

MIDWESTERN ASSOCIATION OF CHEMISTRY TEACHERS  
IN LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGES

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-TREASURER  
Carleton College  
Northfield, Minnesota

22 September 1958

Dear MACTLAC-er:

Several old hands at the MACTLAC game have suggested that we'd make better use of our short time together at annual meetings if we did some preliminary thinking about our topics for discussion. Conversations with various members of our group have elicited the following topics as good thought and talk provokers:

1. Is there a "common core" or a "bare minimum" of chemical understanding we'd like our freshmen to have when they come to us from high school?
2. Should we request that the ACS "Minimum Standards Used as Criteria in Evaluating Professional Training in Chemistry" be revised in the light of new developments in undergraduate curricula?
3. What can we do to make our chemistry curricula more attractive to superior students?
4. What is the place of research in the undergraduate curriculum? Should all of our students be involved in research?
5. What should be included in "General Chemistry"?
6. What "Advanced Chemistry Courses" (in the ACS sense) should be offered in the undergraduate curriculum?
7. What are some new approaches to the teaching of inorganic chemistry?
8. What are some new approaches to the teaching of organic chemistry?
9. What are some new approaches to the teaching of physical chemistry?
10. What are some new approaches to the teaching of qual. and quant.?
11. What main topics and big ideas should be included in the four year, undergraduate curriculum in chemistry?

Will you please indicate on the enclosed postal whether you will be with us at Beloit, what meals you want reservations for (we don't know yet what these will cost but the price is sure to be moderate), and your first, second, and third choices of topics you'd like to discuss? If you want to talk about a topic not in the above list, please state it on your card. Ed Fuller tells me that he's hoping for a really big turnout at Beloit. Will you please try to get your postal off to him by October 1 so he'll have the data he needs to complete his plans for our meeting? Please send me your dues (\$1.00 per year) if you won't be at Beloit.

Final Note: It has been proposed that the office of vice-president be changed to president-elect. We shall vote on this amendment.

Sincerely,



Richard W. Ramette