

Report of Council Meeting Held on March 28, 2007 at the Sheraton Chicago Ballroom in the Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers in Chicago, IL

The 233rd National Meeting of the ACS was held in Chicago, IL from March 25-29, 2007. The Chicago section was represented by thirteen councilors and one alternate councilor. The councilors who attended for the section were: Roy Bible, Cherlyn Bradley, Charles Cannon, Mark Cesa, David Crumrine, Herb Golinkin, Russell Johnson, Fran Kravitz, Milt Levenberg, Barbara Moriarty, Seymour Patinkin, Marsha Anne Phillips and Susan Shih. The alternate councilor representing the section was Frank Jarzembowski.

This meeting was a series of new experiences for me. First, this was the longest Council meeting I have attended in the 9 years that I have been a councilor, because of the discussions of the three petitions that were up for action, as discussed below. In addition, this is the first time that I have taken part in a recorded vote. This means that C&E News will be publishing the results of the election, so you will be able to see how the 14 representatives from the Chicago local section voted.

As is the custom, the council remembered past president from Chicago Fred Basolo. New councilors, including Herb Golinkin, Milt Levenberg and Susan Shih, were recognized at this meeting.

Finances: The Committee on Budget and Finance reported that the Society ended 2006 with a net contribution from operations of \$12.2 million, on revenues of \$424.0 million and expenses of \$411.9 million, which was \$7.8 million favorable to the approved budget. The favorable variance was primarily attributable to higher-than-budgeted electronic services revenue and investment income, as well as expense savings from lower-than-budgeted health care costs and reduced IT spending. In addition, the Society ended 2006 in full compliance with the Board-established financial guidelines. The Council voted to set dues for 2008 at \$136.

Governance: The Council selected Thomas H. Lane (Midland Section, Dow Corning) and Howard M. Peters (Santa Clara Valley Section, Peters, Verny, LLP) as candidates for 2008 President-Elect. These two candidates will stand for election in the Fall National Election.

The Council voted to continue the Committee on Science, the Women Chemists Committee, and the Younger Chemists Committee - subject to concurrence by the Board of Directors.

A report on The Governance Review Task Force was provided to follow-up on the status of the 23 ideas generated previously, which had been prioritized into three categories: to advance the idea as worthy of further consideration by the cognizant committee and/or interested groups; to refine the idea which will be sent back to the Governance Review Task Force for further consideration; or to place the idea in a "stop" category as an idea that will receive no further consideration as part of the governance review. The following recommendations were accepted: 1) a face-to-face meeting should be convened to examine the charges of the ACS committees in order to eliminate undesirable duplication of effort and where committees' interests converge, to propose means to link their efforts for more productive outcomes; 2) members should be encouraged to run for Council. Efforts should be undertaken to encourage Councilor elections with more than one candidate. Uncontested races should be avoided if at all possible; 3) new councilors should be acknowledged at spring Council meetings and 4) local sections and divisions should monitor the participation of their Councilors and, if they are not active, consider voting to replace them.

Local Sections: A new local section, the Snake River Local Section with headquarters in Boise, ID, was established. This brings the total number of local sections to 190.

Meetings and Expositions: The 233rd ACS national meeting attracted 14,520 registrants as March 27, 2007. This includes 7,152 regular attendees and 5,059 students. A total of 1264 student posters were presented at this meeting. Dates and sites were approved for meetings in 2017. More than 8000 attended regional meetings in 2006; this is a 30% increase in attendance over 2005.

Economic and Professional Affairs: As of the end of Tuesday, there were 1439 job seekers at Chemjobs Career Center and 683 posted positions available from 73 employers. The Chemical Professional's Code of Conduct was approved.

Membership: At the end of 2006, membership in the ACS was reported to be 160,491, the highest year-end membership since 2002. Of the 17,857 new member applications, more than 1000 came from the Member-Get-A-Member campaign.

Petitions: As mentioned above, three petitions were up for action at this meeting. The Council voted to split consideration and action on the Petition on Election Procedures 2006 into two parts: Part 1, which was approved, changed the timing of run-off elections, specified an election process for situations in which only one Director-at-Large position is open and allowed for electronic balloting. Part 2 proposed changes to standardize the petition and election processes for President-Elect and all Director positions based on percentages of voting members. For Part 2, the Council voted to recommit this petition back to the Committee on Nominations and Elections and ask that they reconsider the signature requirements, procedures for processing electronic signatures, and those suggestions arising from the Governance Review Task Force pertinent to election procedures. A petition, which would have established a one-year waiting period following service on the Committee on Nominations and Elections before an individual could be nominated for District Director, President-Elect or Director-at-Large, was defeated in a recorded vote. The Petition on Multi-Year Dues, which will allow members paying full dues without any of the discounts to pay for periods of two or three years if they wish, at a rate equal to two or three times the rate for a one year period, was approved and will be effective when technical components are instituted to offer and track the payments, but no later than January 1, 2010.

If you have any questions and/or comments about the above actions, please contact me or one of the other representatives. You may contact me by email (bmoriarty@nalco.com)

Barbara Moriarty