

Report from the ACS National Council Meeting, Indianapolis, Sept 11, 2013.

By Tony Haag, Temporary Substitute Councilor for the Montana Section

Additional information is provided in a summary prepared by the ACS which follows my own notes, on page three.

First were elections for the Chairs of Committee on Committees, Council Policy Committee, and Nominations and Elections in which I participated.

Then ACS President Marinda Wu reported on her task force which made seven recommendations and identified some actions.

President-Elect Tom Barton described his plans to focus national meeting symposia on education, industrial collaboration, energy and the environment topics. He also is planning a symposium with five former ACS presidents and to make personal visits to sections to support science education.

Board Chair William Carroll reported that the **ACS is creating the National Association of Chemistry Teachers to provide the 50,000 teachers a home in the ACS. A new member benefit, "Presentations on Demand", will provide ACS members access to presentations given at past ACS meetings.** The board provided an award to Alan Alda for communicating science to the public.

Executive Director Madeleine Jacobs announced the new president of Chemical Abstracts Service, Manny Guzman. She also gave a report on **"Why should I join ACS?":** see my.acs.org for personal stories. All are invited to contribute their thoughts. New member benefits include 25 free activities on Scifinder, a web-based chemical information searching program; ChemWorx –to manage research and publications; as well as existing 25 free downloads of ACS journals, and Chemical and Engineering News which is celebrating its 90th anniversary.

Council Policy committee. Caroline Ribes, Chair, is conducting a **survey to determine employer support to councilors to attend the semiannual council meetings and the associated costs. The survey will be sent to councilors and section treasurers.** Councilor responsibilities and procedures can be found at www.acs.org/councilors.

Nominations and Elections committee. Jack Breazale, Chair, reported that the six districts have been reapportioned and the **Montana Section is now in District V** (made up more of Rocky Mountain and Plains states). We previously were in District VI which contained more Pacific states. The makeup of the districts was last adjusted in 1999.

Committee on Budget and Finance. Pat Confalone, Chair, reported that the finances are generally in good shape. We were 2% under budget and have \$101 million in assets.

Committee on Education. A. Jorgenson, Chair, further described the **creation of the National Association of Chemistry Teachers, which is intended to be a home for K-12 science teachers. Details to come.**

Membership Affairs committee. W. Jones, Chair, described that our membership had been decreasing to a level of 160,000, down 2,500. This was attributed largely to the downturn in the economy and increase in unemployment. Recent efforts to regain lost members and enlist new ones are being successful.

Attendance at this National Meeting was 10,840. There were 878 exhibitors. Early registration fee for the next meeting will be \$380.

Proposed addition of “nanomaterials” to name of Colloid Division. There was much discussion about renaming the Colloid Division to include in its name “nanomaterials”, a class of which colloids may be considered. It was felt that we should explicitly give this research area a home in the ACS, as visibility matters with respect to competition from other scientific societies. Some other Divisions objected to this since much of their content covered this interdisciplinary area and they felt they would be losing participation. A very narrow vote rejected the proposed change.

Section Bylaw updates. Committee on Constitution and Bylaws indicated that **many sections have not updated their bylaws to provide for electronic balloting. Sections can request an expedited (simple) bylaw review by contacting bylaws@acs.org. The Montana Section bylaws has not been updated to allow electronic balloting.**

Employment trends. Recent ACS member unemployment reached a high of 4.6%. Now at 3.5%. During the mid-2000’s unemployment rates were 2-2.5%. New chemistry grads have an unemployment rate of 12%.

Open discussion topic “What can we as the society and as individual citizens do to help create jobs or demand for chemists?” President Wu initiated the topic in response to current economic needs and many councilors voiced suggestions.

For ideas and resources to engage non-scientists with positive messages about chemistry, go to: www.acs.org/chemistryambassadors.

“Speed Networking”. The Senior Chemists Committee hosted “Speed Networking” for students attending the meeting.



COUNCILOR TALKING POINTS SUMMARY OF GOVERNANCE ACTIONS/REPORTS

American Chemical Society 246th ACS National Meeting Indianapolis, Indiana September 8-12, 2013

The following summary is provided to help Councilors report to their local sections and divisions on key actions and discussions of the ACS Council and Board of Directors at the 2013 fall national meeting.

ACTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

Election Results

³⁵₁₇ The Committee on Nominations and Elections presented to the Council the following slate of candidates for membership on the **Committee on Committees** beginning in 2014: Mitchell R. M. Bruce, Janet L. Bryant, Dee Ann Casteel, Amber S. Hinkle, Wayne E. Jones, Jr., V. Michael Mautino, Jason E. Ritchie, Sharon P. Shoemaker, Russell W. Johnson, and Ralph A. Wheeler. By electronic ballot, the Council elected Janet L. Bryant, Dee Ann Casteel, Amber S. Hinkle, Wayne E. Jones, Jr., and V. Michael Mautino for the 2014-2016 term.

³⁵₁₇ The Committee on Nominations and Elections presented to the Council the following slate of candidates for membership on the **Council Policy Committee** beginning in 2014: Harmon B. Abrahamson, Arindam Bose, Judith H. Cohen, Alan M. Ehrlich, Martha G. Hollomon, Paul J. Smith, Ellen B. Stechel, and Angela K. Wilson. By electronic ballot, the Council elected Harmon B. Abrahamson, Judith H. Cohen, Alan M. Ehrlich, and Angela K. Wilson for the 2014-2016 term.

³⁵₁₇ The Council Policy Committee presented to the Council the following slate of candidates for membership on the **Committee on Nominations and Elections** beginning in 2014: Lisa M. Balbes, Jeannette E. Brown, Martha L. Casey, Dwight W. Chasar, D. Richard Cobb, Catherine E. Costello, Lissa Dulany, Kevin J. Edgar, Paul W. Jagodzinski, and Robert A. Pribush. By electronic ballot, the Council elected Lisa M. Balbes, Jeannette E. Brown, Martha L. Casey, D. Richard Cobb, and Lissa Dulany for the 2014-2016 term.

Candidates for President-Elect and Board of Directors

³⁵₁₇ The candidates for the fall 2013 ACS national election were announced as follows:

Candidates for President-Elect, 2014

Dr. G. Bryan Balazs, Associate Program Leader, Lawrence Livermore National Lab, Livermore, CA

Dr. Charles E. Kolb, Jr., President and CEO, Aerodyne Research Inc., Billerica, MA
Dr. Diane Grob Schmidt, Section Head R&D, The Procter & Gamble Company,
Cincinnati, OH

Candidates for Directors-at-Large, 2014-2016 (two will be elected)

Dr. Susan B. Butts, Independent Consultant, Susan Butts Consulting, Midland, MI
Dr. Thom H. Dunning, Jr., Director, National Center for Supercomputing
Applications and Professor, Distinguished Chair for Research, University of Illinois
at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL
Dr. Dorothy J. Phillips, Retired, Waters Corporation, Milford, MA
Dr. Kathleen M. Schulz, President, Business Results, Inc., Albuquerque, NM

Candidates for District II Director, 2014-2016

Dr. George M. Bodner, Arthur Kelly Distinguished Professor of Chemistry Education
and Engineering, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
Dr. Alan A. Hazari, Director of Chemistry Labs and Lecturer, University of
Tennessee, Knoxville, TN

Candidates for District IV Director, 2014-2016

Dr. Rigoberto Hernandez, Chemistry and Biochemistry, Georgia Institute of
Technology, Atlanta, GA
Dr. Larry K. Krannich, Professor Emeritus of Chemistry, University of Alabama,
Birmingham, AL

Committee Reviews

³⁵₁₇ As part of a regular committee performance review, the Council voted to continue the joint Board-Council Committee on International Activities and the Council Other Committee on Nomenclature, Terminology and Symbols. Continuation of the Committee on International Activities also requires Board of Directors concurrence.

Committee Charters Approved

³⁵₁₇ The Council voted to approve amendments to the charters of the committees on International Activities and on Nomenclature, Terminology and Symbols.

Committee Reports (Highlights)

Society Committee on Education

SOCED recognized the achievement that is present in the Next Generation Science Standards, including their basis in research on teaching and learning, their formulation as performance standards, and their basis in the NRC framework and its dimensions of Science and Engineering Practices, Disciplinary Core Ideas, and Cross Cutting Concepts. SOCED supported the Standards as a document that is broadly applicable as a basis for K-12 science instruction and called upon the Society to develop innovative programming to support the implementation of the Standards.

Standing Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA)

Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs reported that employment is up and unemployment is down for ACS chemists. The complete review of the Comprehensive Salary Survey will appear in the September 23 issue of *C&EN*.

Project SEED

The Committee on Project SEED needs mentors in Alaska, Arkansas, Connecticut, Hawaii, Maine, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. Contact Cecilia Hernandez (c_hernandez@acs.org) for more information.

Realignment of Electoral Districts

³⁵₁₇ ACS Bylaws require that the six electoral districts – from which six directors are elected to the ACS Board of Directors – be balanced in their total member populations. The Council voted to approve a proposal by the Committee on Nominations and Elections to realign these districts. The realignment meets the specified criteria for redistricting as required by Bylaw V, Section 4a and brings all six districts within permissible population range. This change takes place in 2014 and does not affect the 2013 national ACS elections. Councilors and others may visit the N&E website to look at the actual proposal and its impact.

Meeting Registration Report

³⁵₁₇ As of the morning of September 11, 2013, the ACS fall national meeting had attracted 10,840 registrants, including 6,630 regular attendees and 2,584 students.

Local Sections

³⁵₁₇ The Council voted, on the recommendation of the Committee on Local Section Activities (LSAC), to approve a request from the Syracuse Local Section to change its name to the Central New York Local Section. Council also approved a recommendation from LSAC that the Monmouth County Local Section (in New Jersey) be dissolved, effective January 1, 2014, due to a decline in activity over the last several years. The North Jersey Local Section has contacted LSAC and will submit a petition in 2014 to annex the Monmouth County territory.

Divisions

³⁵₁₇ After much debate, a proposed name change for the Division of Colloid and Surface Chemistry to the Division of Colloids, Surfaces, and Nanomaterials was defeated by the Council in a close vote.

Special Discussion Item

³⁵₁₇ A special discussion item was put on the Council agenda for this meeting. ACS President Marinda Wu presented and moderated a discussion on “What can we – as the Society and as individual citizens – do to help create jobs or demand for chemists?” She shared five recommendations from the presidential task force

“Vision 2025: Helping ACS Members to Thrive in the Global Chemistry Enterprise” and what they might imply for our efforts to help create jobs: discover and share information about the skills and competencies that a wide range of employers will need; continue to expand resources which help our members to position themselves for successful careers in the global chemistry enterprise; enable entrepreneurs to create and strengthen their startups that hire chemistry professionals; advocate for policies that improve the business climate and promote the creation of chemistry jobs; and work with other stakeholders to understand and influence the supply and demand of chemists and jobs. Following the presentation, numerous Councilors engaged in a discussion of this focused topic on possibilities to encourage jobs creation and offered several suggestions.

ACTIONS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At this meeting, the ACS Board of Directors considered a number of key strategic issues and responded with several actions.

The Board’s Committees and Working Groups

- ³⁵₁₇ The Board of Directors received reports from its committees on Planning, Executive Compensation, Grants and Awards (G&A), Budget and Finance (B&F) and the working group on Society Program Portfolio Management.
- ³⁵₁₇ The Board held a lengthy strategic issue discussion on the topic “Connecting Chemists with Each Other.” It considered what the role of ACS should be in helping chemists develop relationships with other chemists and the strategies that enable those relationships; how these strategies encourage and support younger and international members; and how these strategies develop relationships to leverage the world renowned chemists/innovators that comprise our membership.
- ³⁵₁₇ On the recommendation of the Committee on Grants and Awards, the Board voted to approve Society nominations for the National Science Board’s Public Service Award and the National Science Foundation’s (NSF) Alan T. Waterman Award. The National Science Board’s Public Service Award honors individuals and groups that have made substantial contributions toward increasing public understanding of science and engineering in the US. The Alan T. Waterman Award recognizes an outstanding young researcher in any field of science or engineering supported by the NSF.
- ³⁵₁₇ The working group on Society Program Portfolio Management briefed the Board on its activities. The working group is charged with delivering a process for portfolio management of Society programs in the divisions of Membership and Scientific Advancement, Education, and the Office of the Secretary and General Counsel (Office of Public Affairs) and pilot programs.

- ³⁵₁₇ The Board received a briefing and approved a recommendation from its Committee on Executive Compensation. The compensation of the Society's executive staff receives regular review from the Board.
- ³⁵₁₇ On the recommendation of the Committee on Budget and Finance (B&F), the Board voted to approve an advance member registration fee of \$380 for national meetings held in 2014. The Board also voted to reauthorize funding in next year's proposed budget for the ACS International Center, and the ACS Entrepreneurial Initiative, and to authorize funding for a new initiative, the National Association of Chemistry Teachers (NACT). This association will be an ACS program to provide teachers a professional home. Through NACT they will have access to specialized resources and the broader ACS community.
- ³⁵₁₇ The Board confirmed the recommendation of the ACS Executive Director/CEO of the new President of Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS). He is Manuel (Manny) Guzman, most recently Executive Vice President of Learning and Research Solutions of Cengage Learning. Mr. Guzman succeeds Robert J, Massie, who is retiring after leading CAS with great distinction and success for 21 years and is retiring in March 2014. Mr. Guzman will begin September 30. Mr. Massie will assist in the transition when he returns from medical leave.

The Executive Director/CEO Report

- ³⁵₁₇ The Executive Director/CEO and her direct reports updated the Board on the following: highlights and high-level recommendations on the ACS global presence; and the activities of CAS (Chemical Abstracts Service) and the ACS Publications Division. As a follow-up to the Publications report, the Board voted to approve one journal editor appointment and several editor re-appointments.

Other Society Business

- ³⁵₁₇ The Board also voted to hold the December 2015 Board of Directors meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, in conjunction with the 2015 International Chemical Congress of Pacific Basin Societies (Pacifichem). The ACS is the host society for the 2015 Pacifichem meeting, and co-location will allow Board members to participate in this very successful Pacifichem meeting.
- ³⁵₁₇ Finally, the Board received reports from the Presidential Succession on their current and planned activities for the remainder of 2013 and 2014.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR COUNCILORS

The following is a list of URLs and email addresses presented on slides at the Council meeting. You will find the information noted on these sites helpful.

www.my.acs.org

Showcases stories and photos submitted by members describing what best defines their ACS membership experience. If your story is selected, you receive a T-shirt.

www.acs.org/councilors

The ACS Councilors Handbook sets out reasonable lists of duties and expectations of Councilors, their role in governance, and information on governance organization and operations.

www.acs.org/getinvolved

ACS offers many ways to get involved at the local, regional, and national levels. There are opportunities for everyone, whether you are a student, just starting your career, or a seasoned professional.

www.acs.org/cta

Information about the Committee on Technician Affairs and its fiftieth anniversary will be posted here.

www.ACS.org/ChemistryAmbassadors

Visit the Chemistry Ambassadors website for ideas and resources to engage your community with positive messages about chemistry.

bylaws@acs.org

If you are a Councilor who has not yet committed to service on an ACS committee and would like to try Constitution and Bylaws, to make an impact on the Society's governing documents and unit bylaws, please send an email.

careers@acs.org

A revision of the Professional Employment Guidelines is in the Council Agenda Book for consideration (page 95). Send revisions or comments by November 1, 2013.