

March 20, 2014

Report on: ACS Spring 2014 NATIONAL MEETING – Dallas, Texas

Three of ACS Pittsburgh Section Councilors were in attendance at Dallas, Texas.

The meeting attracted approximately 13,600 attendees and an exposition of 376 booths.

The Candidates for President- Elect, 2015 are:

Peter K. Dorhout and William A. Lester, Jr.

The Candidates for Directors-at-Large for a 2015-2017 term: Dawn A. Brooks, William F. Carroll, Jr., Barbara A Sawrey, and Ellen B. Stechel. The election of two Directors-at-Large from among those candidates will be conducted in the fall. Ballots will be mailed to the Council on or before October 10.

As part of a regular performance review, the Council voted unanimously to continue the Committees on Chemical Safety, on Chemistry and Public Affairs, and on Minority Affairs and will require Board concurrence.

The Council voted to set the member dues for 2015 at the fully escalated rate of \$158.

The Committee on Meetings & Expositions reported that the total meeting registration was 13,680. Of these, 6,853 were regular registrations, 954 were exhibitors, 5,140 were students, 429 were exposition only, and 304 guests. The exposition had 376 booths with 246 companies. The meeting had over 10,050 papers presented.

After voting to postpone its implementation by one year, the Council voted to approve a revised formula for allocating dues funds to divisions. This formula, which was presented by the Committee on Divisional Activities, will be effective with allocations for 2015 division performance.

The Council voted to approve the petition from the North Jersey Section to include the area of the former Monmouth County Section in its territory, effective immediately.

On recommendation of the Committee on International Activities and subject to the concurrence of the Board of Directors, the Council voted to approve petitions to charter the South Korea International Chemical Sciences Chapter and the Malaysia International Chemical Sciences Chapter.

A special discussion item was put on the Council agenda for this meeting. ACS President Tom Barton presented and moderated a discussion on “ What can ACS do to increase the quality of science education in grades K-12? “ Following the presentation, 39 Councilors engaged in a robust discussion on the factors impacting the quality of K-12 science education in the U.S.

In 2013, ACS generated a Net from Operations of \$15.1 million, which was \$2.0 favorable to the budget. This represents the Society's tenth consecutive year of positive operating results. Total revenue was \$490.5 million, which was \$8.8 million (or 1.8%) lower than budget, and essentially flat when compared to 2012. The result was largely attributed to cost containment measures throughout the ACS. Unrestricted Net Assets rebounded in 2013, rising to \$207 million, and more than doubling from the 2012 level.

SOCED approved a pilot program to form ACS International Student Chapters.

For 2014, MAC authorized an individual member test for India to allow for a \$52 full Member dues rate. At this meeting, MAC extended the test to include new and renewing members in India for three years.

Findings from the ACS 2013 New Graduate Survey have been compiled and reveal troubling news: overall unemployment among new graduates rose from 12.6% in 2012 to 14.9% in 2013. This is primarily due to the high unemployment among recent Bachelors. New graduates must be at the top of our priority list for employment assistance in 2014.

M&E voted to eliminate the author index in the hard program meeting program book beginning with the spring 2015 meeting. The searchable author index is now available via the mobile application and other electronic means.

LSAC will initiate the process to dissolve the Ocean County Section as a result of the group's failure to meet the criteria to remain an active section.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Grants and Awards, the Board voted to approve a Society nomination for the National Medal of Science, which is bestowed by the President of the U.S. to individuals in science and engineering who have made important contributions to the advancement of knowledge in the fields of behavioral and social sciences, biology, chemistry, engineering , mathematics and physics.

The Board expressed its gratitude and thanks to Madeleine Jacob, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer, who on March 6 announced her plan to retire at the end of the year. The Board has begun the process and logistics of identifying and hiring her successor.

The Board approved a resolution congratulating Robert Massie on his retirement at the end of this month for twenty-one years of successful leadership of the Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS).

Respectfully submitted,
Richard S. Danchik (Author)
Mike Mautino
Joseph Jolson (Alternate Councilor)

Pittsburgh Section Councilors

