

Report of Council Meeting in Indianapolis

The 246th National Meeting of the ACS was held in Indianapolis, IN, from September 8 – 12, 2013. The theme of this meeting was “Chemistry in Motion.” The Chicago section was represented by Cheryl Lavagnon Bradley, Charles Cannon, Ken Fivizzani, Herb Golinkin, Tom Higgins, Russell Johnson, Milt Levenberg, Inessa Miller, Barbara Moriarty and Susan Shih.

Finances: The Committee on Budget and Finance reported that the Society ended 2012 with \$470.5 million in total expenses and \$490.7 million in total revenue. The Society ended the year in compliance with four out of the five financial guidelines established by the Board. Programs funding requests were approved and/or reapproved for the ACS International Center, the ACS Entrepreneurial Initiative and the National Association for Chemistry Teachers (NACT). The Board of Directors voted on the recommendation of the Society Committee on Budget and Finance, to approve an advance member registration fee of \$380 for national meetings held in 2014 and to set the dues for 2014 to \$154.

Governance: The Council elected councilors to serve on the Committee on Committees, the Council Policy Committee and the Committee on Nominations. For the Committee on Committees – Janet L. Bryant, Dee Ann Casteel, Amber S. Hinkle, Wayne E. Jones, Jr. and V. Michael Mautino were elected. For the Council Policy Committee – Harmon B. Abrahamson, Judith H. Cohen, Alan M. Ehrlich and Angela K. Wilson were elected. For the Committee on Nominations and Elections – Lisa M. Balbes, Jeannette E. Brown, Martha L. Casey, D. Richard Cobb and Lissa Dulany were elected.

The Council also recognized the service of councilors, including Herbert Golinkin, who has represented the Chicago local section for 20 years. In addition, David Crumrine was recognized as he has served the statutory limit on the Chemical Safety Committee.

The candidates for the fall 2013 ACS national election for President-Elect 2014 are Dr. G. Bryan Balazs, Dr. Charles E. Kolb, Jr. and Dr. Diane Grob Schmidt. Candidates for Directors-at-Large, who are elected by Council, are Dr. Susan B. Butts, Dr. Thom H. Dunning, Dr. Dorothy J. Phillips and Dr. Kathleen M. Schulz

Meetings and Expositions: The attendance at the Indianapolis meeting was reported (as of the morning of 9/11/2013) to be 10,840 attendees, including 6630 regular attendees and 2580 student attendees.

Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA): The Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA) reported that the unemployment rate for chemists has gone down. The career fair at the meeting had 561 job seekers and 29 employers. The virtual career fair had additional job seekers and employers. CEPA provided their updated Professional Employment Guidelines (PEG) for consideration. The draft is found at careers@acs.org. Comments and/or suggestions should be received by November 1, 2013.

Local Sections: The winners of the Awards for Outstanding local sections were announced. The Local Sections honored were the New York, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Midland, Mid-Hudson and Kentucky Lake local sections. Additional Awards were also presented to deserving local sections.

The COUNCIL approved a broad change in the ACS Electoral Districts to roughly equalize the six electoral districts. The COUNCIL voted to change the name of the Syracuse local section to the Central New York local section. The COUNCIL voted to allow the dissolution of the Monmouth County Local Section.

Divisions: The COUNCIL voted, in a close decision, against changing the name of the Division of Colloid and Surface Science to the Division of Colloids, Surfaces and Nanomaterials.

Special Discussion Item: What can we – as the Society and as individual citizens – do to help create jobs or demand for chemists? ACS President Marinda Wu presented recommendations from the presidential task force “Vision 2025: Helping ACS Members to Thrive in the Global Chemistry Enterprise” Following the presentation, numerous Councilors engaged in a discussion of this focused topic on possibilities to encourage jobs creation and offered several suggestions.

Board of Directors Open Meeting: At the open meeting on Sunday, Alan Alda presented a very well attended presentation entitled “Helping the Public Get Beyond a Blind Date with Science.”

If you have any questions and/or comments about the above actions, please contact me or one of your other councilors. You may contact me by email (barbaramoriarty0@gmail.com).

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