

238th ACS National Meeting – Washington, DC

August 16-20, 2009

Theme: *Chemistry and Global Security: Challenges and Opportunities*

Subthemes:

Chemistry of CO₂ and Climate Change
Chemical and Biological Terrorism Defense

Expansion of the global economy and enhanced global travel and communications have resulted in many opportunities for the chemical enterprise. However, this global expansion has also presented us with some challenges through the inappropriate use, and even misuse, of technologies, in some cases resulting in unacceptable solutions. This has led to threats to the global security; for example through the chemistry of CO₂ and climate change, chemical and biological terrorism, a shortage of energy reserves, the need for alternative sources of energy, and antibiotic-resistant microorganisms, and many more. Yet these challenges also present opportunities for solutions, discovery, creativity and imagination to make the world a better and safer place in which to live, not only for our generation but also for those to come.

The location and the timing of the Washington, DC meeting present the ACS with a unique opportunity to address these global questions. The location will facilitate access to the funding agencies that can present the global security challenges and opportunities to be addressed over the next decade or so, as well as to a new administration that will be looking for ideas and a dialogue with the scientific community to set an agenda for the next four years or more. Most importantly, this is a unique opportunity for our divisional program planning leadership to showcase the creative solutions of chemistry by creating programming that addresses these themes, and to identify relevant and exciting subthemes of their choosing under the broad theme of “*Chemistry and Global Security: Challenges and Opportunities*”. This broad theme allows chemists from all specialties to participate by assembling innovative symposia that they feel best showcase their efforts.

What do we need from you?

The Multidisciplinary Program Planning Group (MPPG) would like to invite divisions to ***plan symposia that address the theme and subthemes for Washington 2009, and to make suggestions on additional pertinent and important subthemes*** for their respective divisions, so that together as a team we can take advantage this special opportunity to make a significant impact not only on the national, but also the global, agenda for science that addresses these challenges and opportunities.

Contact for suggestions and questions:
Washington, DC, Fall 2009 Thematic Leader

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