ABSTRACT

To promote International and Young Chemist recruitment and membership, this project was designed to charter and operate the first four ACS/AGFD International Student Chapters, pairing them with four new US Sister Student Chapters into a group on the ACS Internet Network. This tool was utilized to foster communication, cooperation, and collaboration to develop the 1st ACS/AGFD International Student Symposium in 2016, organized and run by this group of newly chartered Student Chapters.

On a higher level, it is a novel effort to address the ACS/AGFD Priority Goals: International Outreach and Student Membership Recruitment/Retention. AGFD has been highly successful in addressing these goals via its unique, multi-faceted student program. This project very effectively augmented this program and resulted in the ACS/AGFD International Student Symposium and plans for a second one. Beyond this, another longer aim is to translate this success into developing greater International Student interest at other universities and in other world regions and to promote their desire for future additional ACS Student Chapters.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

• Promote new, sustainable International ACS/AGFD Student Membership.
• Charter and mentor International Student Chapters in world regions underserved by ACS and AGFD.
• Establish a critical mass of four International and four new US Sister Student Chapters to allow for effective collaborations.
• Foster communication, cooperation and collaboration of the Member Chapters via an active Group on the ACS Internet Network Internet Network.
• Have the Group organize ACS/AGFD International Student Symposia.
• Translate this success into developing greater international student interest at other universities/in other regions and their desire for future additional ACS Student Chapters.

OUTCOMES

The outcomes to date of this project are substantial and significant:
• The planned eight new ACS Student Chapters have been chartered: four International and four US.
• An additional Student Chapter in Jamaica has just been added, opening up Latin America.
• A Group has been formed on the ACS Internet Network consisting of these Student Chapters.
• The Chapters are functioning very well, sustaining themselves by new member recruitment.
• Communication, cooperation and collaboration amongst the Chapters resulting in the 1st ACS/AGFD Student Chapter Symposium in 2016.
• Steps toward the longer term goal of utilizing this Network Group to attract at other universities and world regions have occurred with addition of the Jamaican Chapter and an additional request from Europe.

FUTURE GOALS

• Expand to other countries.
• Have the students run symposia at ACS National Meetings periodically.
• Have the student members convert to full membership upon graduation.
• Give these members the tools and help they need to become active in AGFD and ACS.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Project Leaders would like to recognize the role and funding support necessary for this successful effort provided by:
• DAC-IAC
• AGFD

A debt of gratitude also must be extended to all the Group Student Chapters, and in particular to the members and advisors (Profs. Thomas Hofmann and Peter Schieberle) at the 1st Chapter at Technical University of Munich and those at our 2nd Chapter at the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia (Prof. Federica Pellati, Advisor) whose tireless efforts and support made this novel process much easier to carry out and greatly successful.