

Chair's Report – Fall 2015

Hi and Hello from historic Boston.

In July, seventeen of us gathered in Denver for the Division's Strategic Planning Retreat. See elsewhere in the Agenda book for an Executive Summary and my PowerPoint presentation on the results. It was an intense weekend but extremely productive and exciting. We have a roadmap of where we believe the Division needs to go in the coming year(s) and I'll be pleased to share our progress as we move through our goals and strategies. If you wish to be involved with implementation of the Strategic Plan, please see me.

We have been nominated for a ChemLuminary award for Ralph and his CINF colleagues for their "innovative and unique project." Their efforts towards a useful and flexible chemical information system are really creative and interesting. We'll find out at the party on Tuesday evening. ACS President (and former Division Chair) Diane Schmidt will host the event. The reception is at the Westin Copley Place, beginning at 8. Awards will be announced from 9-10:00 with dancing until midnight.

I am personally delighted that Frankie Wood-Black and Harry Elston have been named Fellows of the Society for 2015. This honor is richly deserved by both of these individuals. Frankie was nominated by the Women Chemists Committee and Harry was nominated by the Division. They will be inducted on Monday afternoon. Please congratulate them when you see them.

And speaking of awards ...

The Howard Fawcett Award for outstanding contributions to the science, technology, education and communication in the field of chemical health and safety to Jyllian Kemsley and her staff at C&EN for their outstanding efforts communicating on chemical safety matters of interest in Chemical and Engineering News

The Tillmanns-Skolnick Award for outstanding, long-term service to the Division to Ralph Stuart, Keene State College and Rob Toreki, Interactive Learning Paradigms Inc. for their long-term efforts in promoting and continually updating and improving the CHAS Safety listserv.

The Safety Stratus College and University safety award to University of Pennsylvania, Office of Environmental Health and Safety, recognizing their comprehensive laboratory safety programs.

Doug and his Committee had also awarded a second Tillmanns-Skolnick Award to Eli Pearce, one of the founders of our Division and a Past President of the Society. Sadly, Dr. Pearce passed away before he could be recognized. This has prompted Neal to propose a Founders award, to be awarded to be presented annually to a chemical sciences graduate student who has demonstrated tangible success in chemical safety. Funding to offset travel costs for attending the Fall ACS meeting. This award is still under advisement.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie M. Decker, Chair 2015