

### **Statement on Pre-Service Education**

In order to compete in the global marketplace, our nation must educate scientists and engineers to confront and develop solutions to the complex challenges facing the planet. We have an obligation to educate all students to become scientifically literate citizens, capable of making informed decisions on a wide range of science- and technology-based issues.

Well-educated and well-prepared K-12 science teachers shoulder much of the responsibility for providing science education to our nation's students. Therefore, it is important that future K-12 science teachers receive high quality pre-service education. Improving the training that K-12 science teachers, including chemistry teachers, receive is essential to addressing the national priority of improved science education for K-12 students.

The American Chemical Society urges the chemistry community – departments of chemistry and chemistry-related disciplines and their faculty members – to take an active role in improving the pre-service education of K-12 science teachers, especially chemistry teachers. This preparation requires rigorous science content, innovative pedagogies, and support from disciplinary departments and schools of education. The American Chemical Society strongly encourages collaborative efforts to ensure that our teachers and students are prepared to excel in the 21st century.