

Report on the Council Agenda for September 11, 2013

The Council of the American Chemical Society will meet in Indianapolis, IN on Wednesday, September 11, 2013 from 8:00am until approximately 12:00pm in the JW Grand Ballroom 5/6 of the JW Marriott Indianapolis Hotel. All ACS members are welcome to attend, although only Councilors are permitted to vote. A continental breakfast is usually available at 7:00am for all attendees.

There are a number of items for Council Action, but the majority are routine and not major. The action items are summarized below.

Nominations and Elections

Committee on Committees: Council will vote to fill five slots on the Committee on Committees. There are ten nominees as follows: Mitchell R. M. Bruce, Janet L. Bryant, Dee Ann Casteel, Amber S. Hinkle, Russell W. Johnson, Wayne E. Jones, Jr., V. Michael Mautino, Jason E. Ritchie, Sharon P. Shoemaker, and Ralph A. Wheeler.

Council Policy Committee: Council will vote to fill four slots on the Committee on Committees. There are eight nominees as follows: Harmon B. Abrahamson, Arindan Bose, Judith H. Cohen, Alan M. Ehrlich, Martha G. Hollomon, Paul J. Smith, Ellen B. Stechel, and Angela K. Wilson.

Committee on Nominations and Elections: Council will vote to fill five slots on the Committee on Nominations and Elections. There are ten nominees as follows: Lisa M. Balbes, Jeanette E. Brown, Martha L. Casey, Dwight W. Chasar, D. Richard Cobb, Catherine E. Costello, Lissa Dulany, Kevin J. Edgar, Paul W. Jagodinski, and Robert A. Pribush.

Committees

The Committee on Committees (ConC) will put forth a recommendation for the continuation of the committees that have been reviewed as required by the Committee Sunset Laws. The committees under consideration are the Committee on International Activities (IAC) and the Committee on Nomenclature, Terminology and Symbols (NTS).

ConC will also recommend for Council approval changes to the charters of both aforementioned committees. The IAC changes refine its alignment with the ACS Strategic Plan and the international interests of the ACS Board of Directors. The NTS changes will allow the committee to meet the duties it has been unable to directly address because of the restrictive nature of the charter wording.

Re-alignment of Electoral Districts

The Committee on Nominations and Elections will request that the Council vote to realign the electoral districts. The following is taken directly from the Council Agenda Book: "The ACS Bylaws require that there be rough parity each year in the membership populations of the six geographic District from which the District Directors are elected to the Board of Directors. These population levels are calculated at the end of each year based on year-end membership levels "from the previous year." Occasionally, due to changes in the size of various local sections, these levels move out of alignment with other Districts, and fall outside the permissible range of District populations. When this happens N&E is charged with bringing forth a proposal to Council to adjust these populations and bring them back into the permissible range.

When N&E brought the proposal to the Philadelphia Council meeting to bring District III into compliance, numerous Councilors suggested a more comprehensive realignment proposal that would "stand the test of time." In response, N&E prepared a broader proposal for the realignment of the six Districts and presented the proposal at the Caucuses and to Council in New Orleans. N&E appointed a Task Force on Redistricting and charged it with developing a fair and balanced proposal to bring every District closer together in their populations. The Task force was diligent in taking into account Local Section boundaries, state lines, and input from Councilors in preparing the proposal.

The Task Force picked the mid-point of the range of allowable District populations (23,376 members) and worked to bring every District to within 400 – 1,000 of that mid-point. As the new permissible range came in for year-end 2012, it appears that the proposed changes held solid, although the ranges did change from 2011. The updated range is now 20,888 – 25,530. At the end of 2012, no District was out of the acceptable range, although several were close.

It is important to note that the Election Districts have nothing to do with the Regional Meetings. Despite any proposed changes, Local Sections will still participate in the Regional Meetings of their choice. Election Districts and Regional meeting areas are completely independent of each other.”

To view the actual proposal and its impact, go to the N&E web site at:

<http://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/about/governance/committees/elections.html>. Comments can be sent to the Committee at nomelect@acs.org.

Local Section Name Change

The Committee on Local Section Activities will ask Council to vote to change the name of the Syracuse Local Section to the Central New York Local Section. The Local Section requested the change because many of its members live outside the city of Syracuse; indeed 40% live outside the county in which Syracuse is located. The proposed name derives from the common regional name of the area.

Local Section Dissolution

The Committee on Local Section Activities will also ask Council to vote to dissolve the Monmouth County Local Section effective January 1, 2014 due to a decline in activity over the past three years and because the Sections membership has voted to dissolve the Section and the end of this year. Neighboring Local Sections have been notified of the opportunity to absorb members of the section once the dissolution is complete.

Division Name Change

The Committee on Divisional Activities (DAC) will ask Council to vote on a name change requested by the Division of Colloid and Surface Chemistry (COLL). The Division wished to change its name to the Division of Colloids, Surfaces, and Nanomaterials. This appears to be a contested issue because it sets a precedent for a name change that encompasses topical and emerging areas that are covered under the current remit for multiple divisions. DAC polled the 33 Divisions to get their input. 10 were neutral by virtue of not responding to the request (ANYL, BIOL, CATL, CHAL, CINF, HIST, NUCL, RUBB, SCHB, TOXI). Nine reported having no objections or no opposition (AAGRO, BIOT, CHED, COMP, ENFL, ENVBR, I&EC, MEDI, and PROF). Six oppose the name change (AGFD, CELL, INOR, ORGN, PMSE, and POLY). Three support the name change (COLL, FLUO, and GEOC).

COLL has stated that nanomaterials are at the core of the science that COLL has always embraced and are central to its mission.

Petitions for Vote

There are no petitions to change the ACS Bylaws.

Bylaw Changes for Consideration Only

No petitions to change the Bylaws are being presented for consideration at this meeting.

Special Discussion Item

The special discussion item for this Council meeting is “What can we - as the Society and as individual citizens- do to help create jobs or demand for chemists?”

Town Hall Meeting

A Town Hall meeting organized by the Committee on Nominations and Elections is scheduled for Sunday, September 8, 2013 in the White River Ballroom F of the JW Marriott Indianapolis Hotel from 4:45pm - 5:45pm. It will highlight a Q&A session with the candidates for Directors-at-Large. All ACS members are encouraged to attend. It is a great way to gather first-hand information and decide for whom you might want to vote in the fall election.

Meet the Candidates for President-Elect

The candidates for 2014 ACS President-Elect will be at the ACS exposition on Monday, September 9, 2013 from 1:00p - 3:00pm in the booth adjacent to the ACS Booth in the Indiana Convention Center, Halls B&E. This event is also being sponsored by the Committee on Nomination and Elections.

Respectfully submitted September 3, 2013

CINF Councilors

Bonnie Lawlor
Andrea Twiss-Brooks
