

COUNCILOR' S REPORT FROM PHILADELPHIA

Dr. James A. Walsh

The 228th ACS National Meeting was held in Philadelphia, PA, 22-26 August 2004. My committee assignments remain as reported for the previous meeting. On 1 Jan, Dwight Chasar will replace Ruth Hathaway as Chair, Division Activities Committee (DAC).

DAC/LSAC Joint Subcommittee on Local Section/Division Interactions. There is money available from both LSAC and DAC for funding Innovative Programs exploiting Local Section and Division interactions. In theory, one Local Section cooperating with one Division could receive as much as \$8,000, half from each funding source. Nothing prohibits a Local Section from asking a Division to identify a contact person.

DAC. In the way of new Agenda items, the following thought question was posed: If the ACS was being organized from scratch, and Divisions were not an option, what form would the interest groups take? This question anticipated the "diversity" discussion in Council on Wednesday, as well as a conference of divisional representatives to be held in Charlotte, NC, 1-3 Oct 2005.

In a closed session of the Divisional Enhancement Subcommittee, 14 proposals from 11 Divisions, requesting \$63,928. of Innovative Program Funding, were evaluated. The Subcommittee had only \$51,000. available for allocation. The proposals were discussed and ranked. Funding totaling about \$45,500. was voted for nine of the Divisions. Later the Chair, and the Chair-Designate decided to adjust the numbers and to allocate the full \$51,000 among the nine divisions receiving funds.

Several divisions expressed concerns that the abstracts of the papers to be presented at this meeting did not arrive in time for member access before the meeting. With no warning, they were delivered late, in some case to the wrong person, and in a new format. There does seem to be a communication problem and divisions are advised that they may need to keep close check on the process until all the bugs are worked out.

Most likely as a result of legal counseling, committee members were cautioned about note-taking and record-retention. Henceforth, minutes will contain only action items. The Agenda Book is considered a legal document and should not be written in. It was suggested that notes and the Agenda Book be destroyed after the meeting is over. On the face of it, this goes counter to everything I was taught about record-keeping in graduate school. If there are convincing reasons for this caution, what are we to do with these Councilor Reports?

The Council Meeting. Elections were conducted by written ballot in Council for three elected Council Committees. For the Committee on Committees, Lawrence Barton, Lissa Dulany, Larry Krannich, Mary Virginia Orna, and Eleanor Siebert were elected for the 2005-2007 term. For the Council Policy Committee, Rita Boggs, Dean Cooke, Yorke Rhodes, and Peter Stang were elected for the 2005-2007 term. For the Committee on Nominations and Elections, Frank Blum, Michael Doyle, Carol Duane, Ruth Hathaway, and Kathleen Schulz were elected for the 2005-2007 term; Merle Eiss for a 2005-2006 term, and Ellen Stechel for a 2005 term.

For the fall 2004 ACS national elections, the candidates are:

President-Elect 2005

- * E. Ann Nalley, Cameron University, Lawton, Oklahoma
- F. Sherwood Rowland, University of California, Irvine, California
- Isiah M. Warner, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Director-at-Large, 2005-2007

- David F. Eaton, Light Insights, LLC, Wilmington
- * Judith C. Giordan, Visions in Education, Inc., Pleasanton, California
 - * Howard M. Peters, Peters, Verny, Jones & Schmitt, LLP, Palo Alto, California
 - * David N. Rahni, Pace University, Pleasantville, New York

For the fall 2004 District Director elections, the candidates are:

Director, District II, 2005-2007

Thomas H. Lane, Dow Corning Corporation, Midland, Michigan
Diane G. Schmidt, Proctor & Gamble Company, Cincinnati, Ohio

Director, District IV, 2005-2007

Eric D. Bigham, GlaxoSmithKline, Chapel Hill, North Carolina
Paul R. Jones, University of North Texas, Denton, Texas
Robert L. Lichter, Merrimack Consultants, LLC, Atlanta, Georgia
* John L. Massingill, Jr., Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas

* indicates a petition candidate.

Recently, the Committee on Nominations and Elections, on its own authority, decided to reduce the allowable length for candidate statements for President-Elect and the Board of directors from 1000 words to 750. A resolution from the floor (Pavlath) that it was the sense of the Council to advise N&E that the upper limit on the length of these statements should be at least 1000 words was defeated 196-206 by a standing vote.

Committee on Committees. This Committee proposed the establishment of an Ethics Committee as an Other Committee of the Council. Discussion revealed that a number of other Council Committees have components that deal with ethical issues. It was not clear that adding another committee to the mix, with overlapping jurisdictions, would improve the situation. The proposal was referred back to committee by voice vote.

Committee on Nominations and Elections. A petition to amend the Constitution and Bylaws to allow the option of electronic voting was presented. A motion to recommit (Pavlath) failed by voice vote. A very good slide presentation explained how the system would work. The motion passed by a voice vote. Board and member approval will be sought this fall. If successful, it could begin to operate in 2005. Note that the legislation is permissive and not obligatory.

Committee on Budget and Finance. The Society is projected to end 2004 with a net contribution from operations of \$1,531,000, which is \$60,000 favorable to the approved budget.

Special Discussion Item. ACS President Charles Casey and Board Chair James Burke led the Council in a discussion of Multidisciplinary Opportunities. There is a concern that Multidisciplinary is diluting Chemistry as a discipline and that this may have a negative effect on ACS members and the profession. Questions were raised about the way the federal government identifies jobs held by chemists. The discipline is being fragmented into Nano-Science, Molecular Biology, Bio-Pharma, Computational Chemistry, Materials Science, and Engineering. The Board of Directors and the ACS President have established a joint Board-Council task force, with Paul Reider as Chair, to assess the challenges and opportunities that multidisciplinary presents to the ACS and chemical scientists in general. Certainly the ACS Strategic Plan bears on this. There will be an impact on Education and on the Economic and Professional Affairs of the Society. A major consideration is "How does the ACS provide a home for Multidisciplinary Chemists?"

Committee on Membership Affairs. As of 30 Jun 2004, total ACS membership stood at 154,945. This represents less than a 1% decrease from last year. There was a 50% increase in the number of recent graduates joining the Society. At the end of June, more than 6,800 new members had been added to the membership rolls.

The petition, Membership Requirements For Teachers, was introduced. This petition would allow experienced qualified teachers, who may not otherwise fully meet the membership requirements, to become members based on their status and experience. Pre-college or allied science teachers would be allowed to become associate members. The petition passed by voice vote.

Committee on Divisional Activities. Actions have been summarized. The next Division Officers Orientation will be 28-30 Jan 2005 in Baltimore.

The petition to change Division Annual Report Deadline to make it consistent with the annual report deadline for Local Sections passed by voice vote.

Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs. The committee presented for Council approval the 7th Edition of the ACS Professional Employment Guidelines. These offer a variety of recommended practices in employment for professional scientists and their employers in today's workplace. It was approved by voice vote.

The employment clearing house has 1556 job seekers and 107 employers conducted 1639 interviews.

Committee on Local section Activities. Tuesday evening, 24 Aug 2004, the Committee presented the 2003 Awards for Outstanding Performance by Local Sections at the 6th Annual ChemLuminary Awards ceremony. The award-winning sections were Chicago (very large), Delaware (large), Princeton (medium-large), Richland (medium), Peoria (medium-small), and Indiana/Kentucky Border (small).

The award for "Best Activity or program Stimulating Membership Involvement" was presented to the Midland Section. The award for "Most Innovative New Activity or Program" went to the Western New York Section. The award for "The most Innovative Use of Technology" went to the North Carolina Section. The award for "Best Activity Involving a Local Section-Division Interaction" was presented to the Chicago Local Section and the Division of Professional Relations for cosponsoring a symposium at the Great lakes Regional Meeting on the issues surrounding the use of part-time faculty by institutions of higher education.

The "Local Section Innovative Projects Grant Program" has awarded 35 local sections with a total of \$76,091 in funding during the first year of the program. All local sections are encouraged to submit proposals by the next deadlines, 1 Oct 2004 and 1 Apr 2005. For details on proposal guidelines go to www.chemistry.org/localsections.

The Council approved a petition for a change in name from the Peoria Section to the Illinois Heartland Section. The Council also approved a petition for change in section territory for the Wichita Falls-Duncan Local Section.

Committee on Meetings and Expositions. As of 24 Aug 2004, the ACS fall national meeting had attracted 13,805 registrants as follows: 7,741 regular attendees, 2,919 students, 482 guests, 734 Exhibit only, and 1,929 Exhibitors. In the Exposition, there were 247 companies occupying 538 booths. The 2005 advanced registration fee was announced as \$295. The Council approved 2014 meeting sites as follows: Washington, D.C. (16-20 Mar) and San Francisco (24-28 Aug). The Committee on Meetings and Expositions will be requesting that the Board of Directors approve an exchange of the 2010 New York meeting with the 2012 Boston meeting because of projected construction on the New York Convention Center.