

Statement of JA Franz for Director-at-Large

The Fuel Chemistry Division has a unique place in supporting our efforts to achieve energy independence. The Division now actively participates in alternate fuel and hydrogen issues, and is closely allied to catalysis of hydrocarbon resource conversion. As the fuel crisis in the U.S. becomes more serious, serious attention must now return to utilization of the great resource of energy in the U.S., coal. The Fuel Chemistry Division must be in the forefront of helping to develop coal resources in indirect and direct liquefaction as well as hydrogen utilization and CO₂ sequestration. The Division must be proactive in interacting with other ACS Divisions and Directorates, such as CATL. The Fuel Chemistry Division has important cross-cutting interests with CATL, INOR, and PETR Divisions. The Fuel Chemistry Division must active in interaction with academic institutions and industrial interests in the area of coal utilization and carbon footprint issues to help enable the utilization of these crucial resources.

As Director-at-Large, my responsibility will be to facilitate associations between the ACS organizational structure and between the Divisions and Directorates mentioned above. With the inevitably heightened importance of the Fuel Chemistry Division with national realization that the current crisis will not now recede in importance, the Division has a unique opportunity to assert its important role in support of serious, continuing efforts in coal and resource utilization. As Director-at-Large, I commit to achieving the important interactions between the Fuel Division, sister divisions and directorates, and industrial organizations. I look forward to an expanding Fuel Chemistry Division as the crucial importance of coal is finally perceived in the national conscience.

JA Franz/2008