# COUNCILOR TALKING POINTS SUMMARY OF GOVERNANCE ACTIONS/REPORTS

# AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY 240th ACS NATIONAL MEETING BOSTON, MA AUGUST 22-26, 2010

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 2010 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 2011: Janet L. Bryant, H. N. Cheng, Alan W. Elzerman, Amber S. Hinkle, Roland F. Hirsch, Ann H. Hunt, V. Michael Mautino, Roger A. Parker, Yorke E. Rhodes, and Steven W. Yates. By electronic ballot, the Council elected Janet L. Bryant, H. N. Cheng, Amber S. Hinkle, V. Michael Mautino, and Yorke E. Rhodes for the 2011-2013 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 2011: John E. Adams, Lawrence Barton, Alan B. Cooper, Alan M. Ehrlich, Mary Virginia Orna, Sally B. Peters, Dorothy J. Phillips, and Donivan R. Porterfield. By electronic ballot, the Council elected John E. Adams, Alan M. Ehrlich, Mary Virginia Orna, and Dorothy J. Phillips for the 2011-2013 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 2011: Jeannette E. Brown, Martha L. Casey, D. Richard Cobb, Lissa Dulany, John W. Finley, Martin L. Gorbaty, Melanie J. Lesko, David J. Lohse, Herbert B. Silber, and Angela K. Wilson. By electronic ballot, the Council elected Jeannette E. Brown, Martha L. Casey, D. Richard Cobb, Lissa Dulany, and Angela K. Wilson for the 2011-2013 term.

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

• The candidates for the fall 2010 ACS national election were announced as follows:

## **President-Elect 2011**

Luis A. Echegoyen, Professor, University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, TX Bassam Z. Shakhashiri, Professor, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI

# Directors-at-Large - 2011-2013

Janan M. Hayes, (Retired) Professor Emeritus, Merced College, Sacramento, CA Robert L. Lichter, Principal and Co-Founder, Merrimack Consultants, LLC, Barrington, MA

Kathleen M. Schulz, President, Business Results Inc., Albuquerque, NM Kent J. Voorhees, Professor, Colorado School of Mines, Golden, CO

# **Director, District II - 2011-2013**

George M. Bodner, Professor, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN Joseph R. Peterson (Retired) Professor Emeritus, University of Tennessee, and (Retired) Oak Ridge National Lab, Knoxville, TN

# Director, District IV - 2011-2013

Larry K. Krannich, Professor Emeritus, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL

Will E. Lynch, Professor, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, GA

#### **Petitions**

(For Action)

• The Council received one amendment to the ACS Constitution and Bylaws for action: The Petition on Recorded Votes. The Council VOTED to approve the Petition on Recorded Votes. This petition provides for additional voting methods, e.g., electronic clickers that have been recently used at Council meetings, when conducting recorded votes. The Board of Directors will vote within 90 days on whether to ratify the approved petition.

# (Withdrawn)

• The Council was advised that two petitions that would have been up for action at this meeting were withdrawn: The Petition on President-Elect Eligibility and the Petition on International Chemical Sciences Chapters. The Petition on President-Elect Eligibility requires that nominees or candidates for President-Elect come from an academic background every other election, and that only those from non-academic backgrounds would be eligible in the alternate years. The International Chemical Sciences Chapters petition provides for travel funds for either the Chair or Chair-Elect of International Chemical Sciences Chapters to attend governance meetings at twice the amount allotted for a Councilor.

### **Committee Review**

 As part of a regular performance review, the Council VOTED to continue the Committee on Science. Continuation of the Committee on Science also requires Board of Directors concurrence.

# **Meeting Registration Report**

• As of August 24, 2010, the ACS fall national meeting had attracted 14,059 registrants. Totals in select categories are as follows: Regular attendees 8,211; Students 3,230; Guests 393; Exhibit Only 733; and Exhibitors 1,492.

## **Membership Activity**

• The 2010 membership numbers are on track to meet year-end goals. The Student Member community has continued to grow since creation of this new member category in June 2009. The number of Student Members was 12,815 as of July 31, 2010.

# **Special Discussion Item**

• A special discussion item was put on the Council agenda for this meeting. ACS President Joseph Francisco invited the Council Policy Committee Vice Chair to present a proposal to move Council meetings from Wednesdays to Tuesdays. The proposal included survey results from Councilors and other stakeholders followed by a robust discussion on the pros and cons of a move. Councilors concluded their discussion with a straw poll that showed 128 are supportive of the proposed move of Council to Tuesdays, 225 oppose the move, and 56 are undecided. The Council Policy Committee and the Board of Directors will decide by spring 2011 whether the Council should move from Wednesday to Tuesday.

# **Local Section Changes in Territories and Dissolution**

- The Council VOTED to change the territory of the Northeast Oklahoma Local Section to include all members residing in the North Central Oklahoma Local Section territory. The North Central Oklahoma Local Section will be dissolving on December 31, 2010 because its membership has fallen below the minimum requirement. This change in local section territory allows all members residing in the North Central Oklahoma territory to remain assigned to a local section.
- The Council also VOTED to change the territory of the Binghamton Local Section to include the Norwich Local Section, which will dissolve on December 31, 2010 because its membership also has fallen below the minimum membership requirement. This territory change will allow members residing in the Norwich territory to remain assigned to a local section.

# **ACTIONS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

## The Board's Committees and Working Groups

• The Board of Directors received written and/or oral reports from its Executive Committee and from its committees on Grants and Awards (G&A), Professional & Member Relations (P&MR), Public Affairs and Public Relations (PA&PR), and Budget and Finance (B&F).

- On the recommendation of the Committee on Grants and Awards, the Board VOTED
  to approve nominations for the 2011 Perkin Medal and the National Science Board
  Public Service Award. The Board also approved a new ACS award.
- On the recommendation of the Committee on Professional & Member Relations, the Board VOTED to support the goals and targets developed by the Sustainability Stakeholders Steering Group and its component committees, and find them consistent with the ACS Strategic Plan. The Sustainability Stakeholders Steering Group promotes ACS sustainability leadership through facilitation, coordination, and communication among ACS stakeholders and members.
- The Chair briefed the Board on two items arising from the Executive Committee (EC) meeting, including a status report on the Board's budget and plans for the timing of a financial planning conference and strategic planning retreat, both to take place in 2011.
- The Board was briefed by its working group, which is monitoring the 2010 Board plan for logistics and training. This plan, which includes three broad topic areas and subtopics, is designed to enhance overall Board effectiveness.
- On the recommendation of the Committee on Budget and Finance, the Board VOTED to approve an advance member registration fee of \$355 for national meetings held in 2011. The Board also considered three program funding requests, and on the recommendation of B&F VOTED to take the following actions:
  - o to include funding for the ACS Global Research Experiences, Exchanges and Training (GREET) program in the Society's 2011 Proposed Budget;
  - o to include funding for the *State Government Affairs Program* in the Society's 2011 Proposed Budget and 2012-2013 Forecast; and
  - o to include funding for the *Department of Professional Education* in the 2011 Proposed Budget and 2012-2013 Forecast, subject to annual review. (The *Department of Professional Education* request was treated as a new program request rather than a reauthorization because the focus of the program is being redirected to a customized electronic format.)

# Strategic Issues: Revenue Diversification and ACS Global Presence: What should it look like?

At this meeting, the Board focused its attention on two major strategic issues –
diversification of the Society's revenues and the ACS global presence. The Board
engaged in considerable discussion on these topics and will continue its review of the
ACS global presence topic at its December meeting. The revenue diversification topic
will be included on the agenda of the financial planning conference, scheduled for
June 2011.

## The Executive Director/CEO Report

- The Executive Director/CEO, along with several of her direct reports, updated the Board on ACS and social media, technology trends and their impact on the Society, fundraising priorities for 2011, and the activities of Chemical Abstracts Service, the Publications Division, and the Society's General Counsel – including an update on the Leadscope litigation.
- On the recommendation of the ACS Governing Board for Publishing, the Board VOTED to approve the re-appointment of two journal editors and the appointment of a new editor

# **Compensation of Society Staff**

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

#### Other Board Activities

- The American Chemical Society and the German Chemical Society (Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker GDCh) agreed to enter a three-year collaboration alliance with a strategic focus on communicating the value of chemistry to the general public and the role chemistry plays in addressing global challenges, as well as to identify and support other mutually beneficial services to ACS and GDCh. The signing of this memorandum of understanding took place during a special ceremony at the Board's regular session.
- The Board also received reports from several international guests representing the following scientific societies: the Federation of African Societies of Chemistry, the Federation of Asian Chemical Societies; the Chemical Society of Thailand, the Korean Chemical Society; the Mexican Chemical Society; the Royal Society of Chemistry, and the German Chemical Society.