ACS CHEMICAL HEALTH & SAFETY

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Editorial

Chemical Safety Ecosystem of the American Chemical Society: A Primer

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The American Chemical Society (ACS) began formally supporting chemical safety in 1963 with the creation of the Committee on Chemical Safety (CCS). Dr. Howard Fawcett, a pioneering advocate for chemical safety at ACS, described CCS's formation as a response to concerns about the underuse of existing safety knowledge in chemical practice:

> *"Whenever a fully qualified chemist or engineer is seriously injured in an incident which could have been predicted, and therefore prevented, the request is made for wider dissemination of previously ignored knowledge. Specific areas where available knowledge was not recognized or applied have included: the instability of ether peroxides, failure to understand the unstable nature of alcohol-acid mixtures used as etching agents, and the violence of the explosion produced by ignition of propylene-air mixtures. Such incidents led to the formation of the ACS Committee on Chemical Safety, which, for the past two years, has attempted to publicize chemical hazards."*[1]

ACS still aspires to be a transformative force in advancing chemical safety and actively seeks member participation in various efforts and author contributions through peer reviewed scientific articles toward achieving this mission. ACS has grown beyond simply publicizing chemical hazards to developing chemical safety education materials, guidelines, and communities and leaders. Volunteer members of CCS, the Division of Chemical Health and Safety (DCHAS), the Division of Chemical Education Safety Committee (DivCHED SC), and the recently created Safety Engagement Subcommittee of the Committee on Corporation Associates (CASE) contribute to these efforts. Additionally, ACS staff across the Science, Research, and Sustainability Unit (which houses the Office of Safety Programs), the Education and Career Development Unit, and the Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) Unit, support the development of chemical safety projects and programs in collaboration with these volunteers. Journals across the ACS Publications portfolio also support chemical safety, with *ACS Chemical Health& Safety* (ACS CHAS) offering a focused venue for publishing safety-centered research and information.

The roles of these groups and ACS journals in ACS's ecosystem are distinct yet symbiotic, and they collectively support the advancement of chemical safety. The history and relationships of these various groups appear in the following sections.

THE STRUCTURE OF CHEMICAL SAFETY LEADERSHIP AT THE ACS

The ACS Community of more than 230,000 individuals includes members, student members, society affiliates and community associates from 195 countries and regions.[2] ACS governance is member-driven (Figure 1):

- Members elect leaders through local and national elections.

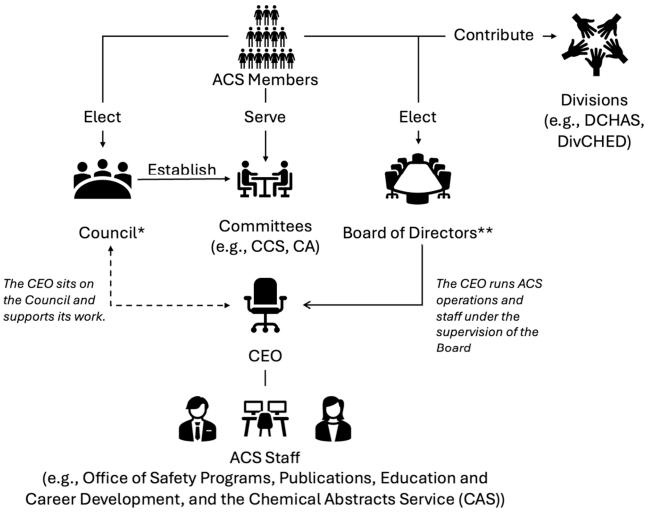

Figure 1. Related Governing Bodies and Groups of the ACS Chemical Safety Ecosystem. *The Council consists of the President, President-Elect, Past President, Directors, the Executive Director (which this editorial refers to as the Chief Executive Officer, CEO), the Secretary, and elected Councilors from local sections and divisions. Council representation is divided so that 80% of elected Councilors come from Local Sections and 20% from divisions. **The Board of Directors includes the President, President-Elect, Past President, six District Directors elected by members in different regions,[a] and six Directors-at-Large elected by the Council. The CEO also serves on the Board but without voting rights. The Board manages the Society's overall direction, finances, and legal responsibilities.

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- Members serve on committees, including both elected and appointed roles.
- Members contribute to and lead local sections, divisions, and international chemical sciences chapters, shaping scientific programming and community engagement.

Key leaders elected by members include the President and portions of a Board of Directors.[3] Members also elect Councilors from Local Sections, Divisions and Zones to the ACS Council which is ACS' main decision-making group that advises the Society and its Board of Directors.[4] The Council may establish member supported committees to carry out its duties, further bringing member perspectives into the ACS governance process.[5] While only the Council and Board vote on amendments to the ACS Standing Rules, the Council, Board, and Members vote on amendments to the ACS Constitution and Bylaws.

ACS's Board of Directors formally adopted safety as a core value in 2016.[6] This action made safety a guiding principle for the Society's policies, programs, publications, and strategic priorities. As a result, ACS expanded support for chemical safety education by investing in new safety programs and leadership (including the hiring of a full-time Safety Programs Manager) and strengthening collaborations across committees, divisions, and external partners to embed a culture of safety throughout the chemistry enterprise. ACS also reassumed ownership and management of the *ACS Chemical Health & Safety* journal, returning it under the ACS Publications Division.

Following this important decision, in 2019 the CCS proposed a Policy Statement, *Safety in the Chemistry Enterprise*,[7] which was subsequently approved in 2023 and submitted for renewal in 2025 to the ACS Board of Directors. This statement reinforces ACS's commitment to advancing chemical safety by supporting the use of risk-based criteria in developing safety regulations and policies for federal, state, and local entities. It also advocates for sustained funding of safety research to inform policymakers and stakeholders, ensuring that decisions are grounded in sound science. Additionally, the statement encourages government implementation of regulatory policies that not only enhance safety but also foster innovation within the chemistry enterprise.

In 2025, ACS' strategic plan wove safety into the ACS core value of sustainability, which also encompasses ethical and responsible practices.[8]

COMMITTEE ON CHEMICAL SAFETY (CCS)

ACS Committee Chemical Safety

Committees at ACS are established through a structured process guided by the Society's Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules (see Box 1). CCS is a joint Board-Council committee, meaning it reports to both. Since its inception in 1963, the duties listed in the CCS charter have remained unchanged:[5]

- Encourage safety practices in chemical activities.
- Serve as a resource to the chemical professional in providing advice and counsel on the handling of chemicals.
- Seek to ensure safe facilities, designs, and operations by calling attention to potential hazards and stimulating education in safe chemical practices.

Box 1. ACS Committees

ACS Committees represent ACS member perspective in ACS governance and contribute to key decision making in the areas they represent. Participation in ACS committees is open to all members with Standard or Premium packages. Members interested in serving may submit a Committee Preference Form annually between March 3 and July 3. The Committee on Committees (ConC) reviews submissions and recommends appointments to the ACS President-Elect and Board Chair. Those with questions about the appointment process may contact the Office of the Secretary and General Counsel at secretary@acs.org.

- Provide advice to other units of the SOCIETY on matters related to chemical safety and health.

With a mission of championing safety through collaboration, resource development, and education, CCS is organized into subcommittees aligned to support its strategic goals. Additionally, CCS is the home of the Safety Advisory Panel (SAP),[9] a group of environmental, health, and safety (EHS) professionals who work to address complex chemical safety and regulatory issues, provide expert guidance on EHS-related questions, and assist ACS Government Affairs in drafting responses to EHS regulatory concerns.

CCS provides a variety of documents and resources that have been created by its members to support chemical safety. These resources can be downloaded here. CCS also partners with other organizations to review and curate safety resources, helping users find authoritative safety information. These curated resources are available here. Additionally, CCS collaborates closely with DCHAS, DivCHED SC, and other ACS entities to provide support and guidance in ensuring that safety is integrated into chemical education and practice. For example, CCS has worked closely with the Committee on Professional Training (CPT) and the Society Committee on Education (SOCED) to ensure that their safety recommendation align with ACS guidance. Safety sections have been included in CPT's ACS Guidelines for Bachelor's Degree Programs, as well as in SOCED's Middle & High School Guidelines and Two-Year College Guidelines.

In July 2025, CCS updated its strategic plan. Building on a decade of impactful work and a strong portfolio of chemical safety projects, the new plan shifts its focus toward maturing the committee's operations by strengthening its ability to define, develop, and deliver safety resources with maximum impact and reach. Increasing the use of available data such as web analytics and survey results is intended to focus future projects on addressing areas of greatest interest and need. At the same time, by expanding its use of various communication channels such as social media, programming, and newsletters, CCS is striving to reach a broader audience. Continued partnership with the ACS Office of Safety Programs will further enhance CCS's capacity through increased staff involvement and financial resources. At the same time, this partnership will help to maximize the impact of CCS projects by integrating CCS resources into broader ACS initiatives. Looking ahead, CCS aims to position itself as a central resource and partner for DCHAS, ACS CHAS, and all other ACS units connected to safety, forming an inclusive network that supports all ACS members as well as the scientific community at large.

Finally, CCS has supported ACS Safety Summits, which are described later in this article. For more information about CCS

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and the projects accomplished by this group of volunteers, visit https://www.acs.org/ccs.

DIVISION OF CHEMICAL HEALTH AND SAFETY (DCHAS)

ACS Division
Chemical Health and Safety (CHAS)

ACS divisions are groups formed by members who share a common interest in a specific area of chemistry. These divisions must be authorized by the ACS Council, but they operate under their own bylaws. While divisions are encouraged to lead in their scientific areas, they cannot issue public statements or resolutions on behalf of ACS unless they follow procedures set out in ACS rules.[5] ACS divisions offer the opportunity to expand professional networks and collaborations with members in areas of specialization. ACS divisions also sponsor and organize technical programming during the ACS Fall and Spring Meetings. ACS has 32 divisions and several subdivisions.

Notably, although DCHAS has now been an integral part of ACS for 45 years, its initial formation faced significant resistance. The Committee on Divisional Activities opposed elevating the provisional Chemical Health and Safety Group to full division status in 1979. Nevertheless, support from Dr. Glenn Seaborg, the 1951 Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, and others persuaded the ACS Council to approve full divisional status in 1980.[b10] From its modest start with approximately 125 members in 1977, DCHAS has grown to over 1,500 members in 2025 (at the time of this writing), reflecting its enduring impact.[c]

DCHAS unites a diverse community of professionals and scholars from across the chemical sciences and environmental health and safety fields. This unique blend of expertise fosters a dynamic environment where safety experts, chemistry researchers, educators, and learners collaborate, exchange knowledge, and drive innovation in chemical safety practices. Members are encouraged to participate in the Division's vibrant email discussion group (the Listserv), which serves as a hub for real-time dialogue, problem-solving, and sharing of best practices.

As indicated in DCHAS' bylaws, the objectives of DCHAS are to:[11]

- focus information on the properties of chemicals that affect humans directly or through the environment;
- monitor technical aspects of these chemical properties;
- develop symposia and general sessions on the topics related to chemical safety at national regional, divisional, and other meetings of the SOCIETY;
- foster publications and other modes of dissemination of information pertaining to chemical safety; and
- provide expertise in chemical health and safety to the SOCIETY and, in the public interest, to others as specified in the Charter of the SOCIETY.

DCHAS's mission to "Foster a collaborative global community that promotes best practices in chemical health and safety"[12] has led to the following goals:

Goal 1. Cultivate Community. Establish and implement a framework and infrastructure to recruit, onboard, mentor, retain members, and foster internal and external collaborations.

Goal 2. Communicate Best Safety Practices. Through technical programming, education, recognition, and outreach, advance and communicate best safety practices and their value.

Goal 3. Develop Leaders. Develop leaders in chemical safety in the Division, the health and safety profession, and the chemistry enterprise.

DCHAS offers numerous opportunities to contribute to and benefit from programming at ACS Spring and Fall national meetings, as well as at ACS Regional Meetings. DCHAS partners with the Office of Safety Programs to promote safety in graduate education through mentorship activities and financial support of graduate student leaders who develop and facilitate peer-led workshops and ACS Webinars. Beyond meetings, members can take leadership roles within the Division, helping to shape its direction and impact. They can also engage in technical projects, such as those supported by ACS Innovative Project Grants, which often bring together collaborators from varied backgrounds.

Through these avenues, DCHAS not only supports the professional growth of its members but also strengthens the broader scientific community by fostering a culture of collaboration, shared learning, and mutual respect across disciplines. For more information about joining DCHAS, visit https://www.dchas.org.

SAFETY COMMITTEE OF THE ACS DIVISION OF CHEMICAL EDUCATION (DivCHED SC)

ACS Division
Chemical Education (CHED)

Members of DivCHED represent the entire educational spectrum (i.e., presecondary, secondary, two- and four-year colleges, universities, and research institutions), as well as those from industry concerned about the education and professional training of future chemists and other molecular scientists. The DivCHED Safety Committee was constituted in 2015 to provide resources and strategies to chemistry and science educators to prepare chemists and others to function safely when using chemicals. The committee regularly arranges and sponsors symposia at ACS meetings and the Biennial Conference on Chemical Education (BCCE); these are often cosponsored with CCS and DCHAS. Safety Committee members of DivCHED also routinely collaborate with CCS on major projects related to chemical safety issues in chemical education. Members of the Safety Committee played a major role in the development of the DivCHED Exams Institute's 2019 Chemical Health and Safety Exam.[13] As of this writing, the Safety Committee of DivCHED has 8 members amid the broader Chemical Education Division's 6000 members.

For more information and to learn how to join the DivCHED SC, visit https://divched.org/safety-committee.

SAFETY ENGAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE ON CORPORATION ASSOCIATES

ACS Committee
Corporation Associates

The Safety Engagement Subcommittee of the Committee on Corporation Associates[14] was recently formed to address the safety-related needs and interests of the Committee on Coporation Associates member companies and industry at

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large. The subcommittee fosters partnerships between industry and academia to enhance safety culture focusing on three pillars of engagement: 1) Speakers and Panels, 2) Industry-Led Workshops, and 3) Support & Recognition.[15] CASE (Corporation Associates Safety Engagement) does not advise and/or contribute to initiatives regarding chemical safety policy, regulation, and/or standards. Representatives from this subcommittee and CCS meet periodically to discuss safety initiatives, coordinate activities, and identify opportunities for collaboration.

For more information about joining the Committee on Corporation Associates, visit https://www.acs.org/about/governance/committees/corporation-associates.html.

■ *ACS CHEMICAL HEALTH& SAFETY* JOURNAL (ACS CHAS)

ACS Publications is the publishing Division of ACS, responsible for distributing scientific information through its journals and related materials. ACS Publications operates under the oversight of the ACS Board of Directors. Each ACS journal is led by an editorial team headed by an Editor-in-Chief, who is responsible for maintaining the journal's scientific quality and integrity within the boundaries of SOCIETY policies. The work of ACS Publications supports the overall mission of the SOCIETY by publishing high-quality, peer-reviewed research. Additionally, Chemical and Engineering News (C&EN), which regularly publishes safety-related articles, falls under ACS Publications.

A 2023 Virtual Issue (VI) in recognition of National Safety Month captured chemical safety articles from more than 20 ACS journals, demonstrating that safety permeates all ACS journals. Chemical safety is the focus of ACS CHAS which publishes:

- novel chemcial safety research;
- practical case studies that demonstrate the real-world application of theory or best practices;
- foundational chemical safety data sets;
- analyses of chemical accidents and near misses, and their impact on workers and the public; and
- commentaries on a broad range of chemical safety topics.

The primary focus of ACS CHAS are topics related to academic and industrial laboratories, workplaces, and chemical productions sites, but the journal also publishes nonchemical safety articles when there is a safety learning opportunity from another sector.[16]

The ACS CHAS journal grew out of *CHASNotes*, a DCHAS newsletter first published in 1982. In 1994, it evolved into *Chemical Health& Safety*, a jointly published magazine/journal hybrid between DCHAS and the ACS.[17] In 1999, the journal left ACS Publications to Elsevier under the same name[18] until 2006, when it began to be referred to as the *Journal of Chemical Health& Safety*.[19] In 2020, the journal made its way back to ACS, rebranded as *ACS Chemical Health& Safety* as a part of ACS's efforts to support chemical safety as a core value.[20,21] Since January 1, 2020, there have been more than a million ACS CHAS article downloads, evidence that chemical safety information is in high demand.[d,22−25]

The Gist of the List (GOTL) is a feature that connected the journal with DCHAS.[26] Conceived in 2023,[e] GOTL highlights online safety discussions from the DCHAS listserv. Each issue of GOTL summarizes key safety questions and debates, often focusing on topics that are complex or provoke disagreement within the community. ACS CHAS and CCS are exploring a partnership to publish CCS's Safety Guides and Tipsheets.[27] Finally, member of DCHAS and CCS sit on the journal's Editorial Advisory Board (EAB).

■ ACS OFFICE OF SAFETY PROGRAMS

In 2017, ACS saw a surge of safety-related activities across its various groups, each initiating projects aimed at helping academic institutions strengthen their safety cultures. Recognizing growing ACS engagement with chemical safety and the need for a more unified and strategic approach, the ACS Office of Safety served by one full-time staff member was established to connect and coordinate ACS safety-related efforts into a more comprehensive strategy. To get started, this staff member and the CCS Chair approached then-ACS President Peter Dorhout to sponsor the first ACS Presidential Safety Summit.[28] This summit convened ACS governance, technical divisions, and external stakeholders to identify and align existing ACS safety initiatives; shape a forward-looking strategy to position ACS as a leader in promoting a culture of safety; and explore tools, opportunities, and partnerships that could further support and sustain robust safety cultures in academic laboratories. The summit discussions resulted in identifying four strategic goals for ACS involvement with chemical safety, and they focused on education, communication, information, and communities.

In building the program, the Office leaned heavily on partnerships with volunteer communities,[29] infusing resources and staff time into a wide array of projects led by volunteers, while also bringing valuable expertise and contributions from these communities for the initiatives originating within the Office.

Today, the Office includes two full-time staff who steward chemical safety efforts across the Society. Their work focuses on fostering collaboration among ACS members, divisions, committees, and external partners to advance safety initiatives. They identify opportunities, bridge gaps, and facilitate communication to amplify the impact of these efforts. In addition to coordination, they help build leadership capacity by empowering volunteers and cultivating partnerships that align with ACS's strategic priorities and benefit the broader scientific community.[f]

In addition to catalyzing collaborative projects and championing chemical safety across the Society, the Office of Safety Programs has been played a pivotal role in advancing safety education through the creation of impactful resources. Among its most notable contributions is the publication of the e-textbook Laboratory Safety for Chemistry Students, designed to support educators in integrating chemical safety into their curricula. Prior to that, the Office developed two online courses: Foundations of Chemical Safety and Risk Management and Foundations for Storing, Organizing and Disposing of Chemicals in Educational Settings. These resources—available

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Table 1. ACS Lab Safety Education Toolbox: Cross-Unit Collaborations at Work[a]

Audience	ACS Resources and collaborating groups
High School Science Teachers	RAMP-videos[b]
	Foundations for Storing, Organizing and Disposing of Chemicals in Educational Settings (online course)[b]
	Guidelines for Laboratory Safety in Secondary Schools[d]
	Other resources (collaborations)
Community College Faculty and Lab Managers	ACS Guidelines for Chemistry in Two-Year College Programs[c,d]
	Safety in Academic Chemistry Laboratories[d]
	ACS Essentials of Lab Safety for General Chemistry Course ($)[e]
	ACS Essentials of Lab Safety for Organic Chemistry[e]
	Foundations of Chemical Safety and Risk Management[b,e]
	Foundations for Storing, Organizing and Disposing of Chemicals in Educational Settings[b]
	ACS Safety Videos[b]
	ACS Chemical Safety Exam[f,k]
	Laboratory Safety for Chemistry Students e-Texbook[b]
	CHAS 2YC Professional Community[h]
Faculty, Lab Managers and Safety Professionals in Four- Year Colleges	ACS Guidelines for Bachelors Programs in Chemistry, safety recomendation[g,d] + The resources listed for community colleges.
Graduate Researchers	Identifying and Evaluating Hazards in Research Laboratories (2[ne] edition is currently being produced)[d]
	ACS Case Studies for Research Lab Safety ($)[e]
	Peer-Led Workshops[b,d,h,i] (e.g., Empowering Academic Researchers to Strengthen Safety Culture Workshop)
	ACS Essentials of Lab Safety for Instructors and TAs ($)[e]
	Chemical Safety Library
	Safety Tipsheets and Best Practices[d]
Chemical safety professionals at universities and pilot plants seeking to take the chemical hygiene officer certification exam.	Laboratory Safety and Health ($)[j]
	Laboratory Safety ($)[j]
ACS Members seeking safety professional development opportunities	CHAS Professional Workshops[h]

[a]All safety resources and tools reflect some level of collaboration among ACS Chemical Safety entities. In the table, only collaborations involving substantial content contributions or support are annotated. The first letter (a-k) indicates the lead entity responsible for development and maintenance; subsequent letters denote contributing entitities that provided significant content or support. Resources marked with $ indicate paid content. Collaborating groups are listed as follows. [b]ACS Office of Safety Programs. [c]ACS Society Committee on Education (SOCED). [d]ACS Committee on Chemical Safety (CCS). [e]ACS Publications. [f]DivCHED Safety Committee. [g]ACS Committee on Professional Training. [h]ACS Division of Chemical Health and Safety (DCHAS). [i]ACS Chemical Health & Safety. [j]ACS Education and Career Development Functional Unit. [k]ACS Exam Institute.

at no cost—assist educators with advancing chemical safety education and foster a culture of safety in academic environments.

CAS CHEMICAL SAFETY LIBRARY

The CAS Chemical Safety Library (CSL) provides unique crowd-sourced content addressing hazardous reactions that can be used to alert scientists to potentially dangerous experiments. CAS, a division of the American Chemical Society, in its commitment to increasing safety in the lab, provides this open access platform to serve scientists worldwide. Before September 1, 2023, the Chemical Safety Library was created and maintained by Pistoia Alliance.

ACS CENTER FOR LAB SAFETY

To streamline access to safety-focused materials developed across the Society, ACS Education launched the ACS Center for Lab Safety, a centralized hub housed within the ACS Institute. This resource serves as a gateway to curated safety education offerings, including online courses, instructional tools, and guidance documents developed by various ACS groups. The Center empowers educators, students, and professionals to more easily discover, navigate, and apply chemical safety resources tailored to their educational and professional needs. ACS safety resources compiled from contributions of various groups and interorganizational partnerships are listed in Table 1, many of which can also be found in ACS' RAMP Up Safety: Resources to Support Laboratory Safety Education and Practice.[30]

CONCLUSION

The ACS has created a robust infrastructure dedicated to the ongoing enhancement of chemical safety across educational and

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professional environments. CCS, DCHAS, DivCHED SC, CASE, and ACS Office of Safety Programs offer a wide range of technical programming, professional development initiatives, resources and guidance. ACS empowers and supports educators, students, and safety professionals to embrace best practices and foster a culture of continual improvement. ACS authors also have a powerful role in advancing chemical safety by publishing high-quality manuscripts that provide peer-reviewed, evidence-based reporting that contribute to the scholarly literature on chemical safety research and practices, inform policy and training, and enable chemical safety reproducibility and broader learning.

This comprehensive support system ensures that safety is not only a foundational principle but also an evolving priority, providing the tools, guidance, and community necessary for sustained progress in chemical safety management now and in the future.

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Notes

Views expressed in this editorial are those of the authors and not necessarily the views of the ACS.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

[a]District I (New England/Northeast: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, parts of New York and Connecticut); District II (Mid-Atlantic: New Jersey, parts of New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland); District III (Southeast: Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, parts of Tennessee); District IV (Midwest: Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, Illinois, Wisconsin, parts of Minnesota and Iowa); District V (Central/South Central: Texas, Louisiana, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and nearby states); and District VI (West/Far West/International: California, Oregon, Washington, Nevada, Arizona, Colorado, Utah, New Mexico, Hawaii, Alaska, and international members outside North America).

[b]Howard Fawcett and Professor Earnest Becker (an exemplar in the practice of chemical safety), guided by Herman Mark (a well-respected ACS member) and Halley Merrell (a safety-conscious ACS staff member) petitioned the ACS council to establish a division to promote Chemical Health and Safety. In 1977, the petition was approved with a three-year provisional status, and DCHAS was formed with Howard Fawcett as Chair, Eli Pearce as Vice-Chair, and Prof. Becker as secretary. Fawcett worked diligently to recruit members and organize symposia at national meetings, though for the first two years, the Division only allowed invited papers. The lack of timely annual reports from Becker caused an ACS staff member for Council Policy Committee, citing procedural concerns, to recommend that DCHAS be dissolved and not be given full divisional status. Fortunately, at the last minute, ACS past-president and 1951 Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, Glenn Seaborg, stepped in at the urging of his friend Jay Young to support the effort in a contentious Council meeting and persuaded the ACS Council to approve full divisional status in 1980.

[c]The Division has had 43 Chairs, with several serving more than one term. Ken Fivizzani, who is still active in DCHAS, holds the record with three terms as Chair.

[d]Authors from technical journals use ACS CHAS papers to add depth to their safety statements. For example, Nguyen et al. simply state "***Caution!*** Beryllium and its compounds are regarded as highly toxic and carcinogenic. Therefore, special safety precautions are strongly advised" in their article, but then cite a detailed description of the hazards and mitigations in the Methods/Protocol ACS CHAS publication *Handling Beryllium, the Safe Way*. Articles like *Safe Synthesis of MAX and MXene: Guidelines to Reduce Risk During Synthesis* embody the journal's tag line, "Influencing chemical safety, guiding tomorrow's science." Shuck, et al. move beyond writing about general safety considerations to recognize the rapid growth of MXene research at over 1,500 institutions across nearly 70 countries. The article's description of the development of comprehensive safety protocols for precursor storage, material handling, synthesis, and delamination has been viewed more than 12,000 times and cited by more than 200 researchers. While ACS CHAS publishes foundational laboratory safety papers, the scope of chemical safety research extends beyond the benchtop. For example, one of the journal's most highly read articles (more than 26K views and more than 145 citations at the time of this writing) is *Machine Learning and Deep Learning in Chemical Health and Safety: A Systematic Review of Techniques and Applications*.

[e]Under the leadership of Mary Beth Mulcahy, Editor-in-Chief of ACS CHAS, and then DCHAS President, Dan Kuespert.

[f]In 2023, the Office of Safety Programs launched yet another strategic initiative, *Envisioning the Future of ACS Chemical Safety*. This Workshop brought together representatives from volunteer communities and ACS programs to make ongoing collaborations more intentional and impactful. As part of this effort, three overarching collaborative goals were established: **Goal 1: Building Global Community** — Create a global community and form strategic partnerships across disciplines to advance and promote chemical safety and sustainability. **Goal 2: Marketing& Communications** — Develop a unified framework for marketing ACS safety initiatives and effectively communicating the value of chemical safety. **Goal 3: Professional Development** — Provide accessible and inclusive professional development opportunities for educators, practitioners, supervisors, and safety professionals, enabling them to recognize hazards and manage and communicate risks, regardless of their experience level. As a result of the *Envisioning* effort, several collaborative groups have been formed, and new projects have been initiated. One such initiative focuses on professional development for instructors, specifically related to integrating chemical safety into chemistry curricula. This editorial serves as yet another example of cross-community collaboration initiated by the Office of Safety Programs.

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