

Division of Professional Relations
Box 286, Rahway, N.J. 07065



No. 3
February, 1973

FROM THE EDITOR...

As the Division of Professional Relations rapidly approaches its first birthday, it seems appropriate to review our past activities. We've moved on several fronts, both publicly and behind the scenes.

At its first public outing during the national meeting in New York last August, the Division organized several open sessions that were the best attended of any division's. These included a frank discussion of the content and application of the Guidelines for Employers by a panel that included an officer of the Division; chairman of the Council Committee on Professional Relations (last year's chairman; a new one has been appointed by President Alan Nixon); a member of the ACS Board of Directors; and a representative of the Corporation Associates. Partly as a result of the pressure of membership discontent brought out at meetings such as this, I believe you will soon see some differences in the way the Guidelines are used, as well as a strengthening of the Guidelines themselves.

While on the subject of the Guidelines, I should mention that a committee of the DPR has been working over the present set. We have rewritten the section on termination conditions, emphasizing much more strongly and unconditionally the welfare of the employee who is terminated, especially when he is fired not for incompetence but just to save money. In such a situation, the role of the ACS should be clear - help the chemists; don't whitewash the activities of the employers. These new Guidelines have been sent to Alan Nixon, and to the Council Committee on Professional Relations. We plan to keep after this.

Back to the New York meeting. Other sessions presented by our program committee included an informative symposium on "The Professional Chemist," covering several of the newer ACS non-technical activities (PEP, Member Advisory Board, Pensions for Professionals). ACS staff were also given a rare for them, on stage forum to discuss their activities on behalf of the Society's members - investigation of layoffs, employment aids, manpower studies, continuing education programs, etc. And more. In short, a full, informative, interesting meeting program by an active Division.

And Dallas should be even better. Among other things, we plan a symposium on unionization of chemists. Speakers will include not only the kinds of people you would expect, but also representatives from Canada and Great Britain, where organization of professionals is the rule, not the exception.

Other behind the scenes activities are also being vigorously pursued by officers and members of DPR. For example, we are trying to change

the editorial emphasis of C&EN, to stress more strongly member interests and ACS news. We have helped to place a Division member with strong opinions in this area (Dr. Henry Bader, Northeastern Section) on the Council Publications Committee, and Chairman Tom Fitzsimmons, Secretary Norm Pinkowski, and others have discussed the topic on several occasions with the editor and staff of the magazine itself. (Let's have your views - see the attached questionnaire).

The pace of activity is brisk, but there's room for much more. In these days of big industry and big universities, individual chemists have very little control over their own futures. The only organization currently available with the size, prestige, and resources to attempt to affect the situation is the ACS. And one of the best ways for the average member to make his or her voice heard at the highest levels is through the Division of Professional Relations, the member oriented division.

Let us hear from you. Send in the questionnaire, and any other comments you have. And give generously to PEP. There's a limit to what can be done without money. A few more staff members in Washington can, with proper direction, accomplish a great deal. PEP is needed to provide the funds; the Division of Professional Relations will help to provide the direction.

- Dennis Chamot

Notice -

The annual business meeting of the Division of Professional Relations will be held in Dallas on Monday, April 9, 1973, 3:30 pm, at the Fairmont Hotel.

A major item of business is the adoption of official bylaws. This is the first step in removing our probationary status.

All Division members are urged to attend.

APPLICATION FORM — DPR-ACS

I am a member of the American Chemical Society. Please enroll me as a member of the Division of Professional Relations. Enclosed is \$5* to cover dues through December 31, 1973. *Make checks payable to DPR-ACS.

Signature _____

Printed Name _____
Last First

Address _____

Mail to: DR. N. J. PINKOWSKI, Sec'y.
Division of Professional Relations
American Chemical Society
P. O. Box 286
Rahway, New Jersey 07065

Your opinions will help mold Division policy. Please return this form promptly (see address below).

1. (a) Are you familiar with the ACS Guidelines for Employers? _____
(b) If yes, do you think they are useful? _____
(c) The Council Committee on Professional Relations occasionally publishes a list of companies whose layoffs they investigated, along with a simple ruling of "compliance" or "non-compliance" with the Guidelines in each case. Are you satisfied with this procedure? _____
(d) If not, what other information should be published? _____
(e) Should companies be rated on a per centage compliance basis? _____
(f) DPR is working on revised Guidelines. What would you like to see in them that is missing in the present set? _____
2. (a) Current thinking at C&EN is to regard it as primarily a news magazine, reporting on the chemical world at large. Do you think this is the proper policy for C&EN? _____
(b) If not, what should be the major editorial emphasis? _____
3. (a) Should the Division of Professional Relations take official stands on the above issues? _____
(b) Should the Division endorse national ACS candidates? _____
(c) Should form letters in support of government legislation affecting chemists be made available to ACS members? _____

Comments -

Use reverse if necessary

Return to:
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