

COUNCILORS' REPORT
244th ACS NATIONAL MEETING
PHILADELPHIA, PA
AUGUST 19-23, 2012

ACTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

Election Results

- The Council elected G. Bryan Balazs, Dawn A. Brooks, Michelle V. Buchanan, Alan B. Cooper, and Ingrid Montes for the 2013-2015 term; and Spiro D. Alexandratos and Judith Currano for the remainder of a two-year (2013-2014) term on the **Committee on Committees**.
- The Council elected Frank D. Blum, Mary K. Carroll, Lee H. Latimer, and Carolyn Ribes for the 2013-2015 term on the **Council Policy Committee**.
- The Council elected Cherlynlavaughn Bradley, Milagros Delgado, Carol B. Libby, Les W. McQuire and Donovan R. Porterfield for the 2013-2015 term on the **Committee on Nominations and Elections**.

Candidates for President-Elect and Board of Directors

- The candidates for the fall 2012 ACS national election were announced as follows:

Candidates for President-Elect, 2013

Dr. Thomas J. Barton, Distinguished Professor, Iowa State University, Ames, IA

Dr. Luis A. Echegoyen, Robert A. Welch Professor, University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, TX

Candidates for Directors-at-Large, 2013-2015

Ms. Carol A. Duane, President, D&D Consultants of Mentor, Mentor, OH

Ms. Valerie J. Kuck, Retired, Lucent Technologies (Bell Labs), Murray Hill, NJ

Ms. Helen (Bonnie) A. Lawlor, Executive Director, National Federation of Advanced Information Services (NFAIS), Philadelphia, PA

Dr. Ingrid Montes, Professor, University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus, San Juan, PR

Petitions

(For Action)

- The Council VOTED **not to approve** the Petition on Candidate Comment in C&EN which sought to restrict candidates for election to the Board of Directors from publishing comments in C&EN from May through the balloting period. The Council also VOTED **not to approve** (64% to 36% via clicker vote) the Petition on International Chemical Sciences Chapters Funds. This petition sought to clarify that the Board of Directors may grant funds to international chapters for specific purposes.

(For Consideration)

- The Council also received one amendment (petition) to the ACS Constitution and Bylaws for consideration (not action): Petition to Amend National Election Procedures. The Petition to Amend National Election Procedures seeks to shorten the campaign period for candidates for President-Elect and to charge the Committee on Nominations and Elections (N&E) with proposing two candidates for President-Elect. Currently, N&E proposes four *nominees* from which Council selects two *candidates*. Under the petition, Council would no longer vote on a list of nominees. The process of petition candidates would not change. The Petition to Amend National Election Procedures will be on the Council agenda for action at the 2013 spring meeting.

Committee Review

- As part of a regular performance review, the Council VOTED to continue the Joint Board-Council Committees on Chemists with Disabilities and on Professional Training. Continuation of these two committees also requires Board of Directors concurrence.

New Committee Supported

- The Council VOTED to establish a **Joint Board-Council Committee on Senior Chemists** whose mission is to enrich the educational, technical, and cultural lives of the ACS Membership by ministering to and employing the talents of senior ACS members by: sharing with ACS members of all ages a rich variety of personal experiences and expertise gained over many years of professional service; fostering interest and participation in the science of chemistry through community outreach. The Board of Directors must vote on whether to establish the committee.

Meeting Registration Report

- As of close of business August 22, 2012, the ACS fall national meeting had attracted 13,320 registrants, including 7,817 regular attendees and 3,177 students.

Membership Activity

- One of the Society's long-time concerns has been the decline in the number of domestic Regular Members, that is, members paying full dues. The impact of this decline has been offset, as we have reached record membership levels, by increases in the number of international Regular Members, and the 2009 addition of Student Member Undergraduates. While the number of regular domestic members paying less than full dues has decreased from 33,000 to 29,000 in the last five years, this is still significantly more than the number of student members added.
- The Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA) has unveiled six new four-hour workshops, as the ACS Career Pathways series. CEPA trained more than 40 volunteer facilitators and the workshops are now available for regional meetings and local sections.

Realignment of Electoral Districts

- The Council VOTED 58% to 42% (via clicker vote) to shift two local sections in District II (Hampton Roads and Western Maryland) to District III. (The two local sections had agreed to the shift.) The Bylaws mandate rough equality in district populations. The shift meets the specified criteria for redistricting as required by the Bylaws and brings the districts within permissible range. During the discussion, Councilors asked the Committee on Nominations and Elections to conduct a comprehensive review of the optimal alignment of local sections within districts. Strong opposition was voiced to the proposed change, since it merely moved members from the next to the smallest District into the smallest one. It did not reduce any of the largest Districts. The close vote conveyed the displeasure with the band-aid measure taken by the Comm. on Nom. & Elec.

Special Discussion Item

- A special discussion item was put on the Council agenda for this meeting. ACS President Bassam Shakhshiri presented and moderated a discussion on "What major efforts should ACS pursue to help alleviate water and other global challenges?" Members of the ACS feel a responsibility as scientists and citizens to help address global challenges facing society in the 21st Century to help sustain Earth and its people. Councilors are invited to continue discussion of this topic within the ACS Network Councilor Group (<https://communities.acs.org/groups/councilor-group>) at <https://communities.acs.org/message/11677>.

Resolution to Honor the Memory of Glenn T. Seaborg in the Centennial Year of His Birth

- The Council passed a resolution to honor the 100th anniversary of the birth of Glenn T. Seaborg, Chemistry Nobel Laureate and past ACS President.

Update on ACS vs. Leadscope Litigation

- The Chair of the Board gave an update on the ACS vs. Leadscope litigation. As of this meeting, there was still no opinion announced by the Ohio Supreme Court on ACS's appeal in this case, despite the fact that oral arguments were presented nearly a year ago. We have no information on when an opinion might be delivered.

ACTIONS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board's Committees and Working Groups

- On the recommendation of the Committee on Budget and Finance (B&F), the Board VOTED to approve an advance member registration fee of \$370 for national meetings held in 2013. The Board also considered program funding requests, and on the recommendation of B&F VOTED to reauthorize funding for inclusion in the 2013 proposed budget the *ACS Science Coaches* program and the *ACS Global Research Experiences, Exchanges, and Training Program (GREET)*.
- The Board of Directors considered two other recommendations from the Committee on Budget and Finance and VOTED that an in-depth review of the expectations for the financial goals for National Meetings be performed, and that a financial plan for the long-term viability of the *ACS Presentations on Demand* program (formerly known as Electronic Dissemination of Meeting Content) be developed and shared with B&F at its 2013 spring meeting.

The Executive Director/CEO Report

- The Executive Director/CEO and her direct reports updated the Board on the following: security threats faced by the Society's information technology systems and the measures in place to protect against them; a recommendation from the 2011 Financial Planning Conference that ACS identify additional revenue sources; and the activities of CAS (Chemical Abstracts Service), the ACS Publications Division, and the Society's General Counsel. The General Counsel report included an update on the ACS vs. Leadscope litigation. As a follow-up to the Publications report, the Board VOTED to approve several journal editor re-appointments.

Strategic Assessment of ACS Information Services Divisions

- As a result of the 2011 Financial Planning Conference, the ACS Board of Directors requested that the ACS Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer carry out a strategic assessment of the ACS Information Services Divisions. As a practical matter, these studies have been conducted approximately every three years to ensure that our information services divisions, CAS and ACS Publications are fulfilling ACS's strategic goals. The study was conducted over a period of nine months, with the ACS Board of Directors and the Governing Board for Publishing discussing the study at key milestones along the way. The study affirmed the robust operating performance of CAS and ACS Publications, from both mission and financial viewpoints. It commended the increasing collaboration between the divisions and their global presence, and identified areas of synergy where additional opportunities for innovation and growth should be explored.

Presidential Symposia at Philadelphia

- ACS President Bassam Z. Shakhshiri hosted several well attended symposia under the presidential theme, "Advancing Chemistry and Communicating Chemistry": a plenary lecture on "Chemistry and Climate Change" delivered by Nobel Laureate Mario Molina; the 25th anniversary of National Chemistry Week; "Communicating Controversial Science"

honoring Rudy Baum on the occasion of his retirement as Editor-in-Chief of C&EN; and “150 Years of Chemistry at Land Grant Institutions: The Past as a Prelude to the Future,” honoring the sesquicentennial of the Morrill Land Grant Act.

Other Society Business

- The Board held a well-attended open session which featured a special forum titled “What are the ‘real world’ ethics issues faced by students and practitioners of chemistry?” Members attending this standing-room only session offered personal observations about ethical issues they have observed or been challenged by and possible options to address them.
- The ACS Leaderships Institute will be held in Dallas, Texas, January 25-27, 2013, for new committee, local section, and division chairs, and other volunteer governance members.
- In order to increase the available time for abstract submission for the ACS National Meetings, the Committee on Meetings and Expositions will be studying the feasibility of eliminating the print version on-site program books with a target of the 2013 fall national meeting in Indianapolis.
- The 25th anniversary of National Chemistry Week will be celebrated October 21-27 with the theme, “Nanotechnology – The Smallest BIG Idea in Science!” All local sections are encouraged to participate in NCW and plan an event that will recognize their coordinators.
- The 10th anniversary of Chemists Celebrate Earth Day will be celebrated in 2013. All local sections are encouraged to participate.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR COUNCILORS

The following is a list of URLs and email addresses presented on slides at the Council meeting. You will find the information noted on these sites helpful.

www.acs.org/ChemistryAmbassadors - Information on the Chemistry Ambassadors program

www.facebook.com/ChemistryAmbassadors - Chemistry Ambassadors group on Facebook

www.acs.org/getinvolved - Details regarding Innovative Project Grants through the Committee on Local Section Activities

www.acs.org/climatescience - Information on the ACS Climate Science Toolkit

outreach@acs.org – Contact email for more information on the Coins for Cleaner Water initiative

www.acs.org/bulletin5 - The ACS governing documents including certification information on unit bylaws

bylaws@acs.org – Contact email for submitting petitions and other questions regarding the governing documents

www.acs.org/ei - Information on the ACS Entrepreneurial Initiative

careers@acs.org – Email address for forwarding revisions on the Academic Professional Guidelines

www.acs.org/cpc - Information on the Council Policy Committee including the Councilor Handbook and Strategy Café Toolkit

www.acs.org/councilreports - Location for committee reports posted following the Council meeting

ACTIVITIES OF THE VIRGINIA SECTION COUNCILORS:

- **Pat Barber**— completed his six years of service on CEPA and its newly re-organized Marketing and Publications Subcommittee, MaPS. The subcommittee seeks to insure the accuracy, timeliness, and effectiveness of ACS Career documents, electronic sites, and

programs. Pat also completed service on the Globalization Task Force which is a joint committee between International Affairs and CEPA. It issued its final report in the spring.

- **Jerry Bass**— Jerry continues to serve on the Local Sections Activity Committee (LSAC) and its Grants and Awards Subcommittee. He is also serving on a Working Group on Allotment Formula, whose purpose is to determine a formula for the allocation of funds to the local sections.
- **Ann Sullivan**—continues service on the Local Sections Activities Committee (LSAC) which reviews all annual reports and maintains communication with local section officers. Ann is sitting on a taskforce for LSAC with M&E and DAC to determine how Divisions can help Local Sections be more successful in planning programming for regional meetings.
- **Kristine Smetana** – attended the Denver meeting as Alternate Councilor. Kristine is a member of a special taskforce on the redesign of the Guidelines for two-year colleges. She is seeking an ACS committee assignment.
- The Virginia Section did well at the ChemLuminary Awards Program. Thanks to the dedicated work done by all members of the section, the Virginia Section took home two awards from the five for which it was nominated. The Virginia Section received ChemLuminary Awards for the Outstanding Local Section Career Program for Small to Medium Large sections and for the Outstanding Community Involvement in Chemists Celebrate Earth Day.