

## **COUNCILOR'S REPORT**

### **AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY 240th ACS NATIONAL MEETING BOSTON, MASS. AUGUST 22-26, 2010**

#### **Election Results**

- 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 on the **Committee on Committees**.
- John E. Adams, Alan M. Ehrlich, Mary Virginia Orna, and Dorothy J. Phillips for the 2011-2013 term on the **Council Policy Committee**
- Jeannette E. Brown, Martha L. Casey, D. Richard Cobb, Lissa Dulany, and Angela K. Wilson for the 2011-2013 term on the **Committee on Nominations and Elections**

The **candidates for the fall 2010 ACS national election were announced** as follows: Ballots will be mailed in late September, and promptness in voting is urged.

#### **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

#### **Director, District II - 2011-2013 (includes Kalamazoo Section)**

George M. Bodner, Professor, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN  
Joseph R. Peterson (Retired) Professor Emeritus, University of Tennessee, and  
(Retired) Oak Ridge National Lab, Knoxville, TN

#### **Petitions**

- 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.

#### **Meeting Registration Report**

- As of August 24, 2010, the ACS fall national meeting had attracted 8,211 Regular attendees, 3,230 Students, and 1,492 Exhibitors.

#### **Membership Activity**

- The 2010 membership numbers are on track to meet year-end goals. . The number of Student Members was 12,815 as of July 31, 2010, double the number on July 31` 2009.

### Special Discussion Item

- 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

- 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.
- 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.

### The Board's Committees and Working Groups

- On the recommendation of the Committee on Professional & Member Relations, the Board VOTED to support the goals and targets developed by the Sustainability Stakeholders Steering Group and its component committees, and find them consistent with the ACS Strategic Plan. The Sustainability Stakeholders Steering Group promotes ACS sustainability leadership through facilitation, coordination, and communication among ACS stakeholders and members.
- On the recommendation of the Committee on Budget and Finance, the Board VOTED to **approve an advance member registration fee of \$355 for national meetings held in 2011**. The Board also considered three program funding requests, and on the recommendation of B&F VOTED to take the following actions:
  - to include funding for the *ACS Global Research Experiences, Exchanges and Training (GREET)* program in the Society's 2011 Proposed Budget;
  - to include funding for the *State Government Affairs Program* in the Society's 2011 Proposed Budget and 2012-2013 Forecast; and
  - to include funding for the *Department of Professional Education* in the 2011 Proposed Budget and 2012-2013 Forecast, subject to annual review. (The *Department of Professional Education* request was treated as a new program request rather than a reauthorization because the focus of the program is being redirected to a customized electronic format.)
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### Strategic Issues

- At this meeting, the Board focused its attention on two major strategic issues – diversification of the Society’s revenues and the ACS global presence. The Board engaged in considerable discussion on these topics and will continue its review of the ACS global presence topic at its December meeting.

### Other Board Activities

- The American Chemical Society and the German Chemical Society (Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker – GDCh) agreed to enter a three-year collaboration alliance with a strategic focus on communicating the value of chemistry to the general public and the role chemistry plays in addressing global challenges, as well as to identify and support other mutually beneficial services to ACS and GDCh. The signing of this memorandum of understanding took place during a special ceremony at the Board’s regular session.
- The Board also received reports from several international guests representing the following scientific societies: the Federation of African Societies of Chemistry, the Federation of Asian Chemical Societies; the Chemical Society of Thailand, the Korean Chemical Society; the Mexican Chemical Society; the Royal Society of Chemistry, and the German Chemical Society.

**Committee Reports** (for specifics go to the Committee websites hosted in [www.acs.org](http://www.acs.org))

- The chair of the **International Activities Committee (IAC)** reported that there are 2 additional International Chapters being established, in Shanghai and Thailand; this brings the total number of International Chapters to 5 – the other three are in Saudi Arabia, Hong Kong, and Hungary.
- The **Younger Chemists Committee (YCC)** (chemists to age 35) has funding available for young professional to attend National meetings.
- The **Membership Activities Committee (MAC)** is grappling with the definitions of the words “international”, which excludes US members and “global” which includes US members.
- The Society Committee on Education (SOCED) is considering a working group which will deal with “communication” between 2-year and 4-year colleges.
- The **Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA)** will hold a Virtual Career Fair on November 2.
- The **Committee on Project SEED** has seen increased participation in its program; due to the economic conditions they see the need to cut the stipend to participants by a “small amount” just for next year.

- The **Local Section Activities Committee** (LSAC) reported that

SOLAR is no longer the means of reporting a Section's activities. A new interactive format will be rolled out in December for the 2010 Section Annual Report (look for training webinars to be announced in late Fall)

The new Speakers Service format is working well; to recommend new speakers you may go to [speakers@acs.org](mailto:speakers@acs.org)

There are 2 types of nanogrants (\$250 each) available; one for Bridging the Gap activities (to welcome Student members) and another for programs to be accomplished in support of the International Year of Chemistry (2011).

They also announced the continuing availability of Innovative Project Grants (\$1500)

The "go-to" place for all information from LSAC is the GetInvolvedStayInvolved link on the ACS website.

### **Other Information of interest**

- The ACS Network has 30,000+ members and is seeing "daily increases" in participation.
- 84% of the respondents to a "large random survey" of members indicated that they were satisfied with their ACS membership; most satisfactory member benefits were identified as C&EN and CAS products.
- Chemical Abstracts service continues to offer new products and has made access to searching tools reasonably available to smaller universities/colleges.

Lydia E. M. Hines

Councilor

(Member of the Committee on Community Activities, and of the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws)