

Greetings from the American Chemical Society



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AS THE 2019, 2020, and 2021 presidents of the American Chemical Society (ACS), it is our pleasure to extend our well-wishes to the Federation of Asian Chemical Societies (FACS) in the inaugural issue of AsiaChem. ACS is proud to support the efforts of partner chemical societies around the world, particularly regional collaborators like FACS. The creation of this publication is a monumental step for FACS and we are pleased to be a part of this historic edition.

ACS has members in more than one hundred countries who represent chemists, chemical engineers, and allied chemical science professionals in academia, industry, and government. We're proud to have many members based in the Asia-Pacific region and to recognize the contributions of FACS leadership and members to the global chemistry enterprise. You know ACS in many forms, from the Society with over 152,000 members, to our ACS Publications with over 60 peer-reviewed journals and our information products through CAS, such as SciFinder-n. Of the 25 ACS International Chemical Sciences Chapters (ICSC) 18 are based in FACS member countries, and ACS International Student Chapters have 38 chapters spread across 13 countries. We are very proud of our global membership, and the great work members do to advance science and society as a whole in concert with partner chemical societies like FACS.

ACS has been fortunate to count FACS as a long-time collaborator. In 2015, ACS and FACS signed a cooperation agreement with promises to support each other's conferences and work together in a variety of additional formats. This partnership builds on a long history of friendship between our organizations, from collaborations on major events like PacifiChem to scientific cooperation. ACS is proud to have worked with FACS and its member societies through joining forces on scientific programming, sponsorship of events, and even hosting an annual meeting of the FACS Executive Committee members at an ACS National Meeting. And, in turn, the FACS leadership have always been gracious hosts when we've organized events for ACS members around their biennial Asian Chemical Congresses.

FACS and ACS have maintained a close connection over the years and recent ACS leaders have been fortunate to join FACS in celebration multiple times. At the 2017 Asian Chemical Congress (17ACC) in Melbourne, Australia, we celebrated the 100th anniversary of the host society, the Royal Australian Chemical Institute (RACI). In 2019 there was the celebration of the 40th anniversary of FACS at the 18th Asian Chemical Congress in Taipei. We also appreciate the many FACS presidents and officials who have attended

ACS National Meetings and other regional events. We look forward to continuing to participate in upcoming Asian Chemical Congresses and collaborating with our FACS colleagues in a variety of forums.

However, we are not content to celebrate only our past successes. We also want to look to the future of the relationship between ACS and FACS. ACS seeks to be a collaborative partner in harnessing the power of chemistry for Earth and its people. As we begin the process of crafting a new partnership agreement with FACS leadership, we look to frame those conversations with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (or SDGs) in mind. Organizations such as ACS, the FACS, universities and industry partners have an opportunity to take advantage of the power of collaboration to advance these goals. One of the initiatives that ACS has worked on over the past year is adding signatures of the world's chemical societies on a joint agreement to collaborate on the SDGs. To date there are over forty chemical societies who have signed this agreement, including several member societies of FACS who signed on to the agreement at the Taipei ACC in 2019. We are excited to work with our FACS colleagues to achieve these important goals not only for the advancement of the chemical sciences, but in greater service to humanity as a whole.

While 2020 has created much uncertainty, we look forward to a time when we will be able to come together again with our partners in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond to collaborate in person. The most recent ACS National Meetings have moved online and the future of the 20th ACC remains uncertain. Despite these challenges, we will continue to maintain our connections through the many virtual options that are available to us to continue to work together to benefit the chemistry enterprise.

We once again congratulate our friends at FACS on this new publication. We look forward to our continued partnership for the future.

Luis Echegoyen
President

H.N. Cheng
President Elect

Bonnie Charpentier
Immediate Past
President

