



American Chemical Society  
257th ACS National Meeting  
Orlando, FL  
March 31-April 4, 2019

## Spring 2019 Councilor Report:

---

### *Actions of the Council*

#### Election Results

##### **Candidates for President-Elect, 2020**

- The Committee on Nominations and Elections presented to the Council the following nominees for selection as candidates for President-Elect, 2020: Magid Abou-Gharbia, H.N. Cheng, Carol A. Duane, and Christopher J. Welch. By electronic ballot, the Council selected **H.N. Cheng** and **Carol A. Duane** as **candidates for 2020 President-Elect**. These two candidates, along with any candidates selected via petitions, will stand for election in the Fall National Election.

##### **Candidates for Directors-at-Large**

- The Committee on Nominations and Elections announced the selection of the following **candidates for Directors-at-Large** for 2020-2022 terms: **Harmon B. Abrahamson, G. Bryan Balazs, D. Richard Cobb, and Dorothy J. Phillips**. The election of two Directors-at-Large from among these four candidates and any selected via petition will be conducted in the fall. Ballots will be distributed to the Council on or before October 1, 2019.

#### Other Council Actions

##### **Amendment to the ACS Constitution and Bylaws**

- The Council approved the Petition to Streamline the ACS Governing Documents [Constitution Articles I-XIX, Bylaws I-XIV, and Standing Rules I-IX], which will reorganize the fundamental governing documents of the Society: the Constitution and Bylaws, and create a third document: Standing Rules. These three documents will function as a hierarchy. The Constitution should define; the Bylaws should authorize; and the Standing Rules should operationalize. Additionally, an Amendment was voted upon, and passed by recorded vote:
  - That language proposed as Standing Rule II, Sections 2 a, 2 b, and 2 g be moved to the Bylaws as new Sections 2 a, 2 b, and 2 c of proposed Bylaw III with appropriate renumbering of the other sections of Bylaw III and Standing Rule II.
- The Petition will become effective if and when the proposed changes to the Constitution are approved by the Membership of the Society, and if and when the Board of Directors approves the Petition. Because the changes to the ACS Governing Documents are substantial, the Council authorized the ACS Secretary and General Counsel and the Committee on Constitution & Bylaws to correct minor technical mistakes in the Petition.

## Councilor Talking Points and Summary of Governance Issues and Actions

### Council Special Discussion

- ACS President Bonnie Charpentier led a special discussion on ACS Relevance to Current and Future Members: Challenges and Opportunities. Councilors had been asked prior to Orlando to discuss the ACS value proposition with their local sections or divisions and bring that input to Council. Councilors provided many recommendations and suggestions including increased support for local sections and industry members, helping student members transition into their professional careers, and implementing a monthly payment tool for ACS dues. These, and all the other ideas and input submitted, will be shared with the Committee on Membership Affairs and the ACS Membership Division for further research or implementation.

### 2020 Member Dues

- The Council voted on the recommendation of the Committee on Budget and Finance (B&F) to set the member dues for 2020 at the 2019 rate of \$175.

### Continuation of Committees

- The Council approved the recommendation of the Committee on Committees that the Committee on Nomenclature, Terminology & Symbols be continued; and that the Committee on Senior Chemists be continued, contingent on approval by the Board of Directors.

### International Chemical Sciences Chapter

- On the recommendation of the Committee on International Activities, the Council approved the establishment of ACS Pakistan International Chemical Sciences Chapter, subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors.

### Resolutions

- The Council passed several resolutions:
  - in memory of deceased Councilors;
  - in gratitude for the officers and members of the Orlando Section, host for the 257<sup>th</sup> National Meeting, the divisional program chairs, symposium organizers, and ACS staff for the planning and execution of the meeting.

### Highlights from Committee Reports

#### Councilor Divisor

As required by the Society's Bylaws, the Council Policy Committee has set the divisors for allocation of Councilor seats among Local Sections and Divisions for 2020 to 2023. Official notification of the Councilor divisors and the number of Councilors permitted for each Local Section and Division will be sent to the respective Local Sections and Divisions prior to May 1st as required in the Bylaws.

#### Budget and Finance

In 2018, ACS generated a net from operations of \$41.1 million, which was \$13.3 million higher than 2017. Total revenues were \$571.6 million, increasing 6.4% - or \$34.2 million - over 2017. Expenses ended the year at \$530.5 million, which was \$20.8 million or 4.1% higher than the prior year. These results were attributable to strong performance from the Society's Information Service units (CAS and ACS Publications) and a continued emphasis on expense management across the ACS.

## Councilor Talking Points and Summary of Governance Issues and Actions

Additional information can be found at [www.acs.org](http://www.acs.org). At the bottom of the page, click 'About ACS', then 'ACS Financial Information.' There you will find several years of the Society's audited financial statements and IRS 990 filings.

### Membership

The ACS ended 2018 with 151,012 members, a net membership growth of one-tenth-of-one-percent. This is the first membership growth ACS has recorded in the better part of a decade. Of the 25,000 new members who joined in 2018, about 20% were incentivized by market testing initiatives. Without these new members, ACS would have seen continued declines.

Council voted to extend the provision of the international dues discount test based on World Bank country income levels for an additional three years (August 2019 – August 2022).

### Orlando Meeting Attendance

As of Tuesday, April 2:

Attendees	7,887
Students	6,019
Exhibitors	869
Expo only	404
Guests	426
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,605</b>

---

## ***Actions of the Board of Directors***

### *The Board's Executive Session*

The ACS Board of Directors met in Executive Session March 29-30, and considered and responded to a variety of key strategic issues facing ACS, ACS members, and the global chemistry enterprise.

### *The Board's Committees and Task Forces*

The Board received and discussed reports from its committees on Executive Compensation, Professional and Member Relations, the Joint Board-Council Committee on Publications, the ACS Governing Board for Publishing, and the Next Generation ACS Leadership Program Task Force. In particular, the Board received an extensive briefing and approved several recommendations from its Committee on Executive Compensation. The compensation of the Society's executive staff continues to receive regular review from the Board.

On the recommendation of the Joint Board-Council Committee on Publications, the Board voted to approve the reappointments of Editors-in-Chief for several ACS journals. Those reappointments will be announced in C&EN once the appointed individuals have been notified and arrangements for their continued service have been made.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Professional and Member Relations, the Board approved screened lists of nominees for the 2020 Priestley Medal and the ACS Award for Volunteer Service. The Board will select the recipients of these latter two awards from these screened lists.

## Councilor Talking Points and Summary of Governance Issues and Actions

The co-chair of the Next Generation ACS Leadership Program Task Force gave an update on the efforts of the task force. The task force has reviewed and considered the history of ACS leadership efforts since 1965 in preparation for offering key considerations and principles for providing ACS members with the means to develop as individuals, professionals and ACS volunteers. Next steps include continuing to gather feedback from various ACS entities and constituencies, and to develop a framework for professional development that is reflective of the ACS core values (focus on members; professionalism; diversity, inclusion and respect; and safety and ethics).

### *The Executive Director/CEO Report*

The Executive Director and CEO briefed the Board on issues relating to the Focus on Members as a core value of the Society as well on ACS financial performance, Operational Excellence, and upcoming events and activities. His direct reports then engaged in strategic discussions with the Board relevant to the activities, opportunities, and challenges of the Membership and Society Services Division, the ACS Publications Division, and Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS).

### *Other Society Business*

As is customary, the Board heard reports from the Presidential Succession on their current and planned activities for 2019. The Board also reviewed a proposed schedule for the Board retreat, meeting, and related activities in conjunction with the Central Regional Meeting in Midland, Michigan, June 3-9, 2019.

### *The Board's Regular Session*

The Board held a regular session on March 31, which featured a presentation from Dr. Susan Butts, Chair of the Working Group on Immigration and Work Visas, entitled *Workforce Immigration and its Relationship to the U.S. Economy, Innovation, and Global Competitiveness*.

Prior to the presentation, the Board Chair gave a report on Board actions and issues from its Executive Session. Members of the presidential succession and the Executive Director & CEO also offered brief reports on their activities. The officers provided more extensive reports on their activities and/or future plans as part of their written and oral reports to the Council.

### **Contact the Board**

Your Board of Directors is elected by and acts in the best interests of the members of the Society. Please contact them with your comments, concerns, ideas, and suggestions at [secretary@acs.org](mailto:secretary@acs.org).

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. John W. Hartman, Councilor  
Montana Section ACS