

## COUNCILOR REPORT

### 236th ACS NATIONAL MEETING

#### PHILADELPHIA, PA, 17-21 AUGUST 2008

Portions of this report are taken directly from "COUNCILOR TALKING POINTS. SUMMARY OF GOVERNANCE ACTIONS/REPORTS" received from Flint H. Lewis, Secretary of the Society. These sections will be in quotations marks, followed by (FHL)

**Divisional Activities Committee-** The Committee met on the mornings of Saturday and Sunday, 16 and 17 of April. Kevin Edgar was Chair. Among the items on the Agenda were:

1. One valid petition to amend the ACS Constitution and/or Bylaws was up FOR ACTION. It will be discussed in detail in the account of the Council Meeting. The impact on Divisions was regarded to be insignificant. DAC chose to take no formal position on this petition.
2. Consideration of a request from the Division of Chemical Technicians for input regarding a name change for the Division, has been deferred until such time as the Division settles its leadership problems.
3. The Division of the History of Chemistry is requesting approval of an Affiliation Agreement with the Chemical Heritage Foundation. It is clear that the Division should have involved the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws at a much earlier date. Now, C&B has raised a number of issues concerning the Division's bylaws. These include nine specific required changes, twelve general suggested changes, and one suggested grammatical correction. The message is transparent: when contemplating major changes, it is best to involve C&B at the earliest opportunity. DAC voted to approve the affiliation contingent upon the approval by the Committee on Constitution & Bylaws.
4. The petition to convert the Catalysis Secretariat into the probationary Division of Catalysis Science and Technology was up FOR ACTION. Prior objections from several Divisions had been arbitrated successfully. Only the Organic Division remained adamantly opposed. DAC voted to approve the formation of this probationary division.
5. Subcommittee Reports: Meetings, Divisional Enhancement, Constitution and Bylaws, and Annual Reports.
6. The Multidisciplinary Program Planning Group (MPPG) appears to be functioning well and there is no need for DAC to maintain a subcommittee on this subject.
7. Reports from Liaisons to other committees: Constitution and Bylaws, Local Section Activities, Membership Affairs, Meetings and Expositions, and Committee on Science.

**Town Hall Meeting-** Sunday, 4:45 pm. The four candidates for 2009-2011 Directors-at-Large:

William F. Carroll, Jr., Occidental Chemical Corporation, Dallas, TX  
Richard L. Deming, California State University-Fullerton, Fullerton, CA  
Thomas R. Gilbert, Northeastern University, Boston, MA  
Marinda Li Wu, Science is Fun!, Orinda, CA

appeared, made brief statements and answered questions.

**District IV Councilors Caucus-** Sunday, 6:00 pm. I had a scheduling conflict and, unfortunately, had to miss this meeting.

## Nominations and Elections (N&E)-

Candidates For President-Elect. Just a reminder! Your choice in the fall election will be between:

Joseph S. Francisco, Purdue University, West LaFayette, IN  
Josef Michl, University of Colorado-Boulder, Boulder, CO

## Candidates for Board Directors from Districts III and VI for the term 2009-2011.

### District III

Pat N. Confalone, DuPont, Wilmington, DE  
Alan B. Cooper, Schering-Plough Research Institute, Kenilworth, NJ

### District VI

Bonnie A. Charpentier, Metabolex, Inc., Hayward, CA  
Gary D. Christian, University of Washington, Seattle, WA

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

### **The Board’s Standing and Special Committees**

- The Board of Directors received reports from its Executive Committee, and the Committees on Grants and Awards, Public Affairs and Public Relations, Professional and Member Relations, and Budget and Finance. On the recommendation of the Committee on Grants and Awards, the board VOTED to approve nominees for the 2009 Perkin Medal and the 2009 Othmer Gold Medal. On the recommendation of the Committee on Professional and Member Relations, the Board VOTED to approve in principle a proposed alliance between the ACS and the RSC titled *Research in Chemistry for Society/Sustainability* (RICHES). On the recommendation of the Committee on Budget and Finance, the Board VOTED to include funding requests for the ACS Leadership Development System and ACS Green Chemistry Institute in the 2009 budget and to accept the 2008 report from Program Review Advisory Group, as amended. The Board also accepted the recommendation from the 2008 Financial Planning Conference with one modification.
- The Board received a status report from its International Strategy Implementation Task Force and an update on plans for a Board-Presidential Task Force on Education.” This “Task Force is charged with implementing the recently approved Society international strategy, and the Board-Presidential Task Force on Education will attempt to answer the question: “What can a Society with 160,000 members uniquely do that can have a transformative effect on education in the United States?”

### **Strategic Issue**

- The Board of Directors continued its deliberations of the global scientific challenge Sustainability (e.g., energy, food, and water) and considered a proposed set of principles from the Committee on Environmental Improvement in this area. Addressing global scientific challenges is fundamental to strategic goal #3: ACS will be a global leader in enlisting the world’s scientific professionals to address, through chemistry, the challenges facing our world.

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

- The Executive Director/CEO, along with several of her direct reports, updated the Board on the following items: the ACS Green Chemistry Institute Strategic Plan; the Web Presence Initiative; emerging issues affecting the Society; recommendations resulting from the new IRS Form 990 filing requirements; and the activities of Chemical Abstract Service, the publication Division, and the Society's General Counsel. The emerging issues discussion was particularly vibrant as the ACS Board considered many of the key factors and trends that effect Society membership. As a follow-up to these reports the Board took several actions. The Board VOTED to amend its Regulations to conform with the new IRS Form 990 filing requirements; and on the recommendation of the joint Board-Council Committee on Publications, the Board VOTED to approve the reappointment of several Society journal editors.

### **Other Society Issues**

- The Board received an update on its substantial progress toward achieving its 2008 goals and discussed a draft of proposed 2009 goals. The Board concluded its session with introductions and briefings from several international dignitaries representing the Royal Society of Chemistry, the German Chemical Society, the European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences, the Canadian Chemical Society, the Mexican Chemical Society, and IUPAC." (FHL)

## **REPORTS OF ELECTED COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL**

**Committee on Nominations and Elections-** Conducted elections in Council for positions on the Committee on Committees, Council Policy Committee, and the Committee on Nominations and Elections. The results are as follows:

- The Committee on Committees for a 2009-2011 term. By written ballot, the Council elected:  
Cheryl Inlavaughn Bradley  
Rigoberto Hernandez  
James M. Landis  
Howard M. Peters  
Sara J. Risch
- The Council Policy Committee for a 2009-2011 term. By written ballot, the Council elected:  
Ray A. Dickie  
Bonnie A. Lawlor  
Mamie W. Moy  
Eleanor D. Siebert
- The Committee on Nominations and Elections for a 2009-2011 term, unless otherwise noted. By written ballot, the Council elected:  
W. H. (Jack) Breazeale, Jr.  
Peter K. Dorhut  
Catherine C. Fenselau  
Peter C. Jurs

Andrea B. Twiss-Brooks  
Angela K. Wilson (2009-2010)  
Dwight W. Chasar (remainder of a 2007-2009 term)

## **REPORTS OF ELECTED COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL**

**Committee on Committees.** “As part of a regular review, the Council VOTED to continue the Committee on Chemistry and Public Affairs, and the Committee on Patents and Related Matters.” The former “is responsible for advice and recommendations for ACS action on public policy matters involving the chemical sciences and technologies.” The latter “considers patents and other related items insofar as such consideration and possible action are appropriate under the Society’s Charter.” (FHL)

## **REPORTS OF SOCIETY COMMITTEES AND THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE**

**Committee on Budget and Finance.** The Society ended 2007 with a net contribution from operations of \$9.6 million, on revenues of \$444.2 million and expenses of 434.6 million. This result was \$2.2 million favorable to the Approved Budget. After including the results of the Member Insurance Program and New Ventures, the Society’s overall net contribution for 2007 was \$10.7 million, which was \$5.4 million favorable to the Approved Budget. In addition, the Society ended the year in compliance with the Board-established financial guidelines.

The probable year end projection for 2008 sees a net contribution from operations of \$9.1 million, a budget variance of \$24,000. favorable. Compliance with the Board-established financial guidelines is likely with the possible exception of the Fund Balance Ratio, a measure of reserve adequacy. The Fund Balance Ratio is defined as the ratio of Year End Unrestricted Net Assets to next Year’s Operating Budget. The Board is monitoring the Fund Balance Ratio.

## **REPORTS OF COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEES**

**Committee on Membership Affairs-** By a show of hands, “the Council VOTED to accept the Petition on Society Affiliate Dues. The petition raises Society Affiliate dues to be equal to the (full) membership dues, while specifying that Society Affiliates are not subject to any of the discounts otherwise applicable to membership dues.” (FHL) This amendment will become effective five months after confirmation by the Board of Directors.

**Committee on Divisional Activities-** After a motion to recommit failed, by a show of hands “The Council VOTED as recommended by DAC, to accept a revised division funding (allocation) formula. DAC reported that the formula improves clarity, offers simplicity, and rewards collaborative programming between divisions. The change will take effect in 2009 for 2008 activities.” (FHL)

By a show of hands, “the Council also VOTED to approve the formation of the Probationary Division of Catalysis Science and Technology. The primary objective of this probationary division is to provide a “home” for the chemical science of catalysis within the ACS in a way that will insure a continual connection between this science and the essential chemical technology of catalysis.” (FHL)

**Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs-** The latest version of the Professional Employment Guidelines was submitted for consideration. “These guidelines offer a broad spectrum of recommended practices in employment for professional scientists and their

employers. The Council will vote on the Professional Employment Guidelines at the 2009 spring meeting in Salt Lake City.” (FHL)

The ACS Career Fair at this meeting featured 1266 interviews, 515 positions available, and 84 employers.

**Committee on Meetings and Expositions-** “In 2007, the number of paid new members nominated by current ACS members was 1,559. Currently, there are 988 paid new member applications. The Society’s Member-Get-A-Member program is on track to have its best year ever.” (FHL)

It was announced that the ACS fall national meeting had attracted 14,026 registrants, including 3,085 students, and 481 guests. In the Exhibition, there were 1,490 Exhibitors, representing 357 companies, using 511 booths. Exhibit-only registration was 546. There were 15 workshops offered.

“In keeping with the objective of the National Meeting Long Range Financial Plan, previously approved by the Board of Directors and Council, the meetings and Expositions Committee voted to support an increase of \$10 for the 2009 national meetings advance registration fee.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. James A. Walsh, Councilor  
Tampa Bay Local Section  
2 September 2008