

**COUNCILOR TALKING POINTS**  
**SUMMARY OF GOVERNANCE ACTIONS/REPORTS**

**AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY**  
**242nd ACS NATIONAL MEETING**  
**DENVER, CO**  
**AUGUST 28- SEPTEMBER 1, 2011**

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 2011 fall national meeting.

**ACTIONS OF THE COUNCIL**

**Election Results**

- The Committee on Nominations and Elections presented to the Council the following slate of candidates for membership on the **Committee on Committees** beginning in 2012: Matthew K. Chan, Richard S. Danchik, Rigoberto Hernandez, Roland F. Hirsch, James M. Landis, Jr., Helen (Bonnie) A. Lawlor, Zaida C. Morales-Martinez, Howard M. Peters, Sara J. Risch and Jason E. Ritchie. By electronic ballot, the Council elected Rigoberto Hernandez, Helen (Bonnie) A. Lawlor, Zaida C. Morales-Martinez, Howard M. Peters and Sara J. Risch for the 2012-2014 term.
- The Committee on Nominations and Elections presented to the Council the following slate of candidates for membership on the **Council Policy Committee** beginning in 2012: Spiro D. Alexandratos, Lawrence Barton, Michael J. Brownfield, John W. Finley, Mark D. Frishberg, Peter C. Jurs, Mamie W. Moy, and Eleanor D. Siebert. By electronic ballot, the Council elected Lawrence Barton, Peter C. Jurs, Mamie W. Moy, and Eleanor D. Siebert for the 2012-2014 term.
- The Council Policy Committee presented to the Council the following slate of candidates for membership on the **Committee on Nominations and Elections** beginning in 2012: R. Gerald Bass, Cherlynlavaughn Bradley, William H. (Jack) Breazeale, Jr., Catherine C. Fenselau, Lydia E. M. Hines, Robert L. Lichter, Anne T. O'Brien, Robert A. Pribush, Andrea B. Twiss-Brooks, and Steven W. Yates. By electronic ballot, the Council elected William H. (Jack) Breazeale, Jr., Catherine C. Fenselau, Lydia E. M. Hines, Anne T. O'Brien, and Andrea B. Twiss-Brooks for the 2012-2014 term.

**Candidates for President-Elect and Board of Directors**

- The candidates for the fall 2011 ACS national election were announced as follows:

Candidates for President-Elect, 2012

Dr. Dennis Chamot, Associate Executive Director, Division of Engineering and Physical Sciences, National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC

Dr. Marinda Li Wu, Founder and President, *Science is Fun!*, Orinda, CA

Candidates for Directors-at-Large, 2012-2014

Dr. Ken B. Anderson, Professor of Geochemistry, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, IL and CEO, Thermaquatica Inc., Carbondale, IL

Dr. William F. Carroll, Jr., Vice President, Industry Issues, Occidental Chemical Corporation, Dallas, TX

Dr. Charles E. Kolb, President/CEO Aerodyne Research, Inc. Billerica, MA

Dr. Barbara A. Sawrey, Associate Vice Chancellor, Undergraduate Education, University of California, San Diego, CA

Candidates for District III Director, 2012-2014

Dr. Pat N. Confalone, DuPont, Vice President, Global R&D, Crop Protection, Wilmington, DE

Dr. David J. Lohse, Retired, Distinguished Research Associate, ExxonMobil Research & Engineering Co., Annandale, NJ

Candidates for District VI Director, 2012-2014

Dr. Bonnie A. Charpentier, Vice President, Regulatory and Quality Metabolex, Inc., Oakland, CA

Dr. Carlos G. Gutierrez, Professor of Chemistry, California State University, Los Angeles, CA

**Petitions**

(For Action)

- The Council received one amendment (petition) to the ACS Constitution and Bylaws for action: The Petition on Position Statements. The Council VOTED to approve the Petition on Position Statements, which allows for clear and consistent position development for the Society. The petition assures that the Board of Directors has sole authority in issuing position statements that establish policy for the full Society; and that Society bodies other than the Board may issue statements on issues that fall solely in their jurisdiction so long as they do not impair other Society bodies' ability to do the same. The Board of Directors will vote within 90 days on whether to ratify the approved petition.

(For Consideration)

- The Council also received two amendments (petitions) to the ACS Constitution and Bylaws for consideration: Petition on Market Data Collection and Petition to Amend Recorded Vote Request Procedure. The Petition on Market Data Collection seeks to

add a provision to allow for controlled market testing to collect data before the Society changes benefits, dues, or membership categories. The Petition to Amend Recorded Vote Request Procedure provides that a call for a recorded vote after clicker voting has commenced will be out of order, as would a call for a recorded vote after the initial clicker voting has taken place. Both the Petition on Market Data Collection and the Petition to Amend Recorded Vote Request Procedure will be on the Council agenda for action at the 2012 spring meeting.

### **Committee Review**

- As part of a regular performance review, the Council VOTED to continue the joint Board-Council Committees on Community Activities and on Publications. Continuation of these two committees also requires Board of Directors concurrence.

### **Meeting Registration Report**

- As of September 1, 2011, the ACS fall national meeting had attracted 10,076 registrants. Totals in select categories are as follows: Regular attendees 6,088; Students 2,376; Guests 218; Exhibit Only 394; and Exhibitors 1,000.

### **Membership Activity**

- Despite the challenging economy and continued high unemployment, the Society's overall membership number remains stable at near 163,000. The number of new undergraduate Student Members is growing rapidly, and as of July 31 the total stands at 15,702. The committee is concentrating its efforts on retaining current members.

### **Special Discussion Item**

- A special discussion item was put on the Council agenda for this meeting. ACS President Nancy Jackson presented and moderated a discussion on how ACS can best cultivate a culture of safety in US universities and colleges. At the 2011 ACS national meeting in Anaheim, the Committee on Chemical Safety launched an effort to identify ways to assist academia in strengthening and building strong safety cultures. Devastating incidents in academic laboratories and observations by many that graduates do not have strong safety skills have elevated concerns about the safety culture in academia. Following Dr. Jackson's presentation, Councilors engaged in robust discussion on this very timely topic, with numerous suggestions by 42 different Councilors.

### **Changes in Technical Divisions**

- The Council VOTED to grant full division status to the previously probationary Division of Catalysis Science and Technology, and to approve the proposed bylaws of this division.
- After a lively discussion, the Council VOTED 53% - 47% to dissolve the Division of Petroleum Chemistry and to combine its assets and members with those of the

Division of Fuel Chemistry under the new name of the Division of Energy and Fuels, effective December 31, 2011. The discussion centered largely around the name, rather than the merger.

### **Employment, Economic, and Professional Activities**

ACS has created new programs to assist unemployed members and new resources for all members, from students to seasoned professionals. The first ever fully integrated onsite and virtual career fair in Denver offered job seekers and virtual participants via webcam the opportunity to interact with each other and to connect with prospective employers and programs to sharpen their career skills. The number of employers was up from Anaheim.

The Presidential Task Force on Innovation and Job Creation released their report, entitled “Innovation, Chemistry & Jobs.” The report contained four recommendations to stimulate innovation and job creation in the US chemical industry. The Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA) and Corporation Associates co-sponsored a new program funding request to establish an entrepreneurial initiative, which would implement two of the four recommendations. First, it establishes an educational program to guide budding entrepreneurs through the creation of new chemical businesses. Second, it supports the formation of new chemical companies by providing access to the unparalleled informational resources of the Society, as well as other professional resources. The initiative was approved by the Board, and will be implemented early next year.

CEPA is also working with ACS President Nancy Jackson, members of the Board, and other committees on the “Paying It Forward” campaign. Dr. Jackson kicked off the campaign with her comment in the August 8 issue of C&EN, emphasizing the need for, and importance of members helping members. She asks each of the Society’s more than 163,000 members to help unemployed members by taking specific action now. Dr. Jackson’s comment will be followed by four other C&EN comments.

Because networking is especially important in a down economy, CEPA and ACS Career Services co-sponsored the largest networking event in ACS history. The ACS Global Networking Reception allowed Denver attendees and others to attend a seminar entitled “Networking 101 – Making Your Contacts Count,” and then practice networking with local sections, student chapters, international chapters, and individuals all over the world joined electronically.

In another exciting initiative, the Chemical Entrepreneurship Council (CEC) has assembled. The group consists of the Women Chemists Committee, the Committee on Science, the Division of Small Chemical Businesses, the Division of Business Development and Management, the National Collegiate Inventors and the Innovators Alliance. This self-organized working group is concerned with providing the resources and skills necessary for chemists to translate research into innovations which can become commercial products. The outputs for the CEC decided at the Denver meeting to include

education and training, a roadmap to inventory resources, and outreach for member engagement.

### **Update on ACS vs. Leadscope Litigation**

The Chair of the Board gave an update on the Leadscope case. She reported previously that ACS had appealed to the Ohio State Supreme Court and that the Court has agreed to hear the case. In written briefs filed in support of the Society's position (that the lower court rulings were both unfair and unconstitutional), ACS has been joined by several prestigious organizations. In April, the Leadscope defendants filed two motions seeking to dismiss the Society's appeal. In June, the Ohio Supreme Court denied their motions and has scheduled oral arguments for September 7 in Columbus, Ohio.

## **ACTIONS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **The Board's Committees and Working Groups**

The Board of Directors received reports from its committees on Professional & Member Relations (P&MR), Grants and Awards (G&A), Planning, Executive Committee (EC), Executive Compensation, and Budget and Finance (B&F).

On the recommendation of the Committee on Professional & Member Relations, the Board VOTED to approve guidelines for weighing selection and engagement in human rights cases, wherever they occur.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Grants and Awards, the Board VOTED to approve nominations for the AAAS Scientific Freedom & Responsibility Award and the NSF Waterman Award.

The Planning Committee reviewed the components of the 2012 strategic plan and a possible change to the committee charter.

The Board's Executive Committee discussed an overlap in scheduling of the June 2012 Board of Directors meeting (May 31- June 3) and the Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting (MARM - May 31- June 2) to be held at the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) campus, which is approximately 20 minutes away from the Board hotel. The committee agreed that the Board should retain its meeting dates but attend as much of the MARM meeting as possible, including its banquet, social events, and possibly open session.

The Board received a briefing from its Committee on Executive Compensation. The compensation of the Society's executive staff receives regular review from the Board.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Budget and Finance (B&F), the Board VOTED to approve an advance member registration fee of \$360 for national meetings held in 2012. The Board also considered several program funding requests, and on the

recommendation of B&F VOTED to reauthorized funding for inclusion in the 2012 proposed budget for the following programs:

- ACS Fellows
- ACS Leadership
- ACS Scholars
- ACS Global Research Experiences, Exchanges, and Training Program (GREET)

The Board also VOTED, as recommended by B&F, to include funding in the 2012 and 2013 budget for a new program – the ACS Entrepreneurship Initiative.

B&F considered a proposal from the Council Policy Committee (CPC) regarding the Committee Travel Expense Reimbursement Policy approved by CPC in March 2011. The policy would allow reimbursement of travel costs to committee meetings held during the ACS national meetings for non-councilor committee members. After some discussion, the Board VOTED, as recommended by B&F, to adopt the non-councilor reimbursement policy as presented by CPC (at the rate of 50% of the Councilor travel reimbursement) effective 2012.

### **Financial Planning Conference Recommendations**

The Board reviewed and VOTED to accept several recommendations from its Financial Planning Conference, held June 1-3, 2011. The purpose of this conference was to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the Society's current financial position; review the appropriateness and adequacy of the Society's current financial guidelines; and assess the Society's changing risk profile and the potential implications for major ACS funding sources over the next three years.

### **The Executive Director/CEO Report**

The Executive Director/CEO and her direct reports updated the Board on the following: the status of recommendations from the Executive Director/CEO's report on "Challenges Facing ACS 2011-2015;" and the activities of CAS (Chemical Abstracts Service), the ACS Publications Division, and the Society's General Counsel. The General Counsel report included an update on the ACS vs. Leadscope litigation.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Publications, the Board VOTED to approve the reappointment of two journal editors and the appointment of a new editor. The Board also VOTED to approve an appointment to its Governing Board for Publishing.

### **Other Society Issues**

The Board agreed to accept an invitation from the National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCCHE) to meet with representatives of the ACS Board of Directors in 2012 to discuss further areas for collaboration. Members of the Board's Executive Committee and the chair of the

Committee on Grants and Awards will be meeting with NOBCCChE at a mutually agreed time and date in 2012.

International dignitaries representing the Canadian Society for Chemistry, the German Chemical Society, IUPAC and the Royal Society of Chemistry briefed the Board on their activities and plans to continue and sustain the momentum started during the International Year of Chemistry. The Board also received an update from the ACS President-Elect on his activities and priorities during his presidential year.

By consent, the Board VOTED to approve several actions since its June meeting, including: a resolution in memory of former Board member C. Gordon McCarty and a nomination for the 2012 Othmer Gold Medal.

The Board held a lively, well-attended open session which featured a special forum on what the ACS is doing, or can do, to assist members who are facing employment challenges in uncertain economic times. Members attending this standing-room only session received a brief overview of current and planned resources available to members who are facing employment challenges, followed by an open discussion on how the Society might offer greater assistance.

### **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 cites helpful.

[www.acs.org/acs-presidents](http://www.acs.org/acs-presidents) - Information on ACS past presidents

[prehistory@acs.org](mailto:prehistory@acs.org) – contact information for inclusion or correction of errors on the ACS presidency website

[www.acs.org/creating-jobs](http://www.acs.org/creating-jobs) - Location for the ACS Task Force on Innovation report, “Innovation, Chemistry and Jobs”

[www.acs.org/iyc2011](http://www.acs.org/iyc2011) - Location for International Year of Chemistry activities

ACS Network

<https://communities.acs.org/message/8125#8125> – A link on the ACS Network for ACS Strategic Plan Discussion – public

<https://communities.acs.org/docs/DOC-6168> - A link to the Councilors group – Councilors only

[www.acs.org/goalsurvey](http://www.acs.org/goalsurvey) - Location for the ACS online goal survey for helping to develop the 2012 strategic plan

[Strategicplan@acs.org](mailto:Strategicplan@acs.org) – Contact information for questions/comments regarding the Society’s strategic plan

[www.acs.org/councilreports](http://www.acs.org/councilreports) - Location for all Council reports of the current meeting (fall reports to appear after September 12)

[safety@acs.org](mailto:safety@acs.org) – Contact information for questions/comments about laboratory safety

[www.acswebinars.org/vcf2011](http://www.acswebinars.org/vcf2011) - Information on the ACS webinars and virtual career fairs

[bylaws@acs.org](mailto:bylaws@acs.org) – Contact information for questions/comments about the Society's bylaws

[www.acs.org/bulletin5](http://www.acs.org/bulletin5) - Location for the Society's governing documents (Constitution, Bylaws, Regulations)

[www.acs.org/bechemists](http://www.acs.org/bechemists) - Information on a campaign to remind recent graduates of the benefits of ACS membership

[outreach@acs.org](mailto:outreach@acs.org) – Contact information on outreach activities through the Committee on Community Activities