

## Comments from the Chair (June 2012)

Elke Schoffers

Dear Colleagues,

It is difficult to believe that half the year has already passed. I have enjoyed working with a diverse group of chemists thus far. Hopefully you were able to participate in some of the KACS events over the last six months: the “Boost your Career” discussion and mixer; the “Hondatron” Science Café, the “MS User Group” meeting at Bell’s, the “Earth Day” booth at the Kalamazoo Nature Center, the “Science Symposium” and the “KACS Awards Reception” at WMU. There will be yet another social event at the end of this month: the “Allegan Meet N’ Greet” and crossword puzzle competition on June 22<sup>nd</sup>; it will take place just around the corner from Perrigo Company. These events could not have been organized without the help and dedication of KACS officers and numerous volunteers. They are paramount to our section. Thank you!

You, too, can get involved regardless of whether you are a member or not. There are many opportunities to support KACS in an official or unofficial role. For example, we need many helpers to coordinate National Chemistry Week activities. Please sign up for the October 13 “Chemistry Day at the Museum” to support the hundreds of people who turn out each year. Moreover, I am asking all members to help recruit individuals who would be willing to accept responsibilities as “Chair-Elect” (immediate need as well as for election in the fall for 2013) and for “Treasurer” (during fall elections for a two-year term). Self-nominations are strongly encouraged.

My experience as KACS chair has already been extremely rewarding despite the fact that it added to my workload. Interacting with many new and talented people is a unique experience. And I cannot help but admit my intrigue with a new activity we are planning for the fall. I look forward with keen anticipation to our “Chemistry and Culture” event. Are you curious yet? Get involved!

Thank you for reading.



Elke Schoffers congratulates Al Nieboer, this year's Outstanding High School Chemistry Teacher, Kalamazoo Christian High School