

Northeast Wisconsin Local Section of the American Chemical Society

Councilor Report from 246th Fall ACS National Meeting and Expo

The meeting was held in Indianapolis from 6th – 12th September, with the technical program starting on 7th September.

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

ACS Council Meeting (Wednesday 11th September): The meeting was called to order at 8.00am by ACS President Marinda Wu. The minutes of the 245th ACS Council meeting from New Orleans were unanimously approved. There were several items of action for the Council's attention. (see Appendix for details)

Committee on Community Affairs (CCA) joint meeting with LSAC. I attended the Open Meeting of CCA/LSAC on Tuesday 10th September. There were about 50 people present including members of both committees and ACS Staff liaisons. This committee has representation with and on several other ACS committees. I presented an oral report from the work of Alliances and Partnerships Subcommittee (of which I am chair). We heard reports from subcommittees including action items and recently funded initiatives.

Local Section Activities Committee (LSAC) I spent the weekend (Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th) at the Local Section Activities Committee's meeting (I am a full member of the committee, and will be Chair of LSAC in 2014). On Saturday, we had a full agenda to discuss on changes to FORMS, local section speakers, awards, discussion of the petition changes proposed for action by ACS Council.

LSAC also presented more than a dozen ChemLuminary Awards at the 15th Annual Awards Evening. The award winners are chosen by subcommittees through the self-nomination process that is generated during completion of the annual report.

District V Caucus. The meeting was held on Sunday 8th September at 6.00pm. The caucus consists of all elected and at-large councilors who represent members in District V (local section, division councilors, board of directors' members). The caucus chose not to take a position on any of the items up for action at the ACS Council but did discuss the boundary changes that are being made to districts, including District V [not in our area] to keep membership ranges in line with ACS bylaws. We also heard a detailed report about the finances of the ACS from the Committee on Budget and Finance (B&F).

In my report below, I have **highlighted** some areas that I hope may be of interest to Northeast Wisconsin ACS members including a new initiative to develop and support a National Association of Chemistry Teachers.

Appendix:

ACTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

Election Results

- The Committee on Nominations and Elections presented to the Council the following slate of candidates for membership on the **Committee on Committees** beginning in 2014: Mitchell R. M. Bruce, Janet L. Bryant, Dee Ann Casteel, Amber S. Hinkle, Wayne E. Jones, Jr., V. Michael Mautino, Jason E. Ritchie, Sharon P. Shoemaker, Russell W. Johnson, and Ralph A. Wheeler. By electronic ballot, the Council elected Janet L. Bryant, Dee Ann Casteel, Amber S. Hinkle, Wayne E. Jones, Jr., and V. Michael Mautino for the 2014-2016 term.
- The Committee on Nominations and Elections presented to the Council the following slate of candidates for membership on the **Council Policy Committee** beginning in 2014: Harmon B. Abrahamson, Arindam Bose, Judith H. Cohen, Alan M. Ehrlich, Martha G. Hollomon, Paul J. Smith, Ellen B. Stechel, and Angela K. Wilson. By electronic ballot, the Council elected Harmon B. Abrahamson, Judith H. Cohen, Alan M. Ehrlich, and Angela K. Wilson for the 2014-2016 term.
- The Council Policy Committee presented to the Council the following slate of candidates for membership on the **Committee on Nominations and Elections** beginning in 2014: Lisa M. Balbes, Jeannette E. Brown, Martha L. Casey, Dwight W. Chasar, D. Richard Cobb, Catherine E. Costello, Lissa Dulany, Kevin J. Edgar, Paul W. Jagodzinski, and Robert A. Pribush. By electronic ballot, the Council elected Lisa M. Balbes, Jeannette E. Brown, Martha L. Casey, D. Richard Cobb, and Lissa Dulany for the 2014-2016 term.

Candidates for President-Elect and Board of Directors

- The candidates for the fall 2013 ACS national election were announced as follows:

Candidates for President-Elect, 2014

Dr. G. Bryan Balazs, Associate Program Leader, Lawrence Livermore National Lab, Livermore, CA

Dr. Charles E. Kolb, Jr., President and CEO, Aerodyne Research Inc., Billerica, MA

Dr. Diane Grob Schmidt, Section Head R&D, The Procter & Gamble Company, Cincinnati, OH

Candidates for Directors-at-Large, 2014-2016 (two will be elected)

Dr. Susan B. Butts, Independent Consultant, Susan Butts Consulting, Midland, MI

Dr. Thom H. Dunning, Jr., Director, National Center for Supercomputing Applications and Professor, Distinguished Chair for Research, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL

Dr. Dorothy J. Phillips, Retired, Waters Corporation, Milford, MA

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

Candidates for District II Director, 2014-2016

Dr. George M. Bodner, Arthur Kelly Distinguished Professor of Chemistry Education and Engineering, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Dr. Alan A. Hazari, Director of Chemistry Labs and Lecturer, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN

Candidates for District IV Director, 2014-2016

Dr. Rigoberto Hernandez, Chemistry and Biochemistry, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA

Dr. Larry K. Krannich, Professor Emeritus of Chemistry, University of Alabama, Birmingham, AL

Committee Reviews

- As part of a regular committee performance review, the Council voted to continue the joint Board-Council Committee on International Activities and the Council Other Committee on Nomenclature, Terminology and Symbols. Continuation of the Committee on International Activities also requires Board of Directors concurrence.

Committee Charters Approved

- The Council voted to approve amendments to the charters of the committees on International Activities and on Nomenclature, Terminology and Symbols.

Committee Reports (Highlights)

Society Committee on Education

SOCED recognized the achievement that is present in the Next Generation Science Standards, including their basis in research on teaching and learning, their formulation as performance standards, and their basis in the NRC framework and its dimensions of Science and Engineering Practices, Disciplinary Core Ideas, and Cross Cutting Concepts. SOCED supported the Standards as a document that is broadly applicable as a basis for K-12 science instruction and called upon the Society to develop innovative programming to support the implementation of the Standards.

Standing Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA)

Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs reported that employment is up and unemployment is down for ACS chemists. The complete review of the Comprehensive Salary Survey will appear in the September 23 issue of *C&EN*.

Project SEED

The Committee on Project SEED needs mentors in Alaska, Arkansas, Connecticut, Hawaii, Maine, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. Contact Cecilia Hernandez (c_hernandez@acs.org) for more information.

Realignment of Electoral Districts

- ACS Bylaws require that the six electoral districts – from which six directors are elected to the ACS Board of Directors – be balanced in their total member populations. The Council voted to approve a proposal by the Committee on Nominations and Elections to realign these districts. The realignment meets the specified criteria for redistricting as required by Bylaw V, Section 4a and brings all six districts within permissible population range. This change takes place in 2014 and does not affect the 2013 national ACS elections. Councilors and others may visit the N&E website to look at the actual proposal and its impact.

Meeting Registration Report

- As of the morning of September 11, 2013, the ACS fall national meeting had attracted 10,840 registrants, including 6,630 regular attendees and 2,584 students.

Local Sections

- The Council voted, on the recommendation of the Committee on Local Section Activities (LSAC), to approve a request from the Syracuse Local Section to change its name to the Central New York Local Section. Council also approved a recommendation from LSAC that the Monmouth County Local Section (in New Jersey) be dissolved, effective January 1, 2014, due to a decline in activity over the last several years. The North Jersey Local Section has contacted LSAC and will submit a petition in 2014 to annex the Monmouth County territory.

Divisions

- After much debate, a proposed name change for the Division of Colloid and Surface Chemistry to the Division of Colloids, Surfaces, and Nanomaterials was defeated by the Council in a close vote.

Special Discussion Item

- A special discussion item was put on the Council agenda for this meeting. ACS President Marinda Wu presented and moderated a discussion on “What can we – as the Society and as individual citizens – do to help create jobs or demand for chemists?” She shared five recommendations from the presidential task force “Vision 2025: Helping ACS Members to Thrive in the Global Chemistry Enterprise” and what they might imply for our efforts to help create jobs: discover and share information about the skills and competencies that a wide range of employers will need; continue to expand resources which help our members to position themselves for successful careers in the global chemistry enterprise; enable entrepreneurs to create and strengthen their startups that hire chemistry professionals; advocate for policies that improve the business climate and promote the creation of chemistry jobs; and work with other stakeholders to understand and influence the supply and demand of chemists and jobs. Following the presentation, numerous Councilors engaged in a discussion of this focused topic on possibilities to encourage jobs creation and offered several suggestions.

ACTIONS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At this meeting, the ACS Board of Directors considered a number of key strategic issues and responded with several actions.

The Board’s Committees and Working Groups

- The Board of Directors received reports from its committees on Planning, Executive Compensation, Grants and Awards (G&A), Budget and Finance (B&F) and the working group on Society Program Portfolio Management.
- The Board held a lengthy strategic issue discussion on the topic “Connecting Chemists with Each Other.” It considered what the role of ACS should be in helping chemists develop relationships with other chemists and the strategies that enable those relationships; how these strategies encourage and support younger and international members; and how these strategies develop relationships to leverage the world renowned chemists/innovators that comprise our membership.
- On the recommendation of the Committee on Grants and Awards, the Board voted to approve Society nominations for the National Science Board’s Public Service Award and the National Science Foundation’s (NSF) Alan T. Waterman Award. The National Science Board’s Public Service Award honors individuals and groups that have made substantial contributions toward increasing public understanding of science and engineering in the US. The Alan T. Waterman Award recognizes an outstanding young researcher in any field of science or engineering supported by the NSF.
- The working group on Society Program Portfolio Management briefed the Board on its activities. The working group is charged with delivering a process for portfolio management of Society programs in the divisions of Membership and Scientific Advancement, Education, and the Office of the Secretary and General Counsel (Office of Public Affairs) and pilot programs.

- The Board received a briefing and approved a recommendation from its Committee on Executive Compensation. The compensation of the Society's executive staff receives regular review from the Board.
- On the recommendation of the Committee on Budget and Finance (B&F), the Board voted to approve an advance member registration fee of \$380 for national meetings held in 2014. The Board also voted to reauthorize funding in next year's proposed budget for the ACS International Center, and the ACS Entrepreneurial Initiative, and to authorize funding for a new initiative, the National Association of Chemistry Teachers (NACT). This association will be an ACS program to provide teachers a professional home. Through NACT they will have access to specialized resources and the broader ACS community.
- The Board confirmed the recommendation of the ACS Executive Director/CEO of the new President of Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS). He is Manuel (Manny) Guzman, most recently Executive Vice President of Learning and Research Solutions of Cengage Learning. Mr. Guzman succeeds Robert J. Massie, who is retiring after leading CAS with great distinction and success for 21 years and is retiring in March 2014. Mr. Guzman will begin September 30. Mr. Massie will assist in the transition when he returns from medical leave.

The Executive Director/CEO Report

- The Executive Director/CEO and her direct reports updated the Board on the following: highlights and high-level recommendations on the ACS global presence; and the activities of CAS (Chemical Abstracts Service) and the ACS Publications Division. As a follow-up to the Publications report, the Board voted to approve one journal editor appointment and several editor re-appointments.

Other Society Business

- The Board also voted to hold the December 2015 Board of Directors meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, in conjunction with the 2015 International Chemical Congress of Pacific Basin Societies (Pacifichem). The ACS is the host society for the 2015 Pacifichem meeting, and co-location will allow Board members to participate in this very successful Pacifichem meeting.
- Finally, the Board received reports from the Presidential Succession on their current and planned activities for the remainder of 2013 and 2014.