

FROM: The MACTLAC Secretary-Treasurer.

DATE: September 24, 1970.

SUBJECT: MACTLAC Activities in 1969-'70.

EDITOR'S NOTE

The combination of a very active academic year, time spent deciding on major equipment purchases and a two-student summer research program never left a sufficient block of time for me, the MACTLAC Secretary-Treasurer, to make the traditional mailing describing the 1969 annual MACTLAC meeting. I hope you will find the following summary of items of interest to MACTLAC members to be an appropriate substitute.

DR. HARRY F. LEWIS

On November 18, 1969 MACTLAC's first Honorary Life Member, Harry Lewis, passed away. As a relative newcomer to chemical education and to MACTLAC, I find it difficult to comment appropriately on this loss. On going through the early MACTLAC meeting minutes, it quickly becomes obvious that Harry Lewis was instrumental in guiding the organization through its formative years. I also recall that MACTLAC meetings of the '60s were "complete" only if Harry and Mildred were there.

Page 599 of the September 1970 issue of the JOURNAL OF CHEMICAL EDUCATION is devoted to Harry Lewis's many contributions to chemistry and to chemical education. Perhaps the debt MACTLAC owes can be best appreciated by reading William Oelke's dedication of the Oelke/MACTLAC Laboratory Physical Chemistry:

"To Harry Lewis, Dean Emeritus of the Institute of Paper Chemistry, Appelon, Wisconsin - - known and loved by Chemists throughout the United States and the world for his devoted and untiring effort on behalf of chemical education. Dr. Lewis has the honor of being the "father" of MACTLAC, for it was he who made the first move to initiate the organization.

THE ELMHURST MACTLAC MEETING

The rain notwithstanding, 220 registrants spent an enjoyable October 10-11 at the seventeenth annual MACTLAC meeting hosted by Elmhurst College. MACTLAC owes a debt of gratitude to Rudolph Priepeke, John Ganchoff, Robert Glogovsky and the Elmhurst secretarial staff for a well-planned two days.

The outstanding lineup of three major addresses was one of the meeting highlights. The meeting opened with Dr. Alvin Weinberg's (the director of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory) presentation, "In Defense of Science". A slightly ammended version of this address was subsequently published [SCIENCE, 167, 141 (January 9, 1970)]. I have a limited number of reprints of the SCIENCE article that I will gladly forward on request.

The banquet address was presented by Dr. Paul Fields of the Argonne National Laboratory. Dr. Fields' discussion of the current work in extending the periodic table provided many examples of the interplay between theoretical prediction and experimental observation. The Saturday morning session opened with Dr. Peter Lykos of IIT discussing, "Computers in the Liberal Arts College". This synopsis of developments in computer hardware and software left one with the impression that the computer will play an ever-

increasing role in education. Dr. Lykos' optimum computer configuration was the combination of a "small" on-site computer facility with time purchased from one of the commercially available time-sharing services.

At Elmhurst the traditional MACTLAC discussion groups considered: qualitative organic analysis in the undergraduate curriculum; trends in analytical chemistry; senior thesis program content; and general chemistry for non-science majors. In addition, there was a round table discussion of chemistry department administration, a grant proposal workshop and a "tricks of the trade" presentation.

MACTLAC OFFICERS FOR 1969-'70

The following officers were elected at the Elmhurst meeting:

President	-	Edward C. Fuller	Beloit
President-Elect	-	Richard Bayer	Carroll
Secretary-Treasurer	-	John F. Zimmerman	Wabash

State Representatives:

Minnesota	-	Richard Werth	Concordia
Missouri	-	Rose McNamee	Fontbonne
Wisconsin	-	Sister Elizabeth Kramer	Alverno

Those State Representatives whose terms will expire in 1970 are:

Illinois	-	John Ganchoff	Elmhurst
Indiana	-	Donald J. Cook	DePauw
Iowa	-	T. Emmitt Jacob	Drake
Michigan	-	Daniel M. Steffenson	Albion

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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

The old Executive Council and the newly elected Council members met at the conclusion of the Elmhurst meeting. Considerable time was spent discussing President Fuller's question, "What changes, if any, should be made in MACTLAC to better meet the needs of its members?" There was a consensus that the annual meeting continued effectively to meet the founders' purpose, "To bring together teachers of chemistry in the non tax-supported liberal arts colleges of the Midwest for exchange of ideas and for general mutual helpfulness in their profession".

Two concrete suggestions for further consideration grew out of the discussion. First, it was suggested that the MACTLAC meeting could provide a format for a "short course" exposure to some "new topic" of interest to the college chemistry teacher, e.g., specific ion electrodes, the Woodward-Hoffmann rules for the conservation of orbital symmetry, etc.

The second suggestion was that we draw on the expertise of those MACTLAC members who have experience in reviewing grant proposals to form a corps of volunteers to aid members submitting proposals, particularly departmental proposals, for the first time. A volunteer would be available to review a proposal and to make suggestions for changes he felt were necessary for the proposal to meet the granting agency requirements. The goal of such a service would be to help insure that a proposal could stand on its merit and not be turned down because of an oversight on a technicality of format, content, style, etc.

The Council would appreciate your reaction to the above suggestions. Contact one of the Council members at the Calvin meeting if you have a reaction, pro or con, to the above ideas, or if you have ideas for other projects and activities MACTLAC might undertake.

The Oelke/MACTLAC Laboratory Physical Chemistry

One of the discussion groups at the Park College MACTLAC meeting in 1957 was devoted to physical chemistry laboratory experiments. This discussion provided the catalyst for the formation of the MACTLAC Physical Chemistry Manual project. The project's early years were devoted to the collection of experiments from MACTLAC members and the subsequent distribution of these experiments to institutions subscribing to the project. Ultimately, 78 institutions each subscribed \$10 to the Physical Chemistry Laboratory Manual Fund.

Later, the project obtained the publishing rights to Mack and France's classic "A Laboratory Manual of Elementary Physical Chemistry". William Oelke of Grinnell College then undertook the task of blending some of the Mack and France experiments with the MACTLAC member experiments and several of his own introductory chapters. The 1969 Van Nostrand-Reinhold publication, Laboratory Physical Chemistry, is the final result of the untold hours William Oelke has devoted to the project.

In addition to meeting its intended purpose in the physical chemistry laboratory course, the book is a useful source of information on the construction and operation of chemical apparatus. Physical Chemistry laboratory instructors can obtain examination copies of the book by writing the Van Nostrand - Reinhold publishing company.

NOMINATIONS

President Ed Fuller has appointed Donald J. ("Jack") Cook to serve as chairman for the 1970 nominating committee, which is to secure nominations for a 1970-'71 President Elect - - any MACTLAC member can be nominated for the position. Jack would appreciate receipt of nominations prior to the Calvin meeting. Nominations in the form of a brief letter and some kind of assurance of acceptance by the nominee should be sent to:

Dr. Donald J. Cook
DePauw University
Greencastle, Indiana 46135

The following is a chronological listing of previous MACTLAC presidents beginning with 1953-54: E. Haenisch; J. Culbertson; D. W. Gier; P. Moore; F. Mathews; S. Darling; P. Wright; A. Miller; J. Danforth; E. Wolthuis; P. Carnell; M. Allen; C. Agree; J. Coutts; R. Ramette; W. Deskin; and E. Fuller.

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

The revised MACTLAC constitution established the category of Honorary Life Member, "... to be reserved for those persons who have rendered extraordinary service to the association or who have made specially noteworthy contributions to the improvement of chemistry teaching in member colleges".

Written nominations for new Honorary Life Members should be in the Secretary-Treasurer's hands before 10 a.m., Friday, October 9. One or two seconding letters should accompany the nomination. The current honorary life members are: James Culbertson; Stephen Darling; and Edward Haenisch.

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1971 MACTLAC MEETING

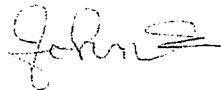
The 1971 MACTLAC meeting will be held at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota.

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THE CALVIN COLLEGE MACTLAC MEETING

The eighteenth annual MACTLAC meeting, scheduled for October 9-10 at Calvin College, is now less than two weeks away. If you have not already done so, and if you plan to attend, please forward your completed preregistration envelope to Enno Wolthuis at Calvin College. As a reminder, particularly for Indiana residents, Grand Rapids, Michigan is on Eastern Standard Time.

I look forward to seeing you at Calvin College.



John F. Zimmerman
Secretary-Treasurer MACTLAC

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