

# 2018 AOCS Annual Meeting & Expo

May 6–9 | Minneapolis Convention Center | Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA



## How to convince your supervisor to support your AOCS membership

You know membership will help you advance your career and innovation in your work environment, but you are not sure how to demonstrate to your supervisor that investing in your AOCS membership will also add value for your organization. AOCS has three steps to help you secure the funding you need to join our global community of chemists, nutritionists, engineers and business leaders.

### Step 1: Build a professional development plan using the benefits of AOCS membership.

AOCS resources and events — from original research articles to the Annual Meeting — will help you find solutions to practical processing, formulation and analytical challenges. Members stay informed with free online access to three AOCS journals, *INFORM* magazine and 450+ resources in the AOCS Premium Content Library, including book chapters from AOCS Press and meeting presentations. In addition, membership includes discounts for AOCS meeting registrations. Here are a list of membership benefits you can easily cite:

- Discount on meeting registrations
- Access to AOCS journals
- Access to the AOCS Premium Content Library
- Subscription to the print version of *INFORM* magazine
- Discount on AOCS Press publications
- Access to the Membership Directory and Career Services
- Discount on the current edition of the *Official Methods and Recommended Practices of the AOCS*
- Discount for enrollment in a Laboratory Proficiency Program (LPP)

In addition to these tangible benefits, networking is also a crucial aspect of professional development. AOCS is a unique mix of experts from industry, academia and government; networking through involvement in Divisions, Sections and Common Interest Groups facilitates collaborations and connections between professionals. Moreover, participating in these groups provides opportunity to build transferrable skills.

Divisions, for example, include several leadership roles, such as Secretary/Treasurer, Vice-Chairperson and Chairperson. Divisions also play a key role in determining Annual Meeting Programming. Mid- to late-stage professionals can use their expertise to drive what session topics are relevant and crucial for meeting programming. Early career professionals, including graduate students, can take on leadership roles to build experience and skills that can be

# 2018 AOCS Annual Meeting & Expo

May 6–9 | Minneapolis Convention Center | Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA



transferred to their professional organization and gain familiarity with how technical meeting programs are developed — and even contribute to them. See the lists below for the different groups you can join.

## Divisions

- Analytical
- Biotechnology
- Edible Applications Technology
- Health and Nutrition
- Industrial Oil Products
- Lipid Oxidation and Quality
- Phospholipid
- Processing
- Protein and Co-Products
- Surfactants and Detergents

## Common Interest Groups

- Student
- Young Professional
- Professional Educator

## Sections

- Asian
- Australasian
- Canadian
- China
- European
- India
- Latin American

Decide which group(s) you want to join and how you plan to get involved, to further demonstrate your commitment to growth — both professional and for the organization. For all new members, AOCS recommends choosing the Division most closely aligned to your primary interest area. AOCS also recommends graduate students and young professionals to join those respective Common Interest Groups.

Student members who have recently graduated receive their first year of full Active membership at no charge followed by a tiered dues structure: year 1, \$50; year 2, \$100; year 3, \$150.

### **Step 2: Connect the investment.**

The “Why?” is the most important part of your pitch: connect how your knowledge building, access to AOCS content and networking will not only provide personal growth but also a solid return on investment for your supervisor, team and larger organization. You can do this by connecting the benefits in Step 1 to your current and future tasks and project goals. Consider answers to the following questions:

# 2018 AOCS Annual Meeting & Expo

May 6–9 | Minneapolis Convention Center | Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA



- How will AOCS membership expand your technical knowledge, business knowledge or both?
- What knowledge will you bring back to your organization and share with colleagues?
- What networking opportunities will allow you to build global contacts in your respective industry(ies)?

### **Step 3: Discuss membership with your supervisor.**

Once you have completed Steps 1 and 2, bring your professional development plan to an in-person conversation with your supervisor or use your plan to complete the email template on the next page, depending on the process your organization uses.

AOCS membership runs from January 1 to December 31 but new members are welcome throughout the entire year. The sooner you become a member the sooner you can implement your professional development plan.

We look forward to welcoming you into our global, scientific community.

# 2018 AOCS Annual Meeting & Expo

May 6–9 | Minneapolis Convention Center | Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA



## Email Template

Dear [name],

The [American Oil Chemists' Society \(AOCS\)](#) is an international scientific and business society that advances the science and technology of oils, fats, proteins, surfactants and related materials. Becoming a member of AOCS will help me build knowledge and expand my network in [your area of expertise].

Though AOCS offers many benefits to its members, I have identified three specific benefits of membership that will provide the greatest return on investment, which I have estimated in the table below.

- Membership benefit
  - [Personalized description connecting benefit to your current or future tasks, projects or both.]
- Membership benefit
  - [Personalized description connecting benefit to your current or future tasks, projects or both.]
- Membership benefit and/or Division/Common Interest Group/Section activities
  - [Personalized description connecting benefit to your current or future tasks, projects or both.]

Expense	Cost (US \$)
AOCS membership (one-year)	<b>XXX</b>
Division/Common Interest Group/Section [only include if you plan on joining one or more]	<b>XX/XX/XX (per group)</b>
<b>Total</b>	

I welcome the opportunity to meet with you and further discuss how becoming an AOCS member will benefit my professional development as well as our team.

Sincerely,

[Your name]