

- Self-nomination
- Solicitation or Advertising
- Identify Active Committee Members
- Formal Leadership Training
- Long Term Plan
- Outreach to New Members
- Arm-twisting
- Other

**9. Did your local section conduct an officer election during 2020? \***

- Yes
- No

89

**10. Did your local section conduct its elections electronically during 2020? \***

- Yes
- No

Election Runner

Questions 11-13 provide the opportunity for your section's leadership to communicate successes, challenges, goals, and progress towards meeting those goals. We want to hear from you! Please use the required comment boxes to share your thoughts about your section. In questions 12 and 13, do not feel limited by having spaces indicated for the top three goals. Other goals can be added in the comment box if needed.

**11. 2020 Chair's report: Please provide a narrative of the past year's activity/successes/challenges: \***

The year started out on a high note with grand plans: 1) coordinate the many usual LS activities across more volunteers and reduce workload on the few, 2) update the LS website to give it a more modern and branded look and functionality, and 3) implement the goals established in the 2019 Strategic Planning Retreat. Despite the constraints of Covid-19, many of these goals were realized or means (funding and pathway) established to complete. Volunteerism The chair had mapped out much of the agenda working hard to bring additional volunteers in place and populating committees with more than just a chair, including members to support. The goal was to reduce the stress and time commitment from our committee chairs by spreading the work load. Volunteers were recruited in several manners. The chair used her contacts by directly speaking with fellow chemists; emails were sent requesting volunteers from chemistry departments at local college/university campuses, to chemist contacts at major regional employers, and to the membership at large encouraging participation. In consultation with the volunteer, the right committee fit was determined. The volunteer recruitment went from a very active core of ~13 to approximately a doubling of that number. Additionally, Megan Nims and Shirmir Branch developed a Volunteer Databank via Google docs. This provides a mechanism for LS section volunteers to sign up for general activities based on responses to a brief questionnaire and personal preference for outreach. The request for volunteers with the hot link was sent to the general membership via email. It is hoped that this volunteer data bank could be used as a resource for obtaining active support on upcoming activities. The Volunteer Databank was developed as a direct action from our 2019 Strategic Planning Retreat. Website update An ad hoc committee was established, led by the Public Relations (PR) chair Steve Krogsrud, to update the Richland LS website. The PR chair recruited two others to this committee. The committee investigated other section websites, contacted website managers for recommendations and advice. The committee made recommendation to the executive board. The committee chair also submitted a proposal for website update through the ACS METT grant (October) and the grant was approved. The website update is expected to come to fruition in 2021. Diversity and Inclusion The LS took a stand on the #ShutDownSTEM and BLM movements. The Diversity and Inclusion Committee developed a statement that was adopted by the executive committee on July 8, 2020, stating our stand on the issues as follows. This statement was posted on the front page of our website and in our August newsletter. Every member of the ACS Richland Section benefits from the talents and experiences of our peers, from the mutual respect we exercise and from the growing and diverse scientific community we serve. Our members are committed to create an environment that respects the dignity and civil rights of all persons, particularly those from groups that have experienced discrimination and persecution. We condemn racism, discrimination and harassment in all forms and are committed to embrace long-lasting, transformational change. Recent events have reminded us that much work needs to be done to achieve racial equity. We encourage every member of our section to commit to work towards this goal. If you are interested in helping the section develop programs that promote diversity and inclusion and eradicate racism in our community, please contact Sandy Fiskum (e-mail). - The Richland Section Executive Committee The LS submitted two well-deserved LS chemists for selection as ACS fellow in 2020. We celebrated Dr. Ram Devanathan's selection by the ACS for induction in 2020. Dr. Devanathan was recognized in the local newspaper, Tri-City Herald (09/13/2020) and on the Battelle Inside Pacific Northwest National Laboratory news. See the list of activities included in this report. 2020 was a difficult year in that nearly all of our plans went sideways as of March due to Covid-19 restrictions. The executive committee and committee chairs worked wonders to help our fall shine through, albeit through Zoom, with many engaging activities.

## 12. 2021 Chair's goals for the Section

### a . Please list first of top three goals

Increase membership and volunteer participation through various member-accessible committee programming and encouragement of personal network outreach.

**b . Please list second of top three goals**

Sponsor or co-sponsor at least one more follow-on panel discussion on diversity, equity and inclusion.

**c . Please list third of top three goals**

To facilitate K-12 school outreach, create a directory of school contacts (principals and main science coordinators) in collaboration with Columbia Basin College and/or Washington State University in the Tri-cities area and Eastern Oregon University in the La Grande area.

**d . What are your concerns and challenges?**

Keeping members engaged despite Covid-19 social distancing requirements.

**13. 2021 Chair-Elect's goals for the Section**

**a . Please list first of top three goals**

Find ways to increase members involvement and engagement with the section by creating a communication strategy.

**b . Please list second of top three goals**

Provide workshops related to diversity, inclusion and respect to our local members.

**c . Please list third of top three goals**

Foster relationships with local schools and create the scenario to develop hybrid (in person and virtual) outreach activities.

**d . What are your concerns and challenges?**

We understand that concerns for health and safety will keep affecting our members in this coming year. Our local section leaders will be challenged to adapt the agenda to a virtual or hybrid platform in the era of Zoom fatigue and keep our members engage.

**14. Does the Local Section have a Vision and/or Mission Statement? \***

- Yes
- No

**15. What was the month and year of the last Local Section strategic planning session?**

04/13/2019

**Organization**

**1. Did your local section have active coordinators for the following?**

Activity	Coordinator Names
Awards	Janet L Bryant
Educational	Colby Heideman
Government Affairs	Kristin Marie Omberg
Membership/Membership Retention	Cristina Padilla-Cintron
Minority Affairs	Anna G Cavinato
Nominations	Kristin Marie Omberg
Public Relations	Stephen Krogsrud
Women Chemists	Megan Katherine Nims

**2. How many subsections were active in your local section during 2020? \***

**3. How many subsection meetings were held by your local section during 2020? \***

**4. How many topical groups were active in your local section during 2020? \***

**5. How many topical group meetings were held in your local section during 2020? \***

**6. Did your local section support (financial or otherwise) an existing Technician Affiliate Group (TAG) during 2020? \***

- Yes
- No

\*A person who is not a member of the SOCIETY shall not become a member of any Local Section, but Local Sections may provide in their bylaws to have Local Section Affiliates, not members of the SOCIETY, who shall be entitled to all the privileges of membership in the Local Section, as provided in the Local Section bylaws, except that of holding an elective position of the Local Section, or voting on Articles of Incorporation and bylaws for the Local Section, or serving as a voting member of its Executive Committee or equivalent policymaking body, or voting for Councilor(s) or Alternate Councilor(s) from the Local Section. In their bylaws, Local Sections may either provide or withhold the privilege of voting by Local Section Affiliates for an elective position (other than Councilor or Alternate Councilor) of the Local Section. Local Section Affiliates may be appointed as Committee Chairs, if allowed by the bylaws of the Local Section.

**7. How many dues-paying local section affiliates\* were in your local section during 2020? \***

0

8. What was the approximate number of active volunteers in your local section during 2020? \*

37

9. Please estimate the number of new volunteers in your local section during 2020? \*

19

10. Please indicate all the ways that your local section recognized volunteers during 2020 (Check all that apply.) \*



Awards



Certificates



Letter to Volunteer



Letter to Volunteer Supervisor



Recognition at an Event



Recognition in Newsletter



Recognition on Web



Other

## Communication

1. How many local section meetings were held during 2020? \*

4

2. On average, how many members attended a local section meeting during 2020? \*

30

3. How did Councilors report to your local section members about national ACS matters during 2020? (Check all that apply.) \*



At an Executive Committee Meeting



At a Section Meeting



In an Email

In the Newsletter

On the Local Section Website

Other

**4. Did your local section have a representative on your Regional Meeting Board or Steering Committee during 2020? \***

Yes

No

**5. How does the section's leadership communicate information to its members (including social media channels)?**

**a . General description of communication:**

Newsletter delivered to email accounts and to those who don't have email we print and mail the newsletter. For more immediate notifications of upcoming events, we rely on email notifications.

**b . How Often do these communications occur? Number of newsletters published:**

3

**c . How Often do these communications occur? Number of meeting notices:**

8

**6. What social media does your local section use? (If selected, the link is required.)**

Facebook

Instagram

LinkedIn

Snapchat

TikTok

Twitter

Other

**7. Did your local section have a website during 2020? \***

Yes

- No

<https://acs.labworks.org/>

**8. Did your local section post its Annual Report on your website during 2020? \***

- Yes  
 No

## Nomination

The Local Section (LS) Outstanding Performance (OP) ChemLuminary Award is given annually to a local section in each section size category by the Local Section Activities Committee. This award recognizes the most outstanding performance of a LS in a particular size category in supporting ACS, its section members, students, the public, the education enterprise, industry, other ACS sections, other professional societies, and partnering organizations. The review is based solely on the LS FORMS annual report (AR), considering primarily the summary self-nomination statement below and the summary descriptions contained within Events, Activities, and Meetings. Other performance indicators may include administrative (e.g. participation in elections) and financial (e.g. sound budgetary policy) aspects. Timely submission of your administration and financial forms is a major factor in the evaluation of your LS for the Outstanding Performance Award.

**1. Our Section would like to self-nominate for the Local Section Outstanding Performance Award \***

- Yes  
 No

The Richland Section is nominated for Outstanding Mid-size section for a very successful year. Despite Covid-19 constraints, many of the original goals were realized or means (funding by a METT and DI&R grants and pathway) established to complete. Through the strength and resilience of our volunteers, we hosted or sponsored many events, converting them to a virtual format to ensure members and the public could attend. Comprehensive descriptions are presented in our annual report. The Chair and Executive Committee worked hard to recruit additional volunteers and populate committees with more than just a chair. The goal was to reduce the stress and time commitment from committee chairs. Volunteers were recruited in several manners: direct contact with fellow chemists; email requests sent to chemistry departments at local college/university campuses, chemists at major regional employers, and the membership at large encouraging participation. Volunteerism increased from a very active core of ~13 to ~25. A Volunteer Databank was developed via Google docs providing a mechanism for LS section volunteers to enlist for general activities. Volunteer signup was sent to the general membership via email. This Databank will provide a pool of volunteers supporting our upcoming activities. The Volunteer Databank was developed from our 2019 Strategic Planning Retreat action plan. The LS facilitated connections between different student groups to catalyze new student chapters. Despite pandemic constraints, contacts were made between the well-established Eastern Oregon University (EOU) Chemistry Club and students and faculty at Washington State University (WSU) Tri-Cities and Columbia Basin College (CBC) campuses. These efforts are currently supported by an ACS Inter-Chapter Relations Grant to organize a joint outreach event. Several in-person and virtual outreach events were held in Oregon and Tri-City areas. The EOU Student Chapter held a successful Saturday Science in-person event in Ontario, Oregon (representing a large Hispanic and Native American population) and celebrated Earth Week with virtual live



Facebook demonstrations. They also hosted the first ever virtual Girls in Science event focused on the novel coronavirus science. Other events included judging at the Mid-Columbia Science Fair, science nights at local schools and more virtual demonstrations connected to NCW. The LS took a strong stand against the events following the George Floyd's death. The LS issued a statement condemning any form of racism and discrimination and encouraging members to work toward a shared goal of long-lasting change. With help from the ACS Committee on Minority Affairs, the LS organized a 4-person panel moderated by Jacqueline Keeler (Navajo), Pollen Nation Editor-in-Chief, discussing racial justice. The live panel presentation was broadcast through Zoom. The Section was recently awarded a DI&R grant to organize the first bilingual outreach event to middle-school students. The Section maintained a high level of member engagement through a number of in-person and virtual events including two science cafés (one on COVID), a joint PIB event that involved students at three different institutions, the annual social recognizing 60- and 70-year members and a joint WCC (with Puget Sound Section) panel discussion recognizing Washington women national award winners.

## Supporting Materials

Brief Description	File Name	File Size	Date Uploaded
Feb newsletter	2020February.pdf	969.15 KB	12/20/2020
August newsletter	2020August.pdf	1.4 MB	12/20/2020
November newsletter	2020November.pdf	1.1 MB	12/20/2020