

## **Report of Council Meeting Held on August 22, 2007 at the Grand Ballroom in the Sheraton Boston Hotel in Boston, Massachusetts**

The 234<sup>th</sup> National Meeting of the ACS was held in Boston, MA from August 19-23, 2007. The Chicago section was represented by eleven councilors and one alternate councilor. The councilors who attended for the section were: Cherlyn Bradley (Committee on Committees), Charles Cannon (Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs), Mark Cesa (Committee on Chemical Safety), David Crumrine (Committee on Chemical Safety), Herb Golinkin, Russell Johnson (Committee on Public Relations and Communications), Fran Kravitz (Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs), Milt Levenberg, Claude Lucchesi (Committee on Chemistry and Public Affairs), Barbara Moriarty (Divisional Activities Committee) and Susan Shih. The alternate councilor representing the section was Ken Fivizzani (Committee on Chemical Safety). You will notice that I have also listed national committee assignments, so that you know how else our councilors and alternate councilor represent the section.

The council recognized Seymour Patinkin for his 30 years of service as a councilor and the council recognized Cherlyn Bradley for her 15 years of service. The council also recognized Fran Kravitz for her service on the Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs.

**Finances:** The Committee on Budget and Finance reported that the Society is expected to end 2007 with a net contribution from operations of \$7.5 million, which is expected to be \$139,000 favorable to the approved budget.

**Governance:** The council selected members for the Committee on Nominations and Elections, the Committee on Committees and the Council Policy Committee for 2008-2010. None of the Chicago Section councilors were running for election, and so no one from the section was elected.

The Council VOTED to continue the Committee on Nomenclature, Terminology and Symbols. The Council also VOTED to support the request of the Committee on Chemists with Disabilities that its status be changed from an "other committee" of the Board to a joint Board-Council Committee. The Council VOTED to change the acronym for Project SEED and to amend its charge. The acronym SEED now will stand for "Summer Experiences for the Economically Disadvantaged."

The Governance Review Task Force held a summit to discuss ACS Committee structure in July. Based on this meeting, a report was prepared with a number of future actions, which have been directed to the appropriate committees. Because the work of this task force is completed, the Council Policy Committee voted to discharge the task force, subject to concurrence by the Board of Directors.

The Council VOTED to accept the petition on Local Section Affiliations.

**Meetings and Expositions:** The 234<sup>th</sup> ACS national meeting attracted 15,344 registrants as of August 21, 2007. This included 3,518 students or 22.9% of the total. The Committee on Meetings and Expositions reported that the Chicago meeting scheduled for 2011 has been moved to Denver, CO. The explanation for this action was that there were a lot of negative comments on the logistics of the Chicago meeting. The committee chair reported that a survey was done on randomly selected registrants for the meeting, which validated the meeting logistics problems. While Chicago section councilors expressed concerns about the manner in which the survey was performed and the impact on students (the percentage of students attending the Chicago meeting was 34.8% of the total registrants), the meeting has still been moved. In addition, due to construction delays on the convention center in New York city, the committee has recommended that this meeting be moved to Philadelphia, PA, with a change in dates, subject to Board approval. The Committee also approved an increase of ten dollars for the 2008 national meetings advanced registration fees. Please contact me if you are concerned about the move of the Chicago meeting to Denver. While I do not think that there is anything we can do, I do think that we should express our concerns.

**Economic and Professional Affairs:** As of the end of Tuesday, there were 1520 job seekers at Chemjobs Career Center and 911 posted positions available from 126 employers. The latest revision of the Academic Professional Guidelines was presented for comment. If you re interested in these proposed guidelines, contact Fran Kravitz. Comments from members are due to Bruce Millar at [b\\_millar@acs.org](mailto:b_millar@acs.org) before November 30, 2007.

**Membership:** The Committee on Membership Affairs reported that the total membership is 1,100 ahead of where membership was last July, while the number of unpaid memberships is less than this time a year ago.

**Special Discussion Topic – ACS Policy Development and Advocacy Efforts:** The discussion focused on how ACS develops policy statements and their advocacy efforts. The discussion focused on three questions: 1) How can ACS encourage more members to participate by bringing their expertise to the development of more targeted policy positions, 2) What can ACS do to increase member involvement in public policy advocacy and 3) How can ACS be a more effective leader in policy activities in the broader science and technology communities? One of the messages that I heard was the impact of the Legislative Action Network (LAN), a free Web-based legislative action tool.. Since January 2006, LAN members have sent 15,183 letters to George Bush, the senators and our representatives in the US House of Representatives. These letters helped in the passage of the America Competes Act, signed on August 9, 2007. This act authorizes \$43.3 billion over three years for R&D and science education. If you are not a LAN member, please join. Also, if you know others who are not ACS members, encourage them to join.

If you have any questions and/or comments about the above actions, please contact me by email ([bmoriarty@nalco.com](mailto:bmoriarty@nalco.com)).

**Barbara Moriarty**