

Northeast Wisconsin Local Section of the American Chemical Society

Councilor Report from 241st Spring National Meeting – Anaheim, CA

The meeting was held in Anaheim, CA from 26th March – 30th March, with the technical program starting on 27st March.

As your elected councilor I would like to provide all members of the NEW Local Section with an update of items of interest and notes from the recent meeting.

1. Items from the Council Meeting, Wednesday 30th March

ACTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

Election Results

- The Committee on Nominations and Elections presented to the Council the following nominees for selection as candidates for President-Elect, 2012: Judith L. Benham, Dennis Chamot, Diane Grob Schmidt, and Marinda Li Wu. By electronic ballot, the Council selected Dennis Chamot and Marinda Li Wu as candidates for 2012 President-Elect. These two candidates, along with any candidates selected via petitions, will stand for election in the Fall National Election.
- The Committee on Nominations and Elections announced the results of the election to select candidates from the list of nominees to represent District III and District VI on the Board of Directors for the term 2012-2014. Nominees for District III included Susan B. Butts, Pat N. Confalone, David J. Lohse, and Judith A. Summers-Gates. Nominees for District VI included G. Bryan Balazs, Bonnie A. Charpentier, Carlos G. Gutierrez, and Victor J. Hruby. By mail ballot, the Councilors from these districts selected Pat N. Confalone and David J. Lohse as District III candidates; and Bonnie A. Charpentier and Carlos G. Gutierrez as District VI candidates. Ballots will be mailed on or before October 10 to all members in District III and District VI for election of a Director from each District.

Candidates for Directors-at-Large

- The Committee on Nominations and Elections announced the selection of the following candidates for Directors-at-Large for a 2012-2014 term: Ken B. Anderson, William F. Carroll, Jr., Charles E. Kolb, and Barbara A. Sawrey. The election of two Directors-at-Large will be conducted in the fall. Ballots will be mailed to the Council on or before October 10.

Change in Committee Charge

- The Council VOTED to amend the charter of the Committee on Technician Affairs to include updated terminology.

The Society's Finances

- In spite of the economic challenges faced in 2010, the Society's operating performance held up remarkably well. Total revenue was \$463.7 million, up +0.8% from 2009, and \$2.4 million (+0.5%) higher than the 2010 budget. The Net from Operations was \$23.8 million, or \$11.9 million favorable to budget. This resulted largely from cost containment initiatives and lower-than-budgeted salaries and fringe benefits.

2012 Member Dues

- The Council VOTED to set the member dues for 2012 at the fully escalated rate of \$148. This rate is established pursuant to an inflation-adjustment formula in the ACS Constitution and Bylaws.

Petitions to Amend the Constitution and Bylaws

(For Consideration)

- The Council received one petition for consideration: The Petition on Position Statements. The Petition on Position Statements seeks to assure that the Board of Directors has primacy in issuing position statements that establish policy for the full Society and that Society bodies other than the Board may issue statements on issues that fall solely in their jurisdiction so long as they do not impair other Society bodies' ability to do the same. Action is expected on this petition at the fall Council meeting.

Local Section Name Change and Grant Deadlines

- The Council VOTED to change the name of the Northeast Oklahoma Section to the Northern Oklahoma Section. This name change is due to the recent merger of the North Central Oklahoma Section and its territories into the Northeast Oklahoma Section. The proposed name change more closely reflects the combined territories of the two Sections.
- The Council was reminded of grant deadlines from the Committee on Local Section Activities as follows:
 - Science Café Grants – Ongoing
 - Bridging the Gap: Student Member Grant – December 1
 - Bridging the Gap: IYC Grant – June 1
 - Innovative Project Grants – June 30
 - Joint LSAC/IAC International Interaction Grant – TBA

Division Allotment Calculator

- The Council VOTED to continue for three years the current formula for determining allotments to divisions.

Member Statistics

- Membership recruitment efforts were exceptionally successful in 2010. It is particularly impressive that due to efficiencies in recruiting efforts, the net cost to recruit the more than 25,000 new members decreased from \$122 per member in 2008 to \$67 in 2010 despite increases in costs for postage and printing. The official membership number for 2011 stands at 163,111.

Attendance Report

- As of March 30, 2011, the ACS spring national meeting had attracted 14,047 registrants as follows: Regular attendees, 7,336; Students, 4,682; Exhibitors, 1,097; Exposition only, 599; and Guests, 333.

2. Other Items of Interest

In January 2011, I began a three year term on the Local Section Activities Committee (LSAC), and also serve as a member of the Grants and Awards Subcommittee (G&A).

Prior to the National Meeting, the G&A Subcommittee met via teleconference after reviewing 27 Innovative Program Grants (IPG) for local sections. Approximately \$50000 was given to local sections for these projects to stimulate membership through an activity or event (in many cases) that can then be continued in the future. We had all reviewed the grants via the ACS Network.

The LSAC met on **Saturday 26th (8am-6pm)** and **Sunday (8am – 12.15pm)** to work through agenda items and hear committee, subcommittee and liaison reports. Much of the discussion centered on the rapid (and perhaps painful) implementation of the FORMS system that replaced SOLAR for on-line local section and divisions. The end-user survey was discussed and the ACS staff indicated that many of the changes that were needed at the time the reports were due, had been implanted “on the fly” or would be in place for the 2011 reports. We learned that the work was being done through the ACS IT Department but with considerable overseas outsourcing. All the tweaks require time and money to work though. Sub-committees, especially those who rely on the annual reports for data gathering, had little input on how that data could be accessed for 2010-11, for instance, how can the narratives that local sections include for consideration for a ChemLuminary Award be taken out of the report for easy handling and reading. However, on the good side, the feelings that the ACS mishandled the implementation of FORMS subsided when the ACS staff talked about how they had walked many people through the successful completion of their reports and with some careful responses to time-critical deadlines, it was generally felt

that the process for 2011 will be much more easily understood. The ACS staff were thanked for their training through the webinars.

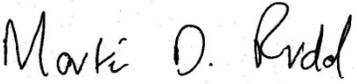
I was asked by the ACS Staff to be a part of the Roundtable Discussion at the annual *New Councilor Orientation* held on Saturday evening for a few hours. I provided my insights on what I did as a councilor, how I became involved in committee work right after my first year and what benefits it might have with keeping my local section “in the know”.

The LSAC also held a joint open meeting with the Committee on Community Activities (CCA, Tuesday 29th 1.30- 3.30pm) that offered non-committee members a chance to voice concerns over FORMS, and to ask about the continuing on-line speakers’ directory. I indicated to the group that in NE Wisconsin, we continue to work with neighboring sections to bring speakers on a “mini-tour”. I was asked for more information which I provided via email.

I attended the Town Hall Meeting for nominees for President Elect (**Sunday 27th 4.45-5.45pm** to be voted on in the Fall). The results are presented in Section 1 of this report. Immediately following the Town Hall Meeting, I attended the District V Caucus (**Sunday 27th 6.00 –7.00pm**) of local section councilors, division members and directors (Peter Dorhout). We heard from the Budget and Finance Committee with a more detailed overview of the society finances and discussed any possible Caucus positions on the items for council action at the Wednesday Council Meeting.

Please let me know if you have any questions by emailing me (martin.rudd@uwc.edu)

Respectfully submitted,



Marki D. Rudd

04/08/11