

August 29, 2012

Report on: ACS Fall 2012 NATIONAL MEETING – Philadelphia, PA

Four of ACS Pittsburgh Section Councilors were in attendance at Philadelphia, PA.

The meeting attracted approximately 13,300 attendees and an exposition of 438 booths.

The Candidates for 2013 President-Elect are Thomas J. Barton and Luis A. Echegoyen.

The 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 be mailed to the Council on or before October 10, 2012.

The Council elected G. Bryan Balazs, Dawn A Brooks, Michelle V. Buchanan, Alan B. Cooper, and Ingrid Montes for the 2013-2015 term on the Committee on Committees.

The Council elected Frank D. Blum, Mary K Carroll, Lee H. Latimer and Carolyn Ribes for the 2012-2015 term on the Council Policy Committee.

The Council elected Cherlynlavaughn Bradley, Milagros Delgado, Carol B. Libby, Les W. McQuire and Donivan R. Porterfield for the 2013-2015 term on the Committee on Nominations and Elections.

The Committee on Meetings & Expositions reported that the total meeting registration was 13,320. Of these, 7,773 were regular registrations, 1,249 were exhibitors, 3,159 were students, 733 were exposition only, and 337 guests. The exposition had 438 booths with 280 companies.

The Council voted not to approve the Petition on Candidate Comment in C&EN which sought to restrict candidates for election to the Board of Directors from publishing comments in C&EN from May through the balloting period. The Council also voted not to approve the Petition on International Chemical Sciences Chapters Funds. This petition sought to clarify that the Board of Directors may grant funds to international chapters for specific purposes.

As part of a regular performance review, the Council voted to continue the Joint Board-Council Committees on Chemists with Disabilities and on Professional Training.

The Council voted to establish a Joint Board-Council Committee on Senior Chemists whose mission is to enrich the educational, technical and cultural lives of the ACS Membership by ministering to and employing the talents of senior ACS members by: sharing with ACS members of all ages a rich variety of personal experiences and expertise gained over many years of professional service; fostering interest and participation in the science of chemistry through community outreach, especially in

grades K-12; acting as science advisors/ambassadors for the purpose of cultural exchange at home and abroad; providing senior ACS members with challenging, diverse, and enjoyable professional experiences that enable them to contribute to the cultural experiences of their communities; and recommending policies that address issues of interest to senior chemists. The committee is aimed primarily at members over 60 years of age. Next, the Board of Directors must vote to establish the committee.

One of the Society's long-time concerns has been the decline in the number of domestic Regular Members, that is, members paying full dues. The impact of this decline has been offset, as we have reached record membership levels, by increases in the number of international Regular Members, and the 2009 addition of Student Member Undergraduates. While the number of regular domestic members paying less than full dues has decreased from 33,000 to 29,000 in the last five years, this is still significantly more than the number of student members added.

The Council voted to shift two local sections in District II (Hampton Roads and Western Maryland) to District III. (The two local sections had agreed to the shift.)

The Council passed a resolution to honor the 100th anniversary of the birth of Glenn T. Seaborg, Chemistry Nobel Laureate and past ACS President.

ACS President Bassam Shakhashiri presented and moderated a discussion on "What major efforts should ACS pursue to help alleviate water and other global challenges?" Members of the ACS feel a responsibility as scientists and citizens to help address global challenges facing society in the 21st Century to help sustain Earth and its people. These challenges include increasing population growth, limited natural resources, malnutrition, disease, climate change, violence and war, and the denial of basic human rights, including the right to benefit from scientific and technological progress. This discussion focused primarily on the crisis of available water suitable for drinking, agriculture and industry.

The Chair of the Board gave an update on the ACS vs. Leadscope litigation. As of this meeting, there is still no opinion announced by the Ohio Supreme Court on ACS's appeal in this case, despite the fact that oral arguments were presented nearly a year ago. We have no information on when an opinion might be delivered.

The Board of Directors voted to approve an advance member registration fee of \$370 for national meetings held in 2013. The Board voted to reauthorize funding for inclusion in the 2013 proposed budget the ACS Science Coaches program and the ACS Global Research Experiences, Exchanges, and Training Program (GREET).

The ACS Leadership Institute will be held in Dallas, Texas, January, 25-27, 2013, for new committee, local section, and division chairs, and other volunteer governance members.

The 25th anniversary of National Chemistry Week will be celebrated October 21-27, 2013 with the theme, Nanotechnology- The Smallest BIG Idea in Science.” All local sections are encouraged to participate in NCW and plan an event that will recognize their coordinators.

Respectfully submitted,
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Pittsburgh Section Councilors