

ACS DIVISION OF CHEMICAL EDUCATION  
COMMITTEE ON COMPUTERS IN CHEMICAL EDUCATION (CCCE)

Report to the ACS Division of Chemical Education, July 22, 2009  
Scott Van Bramer Chair

The CCCE seeks to encourage, publicize and support the development, assessment and use of computing technologies in chemical education. This report summarizes some CCCE activities in pursuit of these objectives from February 2009 through July 2009. Committee members are identified with an asterisk (\*) after their names.

- 1) CONFCHEM - ON-LINE COMPUTER CONFERENCES. The conferences provide an opportunity for authors to present papers on the CONFCHEM website and for discussion of the papers using the CONFCHEM Discussion List. Discussion of the papers generally includes: a day devoted to short questions, responses from the author, and then several days for discussion of each paper. The CONFCHEM Discussion List currently has over 600 registrants. The CONFCHEM website is managed by John Penn\*, Gary Trammell\* and Elizabeth Dorland\* organize the conferences, and Robert Belford\* manages the CONFCHEM Majordomo Discussion List.

CONFCHEM Conferences have been co-sponsored with other Divisions of the American Chemical Society and other Committees of the Division of Chemical Education. We hope to promote such joint endeavors in the future. For more information about future conferences and archives of past conferences see:  
<<http://www.ched-ccce.org/confchem/>> .

- a) Scheduled Conferences
    - i) September – October 2009 “Excellence in Education with CCLI: Notes from Recent Awardees” organized by Keenan Dungey and Eric Voss.
    - ii) May-June 2010 “Teaching Green and Sustainable Chemistry” organized by Loyd Bastin and Robert Belford\*
    - iii) Fall 2010 “Development and Assessment of Computer Simulations and Animations for the Teaching and Learning of Chemistry” organized by Jack Barbera\*
  - b) Tentative Conferences
    - i) Assessment – organized by Renee Cole\*
    - ii) Chemical education research – organized by Mike Sanger\*
    - iii) Computation and visualization – organized by Elizabeth Bell-Loncella
    - iv) POGIL – organized by Rick Moog
- 2) COMPUTERS IN CHEMICAL EDUCATION NEWSLETTER. The committee publishes a newsletter on that provides educators an opportunity to share innovations in the use of technology for teaching chemistry. The newsletter is published electronically. Following publication, each article is discussed online using the

CONFICHEM Discussion List. This provides readers an opportunity to ask the author questions about their article. Brian Pankuch\* is editor of the Newsletter and Scott Van Bramer\* chairs the on-line discussion of papers. Brian Pankuch will be resigning after the Fall 2009 newsletter and Resa Kelly will assume responsibilities of editor. The committee would like to thank Brian Pankuch for many years of service to the committee as editor of the newsletter. The Fall 2008 newsletter was discussed online using the confchem listserv in November 2008. The next edition of the newsletter is scheduled for publication in November 2009.

- 3) SYMPOSIA AND OTHER SESSIONS AT NATIONAL MEETINGS. Three CCCE members are currently members of the Division of Chemical Education's Program Committee (Renee Cole\*, Paul Kelter\* and Harry Pence\*). The CCCE and its members organize symposia and present papers at National ACS Meetings and at the BCCCE.

- a) Robert Belford\* and John Penn\* organized a symposium entitled "Online Resources for Chemical Education" for the ACS National Meeting in Salt Lake City, March 22 - 26, 2009
- b) Resa Kelly\* is organizing a symposium titled "Visualization in Chemical Education" for the ACS National Meeting Washington DC, August 16-20, 2010.

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- 4) COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

- a) Open and closed meetings of the CCCE are held at BCCE Meetings. Meetings were held at the 2008 BCCE Meeting at Indiana University.
- b) The committee has experimented with virtual meetings using NING as a platform for online discussion forums and Skype for conference calls. Using this system the committee met on March 10, 2009 and July 16, 2009. Additional meetings are scheduled.

- 5) CCCE WEBSITE. This website is used to provide information about past, present and future CCCE activities. John Penn\* is the website manager and Brian Pankuch\* provides backup. <http://www.ched-ccce.org>.

- 6) OTHER ACTIVITIES

- a) The first column in the new Journal of Chemical Education feature, JCE Online: ConfChem, was published in the January 2009 issue. This column was edited by Theresa Zielinski for the Spring 2008 Confchem "Chemistry at the National Science Digital Library." The goal of the JCE Online: ConfChem feature is to promote the publication and archiving of work presented in CONFICHEM online conferences. The JCE Online: ConfChem feature provides peer review, long-term archiving, and access to the wide range of papers presented in CONFICHEM online conferences.
- b) The committee has discussed the organizational structure and has drafted a document that details the committee's activities and structure.
- c) Robert Belford\* had started the design of a new portal for the management, delivery and archiving of Confchem online conferences. This work is being

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supported by DivCHED (\$2,000) and ChemEd DL (\$6,000) and will be beta tested during the Spring 2010 ConfChem.

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7) CCCE MEMBERS 2008. The CCCE Committee currently consists of 13 members. Names, affiliations and e-mail addresses are provided below. Additional information about Committee member may be found at: <<http://www.ched-ccce.org/ccce/members/current.html>>.

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- a) Dr. Jack Barbera, Northern Arizona University, [jack.barbera@nau.edu](mailto:jack.barbera@nau.edu)
- b) Bob Belford, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, [rebelford@ualr.edu](mailto:rebelford@ualr.edu)
- c) Renee Cole, Central Missouri State University, [rcole@socket.net](mailto:rcole@socket.net)
- d) Elizabeth Dorland, Washington University, [dorland@wustl.edu](mailto:dorland@wustl.edu)
- e) Resa M. Kelly, San Jose State University, [rkelly@science.sjsu.edu](mailto:rkelly@science.sjsu.edu)
- f) Paul B. Kelter, University of Illinois, [paulkelter@yahoo.com](mailto:paulkelter@yahoo.com)
- g) Brian Pankuch, Union County College, [pankuch@hawk.ucc.edu](mailto:pankuch@hawk.ucc.edu)
- h) John H. Penn, West Virginia University, [jpenn2@wvu.edu](mailto:jpenn2@wvu.edu)
- i) Michael J. Sanger, Middle Tennessee State University, [mjsanger@mtsu.edu](mailto:mjsanger@mtsu.edu)
- j) Gwen Sibert, RGVs, [gsibert@rvgs.k12.va.us](mailto:gsibert@rvgs.k12.va.us)
- k) Jerry P. Suits, University of Northern Colorado, [jerry.suits@unco.edu](mailto:jerry.suits@unco.edu)
- l) Gary Trammell, University of Illinois at Springfield, [trammell.gary@uis.edu](mailto:trammell.gary@uis.edu)
- m) Scott E. Van Bramer, Widener University, [svanbram@science.widener.edu](mailto:svanbram@science.widener.edu)

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Names, affiliations and e-mail addresses are provided below. Additional information about Committee member may be found at: <<http://www.ched-ccce.org/ccce/members/current.html>>.¶