

COUNCILOR'S REPORT

AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY 237th ACS NATIONAL MEETING SALT LAKE CITY, UT MARCH 22-26, 2009

Your councilors, Mary Carroll and myself, Warren Hull, attended the National Meeting, and our respective National Committee Meetings. The Council Meeting was attended by myself and Alternate Councilor, Joanne Kehlbeck, who gave the Councilor's Report at the April 15 Section meeting at Siena College.

ACTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

Election Results

- By electronic ballot, the Council selected Nancy B. Jackson and Cheryl A. Martin as candidates for 2010 President-Elect. These two candidates, along with any candidates selected via petitions, will stand for election in the Fall National Election.
- By mail ballot, the Councilors from these districts selected D. Richard Cobb and Neil D. Jespersen as District I candidates; and as District V candidates, Judith L. Benham and Peter K. Dorhout. Ballots will be mailed on or before October 10 to all members in District I and District V for election of a Director from each District.

Candidates for Directors-at-Large

- The Committee on Nominations and Elections announced the selection of the following candidates for Directors-at-Large for a 2010-2012 term: Dennis Chamot, H. N. Cheng, Ray A. Dickie, and Valerie J. Kuck. The election of two Directors-at-Large will be conducted in the fall. Ballots will be mailed to the Council on or before October 10.

Petition to Amend Bylaws

(For Consideration)

The Council received one petition for consideration: the Petition on Election Timelines 2009. According to the proposing committee, this petition presents election procedure refinements that are intended to provide a fair, consistent, and equitable process, which balances the concerns and needs of participants, as requested by Councilors and candidates. Action is expected on the petition at the fall Council meeting

The Society's Finances

- The Council and Board of Directors received extensive briefings on the Society's finances, which showed that in spite of the economic challenges faced in 2008, the Society's operating performance held up well. Total revenue was approximately \$450 million, up just over 3% from 2007. The Society's Net from Operations was

\$9.7 million, and \$560,000 favorable to budget. This is the fifth consecutive year of positive operating results.

However, in 2008 ACS was adversely impacted by the historic collapse in the capital markets, which resulted in a sharp decline in the Society's unrestricted net assets from \$212 million at December 31, 2007, to \$60 million at December 31, 2008. There were two factors driving this decrease, both related to the poor performance in the capital markets. These are substantial investment losses and a sizable increase in pension liability from the Society's Defined Benefit Pension Plan. For this and other reasons, action was taken in 2007 to close the Defined Benefit Pension Plan, and, in 2008, to freeze benefit accruals for all Defined Benefit Pension Plan participants in 2009.

2010 Member Dues

- After a lengthy discussion and rejection of two amendments, the Council VOTED to set the member dues for 2010 at the fully escalated rate of \$145. This rate is established pursuant to an inflation-adjustment formula in the ACS Constitution and Bylaws. The vote was 348 to 70.

Member Statistics

- At the close of 2008, Society membership totaled 154,024, compared to 160,052 for year-end 2007. In 2008, ACS completed the transition of its 15 year-old membership fulfillment system to a new, more robust system. The year-end 2008 membership numbers reflect a drop in membership of approximately 2% due to the economy and a correction to the counts of 2,589 Emeritus members whom ACS has not been able to reach for many years. Compared to its sister societies, ACS experienced a smaller loss of members in 2008.

Attendance Report

As of March 25, 2009, the ACS spring national meeting had attracted 10,668 registrants as follows: Regular attendees 5,781; Students 3,439; Exhibitors 780; Exposition only 411; and Guests 257.

Professional Employment Guidelines

- The Council VOTED to approve the Professional Employment Guidelines, as submitted by the Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs. These guidelines offer a broad spectrum of recommended practices in employment for professional scientists and their employers.