Exploratory Questions for 2019 ACS Safety Education Summit

To provide a starting point for the discussions, the Planning Committee has drafted four exploratory questions for the Summit to consider. These questions are based on ongoing discussions within various ACS groups around the key challenges of chemical safety education. These questions may be modified in the course of the Summit discussions. The draft questions are:

- What expectations do employers of chemists in various sectors (industry, academia, and government) have for the safety competencies (in terms of safety knowledge, skills, and attitudes - KSAs) of the chemists they hire?

- What emerging safety KSAs do chemistry educators believe should be included in a 21st Century chemistry education? Such KSA’s can involve technical topics (such as green chemistry principles, chemical information skills, or knowledge of regulatory requirements) or professional skills (such as development of safety cultures, ethical expectations, and interdisciplinary teamwork).

- What are the differences between safety training and education, and how do each of these approaches support the development of the safety KSAs chemists are expected to have?

- Within the current chemistry curriculum, how and where are chemists best educated in a safety culture ethos?

The fifth topic to be discussed on Friday afternoon will be to review and prioritize the safety education recommendations from 2018 with regard to their feasibility and value.