

Chemical Education Research (CER)

Purpose: The mission of the Chemical Education Research (CER) Committee is to inform chemical educators about chemical education research, foster scholarship in chemical education research, and encourage improvement of the quality of chemistry education research.

Vision: The CER committee endeavors to provide 1) a variety of avenues for chemical educators to learn about chemical education research, 2) platforms for the dissemination of research, and 3) highlights of work and methods within the field.

Composition: The committee is composed of a chair, co-chair, a secretary, and 9 additional members. The committee sustains several sub-committees, some containing non-members (referred to as the 'friends of CERC'). Members serve 3-year terms and can serve for up to two consecutive terms. The chair and co-chair provide recommendations to the Committee on Personnel and Nominations for new and replacement positions as they become available annually.

Standing sub-committees and responsibilities (to be updated annually):

- CER listserv moderation (2 members) – Maintain the CER listserv hosted on the DivCHED-X server. Each moderator serves a 1-year term (6-months as secondary and 6-months as the primary) and is responsible for reviewing, editing, approving listings sent to the server.
- New & Noteworthy symposium (2 members and 2 friends) – Sub-committee members review manuscript nominations (using the approved rubric) from CER members for inclusion in the symposium. Selected nominees are officially invited by the chair or co-chair to submit an abstract. Sub-committee members preside over the sessions during the conference.
- Research to Practice symposium (varies) – Solicit a set of linked talks regarding a research-based practice and its implementation in a learning environment. Sub-committee members and/or friends preside over the sessions during the conference.
- Research in Chemistry Education symposium (varies) – Organize abstracts submitted to the call into themed sub-sessions and re-categorize abstracts that do not fit the expectations for Chemistry Education Research. Sub-committee members and/or friends preside over the sessions during the conference. For larger conference (i.e., BCCE and spring ACS), additional presiders beyond the organizers are to be recruited. Organizers of this symposium coordinate with organizers for the New & Noteworthy and the Research to Practice sessions with regard to overall planning and overlap of symposia.
- UG poster award/YCES liaison (1 member) – Represents the CER committee in planning and implementing the co-sponsored (with YCES) undergraduate CER poster award. Responsibilities include: advertising the review and award for upcoming meetings, sending opt-in notifications to student presenters, recruiting and organizing volunteers for reviews, and compiling review scores. These responsibilities are shared with a representative from the YCES committee.
- CER resource page development/maintenance (2 members) – Develop and maintain the CER Resource pages on the DivCHED-X server. Update these pages based on community feedback, ongoing initiatives within CER, and for timely items such as manuscript highlights or RSS feeds.
- New directions and planning (3 members) – Review the current responsibilities of the CER committee in light of their impact on the field and their workload for the committee and its friends. Additionally, this sub-committee will help to generate and implement new initiatives for the committee.
- Program committee liaison (unofficial) (1 friend, who is a Program Committee member) – This role serves to provide insight to the CER committee regarding their initiatives and upcoming changes.

Timetable:

First quarter (January-March): Distribute an agenda for spring meeting to all committee members. Submit a committee report for review at the Division Executive Committee meeting and, if appropriate, items to the Division chair for inclusion on the spring Executive Committee agenda. Hold an OPEN committee meeting during the spring National meeting (currently in the Monday lunch-time slot). If appropriate, a committee representative presents the committee items submitted for inclusion in the spring Executive Committee agenda. The chair/co-chair appoint and train a new moderator for the listserv, this moderator serves as the secondary through June and primary through December. The chair/co-chair review committee responsibilities and member assignments to sub-committees and adjust as needed, assigning new members to various roles.

Second quarter (April-June): The committee secretary distributes the spring meeting minutes and action items of the spring meeting to committee members for review and comments, minutes are approved virtually. Additionally, the secretary will update the 'friends of CERC' email contact list for new attendees and/or updated contacts. During BCCE years, request a meeting room and distribute the agenda and schedule for the committee meeting to committee members.

Third quarter (July-September): During BCCE years, hold an OPEN meeting during the conference (ideally on Sunday before sessions begin at 2pm). Submit a committee report for review at the Division Executive Committee meeting. Submit the budget request for the following calendar year to the Division treasurer. The committee secretary distributes the fall virtual meeting agenda to committee members. The committee secretary distributes the BCCE meeting minutes and action items of the BCCE meeting to committee members for review and comments, minutes are approved virtually. Additionally, the secretary will update the 'friends of CERC' email contact list for new attendees and/or updated contacts. The chair/co-chair appoint and train a new moderator for the listserv, this moderator serves as the secondary through December and primary through June of the following year.

Fourth quarter (October-December): Host CLOSED virtual meeting via ZOOM platform. During virtual meeting, the committee will consider if any adjustments to their procedures document (this document) as included in the Operations Manual should be made. If any procedures have been updated, those updates are to be forwarded to the Member at Large and Division secretary by early December. The committee secretary distributes the virtual meeting minutes and action items of the virtual meeting to committee members for review and comments, minutes are approved virtually. The chair sends thank-you letters to all committee members who have completed their terms of office. If the chair (or secretary) is completing his/her term of office, the files are prepared to be transferred to the incoming chair (or secretary) by January 1. The committee chair begins the draft of the committee annual report.