

March 25, 2014

Dear fellow ACS members,

As your Councilor of the Middle Georgia Section, I attended the 247th ACS National Meeting in Dallas, Texas from Saturday, March 15- through Wednesday, March 19, 2014 representing you on Council.

On Saturday afternoon, I served on the Regional Meetings sub-committee of the Meetings & Expositions (M&E) Committee. This committee's role is to work to improve regional meetings throughout the country. I am happy to say that our region- The Southeast Region- is among the best in the country. Its annual SERMACS meeting is usually one of the best and it competes for the Chemilluminary Award annually.

On Sunday morning, the full M&E met. We discussed future national meeting sites and issues with improving national meetings.

On Wednesday morning, the Council of the ACS met. Here are some information and actions of the Council:

Past-President Wu's Report

Using the unexpended funds from her Presidential budget, she is establishing a new award called "**Partners for Progress and Prosperity Award**". This new award will be given to local sections, regions, and nationally to recognize successful and exemplary partnerships between industry, academia, government, small business and/or other organizations resulting in impactful outcomes in one or more of the following categories:

- To improve the public perception and appreciation of chemistry
- To promote career advancement opportunities and/or support entrepreneurship in the chemistry enterprise
- To advance advocacy efforts with legislators or opinion leaders
- To significantly advance STEM education

Election Results: The Committee on Nominations and Elections presented to the Council the following nominees for selection as candidates for President-Elect, 2015: Peter K. Dorhout, William A. Lester, Jr., Christopher K. Ober, and Henry F. Schaefer III. By electronic ballot, the Council selected Peter K. Dorhout and William A. Lester, Jr. as candidates for 2015 President-Elect. These two candidates, along with any candidates selected via petitions, will stand for election in the Fall National Election.

Committee Continuance: the Council VOTED unanimously to continue the Committees on Chemical Safety, on Chemistry and Public Affairs, and on Minority Affairs. Continuation of these three committees requires Board concurrence.

2015 Member Dues: The Council voted to set the member dues for 2015 at the fully escalated rate of \$158. This rate is established pursuant to an inflation-adjustment formula in the ACS Constitution and Bylaws.

New International Chemical Sciences Chapter: 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.

Budget and Finance (B&F): In 2013, ACS generated a Net from Operations of \$15.1 million, which was \$2.0 million 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 with 2012. The result was largely attributable 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.

Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA): 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 degree chemists. New graduates must be at the top of our priority list for employment assistance in 2014.

Meetings and Expositions (M&E): As of this morning (March 19, 2014), the ACS spring national meeting had attracted 13,680 registrants, including 6,853 regular attendees and 5,140 students. The meeting had 10,050 papers presented.

The new ACS Mobile Application had over 6,000 downloads by meeting attendees.

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.

Divisional Activities (DAC), a DAC subcommittee, the Multidisciplinary Planning Group is proposing the following 2017 national meeting themes to the divisions for their consideration:

- Spring, San Francisco: *Advanced Materials, Technologies, Systems and Processes*
- Fall, Washington, DC: *Chemistry's Impact on the Global Economy*

Minority Affairs (CMA) reminded Councilors that the ACS Scholars Program is celebrating its twentieth anniversary in 2015. The program has enabled 1,400 students to achieve university degrees in the chemical sciences. CMA will highlight accomplishments and successes of the Scholars Program throughout 2015.

Community Activities (CCA) announced the theme for NCW 2014 to be “**The Sweet Side of Chemistry-Candy**”

BOARD OF DIRECTORS announced the launch of the recently approved **American Association of Chemistry Teachers**, which will support K-12 teachers of chemistry by providing them with a professional home that addresses and is responsive to their needs.

Additionally, you may find the information on these sites helpful.

www.acs.org

Click on “About Us” and scroll down to ACS Financial Information for information on the Society's audited finances and IRS Form 990 filings

www.acs.org/earthday

Chemists Celebrate Earth Day (CCED) 2014

<http://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/about/governance/committees/cwd/publications.html>

Teaching Chemistry to Students with Disabilities digitized version will be published here in April 2014.

<http://www.acs.org/chemistry-over-coffee>

Conversations with Celebrated Chemists

Local Section Resources

- www.acs.org/getinvolved
Grant information, important deadlines and officer resources
- www.acs.org/forms
Submit annual reports, record meetings, activities and events year round

Thanks for your continued support of the Middle Georgia Section of the American Chemical Society.

Bob Hargrove
Councilor 2013-2016