



American Chemical Society Fall 2024 Meeting Denver, Colorado, August 18 – 22, 2024

Summary of Governance Issues and Actions, edited by Lydia E. M. Hines, KACS councilor

Actions of the Council - meeting held on August 21

Election Results: Elected Committees of Council

By electronic ballot, the Council elected Donna Friedman, Matthew Grandbois, Diane Grob Schmidt, and Kimberly Woznack for three-year terms (2025 – 2027) on the Council Policy Committee (CPC). Sheila Murphy was elected for a two-year term from 2025 – 2026.

By electronic ballot, the Council elected Allison Aldridge, Mary Engelman, Katherine Johnson, Daniel Rabinovich, and Brian Mathes for three-year terms (2025 – 2027) on the Committee on Committees (ConC).

By electronic ballot, the Council elected Peter Dorhout, Holly Davis, Kevin Edgar, Donivan Porterfield for three-year terms (2025 – 2027) on the Committee on Nominations and Elections (N&E).

Other Council Actions:

Highlights from Reports and Key Actions

On the recommendation of CPC, Council approved the Petition for Global Representation on Council, as amended on the Council floor [Yes 375 (90.58%) / No 39 (9.42%)]. This petition allows for the creation of Global Electoral Zones for the election of Councilors by ACS members living outside the territory of existing Local Sections. The petition was amended [Yes 400 (97.09%) / No 12 (2.91%)] to count these Councilors elected by Zones with Councilors elected by Local Sections for the purpose of maintaining the ratio of (Local Section Councilors + Global Electoral Zone Councilors)/(Division Councilors) at the current ratio of 80/20. This petition will be referred to the ACS Board of Directors for confirmation.

On the recommendation of ConC, and with concurrence of CPC, Council approved [Yes 394 (99.49%) / No 2 (0.51%)] the Petition to Amend the Name of the Committee on Technician Affairs (CTA) to the Committee on Chemical Technical Professionals (CTP). This change recognizes the fact that the term “technician” does not adequately reflect the variety of titles used for these positions across the broader chemical enterprise.

On the recommendation of ConC, and with concurrence of CPC, Council approved [Yes 393 (99.75%) / No 1 (0.25%)] continuance of the Committees on Ethics; Nomenclature, Terminology and Symbols; and Project SEED and, subject to the concurrence by the ACS Board of Directors, the Committees on Chemical Safety; Chemistry and Public Affairs; Community Activities; Minority Affairs; Professional Training; Science; Senior Chemists; Women Chemists; and Younger Chemists.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA), Council approved the **Academic Professional Guidelines, as amended to reflect the shared responsibility and accountability with the academic institution, faculty, and other mentors in creating a safe environment**, [Yes 392 (98.49%) / No 6 (1.51%)] and the Chemical Professional’s Code of Conduct [Yes 382 (96.71%) / No 13 (3.29%)].

On the recommendation of the Committee on International Activities (IAC), Council approved the creation of the following International Chemical Sciences Chapters, subject to the concurrence of the ACS Board of Directors:

Bangladesh [Yes 375 (96.40%) / No 14 (3.60%)], East and Northeast India [Yes 377 (96.67%) / No 13 (3.33%)], and West India [Yes 370 (96.61%) / No 13 (3.39%)].

The Committee on Constitution and Bylaws (C&B) reported the certification of bylaws for a total of 11 units with five Local Sections: Columbus, Permian Basin, Inland Northwest, Midland, and Pensacola; three Divisions: Divisions of Colloid and Surface Chemistry (COLL), Environmental Chemistry (ENVR), and Biochemistry and Chemical Biology (BIOL); and three International Chemical Sciences Chapters: Switzerland, Egypt, and Guangdong, China.

The Committee on Younger Chemists (YCC), in celebration of their 50th anniversary, encourages early-career chemists to join ACS. **Through September, new members can join ACS for a 50% discount off their first year of annual dues by using discount code YCC24 when joining online.**

The Committee on Community Activities (CCA) announced that the topic for CCEW in 2025 (April 20-26) will be glaciers, with the theme “Hot Topic, Cool Chemistry”, and **the theme for NCW in 2025 will be “The Hidden Life of Spices”.**

Resolutions

The Council passed several resolutions:

- In memory of five deceased Councilors;
- In sincere appreciation of the Colorado Section, host Section for the ACS fall 2024 meeting, the Divisional program chairs, symposium organizers, and ACS staff for the planning and execution of the meeting;
- In appreciation of the outgoing Chair of Council, Mary K. Carroll.

Meeting Attendance

ACS Fall 2024 Meeting was held from August 18 – 22, 2024. As of August 22, there were **11,569 registrations (10,245 in-person and 1,324 online).**

Membership statistics

In July 2024, the number of ACS Members stood at 98,902, and the number of Society Affiliates at 2,766. The number of Community Associates (not members) increased to 119,625.

Actions of the Board of Directors - Executive Session

Board Actions

- Upon recommendation of the ACS Chief Operating Officer, the Board voted to approve that the Arthur C. Cope Fund utilization be revised to include a two-year postdoctoral fellowship program to be awarded to Ph.D. candidates or postdoctoral researchers within their first two years of pursuing postdoctoral research in organic chemistry, providing support up to \$85,000 per year for two years, beginning in 2025.
- **Upon recommendation of the Committee on Meetings and Expositions (M&E), the Board voted to approve to change the ACS Spring 2028 meeting location and date to Houston, TX, March 19-23; and to approve to change the ACS Fall 2029 meeting location to Los Angeles, CA, August 19-23.**
- The Board voted to approve the use of \$20,000 from the 2024 Presidential budget to support the ACS LEADS Conference.
- The Board voted to approve the use of \$10,000 from the 2024 Presidential budget to support the ACS Student Chapter Membership Campaign.

- Upon recommendation of the Committee on Budget and Finance (B&F), the Board voted to approve the **advance member registration fee for 2025 spring and fall meetings: \$549 for in-person and \$249 for virtual.**

Board Discussions

- The CEO, Albert Horvath, facilitated a strategic discussion with the Board on the relationship between ACS and local sections and divisions, as well as student and International Chemical Sciences Chapters.

Reports

- The CEO, Albert Horvath, and his staff, reported on the evolution of membership engagement, **planning for the 150th anniversary (2026) of ACS**, the ACS Brand, financials, organizational objectives, and other ACS activities.
- The Governing Board of Publishing (GBP) provided updates from the Presidents of CAS and Publications and brought recommendations forward to the Board.
- ACS General Counsel, Tokë Vandervoort, provided an **update on the Youth Protection Policy and Volunteer Background Check process**.** (they appear below)

****Starting on September 1, 2024, the [Youth Protection Policy](#) will take effect, and it details the expectations for volunteers at ACS Youth Events. ACS has partnered with Sterling Volunteers to conduct all background checks. This policy applies to all adults volunteering at ACS Youth Events in the U.S.**

For more information:

- > Please visit the [Youth Protection Policy webpage](#) for the tutorial video, procedural details, and FAQs.
- > For questions about the background check process, contact Sterling Volunteers at info@sterlingvolunteers.com
- > For policy-related inquiries, email VolunteerPolicy@acs.org.
- ACS Secretary, Kimberly Knight, reflected upon her first 30 days in the role and plans to meet with each Board member over the next 60 days.
- Written reports were reviewed from the General Counsel, Executive Vice President for Human Resources, Treasurer, and the Committees on Budget and Finance, Chemical Safety, Chemistry and Public Affairs, Chemists with Disabilities, Community Activities, Education, Environment and Sustainability, International Activities, Minority Affairs, Patents and Related Matters, Professional Training, Publications, Science, Women Chemists, and Younger Chemists.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

The following is a list of URLs and email addresses for supplemental information offered in oral reports at the Council meeting.

Officers

Mary K. Carroll, President	marycarroll-ac@union.edu
Dorothy J. Phillips, President-Elect	d.phillips@acs.org
Judith C. Giordan, Immediate Past President	j.giordan@acs.org

ACS Offices

Office of the Secretary	secretary@acs.org
-------------------------	--

Resources on the Web

Committee Preference Form	www.cmte.acs.org
Nominations for President, Directors, and Elected Committees	nominations.acs.org
ACS Governing Documents	www.acs.org/govdocs

