

Center for Women's InterCultural Leadership Grant Report Template

Activity/Program Title: The American Chemical Society National Meeting San Diego, CA

Activity/Program Dates: March 12 – 16th

Number of Attendants: 8 students

Which of the following CWIL goals do you think this activity/program met?

- Bringing Diverse People Together/Crossing Boundaries
- Thinking in New Ways About Women's Leadership
- Enriching SMC Environment for the Development of Women Leaders
- Serving as a National Resource for Change

How did this activity/program meet the goals you checked?

Attending the National ACS conference allows Saint Mary's women to showcase our chemistry club and individual research projects to students, faculty, and professionals throughout the United States. We are proud to present such research, representing the accomplishments of women in an otherwise male dominated field of study. This year, our chemistry club was nationally recognized for our several projects which promote women in chemistry as well as service to others. We also expand upon our leadership by speaking with other nationally recognized clubs to gather ideas on how to strengthen our club.

Please describe any new collaborations (on or off campus) that resulted from this activity/program.

While at the conference, we attended the Women's Chemist Luncheon. This luncheon provided the perfect opportunity to meet with many accomplished professionals and women with high leadership positions in the ACS. Many of us were grateful for this chance to network. In addition, friendships with students from other universities (including Florida Institute of Technology, Columbia University, the University of New Mexico, The University of Notre Dame, etc...) were established throughout the conference. Many of us continue to communicate with these students and work towards collaboration on future research and chemistry club projects.

What were the highlights of the activity/program?

The highlights consist of : the women chemist luncheon, individual poster presentations, club poster presentation at the SCI-MIX, attending various lectures in our field of study (ex: medicinal chemistry, organic chemistry, etc), attending symposia held by world famous chemists, attending the student affiliate chapter awards ceremony (and being honored at the ceremony!!!), making connections with chemistry students, faculty and professionals, and visiting San Diego

What would you do differently next time?

Organize travel arrangements *well* in advance

What are the next steps for this activity/project?

We plan on attending the national ACS conference in the spring of 2006. Sophomores and Juniors already have their summer research plans for their individual presentations. We are also planning chemistry club activities, starting with a welcome back picnic in the fall.

Submitted By: Your Name

Date Submitted:

Please share any success stories that resulted from this experience:

In addition to being nationally recognized for our contributions as a chemistry club, the research presented by our seniors has paved the way for successful careers in chemistry. Out of the 4 seniors that presented, all will be attending PhD programs in the fall including: two students at the University of San Diego, California, one student at the University of Kansas, and one at George Washington University. The junior who presented will continue her research at The University of Notre Dame in the fall. In addition, our work has inspired sophomores to start researching. They have been accepted into summer programs including Northwestern University and Columbia University.