Report on the Council Agenda for April 10, 2013

The Council of the American Chemical Society will meet in New Orleans, LA on Wednesday, April 10, 2013 from 8:00am until approximately 12:00pm in the Grand Ballroom A-C of the Hiltons New Orleans Riverside 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

President-Elect: The Committee on Nominations & Elections (N&E) has identified four nominees for the office of 2014 ACS President-Elect. They are as follows: G. Bryan Balazs, Charles E. Kolb, Jr., Carolyn Ribes, and Diane Grob Schmidt. The four nominees will answer questions at the Town Hall meeting that will be held on Sunday, April 7th, at 4:45pm in the Hilton Exhibition Center A in the Hilton Riverside Hotel, and each will give a three minute presentation at the Council meeting. Council will select the final two candidates whose names will appear on the fall ballot.

Other Elections

The Committee on Nominations and Elections has announced the list of nominees to represent District II and District IV on the Board of Directors for the term 2014-2016. Nominees for District II include George M. Bodner, Jed F. Fisher, Alan A. Hazari, and Robert A. Pribush. Nominees for District IV are John P. Fackler, Jr., Rigoberto Hernandez, Larry K. Krannich, and John A. Whittle. Ballots have been mailed to Councilors in the two districts and the results will be announced in New Orleans. The final ballots with two candidates for each district will be mailed on or before October 10 to all members in District II and District IV for election of a Director from each District.

The Committee on Nominations and Elections also announced the selection of the following candidates for Director-at-Large for a 2014 - 2016 term: Susan B. Butts, Thom H. Dunning, Jr., Dorothy J. Phillips, and Kathleen M. Schulz. 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, 2013.

ACS Dues for 2014

Council will vote on the recommendation from the Committee on Budget and Finance with regard to the 2014 membership dues (an increase of $3.00 - from $151 to $154). The increases to ACS dues are based upon an escalator defined in the ACS Bylaws (Bylaw XIII, Section 3,a). The dues are calculated by multiplying the base (current) rate “by a factor which is the ratio of the revised Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (Service Category) for the second year previous to the dues year to the value of the index for the third year previous to the dues year, as published by the United States Department of Labor, with the fractional dollar amounts rounded to the nearest whole dollar”.

Base rate 2013: $151.00

Change in the Consumer Price Index, Urban Wage Earners, Services Category:

- December 2012 CPI-W Services: 268.661
- December 2010 CPI-W Services: 262.954
- Change in CPI-W Index: 2.17%

2014 Dues, fully escalated: $151.00 x 1.0217 = $154.28
2014 Dues, Rounded: $154.00
Change in 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 were not named in the Agenda Book.

Petitions for Vote

Petition to Amend National Election Procedures

The increasing demands of recent campaigns for electing the President-Elect of the Society have made it ever more difficult to recruit leaders in the chemical community to accept nomination. The problems are increased substantially by the process used to choose candidates from among nominees, as otherwise potentially excellent candidates are often voted off the ballot because they are not well known to Councilors. Serving many years in ACS governance is not, and should not be, a re-requisite for serving as President-Elect.

The proposed change will charge N&E to find two candidates for President-Elect. Others, as now, may be nominated by members by petition, and procedures for preferential balloting remain unchanged. All candidates could then be invited to a public forum, such as a Town Hall meeting, at the fall national meeting, and would appear on the ballot. This process would shorten the campaign period, allow all candidates to be seen by Council and other members, and ease the burden on N&E.

The Committee on Budget and Finance has concluded that the petition will have no impact on the finances of the Society.

Revision to Charter Bylaws for the International Chemical Sciences Chapters

The Committee on Constitution and Bylaws (C&B), in cooperation with the Committee on International Activities, is asking Council to approve changes in the Charter Bylaws for the International Chemical Sciences Chapters. These changes are primarily in the Amendments section, for C&B to review bylaw changes before proposed changes are approved by the membership of the chapter. Other changes are editorial.

Petition to Charter One new International Chemical Sciences Chapter

One legal application has been received for the formation of the Romanian International Chemical Sciences Chapter. It consists of the Territory of Romania which is not part of any other Local Section or Chapter of the Society. The application was signed by members in good standing of the Society who reside in the Territory. It meets all of the requirements and includes a proposed budget for the Chapter’s operations (which includes no funding from the Society). The ACS Board has authorized this action and is seeking Council approval, after which (if given) the Chapter will begin operation.

Approval of Academic Professional Guidelines

The Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA) is submitting for Council approval a revision of the Academic and Professional Guidelines. It contains updates to the current version which was last revised in 2008. This is a minor revision. A more extensive revision is underway and will be presented for Council consideration in 2014. This draft was presented for Council consideration in Philadelphia and has been approved by ACS legal Counsel.

Proposed Formula to Distribute the Local Section Allocation

The Committee on Local Section Activities (LSAC) is proposing a new formula for the distribution of the Local Section Allocation beginning in 2014. The proposed formula replaces an existing formula that is not tied to the Local Section Allocation, but is instead expressed in dollar amounts that is adjusted upwards.
each year. The present formula is being replaced because distributions may soon exceed the Local Section Allocation. The new formula will use percentages. The total base allotment of 49% of the total local Section Allocation will be shared equally among all Local Sections. The per member allotment of 43% of the total Local Section Allotment will be divided by the total number of Local Section members and distributed based upon the number of members in a Local Section. The LSAC program funds of 8% of the total Local Section Allocation will be used to support Society initiatives, strategic planning, and Board directives.

**Town Hall Meeting**

A Town Hall meeting organized by the Committee on Nominations and Elections is scheduled for Sunday, April 7, 2013 in the Hilton New Orleans Riverside Hotel, Hilton Exhibition Center A., from 4:45pm - 5:45pm. It will highlight a Q&A session with the candidates for President-Elect. 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.

Respectfully submitted April 1, 2013

CINF Councilors

Bonnie Lawlor
Andrea Twiss-Brooks