

GREEN CHEMISTRY ROUNDTABLE

**Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
Constitution Hall, Great Lakes Conference Room
525 West Allegan, Lansing, Michigan 48913
March 13, 2009**

Members in attendance: Patricia Beattie (by phone), Clinton Boyd, Tracey Easthope, Michael Hales, Neil Hawkins, Rebecca Head, Dalila Kovacs, Ted Schettler (by phone), Martha Stanbury, Andrew Such, Anne Wallin, Gabe Wing

DEQ staff in attendance: Frank Ruswick, Marcia Horan, Karen Edlin, Chris Affeldt, Jennifer Acevedo

DELEG staff in attendance: Robert Jackson

Guest: Representative Ellen Cogen Lipton

8:00 a.m. – 8:15 a.m. ~ Welcome, Introductions, and Updates

Frank Ruswick, Senior Policy Advisor, DEQ

Discussion:

- Governor's Executive Order 2008-20, transferred some staff from DEQ to the Department of Energy, Labor and Economic Growth (DELEG). This has some impact on staffing the Roundtable.
- It will be necessary to identify a new Roundtable member to represent small business interests.
- This year four contracts were issued to public universities to develop Green Chemistry and Green Engineering curricula.
- The feasibility of establishing a Green Chemistry Internship for summer 2009 is being evaluated.
- A green chemistry information sharing network between states is being developed.
- The Ecology Center will be hosting public meetings on May 7th with John Warner as a speaker.
- Grand Valley State University (GVSU) is planning a seminar on May 8.

Conclusion:

- Transitional issues affecting the transfer of DEQ staff to a different department will be addressed.

Action Items:

- Find replacement to represent small business perspective on the Roundtable.
- On May 8, GVSU is planning a workshop with Beyond Benign. The Roundtable will work to have the next meeting at GVSU after the workshop.
- Investigate opportunity for Roundtable to participate in the Ecology Center's public meetings.

8:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. ~ GC Conference and Award Program Update

Dalila Kovacs, Ph.D., Grand Valley State University

Discussion:

Conference Update

- Conference scheduled for September 25 in Detroit.
- The student award application has been posted on the DEQ Web site. The Workgroup is soliciting help on the conference planning steering committee meeting which is to be held in late March or early April.
- A poster session is being considered for the conference.
- A tiered sponsorship system and participation fee are being discussed.
- Michigan focus but others may also attend.
- The conference planner is being secured and will be critical to making this effort a success.
- The target audience includes business, research and development, academia, education, and environmental interest groups.
- There will likely be three or four tracks. Distinct generalist and professional/academic tracks are a possibility, however tracks must also pull in business interests.

Awards Update

- Speakers for the conference and awards and an emcee for the award ceremony need to be decided on and lined up. A major issue is whether it is necessary for the emcee to be knowledgeable of, and represent, the green chemistry field.
- Who will hand out awards was discussed.
- Selection criteria have yet to be defined.
- A judging panel needs to be created and conflicts of interest should be taken into consideration. It was decided that there will be one panel for all of the awards.

Marketing

- Media should be utilized to create awareness of and interest in the conference and awards. There is already interest, and the story should build up to the conference.
- The student award packet is available online, and the other awards packet has been completed and is ready to be announced.
- For next year, announcements should be made simultaneously. Also, the design should be updated and a logo should be created.
- The student award deadline may be pushed back.
- There is one example in the awards packet that needs to be revised.
- Roundtable members can sign up to be a part of the outreach effort.

Conclusion:

- Many decisions about the conference and awards need to be made by the steering committee in order to follow the timeline.

Action Items:

- Roundtable members need to provide input on conference speakers track ideas, and possible award emcee. An email for responses will be sent to Roundtable members.
- Conference steering committee will meet in late March or early April. Before the next Roundtable meeting in May they should:
 - develop conference tracks and identify/secure speakers,
 - compile list of networks and send out save the date information when key speakers have been identified/secured,
 - develop media strategy to build awareness and excitement,
 - consider pushing back student award deadline and release award packet, and
 - develop award selection criteria and judging panel.

- Steering committee will keep the Roundtable informed, but will not seek approval for decisions.
- Roundtable members may volunteer to join outreach marketing effort.

9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. ~ *Green Jobs*

Discussion:

- Workgroup 2 discussions led to question of how to incorporate green jobs into the Green Chemistry Executive Directive.
- There is a draft report by the Green Chemistry and Commerce Council and the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable which looks at opportunities in green chemistry for states.
- In general, a green job traditionally refers to involvement with improving energy efficiency, and chemicals play a big part in renewable energy. These are the building blocks of creating energy systems.
- Chemical companies may be able to gain jobs in this area, even if they are losing jobs in other areas.
- Michigan is being recognized as a leader.
- There is an opportunity to work with other organizations through the development of a clearinghouse. Some of these opportunities include:
 - There is a possibility to create new jobs and refocus, but not necessarily for jobs retraining – this could be a part of the conference;
 - A model for academic certification of a green chemistry program does not exist, but there are universities that are working on implementing one; and
 - A clearinghouse could potentially host much of this information.

Conclusion:

- Michigan is being recognized as a leader in green chemistry.
- There are opportunities to create green jobs in green chemistry.
- The clearinghouse could be a vital resource for state green chemistry activities.

Action Items:

- The draft report by the Green Chemistry and Commerce Council and the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable will be distributed by DELEG when it is officially released.
- Workgroup 1 will set up meeting in mid April to discuss clearinghouse, including a possible map of green chemistry in Michigan and links to academic certification programs.

10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. ~ **Break**

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. ~ **ANSI – Standards Initiative for Green Chemistry** *Clinton Boyd, Ph.D., Sustainable Research Group*

Discussion:

- The American Chemical Society (ACS) Green Chemistry Institute (GCI) would like to develop a standard for green chemistry.
- The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) develops open consensus standards in which anyone can be a stakeholder in the process.
- NSF International has partnered with the GCI to develop the standard.
- The kickoff was held in Washington, D.C. in March 2009.
- One standard will be created for chemicals and green technologies and the framework is still being decided on.

- The objective is to create a multi-attribute ANSI standard, including multiple life cycle categories.
- Two workgroups were created: cradle-to-gate and gate-to-grave.
- The stakeholder group is open to anyone, including Roundtable members.

Conclusion:

- The standard and certification system being developed are still in the early stages, but they have an aggressive timeline.

Action Items:

- Roundtable members will be sent information on invitation to join GCI stakeholder group.
- Develop opportunity to have green chemistry article published in Michigan Business Review.

11:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon ~ Next Roundtable Meeting Discussion

Discussion:

- The next meeting will possibly be held in May in conjunction with GVSU seminar.
- Agenda for next meeting should include updates on the following:
 - Michigan Green Chemistry Governor's awards,
 - Michigan Green Chemistry Conference,
 - Green Chemistry Education Network progress and Request for Proposal,
 - Map of green chemistry activities in the state,
 - Clearinghouse development,
 - Green Chemistry Scope and Priorities, and
 - Green Chemistry Institute progress.

Conclusion:

Action Items:

- For the next meeting, updates will be given regarding:
 - Workgroup 1: clearinghouse and scope/priorities,
 - Workgroup 2: awards and conference progress,
 - The Green Chemistry Educational Network, including Request for Proposals and map of activities, and
 - Green Chemistry Institute standard activities.