

**Division of Chemical Health and Safety
Boston, August 2015**

**Report from the CHED Safety Committee
Prepared by Dave Finster**

At the Denver ACS meeting (March 2015) the Executive Committee of the Division of Chemical Education (CHED) approved the formation a new Safety Committee (SC) in the division. Shortly following this approval the following persons accepted appointment to the SC:

Committee Members:

Last name, First name	Appointment term
Bridges, Bette	2015-2017
Cesa, Irene	2015-2018
Charlton-Smith, Mel	2105-2016
Finster, Dave	2015-2018
Kaufman, Jim	2015-2017
Lassiter, Mark	2015-2018
Mowery, Barbara	2015-2018
Sigmann, Sammye	2015-2017
Tirri, Larry	2105-2016
Weizman, Haim	2105-2016
Wiediger, Sue	2105-2016
Wiginton, John	2015-2018
Wilhelm, Monique	2015-2017
Wood-Black, Frankie	2015-2017

I accepted appointment as Chair of the SC. Many of the members are known to the CCS membership and all members are, by coincidence at this point in time, also CHAS members. The level of safety expertise is quite high. Three members joined CHED just to participate on this committee!

The working versions of Vision and Mission are (until revised in 2015/2016):

Vision Statement

Education that embeds accurate chemical safety instruction at all educational levels.

Mission Statement

To provide resources and strategies to chemical and science educators in order to prepare chemists and others to function safely when using chemicals

The committee met semi-informally at the Denver meeting in March, 2015. We celebrated our existence (☺) and recruited a few more members by word-of-mouth and chance encounters.

In Denver we reviewed our Mission and Vision statements and plan to revisit those in the next year now that we a full roster.

We reviewed an initial list of tasks and triaged this list as “now”, “soon”, and “later”.

A sub-group is now working on a revision of the “Minimum Safety Guidelines for Chemical Demonstrations”. Early reports from this group suggest that this document may be more complicated to re-construct than first thought since a proper prelude to a demonstration involves a careful hazard and risk assessment rather than just “following 14 rules”. The plan is to have a draft ready for discussion in the Committee in Boston, make revisions as needed, vet this through the Committee on Chemical Safety for review, and prepare a final draft to present to the CHED Executive Committee for approval at the Spring, 2016 meeting.

The group, in a series of email exchanges involving a question sent to the Committee on Chemical Safety, weighed in with some advice in spring of 2015.

We will be formally meeting at national ACS meetings and the Biennial Conference on Chemical Education (BCCE), next held in the summer of 2016.

I will function as an unofficial liaison between the CHAS and the CHED SC.

The SC hopes to maintain a connected between itself, CHAS and the CCS and work in a collaborative fashion. Other connections in the ACS (SOCED?) remain to be explored.