

April 1, 2016

To the members of the Middle Georgia section of the American Chemical Society,

As your elected Councilor, I attended the 251st Meeting of the Society in San Diego from March 11-16, 2016. I also serve as a member of the Meetings & Exhibitions Committee- more specifically as the chair of the regional meetings subcommittee. This subcommittee monitors all regional meetings, trains volunteers who run these meetings each year, and using their reports awards a Chemluminary Award each fall meeting. This committee meets Saturday afternoon and Sunday mornings each meeting.

Should you have any comments or questions, please contact me at Hargrove_rj@mercer.edu or call home 478-743-8172 or cell 478-250-3388.

On Wednesday morning, I attended the Council Meeting. The business that occurred in Council of interest follows:

-Committee on Nominations and Elections: The candidates for President-Elect, 2017: the four candidates for President Elect were: Peter K. Dorhout, Thomas R. Gilbert, C. Bradley Moore, and Gregory H. Robinson. I attended a Town Hall meeting where candidates answered questions from the audience. Based upon that session and their bios, I voted for Dorhout and Gilbert. During Council, we selected **Peter K. Dorhout** and **Thomas R. Gilbert** as **candidates for 2017 President-Elect**. These two candidates, along with any candidates selected via petitions, will stand for election in the Fall National Election.

N&E announced the results of the election held prior to the San Diego meeting 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 2017-2019. By internet ballot, the Councilors from these districts selected **Rigoberto Hernandez** (GA Tech) and **Larry K. Krannich** (U of Ala) as **District IV candidates**. Ballots will be distributed on September 29, 2016 to all ACS members in District IV for election of a Director from each District.

N&E announced the selection of the following **candidates for Directors-at-Large** for 2017-2019 terms: **Joseph A. Heppert, Kristin M. Omberg, 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 distributed to the Council on September 29, 2016.

-Budget & Finance: Council voted to set the member dues for 2016 at the fully escalated rate of **\$166**. This rate is established pursuant to an inflation-adjustment formula in the ACS Constitution and Bylaws.

In 2015, ACS generated a Net from Operations of \$16.6 million, which was \$3.2 million favorable to budget. Total revenues were \$511.7 million, essentially on budget. Expenses ended

the year at \$495.1 million, which was \$3.1 million or 0.6% favorable to budget. This variance was attributable to a continued emphasis on expense management across the Society. The Society's financial position strengthened in 2015, with Unrestricted Net Assets, or reserves, increasing from \$144.7 million at December 31, 2014 to \$163.3 million at year-end 2015. (Note: Most of the revenues come from our Publications area; National meetings revenues do not exceed the expenditures. This is largely due to the expense of computer support for technical sessions.)

Additional information can be found at www.acs.org, at bottom, click 'About ACS', then 'ACS Financial Information'. There you will find several years of the Society's audited financial statements and IRS 990 filings.

-Membership: As of December 31, the ACS membership was nearly 157,000, which is 0.96% less than on the same date in 2014. The number of new members who joined in 2015 is 25,000. The Society's overall retention rate is 84%. The committee also reported that the number of international members has increased to 26,022. That number is 965 higher than in December of 2014. The international growth rate is 3.85%.

Early Member Registration Fee

In compliance with the National Meeting Long Range Financial Plan and the recommendations of the 2015 Task Force on Implementing National Meeting Financial Targets, the Committee on Meetings and Expositions has recommended that the Early Member Registration Fee for the 2017 national meetings be \$440. The Board will vote on this recommendation later this year.

San Diego Meeting Attendance

As of Tuesday evening, March 15:

Attendees	8398
Students	5979
Exhibitors	1094
Expo only	473
Guest	383
Total	16,327

Thanks, Bob Hargrove