

**COUNCILOR'S REPORT**  
**AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY**  
**243<sup>rd</sup> ACS NATIONAL MEETING**  
**SAN DIEGO, CA**  
**MARCH 25-29, 2012**

**Council Election Results**

- The Committee on Nominations and Elections presented four nominees for selection as candidates for President-Elect, 2013: By electronic ballot, the Council selected **Thomas J. Barton and Luis A. Echegoyen as candidates for 2013 President-Elect**. These two candidates, along with any petition candidates, will stand for election in the Fall 2012 National Election.

**Committee Matters**

- As part of a regular performance review, the Council VOTED to continue the Committee on Project SEED. The Committee on Project SEED sets policy for all Project SEED programs, including review of Project SEED I and II program applications for student research projects, funding decisions, and Project SEED college scholarship applications.
- The Local Sections Activities Committee (LSAC) is very pleased with the use of **FORMS** – they reported a “fantastic” response rate on Annual Report submissions compared to past years: as of the February 15 deadline they had received reports from 174/187 Local Sections.
- **LSAC** encourages academic members in Universities within Local Sections to cooperate with industrial members in programming (KACS does very well by this measure!).
- The Committee on Environmental Improvement (CEI) encourages the teaching of topics of sustainability in undergraduate chemistry classrooms

**The Society's Finances**

- Despite the sluggish economy, ACS generated strong operating results in 2011. This result was attributable to better-than-expected performance by the ACS Publications Division and careful expense management across the Society.

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**2013 Member Dues**

- The Council VOTED to set the **member dues for 2013 at the fully escalated rate of \$151**, a rate established pursuant to an inflation-adjustment formula in the ACS Constitution and Bylaws.

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**Member Statistics**

- Membership recruitment and retention efforts were very successful last year. The Society ended 2011 with 164,215 members. 24,249 new members were elected into the Society – 16,092 Regular Members and 8,157 Undergraduate Members. However, there continues to be **concern** about **the approximately 10,000 members who do not renew their membership each year**.

**Council votes**

- The Council VOTED overwhelmingly to approve two petitions:
  - 1) The Petition to Amend Recorded Vote Request Procedure provides that a call for a recorded vote after a clicker vote has commenced will be out of order, as would a call for a recorded vote after the initial clicker voting has taken place.

- 2) The Petition on Market Data Collection seeks to add a provision to allow for controlled market testing to collect data before the Society changes benefits, dues, or membership categories. The Board of Directors will vote within 90 days on whether to ratify the approved petitions.

The Council also VOTED to approve the updated **Chemical Professional's Code of Conduct** as submitted by the Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs. This document offers guidance for Society members in various professional dealings, especially those involving conflicts of interest.

- The Society Committee on Education (**SOCED**) supported the recommendations from a task force to create a stand-alone association housed within ACS, supported by professional staff and governed by a volunteer board of association members.

### **Attendance Report**

- As of March 28, 2012, the ACS spring national meeting had attracted 16,921 registrants including 8,974 regular attendees and 5,742 students.

### **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 is your reaction to the proposed topics for the ACS Climate Science Toolkit?”** President Shakhshiri's working group on ACS Climate Science has developed a preliminary web-based toolkit that ACS members can use as a resource for understanding and communicating basic climate science. Information offered in the Climate Science toolkit can be found at [www.acs.org/climatescience](http://www.acs.org/climatescience). Following the presentation, Councilors engaged in a robust discussion on the proposed toolkit, and offered numerous suggestions for consideration.

### **Additional comments from the meeting:**

- The **Fall ACS Meeting in Philadelphia (August, 2012)** will feature symposia on How to Create Safety Culture in the [academic] workplace.
- Starting with its April 2 issue, C&EN will begin to carry a **monthly column on Career Tips**

### **NEWS FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING**

- On the recommendation of the Committee on **Executive Compensation**, the Board VOTED to approve several actions relative to compensation for the Society's executive staff. The compensation of the Society's executive staff receives regular review from the Board of Directors.
- The General Counsel report included a briefing on the **ACS vs. Leadscope litigation**. As previously reported, ACS has appealed to the Ohio Supreme Court, and the Court agreed to hear the case. Briefs have been filed in support of our position by several prestigious organizations, including the Ohio Attorney General, the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, the Ohio Manufacturers' Association and the Ohio State Bar Association. On September 7, the Supreme Court heard oral arguments in the case, and a link to the arguments can be found on [acs.org](http://acs.org). A ruling has not been issued but could come at any time
- a report from the **Committee on Professional Training-Committee on Education (CPT-SOCED)** Task Force on the American Association of Medical Colleges and the Howard

Hughes Medical Institute report *Scientific Foundations for Future Physicians* – the CPT-SOCED task force is considering the implications of chemistry-related recommendations contained in the report.

- approved proclamations recognizing the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the South African Chemical Institute and the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Chinese Chemical Society.
- held a lively, well-attended open session which featured a special forum on “**The Future of Graduate Education and Research in the Chemical Sciences.**” Members attending this standing-room only session received an overview and update from **Larry Faulkner**, the chair and executive director of the ACS Presidential Commission on Graduate Education in the Chemical Sciences. The commission is addressing two major questions: 1) “What are the purposes of graduate education in the chemical sciences?” and 2) “What steps should be taken to ensure that important societal issues, as well as the needs and aspirations of students, are addressed in graduate school?” Members discussed how the Society might offer greater assistance on this very important and timely topic.

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**Other websites** which could provide information helpful to members:

#### **Safety**

[safety@acs.org](mailto:safety@acs.org) – email address for sharing ideas on “How can ACS best cultivate a culture of safety in US universities and colleges?”

[www.acs.org/safety](http://www.acs.org/safety) – information on the Committee on Chemical Safety including “Creating Safety Cultures in Academic Institutions”

#### **Employment/Careers**

[www.acs.org/careers](http://www.acs.org/careers) - information on ACS career resources

[www.acs.org/ei](http://www.acs.org/ei) - information on the ACS Entrepreneurial Initiative (Training and Resources)

#### **Local Section Resources**

[www.acs.org/getinvolved](http://www.acs.org/getinvolved) : grant information, important deadlines, officer resources

[www.acs.org/forms](http://www.acs.org/forms): **submit annual reports, record meetings, activities and events year round**

[speakers@acs.org](mailto:speakers@acs.org): Online Speakers Directory: nominate/identify speakers Directory

#### **Other**

[www.acs.org/strategicplan](http://www.acs.org/strategicplan) - information on the new ACS Strategic Plan for 2012 and Beyond

[www.acs.org/bulletin5](http://www.acs.org/bulletin5): location of the Society’s governing documents and unit bylaws, and information on the petition process to amend the Society’s governing documents

[bylaws@acs.org](mailto:bylaws@acs.org): email address for questions to the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws

Lydia E. M. Hines  
KACS Councilor