Actions of the Council

Candidates for President-Elect, 2017

By electronic ballot, the Council selected Peter K. Dorhout and Thomas R. Gilbert as candidates for 2017 President-Elect. These two candidates, along with any candidates selected via petitions, will stand for election in the Fall National Election.

2017 Member Dues

The Council voted to set the member dues for 2016 at the fully escalated rate of $166. This rate is established pursuant to an inflation-adjustment formula in the ACS Constitution and Bylaws.

Academic Professional Guidelines

After approving an amendment (see box below) to the proposed revised Academic Professional Guidelines the Council approved the revised guidelines, subject to approval by the Board of Directors. The guidelines apply to those members of the academic community whose job function impacts directly or indirectly on scientists practicing the profession of chemistry.

The Department B. Responsibilities to Students: 6. Physical Facilities: The department should maintain work with the administration to ensure maintenance of its building(s) and equipment holdings in the highest quality condition possible. Building use policies and equipment contained therein should be updated regularly. - Council Agenda (http://www.acs.org/content/dam/acsorg/about/governance/councilors/council-agenda-3.16.pdf), p. 58

Highlights from Committee Reports

Nominations and Elections
The Committee on Nominations and Elections solicits Councilors’ input of qualified individuals for President-Elect and/or Directors for future consideration. Suggestions may be sent to nomelect@acs.org (mailto:nomelect@acs.org). N&E has established the Vote 20/20 Task Force, charged with examining all aspects of nominations and elections for ACS national offices, and designing an enhanced process to be in place by the year 2020. The committee welcomes ideas from all members as to how nominations and elections should be handled. Send comments to vote2020@acs.org (mailto:vote2020@acs.org)

**Budget and Finance**

Information can be found at www.acs.org (http://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/about/aboutacs/financial.html). There you will find several years of the Society’s audited financial statements and IRS 990 filings.

**Membership**

As of December 31, the ACS membership was nearly 157,000, which is 0.96% less than on the same date in 2014. The number of new members who joined in 2015 is 25,000. The Society’s overall retention rate is 84%. The committee also reported that the number of international members has increased to 26,022. That number is 965 higher than in December of 2014. The international growth rate is 3.85%.

**Early Member Registration Fee**

In compliance with the National Meeting Long Range Financial Plan and the recommendations of the 2015 Task Force on Implementing National Meeting Financial Targets, the Committee on Meetings and Expositions has recommended that the Early Member Registration Fee for the 2017 national meetings be $440. The Board will vote on this recommendation later this year.

San Diego Meeting Attendance total as of Tuesday evening, March 15, was 16,327: Attendees - 8398; Students - 5979; Exhibitors - 1094; Expo only - 473; Guest - 383

**Actions of the Board of Directors**

On the recommendation of the Committee on Grants and Awards, the Board voted to approve an endowment to support the E. Bright Wilson Award in Spectroscopy.

Also on the recommendation of the Committee on Grants and Awards, the Board voted to approve language to be included in the guiding documents for the National Awards and Fellows Program to allow for the rescission of national awards and the ACS Fellows designations where reasonable grounds exist.

The Board held a well-attended open session which featured Amy Harmon, a reporter for the New York Times, who covers the social implications of science and technology. Ms. Harmon’s topic was *Telling Science Stories: Dispatch from the Conflict Zone*.

The Board of Directors is elected by, and acts in, the best interests of the members of our Society. Please contact them with your comments, concerns, ideas, and suggestions at secretary@acs.org (mailto:secretary@acs.org).

The following is a list of URLs or email addresses presented in reports at the Council meeting:

- Donna Nelson, President: djnelson@ou.edu (mailto:djnelson@ou.edu)
- Allison Campbell, President-Elect: a.campbell@acs.org (mailto:a.campbell@acs.org)
- Diane Grob Schmidt, Immediate Past President: d.schmidt@acs.org (mailto:d.schmidt@acs.org)