Secretary’s Report – Ralph Stuart

1. Fume Hood Design Workshop
As approved at the San Francisco national meeting, the Division co-sponsored a fume hood design workshop in October, 2014 with several sister professional organizations and fume hood vendors. The final agenda can be found at https://acsdchas.wordpress.com/fume-hood-design-workshop/

The format was designed to support both on site and distance participation, however technical difficulties arose with the Internet connection that limited distance participation. The draft report on the event has been received from the contractor engaged for this purpose and a final version of the report is expected to be ready by the end of this spring.

2. Ongoing Discussions with ABSA
As noted in the SF secretary’s report, we have begun discussions with the American Biosafety Association (ABSA) to coordinate our efforts are promoting laboratory safety, as 21st Century laboratory sciences often contain issues of both biological and chemical safety concern. The initial work has been handed to the Government Relations Committee for ongoing cooperation.

3. DCHAS Podcast Opportunity
Due to my move from Cornell University to Keene State College, I have been unable to follow up on the proposal to work with SafetyStratus to develop a podcast presence for the division. We believe that the idea is still viable, but we are interested in help from other DCHAS EC members in moving this idea forward.

4. Joint work with CINF and CHED on electronic chemical safety information
Discussions are continuing with CINF and CHED members about opportunities to improve access to chemical safety information on the Internet. This includes not only data sources, but information logics and training materials that will support use of this information in the laboratory setting. This work included trips to the Royal Society of Chemistry in the UK and OpenTox 2015 in Baltimore, MD. These activities will be summarized in a joint symposium with CINF to be held at the Boston national meeting.