



American Chemical Society ACS Spring 2025 Meeting San Diego, California, March 23 – 27, 2025

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

Actions of the Council, March 26, 2025

Election Results:

Candidates for President-Elect, 2026

- The Committee on Nominations and Elections (N&E) presented to the Council the following *nominees* for selection as *candidates* for President-Elect, 2026: Christina Bodurow, Dawn Mason, Sheila Murphy, and John Warner. By electronic ballot, **the Council selected Christina Bodurow and Dawn Mason as candidates for 2026 President-Elect.** These two candidates will join any additional candidates selected via petitions to stand for election in the fall 2025 national election. Their platforms will appear in C&EN prior to the fall election.

Candidates for Directors-at-Large

- The Committee on Nominations and Elections announced the selection of the following candidates for **Director-at-Large** for the 2026-2028 term: **Anna Cavinato, Donna Friedman, Malika Jeffries-EL, and Will Lynch.** The election, by councilors, of two Directors-at-Large from among these four candidates, and any selected via petition, will be conducted in the fall.

Other Council Actions:

Highlights from Committee Reports and Key Actions

- On the recommendation of the **Committee on Committees (ConC)**, Council voted to **continue the Committee on Chemical Technical Professionals** and, subject to the concurrence of the ACS Board of Directors, the Committees on Budget & Finance, Education, International Activities, and Patents and Related Matters.

- On the recommendation of ConC, Council voted to amend the duties of the Committee on Patents and Related Matters (CPRM) and change its name to the Committee on Intellectual Property (CIP), subject to the concurrence of the ACS Board of Directors. This change reflects the committee's mission and vision statements, which refer to "intellectual property" generally rather than elevating patents above other forms of intellectual property.
- ConC announced **the opening of the committee preference form to all ACS members began on March 3 and will run through July 3. Councilors interested in serving on an ACS Committee in 2026 should go to [CMTE.acs.org](https://cmte.acs.org) to complete their preferences.**
- On the recommendation of the **Committee on Nominations and Elections (N&E)**, Council voted in favor of increasing the number of Councilors on N&E to 19, subject to the concurrence of the ACS Board of Directors. These additional committee members will support the increased workload from the addition of six Zone Councilor slates to N&E's duties.
- On the recommendation of the **Committee on International Activities (IAC)**, Council voted to approve the creation of new International Chemical Sciences Chapters in Ghana Ecuador and Northeast China, subject to the concurrence of the ACS Board of Directors.
- On the recommendation of the **Committee on Local Section Activities (LSAC)**, Council voted to dissolve the Penn/Ohio Border Local Section. This takes effect on January 1, 2026, and members are being contacted about joining neighboring sections.
- On the recommendation of the **Committee on Membership Affairs (MAC)**, Council voted to approve the 2026 Schedule of Dues and Benefits, subject to the concurrence of the ACS Board of Directors.
- The **Committee on Constitution and Bylaws (C&B)** reported the certification of 21 unit bylaws since the fall 2024 meeting. **They include** 14 Local Sections: Akron, California, Connecticut Valley, East Alabama/West Georgia, Joliet, **Kalamazoo**, Lehigh Valley, Mississippi, Ole Miss, Orlando, San Gorgonio, San Joaquin Valley, Sierra Nevada and South Carolina; three Divisions and four International Chemical Sciences Chapters
- The **Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA)** reported on the state of the evolving employment landscape for the chemistry enterprise. **ACS Careers programs have seen continued growth and remain a valuable resource for members experiencing career transitions.** The updated Professional Employment Guidelines will be up for action at the fall Council meeting. Councilors are encouraged to reach out to CEPA@acs.org for more information on the draft guidelines.
- The **Society Committee on Education (SOCED)** reported on their continued efforts to advance chemistry education for all. The ACS Policy Statement on Science

Education is currently under revision and the revised *ACS Guidelines and Recommendations for Teaching Middle and High School Chemistry* will be available soon for the upcoming academic year.

The ACS Spring 2025 meeting was held from March 23-27. As of March 26, there were 15,332 registrations (14,251 in-person and 1,081 online). The ACS Fall 2025 meeting will be held in Washington, DC, from August 17-21, 2025.

Actions of the Board of Directors (March 21-23, 2025)

Board Actions

- The Board received an extensive briefing and approved several recommendations from the Committee on Executive Compensation. The compensation of the Society's executive staff continues to be reviewed regularly by the Board.

Board Discussions

- The Board Chair, Wayne Jones, facilitated a discussion about opportunities to increase efficiency and agility and modernize Board operations while ensuring the Society's long-term strategic success. The discussion focused on an ongoing review of the Board's standing committee structure. **He also provided an opportunity for the Board to discuss themes emerging from feedback Board members have received from the ACS member community.**
- The CEO, Albert Horvath, facilitated a strategic discussion with the Board on a new approach to increase ACS impact through philanthropy.

Reports

- The CEO, Albert Horvath, and his staff, reported on organizational updates, financials and audit result, the 150th anniversary of ACS, rebranding efforts, talent management and other ACS activities. He shared the strong performance of ACS in 2024 and growth across many areas. He highlighted:
 - Strengthening and deepening engagement with our global community
 - Holding virtual annual member gathering, allowing our global members from Southeast Asia, the Middle East, Africa, and Latin America to connect and learn about ACS activities, member benefits, region specific programs, and career-related sessions
 - Increasing the global reach of our ACS journals across all key regions by 24 percent as compared the prior year
 - Publishing through our more than 90 journals, over 74,000 peer reviewed articles, a 15 percent increase from 2023
 - Delivering 346 million article downloads, up 13 percent over 2023.
 - Releasing the CAS BioFinder platform, marking **an expansion of CAS products into the life sciences sector**

- The **Committee on Budget and Finance (B&F)** Chair, Natalie LaFranzo, reported on the strong financial position of the organization.
- The **Committee on Public Affairs and Public Relations (PA&PR)** Chair, Carolyn Ribes, provided an update on plans for the Board to visit with legislators in June to advocate for science.
- The **Committee on Strategic Planning (CSP)** Chair, Will Lynch, assembled a working group of directors to shape the June Board meeting strategic discussion topic.
- The **Governing Board for Publishing (GBOP)** provided updates from the Presidents of ACS Publications and CAS, including the full launch of BioFinder in 2025.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION FOR COUNCILORS

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

Officers

Dorothy J. Phillips, President

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Mary K. Carroll, Immediate Past President

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Rigoberto Hernandez, President-Elect

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ACS Offices

Office of the Secretary

secretary@acs.org

Resources

Committee Preference Form

www.cmte.acs.org

N&E Nomination Form

nominations.acs.org

National Election Candidate Information

www.acs.org/elections

ACS Governing Documents

www.acs.org/govdocs

ACS Board Directors, Wayne E. Jones, Jr.

[\[Video Message\]](#)

[\[C&EN Article\]](#)

