Membership Coordinator's Report - September 2011

I was the only member of the current committee that attended PittCon 2011; therefore it was decided not to hold a separate meeting but to handle any committee topics in the Executive Committee (EC) meeting held on Sunday, March 13th. The EC encouraged the membership committee to focus its next meeting at FACSS on website content ideas sketched out in the March 2011 membership report: short membership videos, mentorship connections, educational content at all levels, and web store items. Any ideas on these and new topics are welcome!

Our LinkedIn Group continues to grow…as of 9/6/2011; we have 372 members "linked" with 63 currently requesting access. These "wannabees", as Victor Hutcherson and I enjoy calling them, are encouraged to join the Society to obtain full access. Social media groups, like LinkedIn, are a great way to communicate with current, active members and gain outside "the community" awareness of the Society. Rebecca Airmet continues to use the group to draw people to our website to check the latest Journal issue content. There have been job postings and even a few technical questions – one about x-axis shifting collected quite a few comments and suggestions. We also have a presence on Facebook, currently with 132 "likes" or followers. Check out all the photo albums posted there!

Going back to the topic of membership growth, our UK regional section had an amazing kick-off meeting on May 17, 2011. You can read all about it in Steve Ray's article in the July 2011 SAS Newsletter. Thanks to the support of sponsors like Agilent Technologies, Analyst (RSC Publishing), Cobalt Light Systems, Ltd., HORIBA Scientific, John Wiley & Sons, Ltd., Perkin Elmer, Thermo Fisher Scientific, and the University of Manchester MIB, 42 students joined the Society from the following institutions: University of Manchester, University of Nottingham, University of Strathclyde, Lancaster University, University College London, Bristol University, Queen's University Belfast, University of Sheffield, and Gloucestershire Royal Hospital! Welcome to all…the UK regional section leaders and SAS student rep John-David McElderry have a LOT of work to do!

Our 3rd Annual SAS Day event, Sunday October 2nd of FACSS 2011, is ready to set sail. We'll have free transportation at 10:30 AM from the Grand Sierra Resort to the marina and be treated to a scenic and relaxing cruise, including open bar and Italian lunch buffet, on Lake Tahoe's "Tahoe Queen"! We'll be back with plenty of time to freshen up (~ 4 PM) before attending the 7 PM FACSS opening mixer and SAS Student Poster Session. Our members and governing board continue to comment that this member benefit is an extremely valuable way to kick off our national meeting at FACSS – eating, drinking, mingling, and mixing – making those early connections to ensure a successful week of science enrichment and fun.

I would like to welcome my **new committee members**, Janiece Hope and Karla McCain, and thank Don Clark and Heather Brooke for their service. Janiece will be a voice from our Western USA members and Karla will be a voice from our undergraduate educators.

Respectfully submitted,
Gloria Story