

Report of Council Meeting Held on August 31, 2011 at the Hyatt Regency Convention Center Hotel in Denver, CO

The 242nd National Meeting of the ACS was held in Denver, CO, from August 28 – September 1, 2011. The theme of this meeting was “Chemistry of Air, Space and Water.” The Chicago section was fully represented by Cherlyn Bradley, Charles Cannon, Mark Cesa, David Crumrine, Herb Golinkin, Russell Johnson, Fran Kravitz, Milt Levenberg, Inessa (Gorelik) Miller, Barbara Moriarty and Susan Shih.

Finances: The Committee on Budget and Finance reported that the Society is expected to end 2011 \$18.3 million favorable to the approved budget. The Society is meeting four out of the five financial guidelines established by the Board. Four programs funding requests were reapproved – ACS Fellows, ACS Leadership, ACS Scholars and ACS Global Research Experiences, Exchanges and Training (GREET). In addition, funding was approved for a new ACS Entrepreneur Initiative.

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, Rigoberto Hernandez, Helen (Bonnie) Lawlor, Zaida Morales-Martinez, Howard Peters and Sara Risch were elected. For the Council Policy Committee, Lawrence Barton, Peter Jurs, Mamie Moy and Eleanor Siebert were elected. For the Committee on Nominations and Elections, William (Jack) Breazeale, Jr., Catherine Fenselau, Lydia Hines, Anne O’Brien and Andrea Twiss-Brooks were elected.

The Council also recognized the service of councilors, including Fran Kravitz, who has recognized the Chicago local section for 20 years.

The candidates for the fall 2011 ACS national election for President-Elect 2011 are Dennis Chamot and Marinda Li Wu. Candidates for Directors-at-Large, who are elected by Council are Ken Anderson, William Carroll, Jr., Charles Kolb and Barbara Sawrey.

A petition on Position Statements was approved by Council. This petition ensures that the Board of Directors has sole authority in issuing position statements that establish policy for the entire ACS.

Meetings and Expositions: As of September 1, 2011, the ACS fall national meeting had attracted 10,076 registrants including 6,088 regular attendees, 2,376 students, 218 guests, 394 exhibit only and 1000 exhibitors.

Membership: The society’s 2011 membership numbers are stable, remaining near 163,000. The Student Member community has continued to grow since creation of this new member category in June 2009 with 15,702 student members of the society at the end of July.

Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs: The career fair at the meeting had 765 job seekers, 51 employers and 261 jobs posted. The number of employers and jobs posted has improved from the previous meeting. In addition, a virtual career fair was also held. A presidential task force on Innovation and Job Creation was released during this meeting. As a way to meet some of the recommendations for the report, CEPA is one of the committees providing support and guidance for the new ACS Entrepreneur Initiative.

Local Sections: The winners of the Awards for Outstanding local sections were announced. The Northeastern local section, along with San Diego, Indiana, Midland, Savannah River and Alaska local sections were recognized.

Divisions: The council voted to approve the combination of the Division of Petroleum Chemistry and the Division of Fuel Chemistry to form a new division called the Division of Energy and Fuels. The Council also voted to grant full status to the Division of Catalysis Science and Technology.

Special Discussion Item: How can ACS best cultivate a culture of safety in US universities and colleges? After a brief presentation by President Nancy Jackson, council engaged in a discussion on the question “How can ACS best cultivate a culture of safety in US universities and colleges?” Many suggestions were expressed by councilors.

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 (bmoriarty@nalco.com).

Barbara Moriarty