

Kalamazoo Section of the American Chemical Society



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Committee on International Activities

On the recommendation of the Committee on International Activities, Council voted to approve the establishment of the Australia, Brazil, Nigeria, Peru, and United Arab Emirates International Chemical Sciences Chapters, subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors.

Committee on Budget and Finance

On the recommendation of the Committee on Budget and Finance, the Board VOTED to approve an advance member registration fee of \$415 for national meetings held in 2016

Committee on Nominations and Elections

The Committee on Nominations and Elections announced the final slate of candidates for the fall 2015 ACS national election:

Candidates for President-Elect, 2016

- G. Bryan Balazs, Associate Program Leader, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, CA
- Allison A. Campbell, Associate Laboratory Director, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Richland, WA

Candidates for District V Director, 2016-2018

- John E. Adams, Curators' Teaching Professor, University of Missouri-Columbia, Columbia, MO
- Kenneth P. Fivizzani, Retired, Nalco Company, Naperville, IL

The Society Committee on Education (SOCED)

voted to approve revisions to the ACS Guidelines for Chemistry in Two-Year Colleges to bring them more in line with those for 4-year colleges (especially in the areas of networking and safety).

voted to make the pilot program of ACS International Student Chapters a permanent feature of the student chapters program. ACS has chartered 15 International Student Chapters since the pilot launched last year.

Divisional Activities Committee

The Divisional Activities Committee received an update on several changes to the Meeting Abstracts Programming System (MAPS) and are planning MAPS training for Division Chairs in October and voted to fund 14 Innovative Project Grants (IPG) totaling \$77,050.

Multidisciplinary Program Planning Group

The Multidisciplinary Program Planning Group is proposing the following *2018 national meeting themes* to the Divisions for their consideration: Nexus of Food, Energy and Water (Spring/New Orleans), and Nanotechnology (Fall/Boston).

Local Section Activities Committee

The Local Section Activities Committee (LSAC) will conduct its Leadership Training Conference for new officers in Dallas, Texas, January 22-24, 2016. They reported that since the inception of the Innovative Program Grant (IPG) program, a total of 166 Local Sections have received at least one award. The committee voted to keep the current Local Section allotment formula in place for the next three years, and developed a new process for managing the annexation of unassigned territories by multiple sections.

Membership Affairs Committee

The Membership Affairs Committee (MAC) reported that as of July 31, the ACS membership was 156,561, 2,055 fewer than on the same date in 2014. The number of new members who have joined this year is 14,457, 147 fewer than this time last year. The Society's overall retention rate is 84%. The number of international members has increased to 25,989; 1,014 higher than in July, 2014. The international retention rate is 85%.

The committee intends to submit a petition for consideration in San Diego to permanently extend the Unemployed Member Dues Waiver Benefit period from two years to three years.

Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs

The Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA) reported that ACS ChemCensus data showed that Domestic Unemployment among ACS member chemists edged slightly upwards in the last year from 2.9% to 3.1%; the current unemployment rate is lower than it was from 2009 to

1. The ChemCensus also showed a modest salary increase year-over-year. For the first year since 2004, the percentage of ACS members working in manufacturing increased. These trends are mirrored by a slight decline in the percentage of members in academia. Other workforce categories remained relatively flat.

Committee on Meetings & Expositions

The Committee on Meetings & Expositions (M&E) accepted 9,271 papers for the Boston meeting. As of Wednesday morning, total attendance for the meeting was 13,888. The Exposition was filled, with 325 exhibiting companies using 475 booths. There were nearly 5500 downloads of the Boston Mobile App. The committee established a new Operations Subcommittee, responsible for monitoring the financial success of the national meetings, monitoring compliance with the National Meeting Long Range Financial Plan and the recommendations of the 2015 Task Force on Implementing National Meeting Financial Targets.

Committee on Chemical Safety

The Committee on Chemical Safety (CCS) reported that it had been requested by the [federal] Chemical Safety Board (CSB) to assist in developing guidance with methods to recognize, assess, and control hazards in research laboratories. The CCS released its final report, "Identifying and Evaluating Hazards in Research Laboratories," in

1. They urge institutions who are engaged in research to consider using this guide to help keep their laboratories safer. This report is available at www.acs.org/safety.

Committee on Community Activities

The Committee on Community Activities (CCA) reported that one of its most popular programs is the nation-wide Illustrated Poem Contest. Local Sections submit outstanding entries based on the theme of National Chemistry Week or Chemists Celebrate Earth Day. The committee chair used various styles of verse to report on CCA's public outreach event held on Sunday at the Boston Museum of Science, and to announce the theme of National Chemistry Week 2016, "Solving Mysteries Through Chemistry".

Committee on Minority Affairs

The Committee on Minority Affairs (CMA) focused its activities at this meeting on the 20th anniversary celebration of the ACS Scholars Program. The program has awarded more than \$17 million in scholarship assistance since 1995 to enable 2,500 talented minority students to pursue their dreams of a degree in the chemical sciences. The new Scholars Endowment Fund now has commitments of more than \$2 million.

Committee on Patents and Related Matters

The Committee on Patents and Related Matters (CPRM) continues to monitor legislative and regulatory developments influencing intellectual property in ways that impact the chemical enterprise. The committee website is updated frequently and contains a wealth of helpful information about intellectual property matters relevant to those in the chemical enterprise.

Committee on Project SEED

The Committee on Project SEED announced another successful program with the participation of 411 high school students. These students are currently placed in over 100 laboratories across the nation, under the supervision of over 400 volunteer scientists and coordinators in 39 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The committee awarded 32 first year non-renewable College Scholarships to SEED alumni in 17 states and Puerto Rico.

Younger Chemists Committee

The Younger Chemists Committee (YCC) reported that the Program in a Box effort continues to grow rapidly, with a 43% increase in the number of disseminated boxes between the fall 2014 and February 2015, when 181 boxes were delivered to local sections and international chapters.

Lydia E. M. Hines, KACS Councilor

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