

April 3, 2012

Report on: ACS SPRING 2012 NATIONAL MEETING – San Diego, CA

Four of ACS Pittsburgh Section Councilors were in attendance at San Diego, CA.

The meeting attracted approximately 16,000 attendees and an exposition of 408 booths.

The Council selected to Thomas J. Barton and Luis A. Echegoyen as candidates for 2013 President Elect.

The Committee on Nominations and Elections announced the selection of the following candidates for Directors- at -Large for 2013-2015 term: Carol A Duane, Valerie J. Kuck, Helen A. Lawlor, and Ingrid Montes. The election of two Directors-at-Large will be conducted in the Fall. Ballots will mailed to the Council on or before October 10, 2012.

The Committee on Meetings & Expositions reported that the total meeting registration was 16,921. Of these, 8,974 were regular registrations, 1,065 were exhibitors, 5,742 were students, 753 were exposition only, and 386 guests. The exposition had 408 booths with 268 companies.

The Council voted to continue the Committee on Project SEED.

Despite the sluggish economy, ACS generated strong operating results in 2011. Total revenue was \$472.0 million, up 1.8 % over 2010. The net from Operations was \$20.9 million, or \$7.7 million favorable to the budget. This result was attributable to better than expected performance by the ACS Publications Division and careful expense management across the Society .While operating results were favorable, Unrestricted Net Assets declined from \$130.5 million to \$102 million. The decline was primarily due to a sizable accounting charge related to the Society's closed postretirement benefit plans. ACS ended the year in compliance with four of the five Board established financial guidelines.

The Council voted to set the member dues for 2013 at the fully escalated rate of \$151. This rate is established pursuant to an inflation adjustment formula in the ACS Constitution and Bylaws.

The Council voted overwhelmingly to approve two petitions. The Petition to Amend Recorded Vote Request Procedure provides that a call for a recorded vote after a clicker vote has commenced will be out of order, as would a call for a recorded vote after the initial clicker voting has taken place. The Petition on Market Data Collection seeks to add a provision to allow for controlled market testing to collect data before the Society changes benefits, dues, or membership categories. The Board of Directors will vote within 90 days on whether to ratify the approved petitions.

Membership recruitment and retention efforts were very successful last year. The Society ended 2011 with 164,215 members; the highest number in Society history. 24,249 new members were elected into the Society; 16,092 Regular Members and 8,157 Undergraduate Members.

The Council voted to approve the Chemical Professional's Code of Conduct as submitted by the Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs. The document offers guidance for Society members in various professional dealings, especially those involving conflicts of interest.

A special discussion item was put on the Council agenda for this meeting. ACS President Bassam Shakhshiri presented and moderated a discussion on "What is your reaction to the proposed topics for the ACS Climate Science Toolkit." President Shakhshiri's working group on ACS Climate Science has developed a preliminary web based toolkit that ACS members can use as a resource for understanding and communicating basic climate science. Following the presentation, Councilors engaged in a robust discussion on the proposed toolkit, and offered numerous suggestions for consideration.

The General Counsel report included a briefing on the ACS vs. Leadscope litigation. As previously reported ACS has appealed to the Ohio Supreme Court and the Court agreed to hear the case. Briefs have been filed in support of our position by several prestigious organizations, including the Ohio Attorney General, the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, the Ohio Manufacturer's Association and the Ohio State Bar Association. On September 7, the Supreme Court heard oral arguments in the case, and a link to the arguments can be found on acs.org. A ruling has not been issued but could come at any time. A more detailed report appears in the most recent edition of the Councilor Bulletin. Please contact the Office of the Secretary if you would like a copy.

The Board of Directors approved:

The 2015 Pacifichem budget and authorized reimbursement, on a pro rata basis, to the participating ACS Divisions for expenditures in support of the Pacifichem program and activities.

Changes to Board Regulations regarding the composition of the Planning Committee and the appointment of canvassing and award committees.

A proposal to administer and present the AkzoNobel North American Science Award as recommended by the Committee on Grants and Awards.

Proclamations recognizing the 100th Anniversary of the South African Chemical Institute and the 80th anniversary of the Chinese Chemical Society.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard S. Danchik (Author)
Michelle Coffman
Joe Jolson (Alternate Councilor)
James Manner

Pittsburgh Section Councilors

