

American Chemical Society

Form: Appendix 6 -- Younger Chemist Committee Report
Organization: Michigan State University
Year: 2009

YCC Annual Report

Goals of the LSYCC Annual Report

The purpose of LSYCC Annual Reports is to summarize and highlight the achievements of Local Section (LS) YCCs every year. This accomplishes several objectives:

- (1) continuity within each LSYCC to use for future reference and succession planning;
- (2) increased awareness of LSYCC programming to share with the LS ACS and the National YCC;
- (3) conveyance of event ideas with other LSYCCs. Along those lines, Annual Reports are used to select LSYCC award winners.

Submission of the LSYCC Annual Report

This form must be completed if you wish to be nominated for a LSYCC award. If you do not wish to be nominated for an award or do not have a LSYCC, this form is optional.

I. Overall Evaluation

Provide a brief, general overview of the LSYCC. Reflect on the state of the committee -- if the goals of last year were accomplished, possibly commenting candidly about the activities.

This year our group tried to complete our goals from last year of increasing membership, activities and department unity. We managed to double our membership in the last year through increasing interaction with incoming students. We also wanted to increase awareness of our group throughout the department. We have done this through social events and promoting our activities to the entire department and now have members from analytical, physical, inorganic, organic and nuclear chemistry. We have increased our membership and presence which allowed us to participate in more activities this year than our first, which is what our goals were.

II. Officers and Members

Provide a list of current LS officers and committee members. Note who is writing and submitting Annual Report. It is strongly suggested that this list contain contact information, e.g. email addresses, phone numbers, and mailing addresses, for the:

LSYCC Officers

Matthew Phaner (Preparing Report)
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YCC Mentor

Dr. Amy Pollock: pollock@chemistry.msu.edu

YCC Members

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III. Activities

This section highlights each LSYCC activity in more detail, such as: a description of the event, how many people attended, what did and did not work, obstacles encountered, photographs, websites, etc.

High School Visits The YCC participated in helping a local high school class come into our A/P labs and learn hands on how to use some of our instruments. Experiments were carried out by the students under the supervision of YCC members as a way to further the students understanding how the applications that chemistry offers on a more practical level. Further goals for this event will be to have multiple groups come through over the course of a school year and increase participation

Bake Sale In order to help fund some of our events the YCC held a bake sale in the spring. Various baked goods were made by members and sold in the lobby of the chemistry building. Our group netted \$250 for our efforts which will be put towards future events

Science Olympiad Our group participated in this year s science Olympiad held at MSU. One of our members, Matt Nethercott, organized the event and the rest of the members helped prep for the day and helped oversee that the student s questions were answered and that the event ran smoothly.

Game Night As an ongoing effort to increase communication between the multiple areas within the chemistry department the YCC hosted a game night. Members brought in various board, card and video games and provided refreshments. 20 people attended the event from areas including analytical, organic and inorganic chemistry.

Welcome Breakfast The YCC put on an ommelette breakfast to welcome incoming graduate students.

This was used as an opportunity to get to know the incoming students and give them a chance to understand what our group does. We managed to increase our membership with the addition of 7-8 more members just from this event.

Chemistry Social Night The YCC helped host a social night for the chemistry department as part of incoming student orientation. Our groups helped provide funding for food, advertisement and decorations as a way of allowing the new students to get to know current graduate students and faculty in a more relaxed and personal setting.

Chemistry Day- The YCC participated in Chemistry Day at Impression 5. This is an event in which children and their parents come to a Lansing science museum and demonstrations are put on by various organizations based on the year's theme. This year's theme was Chemistry-It's Elemental. The local YCC section hosted two demonstrations. The first event was a demonstration of carbon dioxide gas and showing how it is heavier than air. Dry ice was placed on a hot plate and was forced through tubing which had a soap solution on the end. As the gas was forced through, the soap grew into a bubble until surface tension could no longer keep it attached to the pipe and it fell to the ground. Children had a great time trying to catch the bubbles as they fell. The other demo was a paper chromatography presentation. Kids were allowed to play a small amount of dye (various colors mixed together) onto a piece of coffee filter. The filter was then placed into a glass of water and the colors separated out into a rainbow. The children were able to take the filters home as a memento of their day.

Holiday Food Drive Our group set up a food drive between the months of Nov. to Dec. The food drive was based as a competition between various areas within the chemistry department, which expanded this year to include out nuclear chemists. This was used as a way to motivate participation but also increase departmental camaraderie as they worked together to win the competition. The winner of the food drive was awarded with a certificate and a trophy for their hard work and generosity. The food drive managed to collect over 17 boxes of donated goods, eclipsing last year's total, which came to an estimated \$1,250.

IPG- Our group was the recipient of an innovative project grant from the ACS. The grant is intended for starting trips to local elementary schools in order to put on demonstrations. We hope to further the

interest of children in the sciences through these school visits. We are currently in the process of obtaining permission to enter classrooms and hopefully will be able to go to 2-4 schools in the new year.

IV. Budget

Itemize each event with the cost, and acknowledge the source of funds.

IGP - \$3,000 (Not spent yet)

Social Night - \$150 (provided from local ACS funds)

Chemistry day - Supplies provided by event coordinator

Bake Sale - Raised \$300 which went to buy shirts for the group

V. Future Plans

State the short-term objectives such as brain-storming ideas and point-people for specific projects. Also, state the long-term goals, e.g. the purpose of the LSYCC.

Short term plans for our group include furthering our efforts to go into local elementary and middle schools and provide demonstrations for the children. We hope that this will excite them and strengthen their interest in chemistry. We are also preparing to host a local chemistry merit badge day. Local boy and girl scouts will come in and participate in experiments and will obtain their chemistry merit badge.

Long term goals for the next year include increasing our presence in the community. One way of doing this will be through inviting high school students to come in and use our analytical/physical labs for a day. We are also look to solidify the longevity of the group by finding the next person to take over as president. This will ensure that our group will be strong far into the future as current members start looking to graduate in the next few years.