

April 23, 2013

Dear Middle Georgia ACS Member,

What follows is my report to you about the activities of Council at the recent New Orleans ACS meeting.

I can report that our national professional society is alive and well in 2013. We remain the largest association in the world, but the future of our Middle Georgia section is in question. We were unable to find anyone to volunteer to serve as Chair or Secretary last fall. Without the contributions of the faculty of Georgia College and State University, our Middle Georgia section would be extinct. I thank them, but call upon all the other members of our section to please come forward and volunteer to serve our local chemical society. Over ten years ago several of us started this section with great support of many members in our region. Now we're down to a mere shadow of our former self. Step forward and contribute. Give us your ideas. The section needs you.

In addition to serving on Council, I went to New Orleans to also meet with the Committee on Meetings & Expositions where I serve as a full member. We met Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning. I can report that the Fall 2013 meeting will be held in Indianapolis, IN and its theme will be "Chemistry in Motion" and future meetings are Spring 2014 in Dallas, whose theme will be "Chemistry of Materials & Advanced Materials" and Fall 2014 in San Francisco will have the theme of "Chemistry & Global Stewardship."

SERMACS 2013 (www.sermacs2013.org) will be held in Atlanta this fall. Its leadership has asked for support from the Middle Georgia section members. Contact Terry Say (terraysay@aol.com), its General Co-chair if you want to assist.

NEWS

Past President Shakhshiri announced that as of April 15th there is a new Challenge Grant Program whose theme is Climate Change. Proposals are due October 1st.

Bill Carroll, Chair, Board of Directors announced that the ACS's long running Leadscope case was decided by the Ohio Supreme Court. A website with questions and answers is: www.acs.org/leadscopeqa - ACS vs. Leadscope questions and answers

The Committee on Local Section Activities (LSAC) reported that the "Local Section Innovative Projects Grant Program" (IPG) continues in 2013 and local sections are encouraged to submit proposals for its June 30th deadline. Program information and grant applications are at www.acs.org/getinvolved.

ACTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

Election Results

- The Committee on Nominations and Elections presented to the Council the following nominees for selection as candidates for President-Elect, 2014: G. Bryan Balazs, Charles E. Kolb, Jr., Carolyn Ribes, and Diane Grob Schmidt. By electronic ballot, the Council selected G. Bryan Balazs and Charles E. Kolb, Jr. as candidates for 2014 President-Elect. These two candidates,

along with any candidates selected via petitions, will stand for election in the Fall National Election.

- The Committee on Nominations and Elections announced the results of the election to select *candidates* from the list of *nominees* to serve as Directors from District IV (**our District**) on the Board of Directors for the term 2014-2016. Nominees for District IV included John P. Fackler, Jr., Rigoberto Hernandez, Larry K. Krannich, and John A. Whittle. By mail ballot, the Councilors from our district selected Rigoberto Hernandez (Georgia Tech) and Larry K. Krannich (University of Alabama) as District IV candidates. Ballots will be mailed on or before October 10 to all ACS members in District IV for election of our Director to serve of the Board.

Candidates for Directors-at-Large

- The Committee on Nominations and Elections announced the selection of the following candidates for Directors-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 from among those candidates and any selected via petition will be conducted in the fall. Ballots will be mailed to the Council on or before October 10.

Re-alignment of Electoral Districts

- At the 2012 fall meeting, Councilors called for a broader and long-lasting solution to requirements that Board electoral districts have parity in member populations. At this meeting, the Committee on Nominations and Elections reported on their discussions of a revised redistricting proposal which brings all six election districts within 400-1,000 members of the mid-point of the permissible range. This proposed action is designed to eliminate the need for frequent small changes for some time to come. The proposal will be up for vote at the fall Council meeting in Indianapolis.

Society Finances

- Despite the sluggish economy, ACS generated favorable operating results in 2012. Total revenue was \$490.7 million, which was \$6.1 million or 1.3% greater than the approved budget, and 3.9% higher than 2011. The Net from Operations was \$20.2 million, or \$4.3 million favorable to budget. This was largely attributable to better-than-expected performance by ACS Publications and CAS, and represents the Society's 9th consecutive year of positive operating results. While operating performance was favorable, Unrestricted Net Assets declined \$1.4 million to \$100.6 million. Finally, ACS ended the year in compliance with four of the five Board-established financial guidelines.

2014 Member Dues

- The Council VOTED to set the member dues for 2014 at the fully escalated rate of \$154. This rate is established pursuant to an inflation-adjustment formula in the ACS Constitution and Bylaws.

Member Statistics

Society membership at the end of 2012 was 163,322 - 893 lower than the total for year-end 2011 despite recruiting 24,943 new members. The net loss occurred primarily in the Regular, full member category. There was continued growth in both the Student Member undergraduate and

international categories, which helped mitigate the overall decline in membership. The Membership Affairs Committee approved five pilot market data tests to increase membership. www.acs.org/newmember - information on “Why should I join the ACS?”

Attendance Report

- As of Wednesday morning (April 11, 2013), the ACS spring national meeting in New Orleans had attracted 15,596 registrants, including 8,105 regular attendees and 5,793 students. The meeting had 11,232 papers presented.

New International Chemical Sciences Chapter

- The Council VOTED, in concurrence with the Board of Directors, to approve the petition to charter the Romanian International Chemical Sciences Chapter, consisting of the Territory of Romania.

Special Discussion Item

- A special discussion item was put on the Council agenda for this meeting. ACS President Marinda Li Wu presented and moderated a discussion on “What else should ACS do to help members to thrive in the global chemistry enterprise?” ACS has established a strategic goal to “Empower an inclusive community of members with networks, opportunities, resources, and skills to thrive in the global economy.” In support of this goal, President Wu commissioned a task force entitled, “Vision 2025: Helping ACS Members Thrive in the Global Chemistry Enterprise,” to identify globalization opportunities and engage members in advocacy for improving the business and job climate. Following the presentation, 29 Councilors engaged in a robust discussion on what the Society currently offers or could offer to help members thrive in the global chemistry community.

ACTIONS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board’s Open Session

- The Board held a lively, well-attended open session which featured a special forum focused on two questions: 1) “What one thing would you like from ACS that you don’t get now?” 2) “What one thing do you get from another organization that you wish you got from ACS?” Members attending this standing-room only session received a brief overview of current Society offerings followed by an exchange of several ideas on future services and products.

Thank you for supporting your professional association, the American Chemical Society. I am honored to serve as the section’s Councilor.

Please don’t hesitate to call me (478-743-8172) or email me (hargrove_rj@mercer.edu) with your concerns.

Bob Hargrove