

Report on: ACS FALL 2009 NATIONAL MEETING – Washington D.C.

Four of our ACS Pittsburgh Section Councilors were in attendance at Washington D.C.

The meeting attracted over 14,000 attendees and an exposition of 453 booths.

The following candidates for President-Elect for 2010 are:

Nancy B. Jackson, Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM
Cheryl A. Martin, Rohm and Hass Company, Philadelphia PA
Mary Virginia Orna, College of New Rochelle, New Rochelle, NY

The following candidates for Directors at Large for 2010-2012 are:

Dennis Chamot, National Research Council, Washington, D.C.
H.N.Cheng, Ashland Hercules Water Technologies, Delaware, NJ
Ray A. Dickie, Consultant, North Carolina
Valerie J. Kuck, Bell Laboratories (Retired), North Jersey, NJ
Howard M Peters, Retired, Peters, Verny, LLP, Palo Alto, CA

The Committee on Meetings & Expositions reported that the total meeting registration was 14,319. Of these, 8,575 were regular registrations, 1,447 were exhibitors, 3,159 were students, 676 were exposition only, and 462 guests. The exposition had 307 companies represented in 453 booths.

The Council elected by electronic ballot:

- To the Committee on Committees G. Bryan Balazs, Dawn A. Brooks, Les W. McQuire, Ingrid Montes and Frankie K. Wood-Black for the 2010 -2012 term.
- To the Council Policy Committee by electronic ballot: M. Elizabeth Derrick, Thomas R. Gilbert, Willem R. Leenstra, and Carolyn Ribes for the 2010-2012 term.
- To the Committee on Nominations and Elections by electronic ballot: Dwight W. Chasar, Milagros Delgado, Kevin J. Edgar, Sharon P. Shoemaker, and Ellen B. Stechel for the 2010-2012 term.

The Council voted to recommit the petition to the Committee on Nominations and Elections on Election Timelines and Procedures and Candidate Selection by Member Petition for review using the suggestions generated during the discussion by Council.

The Council voted to continue the Committees on Chemical Safety, Minority Affairs, Chemical Abstracts, Technician Affairs and Analytical Reagents. Continuing the first three committees requires Board of Directors concurrence.

The Provisions of the Petition on Membership Categories and Requirements were fully implemented this past June with the transfer of former Student Affiliates to Student Member status, and Associate Members to regular status. As of July 31, the Society had 9,732 Student Members- 6500 of them former Student Affiliates and more than 3,000 of them new Student Members.

On recommendation of DAC, as recommended by TECH, the Council voted to disband the Division of Chemical Technicians effective December 31, 2009. DAC agreed that TECH has accomplished its mission of enhancing the status of technicians in the American Chemical Society, and now they are integrated into the other technical divisions.

The Council voted to accept changes to charter bylaws for new local sections and international chemical sciences chapters, and bylaws for divisions in probationary status. These changes which were developed in cooperation with the Committees on Divisional Activities, Local Section Activities, and the International

Activities, are a result of changes to the Constitution and Bylaws made as a result of the Petition on Membership Categories and Requirements, which became effective on June 30.

The Pittsburgh Section was nominated for five awards at the ChemLuminary Award Celebration. The Pittsburgh Section received two awards: 1) Best New Public Relations Program of a Local Section and 2) Outstanding Event for a Specific Audience.

The Committee on Public Affairs and Public Relations announced the designation of “Dip-and read Tests for Blood and Urine Glucose” (work of Al and Helen Free) as a National Historic Chemical landmark.

The Board of Directors voted to fund a new program (Science Coaches) and to reauthorize an existing program (ACS Green Chemistry Institute) in the 2010 budget.

The Board voted to approve an action recommended by the Committee on Professional & Member Relations to accept with minor revisions the key terms contained in a draft Memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the ACS and the Royal Society of Chemistry. The MOU: a) offers an opportunity for the ACS and the RSC to develop and distribute a “primer,” both in hard-copy and electronic format, to provide the wider population with a basic understanding of the chemistry underlying issues related to sustainability; b) provides a series of joint seminars in the UK, US and elsewhere with participation by scientists, media, and decision-makers to focus on sustainability; c) supports collaboration on activities that train scientists to address issues relating to sustainability and other global challenges in non-technical, readily understandable communications.

In view of the ongoing global recession and its impact of the Society’s finances, the Board received an update on the Society’s current financial position and the projected financial performance for 2009. The Society is projected to end the year with a net contribution from operations of \$11.2 million, or \$528,000 favorable to the 2009 approved budget. The favorable projection is largely the result of Contingency Plan actions and expense management initiatives implemented in early 2009, which are expected to fully offset revenue shortfalls in the Approved Budget across several categories.

The Board received a briefing from its Chair on her recent meeting with International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) leaders and plans for the International Year of Chemistry-2011 (IYOC-2011). He Board was also briefed by International leaders from the European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences (EuCheMS), the German Chemical Society, the Korean Chemical Society, the Mexican Chemical Society on their strategic directions and on their plans for IYOC-2011.

Submitted by Pittsburgh Councilors: Richard S. Danchik (Author), Michael Mautino, James Manner, Michelle Blanken (Alternate Councilor)

Report on: ACS SPRING 2009 NATIONAL MEETING – Salt Lake City, Utah

Three of our ACS Pittsburgh Section Councilors were in attendance at Salt Lake City.

The meeting attracted over 10,000 attendees and an exposition of 328 booths.

The following candidates for President-Elect for 2010 are:

Nancy B. Jackson, Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM
Cheryl A. Martin, Rohm and Hass Company, Philadelphia PA

The following candidates for Directors at Large for 2010-2012 are:

Dennis Chamot, National Research Council, Washington, D.C.
H.N.Cheng, Ashland Hercules Water Technologies, Delaware, NJ
Ray A. Dickie, Consultant, North Carolina
Valerie J. Kuck, Bell Laboratories (Retired), North Jersey, NJ

The Committee on Meetings & Expositions reported that the total meeting registration was 10,668. Of these, 5,781 were regular registrations, 780 were exhibitors, 3,439 were students, 411 were exposition only, and 257 guests. The exposition had 228 companies represented in 356 booths.

The Council elected to the Council Policy Committee, Roland F. Hirsch to fill a vacancy created by a committee member's resignation. The Council also elected to the Committee on Nominations, Robert A Pribush to fill a vacancy created by a committee member's resignation.

The Council approved an increase of five dollars to \$145 for the 2010 membership dues.

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.

The Council voted to permit the Committee on Chemistry and Public Affairs to amend a portion of its charge from: "a. Identify and analyze legislative, regulatory, research and other science policy issues that impact upon the chemical sciences and technologies" to "a. Identify and analyze legislative; regulatory; research; Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education funding; and other science policy issues that impact upon the chemical sciences and technologies.

At the close of 2008, Society membership totaled 154,024, compared to 160,052 for year-end 2007. 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.

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.

It is in this context that the Board received a detailed briefing from management at this meeting on the framework of the 2009 Contingency Plan. The updated 2009 Plan covers all operating and administrative units as well as member programs, and identifies new and emerging threats. ACS management has also updated the mitigation strategies to respond to the treats and ensure the Society's long-term financial sustainability.

Society management and the Board of Directors are closely monitoring financial performance versus the budget. In addition, significant reductions in discretionary spending have already been implemented and additional cost control measures are under consideration. However, despite the adverse impact of the economic downturn, the Society remains highly liquid with more than \$275 million in cash and investments, and limited debt of \$30 million.

A special discussion item was again put on the Council agenda for this meeting. ACS President Thomas H. Lane invited the Chair of the Committee on Membership Affairs to present the results of a Councilor survey as a preface to the discussion on what can ACS do to attract new members while better serving our membership during these challenging economic times. Following the presentation, President Lane led Councilors in a lively discussion that focused on the value of ACS membership and on the growth opportunities among students, international scientists, high school teachers, technicians, diverse ethnic groups and others.

Submitted by Pittsburgh Section Councilors: Richard S. Danchik (Author), Michael Mautino, James Manner

Report on: ACS FALL 2008 NATIONAL MEETING – Philadelphia, PA

All four of our ACS Pittsburgh Section Councilors were in attendance at Philadelphia.

The meeting attracted over 14,000 attendees and an exposition of 511 booths.

The candidates for President-Elect for 2009 are:

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

The candidates for Directors at Large for 2009-2011 are:

William F. Carroll, Jr., Occidental Chemical Corp., 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

The Committee on Meetings & Expositions reported that the total meeting registration was 14,026. Of these, 8,198 were regular registrations, 1,768 were exhibitors, 3,095 were students, 505 were exposition only, and 470 guests. The exposition had 357 companies represented in 511 booths.

The Pittsburgh Section won a Chem-Luminary Award for Project Seed Program.

The Council elected to the Council Policy Committee Ray A. Dickie, Bonnie A. Lawlor, Mamie W. Moy and Eleanor D. Siebert for the 2009-2011 term. The Council also elected to the Committee on Nominations W.H.(Jack) Breazeale, Jr., Peter K. Dorhout, Catherine C. Fenselau, Peter C. Jurs, and Andrea B. Twiss-Brooks for the 2009-2011 term; Angela K. Wilson for the 2009-2010 term; and Dwight W. Chasar for the remainder of a 1007-2009 term.

The Council elected to the Committee on Committees Cherlynlavaughn Bradley, Rigoberto Hernandez, James M. Landis, Howard M. Peters and Sara J. Risch for the 2009-2011 term.

The Council approved an increase of ten dollars for the 2009 national meetings advanced registration fee.

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. To be valid, the petition next must be confirmed by the Board of Directors within 90 days, and will become effective five months following confirmation.

The Council voted to continue the Committee on Chemistry and Public Affairs, and the Committee on Patents and Related Matters.

In 2007, the number of paid new members nominated by current ACS members was 1,559. Currently, there are 988 pain new member applications. The Society's Member-Get-a-Member program is on track to have its best year ever.

The Council voted, as recommended by the Division Activities Committee (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.

A special discussion item was put on the Council agenda by President Bruce Bursten. The discussion focused on Achieving Sustainability (e.g., Energy, Water, Food): What can/should ACS do to address this key global scientific challenge? To kick off the discussion, ACS Board Chair Judy Benham invited Council to participate in identifying the challenges and developing solutions. She highlighted new and ongoing activities, such as the Global Challenges/Chemistry Solutions podcasts and related information, available online at www.acs.org/globalchallenges. She also sought Council input on member involvement and ACS programming in support of Goal #3 of the Strategic Plan: “ACS will be a global leader in enlisting the world’s scientific professionals to address, through chemistry, the challenges facing our world.” Councilors engaged in a robust exchange, offering several useful comments and suggestions to address how the Society might develop initiatives to address sustainability of the world’s resources, including energy, water, and food. Councilors and others who have ideas should send them to strategicplan@acs.org.

The Board of Directors voted to approve funding requests for the ACS Leadership Development System and ACS Green Chemistry Institute in the 2009 budget, and to accept the 2008 report from the Program Review Advisory Group, as amended.

Submitted by the Pittsburgh Section Councilors: Mark Bier, Richard S. Danchik (Author), James Manner, Michael Mautino

Report on: ACS 235rd ACS NATIONAL MEETING, New Orleans, LA, April 6-10, 2008

Two ACS Pittsburgh Section Councilors and two Pittsburgh Section Alternate Councilors were in attendance at the New Orleans Meeting. Below are highlights from the meeting.

ACTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

Election Results

- The Committee on Nominations and Elections presented to the Council the following nominees for selection as candidates for President-Elect, 2009: Thomas J. Barton, R. Stephen Berry, Joseph S. Francisco, and Josef Michl. By written ballot, the Council selected Joseph S. Francisco and Josef Michl as candidates for 2009 President-Elect. These two candidates will stand for election in the Fall National Election.
- The Committee on Nominations and Elections announced the results of the election to select candidates from the list of nominees to represent District III and District VI on the Board of Directors for the term 2009-2011. Nominees for District III included: Pat N. Confalone, Alan B. Cooper, Catherine C. Fenselau, and Judith A. Summers-Gates. Nominees for District VI included Bonnie A. Charpentier, Gary D. Christian, David M. Dooley, and Dennis L. Lichtenberger. By mail ballot, the Councilors from these districts selected Pat N. Confalone and Alan B. Cooper as District III candidates; and as District VI candidates, Bonnie A. Charpentier and Dennis L. Lichtenberger. Ballots will be mailed on or before October 10 to all members in District III and District VI 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 2009-2011 term: William F. Carroll, Jr., Richard L. Deming, Thomas R. Gilbert, and Marinda Li Wu. 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.

Petitions

(For Action)

- The Council received three amendments to the ACS Bylaws (Petitions) for action: the Petition on Election Procedures for President-Elect and District Director, the Petition on Election Procedures 2006, Part 2, and the Petition on Membership Categories and Requirements.
 - The Council VOTED to approve the Petition on Election Procedures for President Elect and District Director. This petition seeks to make the balloting procedure more uniform and to avoid the complications and expense of run-off elections.
 - The Council engaged in a lively debate on the Petition on Election Procedures 2006, Part 2, and entertained two motions: a motion to recommit and a motion for a recorded vote. Both motions failed. The Council ultimately VOTED by a show of hands to approve the Petition on Election Procedures 2006, Part 2. This petition standardizes election processes for President-Elect and all Director positions based on percentages of voting members, and increases the number of required signatures.
 - The Council also debated the merits of the Petition on Membership Categories and Requirements and ultimately VOTED to approve this petition via a recorded vote. This petition broadens qualifications for membership and creates a new category of student membership. The Board of Directors will vote within 90 days on whether to ratify the approved petitions. The Petition on Membership Categories and Requirements contains

changes to the ACS Constitution, and not just the Bylaws. Therefore, these changes must be approved by ACS members in the fall to be valid.

(For Consideration)

- The Council received one petition for consideration: the Petition on Society Affiliate Dues. This petition sets Society Affiliate dues equal to the (full) membership dues, and not subject to any of the discounts otherwise applicable to membership dues. Action is expected on the petition at the fall national meeting.

(Withdrawn)

- The Petition on Local Section and Division Election Procedures was withdrawn. This petition offers resolutions for handling tie votes in Councilor or Alternate Councilor elections in a local section or division.

2009 Member Dues

- The Council VOTED to set the member dues for 2009 at the fully escalated rate of \$140. This rate is established pursuant to an inflation-adjustment formula in the ACS Constitution and Bylaws.

The Society's Finances

- The Society ended 2007 with a net from operations of \$9.6 million, which was \$2.2 million favorable to the approved budget. This was based on total revenues of \$444.2 million and total expenses of \$434.6 million. The Society ended the year in full compliance with the Board established financial guidelines.

Attendance Report

- As of April 9, 2008, the ACS spring national meeting had attracted 13,302 registrants as follows: Regular attendees 6,681; Students 4,659; Exhibitors 1,156; Exposition only 374; and Guests 432.

Revision of the Division Funding Formula

- After considerable discussion, the Council VOTED to recommit the revised division funding formula, as presented by the Divisional Activities Committee, to the committee for further action at the fall national meeting.

Local Section Name Change

- The Council VOTED to change the name of the University of Kansas Local Section to the Wakarusa Valley Local Section. Although many of the section's members work for the University of Kansas, supporters said that the geographically and occupationally diverse interests of the members would be much better represented under the name Wakarusa Valley Local Section.

Member Statistics

- At the close of 2007, Society membership totaled 160,052, despite a net loss of 439 members at the end of the year. Also, 2007 recorded the second highest number of new applications – 16,533.

Academic Professional Guidelines

- The Council VOTED to approve the Academic Professional Guidelines as submitted by the Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs. These guidelines apply to those members of the academic community whose job function impacts directly or indirectly on scientists practicing the profession of chemistry.

ACTIONS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Committees Actions

- The Board received reports from the Committees on Grants and Awards, Public Affairs and Public Relations, Professional and Member Relations, and Budget and Finance. On the recommendation of these committees, the Board took the following actions:
 - As presented by the Committee on Grants and Awards, the Board received a report on the screened list of candidates for the 2009 Priestley Medal, Volunteer Service Award and Parsons Award. The Board agreed to announce the winners of these three awards after its June meeting.
 - On the recommendation of the Committee on Public Affairs and Public Relations, the Board VOTED to approve the tagline “Chemistry for Life” as the central theme of the Communications Strategic Plan and for use on appropriate Society materials.
 - On the recommendation of the Committee on Professional and Member Relations, the Board VOTED to adopt the ACS Diversity Partners Program – a three-year pilot program designed to broaden participation in the chemical sciences among diverse and traditionally underrepresented groups.
 - On the recommendation of the Committee on Budget and Finance, the Board VOTED to support having the Committee on Education (SOCED) pursue the US hosting of the International Chemistry Olympiad in 2012.

Submitted by Pittsburgh Section Councilors: Mark Bier, Michelle Blanken (Alternate), Richard S. Danchik, Jim Manner, Michael Mautino (Author), Almudena Prudencio (Alternate)