Dear Local Section Leadership:

As 2016 draws to a close and the 2017 Regional Meeting in Fargo, ND, is being planned, I, as Great Lakes Region chair, am taking this opportunity to touch base with you and personally invite you to let your members know of the Regional Meeting (see www.glrm2017.com), as well as to invite you and your members to consider participating, and at some point agreeing to host or co-host a Regional Meeting.

You are likely aware that in addition to the 6 voting Districts to which ACS members are assigned, there also are 10 Regions to which local sections are distributed. The Regions were historically developed during the time of war when travel to National meetings was difficult. Today, Regional meetings are still held by local sections in venues that are more accessible to graduate and undergraduate students, younger faculty members and to those in industry who had modest travel support. In addition, they also provide valuable networking possibilities to all participants.

Twenty local sections officially belong to the Great Lakes Region (GLR), governed by a Board of Directors to which each Section has a designated representative. We meet either in person or by teleconference twice each year, so please ask for a report from your local section representative. The GRL Local Sections to host or co-host Regional Meetings every other year in an odd-numbered year. In 2015 Kalamazoo co-hosted a meeting with the Western Michigan Section in the Central Region, in 2017 we are in Fargo, ND, 2019 will find us in the Chicago area with the Chicago and Joliet Sections as co-hosting sections, and in 2021 the Minnesota Section being the hosting section. Any individual that thinks they are associated with the GLR may consider themselves part of the Region and attend these meetings.

Thank you for being involved in your local section. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, and have a wonderful holiday season.

Lydia E. M. Hines
Great Lakes Region Board Chair
Kalamazoo Section Representative
269-375-7349
lemhwgh@gmail.com