

## **Northeast Wisconsin Local Section of the American Chemical Society**

### ***Councilor Report from 240<sup>th</sup> Fall National Meeting – Boston, MA***

The meeting was held in Boston from 21<sup>th</sup> August – 25<sup>th</sup> August, with the technical program starting on 22<sup>nd</sup> August.

As the local section councilor for the Northeast Wisconsin Section, I am providing a report of my activities.

ACS Council Meeting (Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> August): The meeting was called to order at 8.00am by ACS President Joseph Francisco. The minutes of the 239<sup>th</sup> ACS Council meeting from San Francisco were unanimously approved. There were several items of action for the Council's attention.

Elections to Committees (term limits reached – for 2011-2013 three year terms). Council was presented with biographies of all nominees in the agenda.

#### **Election Results**

- (i) The Committee on Nominations and Elections presented to the Council the following slate of candidates for membership on the **Committee on Committees** beginning in 2011: Janet L. Bryant, H. N. Cheng, Alan W. Elzerman, Amber S. Hinkle, Roland F. Hirsch, Ann H. Hunt, V. Michael Mautino, Roger A. Parker, Yorke E. Rhodes, and Steven W. Yates. By electronic ballot, the Council elected Janet L. Bryant, H. N. Cheng, Amber S. Hinkle, V. Michael Mautino, and Yorke E. Rhodes for the 2011-2013 term.
- (ii) The Committee on Nominations and Elections presented to the Council the following slate of candidates for membership on the **Council Policy Committee** beginning in 2011: John E. Adams, Lawrence Barton, Alan B. Cooper, Alan M. Ehrlich, Mary Virginia Orna, Sally B. Peters, Dorothy J. Phillips, and Donovan R. Porterfield. By electronic ballot, the Council elected John E. Adams, Alan M. Ehrlich, Mary Virginia Orna, and Dorothy J. Phillips for the 2011-2013 term.
- (iii) The Council Policy Committee presented to the Council the following slate of candidates for membership on the **Committee on Nominations and Elections** beginning in 2011: Jeannette E. Brown, Martha L. Casey, D. Richard Cobb, Lissa Dulany, John W. Finley, Martin L. Gorbaty, Melanie J. Lesko, David J. Lohse, Herbert B. Silber, and Angela K. Wilson. By electronic ballot, the Council elected Jeannette E. Brown, Martha L. Casey, D. Richard Cobb, Lissa Dulany, and Angela K. Wilson for the 2011-2013 term.

#### **Candidates for President-Elect and Board of Directors**

The candidates for the fall 2010 ACS national election were announced as follows:

##### **President-Elect 2011**

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

Bassam Z. Shakhashiri, Professor, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI

##### **Directors-at-Large - 2011-2013**

Janan M. Hayes, (Retired) Professor Emeritus, Merced College, Sacramento, CA

Robert L. Lichter, Principal and Co-Founder, Merrimack Consultants, LLC, Barrington, MA

Kathleen M. Schulz, President, Business Results Inc., Albuquerque, NM

**All local section members are encouraged to exercise their vote in the upcoming election for 2011 president elect that will be chosen in the Fall. Voting will be via mailed-in ballot or electronically**

**Petitions (For Action)**

- (i) The Council received one amendment to the ACS Constitution and Bylaws for action: The Petition on Recorded Votes. The Council VOTED to approve the Petition on Recorded Votes. This petition provides for additional voting methods, e.g., electronic clickers that have been recently used at Council meetings, when conducting recorded votes. The Board of Directors will vote within 90 days on whether to ratify the approved petition.
- (ii) A special discussion item was put on the Council agenda for this meeting. ACS President Joseph Francisco invited the Council Policy Committee Vice Chair to present a proposal to move Council meetings from Wednesdays to Tuesdays. The proposal included survey results from Councilors and other stakeholders followed by a robust discussion on the pros and cons of a move. Councilors concluded their discussion with a straw poll that showed 128 are supportive of the proposed move of Council to Tuesdays, 225 oppose the move, and 56 are undecided. The Council Policy Committee and the Board of Directors will decide by spring 2011 whether the Council should move from Wednesday to Tuesday.

**Local Section Changes in Territories and Dissolution**

- (iii) The Council VOTED to change the territory of the Northeast Oklahoma Local Section to include all members residing in the North Central Oklahoma Local Section territory. The North Central Oklahoma Local Section will be dissolving on December 31, 2010 because its membership has fallen below the minimum requirement. This change in local section territory allows all members residing in the North Central Oklahoma territory to remain assigned to a local section.
- (iv) The Council also VOTED to change the territory of the Binghamton Local Section to include the Norwich Local Section, which will dissolve on December 31, 2010 because its membership also has fallen below the minimum membership requirement. This territory change will allow members residing in the Norwich territory to remain assigned to a local section.

**Meeting Registration Report**

As of August 24, 2010, the ACS fall national meeting had attracted 14,059 registrants. Totals in select categories are as follows: Regular attendees 8,211; Students 3,230; Guests 393; Exhibit Only 733; and Exhibitors 1,492.

The meeting was adjourned at 12.15pm.

Membership Affairs Committee (MAC). I attended the Open Meeting of MAC on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> August. There were probably around 20 members of the committee present including ACS Staff Liaison. We heard reports from the MAC Subcommittees following an introduction and welcome by Mr. D. Richard Cobb, Chair.

After sub-committee reports, much of the two hour session was centered around the two questions that are posed to all ACS Members as MAC strives to work on this item:

**“The mission of the ACS Board-Presidential Task Force on Society Services and Associate Dues Pricing Models is to review and make recommendations regarding the ACS dues categories, pricing model and membership benefits”**

There are two areas for which the committee is looking for input (email to [meminfo@acs.org](mailto:meminfo@acs.org))

- (i) What concerns do you have in the area of dues, dues modeling or member benefits?
- (ii) What solution(s) do you propose to address these concerns?

Committee on Community Affairs (CCA). I attended the Open Meeting and Reception of CCA on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> August. There were about 30 people present including members of the committee and AC Staff liaisons. This committee has representation with and on several other ACS committees. I went to hear about the plans that are unfolding for the International Year of Chemistry in 2011. The themes for the 4 quarters have been established and actually tie in with future 2012 and 2013 events in National Chemistry Week and Chemists Celebrate Earth Day (both of which come out of this committee). More details to follow to the section

Local Section Activities Committee (LSAC). I attended the Open meeting of LSAC on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> August. There were about 50 people present, including committee members and ACS Staff liaisons. As this is my first year on the LSAC, I am an associate member. With three members leaving due to term limits, I hope to become a 3 year term member next year.

Subcommittee chairs reported on their weekend meetings. I would like to emphasize that our local section should apply for an Innovative Project Grant where up to \$3000 can be obtained for an activity that stimulates the local section through programming or enhanced membership involvement.

Chair, Lee Latimer, reported that the new online speakers' database has been populated with approximately 59 speakers with new topics. All speakers had to re-apply. The idea behind the new speakers service is so that local sections can contact speakers directly for them to come. Expenses are paid by the local sections, but it is hoped that regional speakers can be located, thus minimizing the direct cost.

Of particular interest to us is the change in how annual reports will be submitted. SOLAR is dead (long live SOLAR!) and annual reports will be submitted in a different way next year – the idea that the LSAC, in conjunction with other committees, has been working on, is how to make the information that is included in the report, more useful and less repetitive. Several training webinars will be available starting in early December 2010.

I also attended the Chem Luminary Awards Reception for 2009 and the poster session highlighting the best local section activities of last year.

District V Caucus (Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> August). The meeting began at 6.00pm. Immediately following the Town Hall Meeting, I went to the District V Caucus. About 30 people were in attendance, mostly local section councilors and some divisional members. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Marvin Lang (Central Wisconsin). An agenda was distributed beforehand. The minutes of the District V Caucus from the 239<sup>th</sup> ACS National Meeting were unanimously approved.

Marv Lang was unanimously re-elected as Caucus Chair for his final term; Ressano Machado was re-elected as Caucus Secretary.

Items that were discussed included the Council petition on recorded votes (Dr. Frank Blum from Committee on Nominations and Elections provided clarification); changes in local sections and dissolution of two local sections (the Caucus agreed unanimously to support the change at Council); on the items of "*should the ACS Council moved to Tuesday*", the Caucus had a lively debate aside of the personal feelings of the councilors. Dr Thomas Gilbert from the Council Policy Committee presented the results of the online poll regarding this question. There were many questions from the floor for Dr. Gilbert. The Caucus took a straw poll to provide the Caucus Chair a talking point at ACS Council (12

yes, 16 no, 9 don't know). Richard Cobb, Chair of the Membership Affairs Committee also presented some materials from the ACS "Presidential Task Force on Society Services and Associated Dues Pricing Model" – simply put the task force is charged with looking into the exact benefits structure and creative ways of dealing with payment of dues. There will be more to report on this in a separate message. The meeting was adjourned at 7pm.