

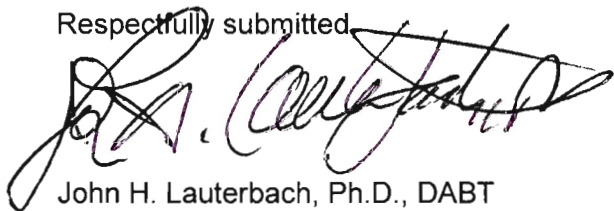
REPORT FROM MEETING OF COUNCIL  
242<sup>ND</sup> NATIONAL MEETING OF AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY, DENVER, CO

A long-tenured councilor once told me that ACS leadership had to give the councilors "red meat to chew on every once in a while to maintain their interest." ACS leadership gave councilors two important topics to discuss at the Denver meeting although the more important of the two, safety in academic laboratories, did not result in formal Council action. While there was no formal action, numerous councilors spoke on the matter with those with industrial and/or health-safety backgrounds calling for more stringent safety standards while many in academia claiming that time limitations and/or budget constraints are limiting increases in academic instruction in safety and improvements in safety in academic laboratories. It was pointed out that there has already been one fatality and one major explosion/fire incident so far this year in US academic laboratories.

The other action for Council action was the name of the new division being formed from combination of the Division of Fuel Chemistry and the Division of Petroleum Chemistry into a new division to be known as the Division of Energy and Fuels. There was no objection to the combination of the two divisions, but there was significant opposition to the use of the word "Energy" in the name of the new division. Opposition was based in the assumption that the new division would usurp programming on energy not derived from fuels such as solar power. The Divisional Activities Committee brought the dispute to the Council floor with the recommendation that Council approve the new name. Council approved the new name with 53% of the councilors voting in favor of the name change.

One other point that should be of interest to those desiring to participate in ACS committees even though they are not a councilor. Many ACS committees have had so-called "consultants" (unpaid volunteers) helping with committee activities. Not only were these consultants unpaid, but they also had to pay all of their travel and lodging expenses involved with their volunteer work. ACS is now planning to reimburse fifty percent (50%) of travel and lodging expenses for consultant participation in committee meetings. I served as a consultant to the Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs for several years. If you do not mind hard work, it is an excellent way of learning how the ACS works and getting yourself known to ACS leadership.

Respectfully submitted,



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