

MINUTES  
COUNCIL  
AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY  
August 19, 2020  
Virtual Council

After affording each member of the Council the opportunity to sign onto the Virtual Council platform, and confirming that the Councilors could see and hear the meeting, and ask questions at the designated times, the Council of the American Chemical Society met virtually on August 19, 2020, beginning at 11:00 a.m. ET. H.N. Cheng, President-Elect of the Society and of the Council, presided. The following Councilors, Alternate Councilors, and accredited representatives totaling 434 were present (attendance list attached):

**Ex-Officio:** 34; **Bylaw:** 1; **Divisions:** 81 (9 were Alternate Councilors); **Local Sections:** 318 (16 were Alternate Councilors); and 21 Nonvoting/Noncouncilors (staff and others). Approximately 55 observers were in attendance.

Resolutions

The Council ADOPTED the following resolution as presented by Council Policy Committee (CPC) Vice-Chair Martin Rudd:

1. BE IT RESOLVED That the Council of the American Chemical Society commemorates the passing of the following Councilors, remembering them with respect and affection, and extending sincerest condolences to their families in their bereavement:

- Mrs. Marilyn J. Sikes, Retired, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools and Councilor for the Carolina-Piedmont Section from 1996 to 2010 and 2017 to 2019.
- Mr. William H. Suits, President, Chromatography Connections and Councilor for the North Jersey Section from 2000 to 2002, 2007 to 2008, and 2011 to 2016.
- Dr. Edward A. Mottel, Professor, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology and Councilor for the Wabash Valley Section 2010 to 2020.
- Dr. Stephen A. Rodemeyer, Professor, California State University and Councilor for the San Joaquin Valley Section from 1984 to 2008.
- Dr. Iona Black, Lecturer, Yale University and Councilor for Chemical Education Division from 2017 to 2020.
- Dr. Nina I. McClelland, University of Toledo, and Councilor for the Environmental Chemistry Division from 1978 to 1995; Councilor Ex Officio, Director-at-Large from 1996 to 2004, and Chair of the ACS Board of Directors from 2001 to 2003.

Councilors observed a moment of silence following the presentation of the preceding resolution.

Approval of Minutes

2. VOTED to approve, as distributed, the minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council of April 20, 2020 – the Town Hall with Nominees for President-Elect 2021.

Election of Members to Elected Committees

**Amber S. Hinkle**, chair, Committee on Nominations and Elections (N&E), introduced the candidates for election to the Council Policy Committee (CPC), the Committee on Nominations and Elections, and the Committee on Committees (ConC):

3. In accordance with the provisions of Standing Rule IV, Sec. 1, a, (3), the Committee on Nominations and Elections presented the following nominees for election to membership on the Council Policy Committee beginning in 2021: Gary D. Anderson, Brian B. Brady, Mitchell R.M. Bruce, James C. Carver, Mark D. Frishberg, Elizabeth M. Howson, James M. Landis, Zaida C. Morales-Martinez, Margaret J. Schooler, and Jeanette M. Van Emon. By electronic ballot, the Council ELECTED Elizabeth M. Howson, Zaida C. Morales-Martinez, Margaret J. Schooler, and Jeanette M. Van Emon for three-year terms (2021-2023), and Mark D. Frishberg for a one-year term (2021) on the Council Policy Committee.

4. In accordance with the provisions of Standing Rule IV, Sec. 1, a, (3), the Council Policy Committee presented the following nominees for election to membership on the Committee on Nominations and Elections beginning in 2021: Thomas R. Beattie, Mark A. Benvenuto, Jetty L. Duffy-Matzner, Kevin J. Edgar, Neil D. Jespersen, Michael J. Kenney, R. Daniel Libby, Robert A. Pribush, Julianne M. D. Smist, and Linette M. Watkins. By electronic ballot, the Council ELECTED Jetty L. Duffy-Matzner, Kevin J. Edgar, Neil D. Jespersen, Julianne M. D. Smist, and Linette M. Watkins for three-year terms (2021-2023) on the Committee on Nominations and Elections.

5. In accordance with the provisions of Standing Rule IV, Sec. 1, a, (3), the Committee on Nominations and Elections presented the following nominees for election to membership on the Committee on Committees beginning in 2021: Catherine E. Costello, Debbie M. Decker, Harry J. Elston, Martha G. Hollomon, Diane Krone, Michael D. Mosher, Sarah M. Mullins, Susan J. Olesik, Andrea B. Twiss-Brooks, and Javier Vela. By electronic ballot, the Council ELECTED Martha G. Hollomon, Diane Krone, Sarah M. Mullins, Andrea B. Twiss-Brooks, and Javier Vela for three-year terms (2021-2023) on the Committee on Committees.

Reports of Society Officers

**President-Elect H.N. Cheng** reviewed his overarching Presidential themes of Growth, Collaboration, and Advocacy. He reported on two articles that he wrote on sustainability and his plans to organize three symposia for upcoming meetings. Because of travel restrictions and the cancellation of many in-person meetings, he has been attending and representing ACS at many virtual meetings.

**Immediate Past-President Bonnie A. Charpentier** stated that she was pleased to report accomplishments in areas such as “Collaborations,” “Advocacy and Safety” and “the Environment.” She thanked the ACS technical divisions that worked with her on programming, local sections that invited her to participate in outreach programs, and international chapters that have allowed her to meet members and students around the world. Dr. Charpentier reported that under her initiatives of Safety and the Environment, she was able to support symposia at national meetings, the annual Safety Summit, and provide grants to the Regional Meeting Boards to support safety programming at future regional meetings.

**Board Chair John E. Adams** briefed the Council on the various reports received by the Board of Directors. CEO Tom Connelly reported on Society efforts around the ACS Core Values of Safety and Diversity, Inclusion & Respect. The Board approved several ACS nominees for awards and approved revisions to the Code of Conduct Confirmation statement, which is sent to ACS award nominators. Dr. Adams reported that the Board was briefed by the Governing Board for Publishing on the current status and future plans of the ACS Publications Division and CAS, and received an update from the Committee on Executive Compensation that addressed the results of a recently commissioned salary benchmarking study.

**CEO Thomas M. Connelly, Jr.**, began his report reflecting on the core value of Diversity, Inclusion & Respect (DI&R), and noted that the Board chartered a DI&R working group comprised of members of the Board and the DI&R Advisory Board Chair. Dr. Connelly reported that all staff are working remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic and that multiple ACS meetings have successfully transitioned to virtual formats. Multiple ACS resources and offerings have been made more readily available to support members during the pandemic.

Dr. Connelly said that ACS had secured the largest contribution to ACS in many years: \$3.5 million from Genentech to support the ACS Bridge Program. He mentioned that Dr. James Milne was appointed ACS Publications President, noted the announcement of *JACS Au*, which will be a new open access journal, and highlighted that in July, the U.S. Team brought home four gold medals, the best possible result for the first all-virtual International Chemistry Olympiad.

### Reports of Elected Committees

#### Council Policy Committee (CPC)

**Martin Rudd**, committee Vice-Chair, reported that the CPC Long Range Planning Subcommittee would not hold a virtual Strategy Café at this national meeting, but would re-engage with new Councilors in the fall. Dr. Rudd announced that the working group on Future Council Representation met and was considering responses from Councilors, who overwhelmingly suggested at the fall 2019 ACS meeting in San Diego that all ACS members should have representation on ACS's Council. He noted that the Subcommittee on Petitions, Constitutions and Bylaws discussed the three petitions on the Council agenda. CPC voted to support the Petition to Clarify Amendments to the Standing Rules, concurred on the recommendation on the dissolution of the Committee on Chemical Abstracts Service, and concurred on the Petition to Charter a new International Chemical Sciences Chapter in Israel.

#### Committee on Committees (ConC)

**Carolyn Ribes**, committee chair, reported that the committee is developing recommendations for 2021 committee appointments and reappointments for consideration by the President-Elect and the Chair of the Board of Directors. Dr. Ribes noted that the committee held a summit entitled "Promoting Diversity, Inclusion & Respect and Removing Systemic Barriers within ACS Committees" to hear from committees about their plans and brainstorm approaches to removing barriers within the committee system and ACS. She reported that the ConC Subcommittee on Committee System and Structure presented a petition that would harmonize the ACS committee structures, relax the "Councilor only" designation that exists for some of the ACS committees, and standardize committee term limits. The petition is expected to be up for action at the Spring 2021 Council meeting.

On behalf of Council, she recognized members and committee chairs who will have served the statutory limit or have otherwise completed their service on their ACS governance committees at the end of 2020. Dr. Ribes thanked Councilors for their anniversary milestones, including their 15, 20, 25, 30, and 45 years of service.

Dr. Ribes stated that the committee was assigned the Petition to Clarify Amendments to the Standing Rules, and supports the petitioner's intent to ensure consistency within the ACS Governing Documents.

6. VOTED, on the recommendation of the Committee on Committees and with the concurrence of the Council Policy Committee, that the Petition to Clarify Amendments to the Standing Rules be approved.

Dr. Ribes said that ConC is required by Standing Rule II to review each "Other" Committee and each Joint Board-Council Committee no less often than every five years and to advise the Council and Board of Directors as to whether the committee(s) should be continued. In fulfilling the Standing Rule mandate, ConC reviewed the Committee on Chemical Abstract Service (CCAS) in 2019 and after much discussion at several meetings and careful consideration, voted to recommend to the Council and the Board of Directors that they disband CCAS.

7. VOTED, on the recommendation of the Committee on Committees and with the concurrence of the Council Policy Committee that the Committee on Chemical Abstracts Service, subject to concurrence by the Board of Directors as required, be disbanded.

Dr. Ribes reported that with the motion passing, ConC would seek new committee appointments for CCAS members based on their interests.

#### Nominations and Elections (N&E)

**Amber S. Hinkle**, committee chair, reported the results of the morning's elections for membership on the elected committees in 2021 (see items 3, 4, and 5 above).

Dr. Hinkle reported that with the fall national meeting being held virtually, N&E will offer alternative arrangements for two traditional election-related events. She noted N&E will host a Virtual Town Hall meeting for Councilors to hear from the candidates for Director-at-Large the week of September 21. Ballots for the 2020 fall national election will be distributed beginning September 28, with a voting deadline four weeks later, on October 23. All candidates will be notified of the election results by October 27.

She noted that in early September, Survey & Ballot Systems, the ACS election vendor, will send to all members eligible to vote who have an email address on file, a notice with the option to request a paper ballot. Those members who do not have an email address on file will be sent a paper ballot with the option to vote electronically. Three email reminders of the deadline for voting will be sent to those who have not voted during the voting period.

Dr. Hinkle reported that the candidates who will appear on the ballot for the 2020 national election for President-Elect in 2021 are Mary K. Carroll and Angela K. Wilson. For Directors-at-Large (2021-2023), the candidates are Dawn A. Brooks, Wayne E. Jones, Jr., Kristin M. Omberg, and Carolyn Ribes. For District III Director (2021-2023), the candidates are Teri Quinn Gray and Lynne P. Greenblatt. For District VI Director (2021-2023), the candidates are Janet L. Bryant, Paul W. Jagodzinski, and Jeanette M. Van Emon.

Dr. Hinkle noted that the committee will engage in a training session on implicit bias as part of the slate development process to encourage and promote diversity and inclusion in opportunities for national leadership.

#### Reports of Society Committees and the Committee on Science

##### Budget and Finance (B&F)

**William Greenlee**, committee chair, reported that for 2020, through July 31, ACS generated a net from operations of \$55.7 million, or \$25 million greater than the same period in 2019. Total revenues are on budget at \$354 million. Total expenses are \$298 million, or three percent below 2019. Unrestricted Net Assets increased to \$466 million. He briefly reviewed the Society's sources of net contribution, which totaled \$90 million and primarily included Information Services (i.e., CAS and Publications) and Investments. These sources fund net expenses associated with Society Programs, Web Strategy & Operations, and other supported activities.

Dr. Greenlee said that the Society is in compliance with each of the five Board-established financial guidelines and expects to be in compliance at year-end as well. He noted the growth in unrestricted net assets since 2016, with an estimate of \$466 million as of July 31, 2020. Dr. Greenlee recapped COVID-19 impacts on the Society's finances, and noted that the majority of Information Services' revenue for 2020 was 'booked' prior to the full onset of COVID-19. As a result, finances have remained solid during the first half of the year. The most direct revenue impact to the Society has been to meeting-related revenues with the termination of the spring national meeting and cancellation of the in-person Green Chemistry Conference.



Dr. Greenlee noted that B&F considered a reauthorization request for one program and a request for a new pilot program, and will present the funding requests to the Board of Directors when it meets on August 21.

#### Education (SOCED)

**Jennifer Nielson**, committee chair, congratulated the U.S. Chemistry Olympiad team that earned four gold medals in the 52nd International Chemistry Olympiad, earning the top overall score. Dr. Nielson reported on plans for a SOCED informational and training webinar on building an inclusive chemical education culture. The committee voted to approve revisions to two ACS policy statements expiring in 2020: Fostering Scientific Progress: U.S. Visas for Academic Study & Conference Attendance and Science and Technology in the Budget.

#### Science (ComSci)

**Martin G. Kociolek**, committee chair, reported that the committee supported four policy statements: A Competitive U.S. Business Climate; Science and Technology in the Budget; Sustainability and the Chemistry Enterprise; and Visas for Scientific Collaboration and Academic Study. Dr. Kociolek noted that the committee organized a symposium at this meeting on “Critical Materials: Perspectives from the Industry, Government, and Research Communities.” He reported that committee members provided input on a draft strategy for ACS to have a measurable impact on the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals and that the strategy proposes that the Society’s efforts focus on three themes: research, innovation, and translation; sustainable manufacturing and chemicals management; and chemistry education.

#### Reports of Standing Committees

##### Local Section Activities (LSAC)

**Matthew Reichert**, committee chair, reported that local sections are submitting their annual reviews through FORMS, however a new system for reporting will be released in November. Dr. Reichert noted that various grant proposals were received by the committee and he announced that 26 proposals were approved with the total funding for IPG’s in 2020 being \$68,050. He reminded local sections that ACS provides Zoom meeting licenses should they wish to avail themselves of this service.

##### Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA)

**Eric Bruton**, committee chair, reported that the ACS 2020 Salary & Employment Data Survey was distributed in May 2020 to more than 125,000 ACS members under age 70. The response rate was 5.4 percent, which was statistically valid at a 95 percent confidence level. Dr. Bruton noted that the domestic unemployment for ACS chemists dropped in 2020 by 1.1 percent. However, it is important to note that these data are a snapshot from March 1, 2020, when the economy was healthy and prior to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. He reported that CEPA is progressing on a layoff response plan to assist members who have experienced layoffs.

##### Membership Affairs (MAC)

**Brian M. Mathes**, committee chair, reported that MAC continues to focus on the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and how it is affecting membership. Mr. Mathes announced that the ACS membership count stands at more than 158,000 and ACS will record a third consecutive year of growth. He noted that MAC continues to do market tests on various membership models and that initial results look promising for the Society.

### Meetings and Expositions (M&E)

**Rick Ewing**, committee chair, reported that although there have been significant challenges due to the move of the spring 2020 meeting from an in-person meeting to a virtual one, the committee has been implementing changes to enhance members' experiences. Dr. Ewing noted that the four subcommittees of M&E are working to benchmark other scientific conferences for platform offerings and other creative ideas to shape ACS's national and regional meetings. He reported that a town hall meeting will be held to solicit input and feedback on the impacts of the COVID-19 and regional meeting planning and more research will be done to evaluate price points for virtual meetings. Dr. Ewing noted that the committee is working with staff to resurrect the Program Planning and Coordinating Conference (P2C2) to allow program chairs the opportunity to collaborate and discuss future trends.

He reported that 4,075 scientific papers were presented at this national meeting, with a total attendance for this meeting exceeding 6,000. Dr. Ewing noted that all presentations were pre-recorded, but that consideration will be made in the future to include live content.

### Divisional Activities (DAC)

**James M. Takacs**, committee chair, reported that DAC met to discuss the 2021 division allocation and hear the activities of its five subcommittees, and that DAC developed a working group to review division allocations in light of changing national meeting formats. Dr. Takacs noted that DAC received and discussed reports from several committees and working groups.

### Constitution and Bylaws (C&B)

**Donna Friedman**, committee chair, reported that C&B certified three local section bylaws so far this year. Dr. Friedman reminded Councilors that new petitions to amend the Constitution or Bylaws must be received by the CEO no later than December 2 to be considered by the Council at the spring 2021 Council meeting.

### Reports of Other and Joint Board-Council Committees

#### Younger Chemists (YCC)

**Kristin Nuzzio**, committee chair, reported that the committee is working with ACS units to promote successful virtual programming, working with Career Consultants to enable access for international members, and hosting a symposium in collaboration with the International Younger Chemists Network that features rising entrepreneurs who are solving bench to market challenges. Dr. Nuzzio concluded her report by reminding Councilors that YCC will again collaborate with ACS Webinars to host an interactive Live Virtual Town Hall as part of their Catalyze the Vote initiative.

#### Women Chemists (WCC)

**Kimberly Woznack**, committee chair, highlighted to Councilors that in the last national award cycle, a record 26 women received an ACS award; this included five awards that went to women for the first time. Councilors were encouraged to continue nominating women and chemists of color for these prestigious awards. Dr. Woznack reported collaborations between WCC and Merck, the Division of Professional Relations, and the Committee on Minority Affairs. She noted that the committee is taking an active role in seeking to eliminate systemic racism and looks to partner with other units.

### Senior Chemists (SCC)

**Arlene Garrison**, committee chair, reported that the committee hosted a webinar to address systemic racism and its impact on ACS members and others in the chemistry community. Dr. Garrison informed Councilors of a recently published ACS comment in *C&EN*, “The New World for Senior Chemists,” which brought attention to the engagement and connection of committee members through virtual means. She listed the activities hosted virtually by SCC during the fall national meeting.

### Public Relations and Communications (CPRC)

**Amber Charlebois**, committee chair, reported that the committee held a strategic planning retreat and is offering PR makeovers to ACS units. Dr. Charlebois noted that various activities have been postponed due to the pandemic. She was pleased to remind Councilors that Dr. Raychelle Burks was the 2020 winner of the ACS National Grady-Stack Award for Interpreting Chemistry for the Public.

### Project SEED

**Don Warner**, committee chair, reported that the committee developed a four-week virtual summer camp for Project SEED students due to the cancellation of in-person learning. The camp hosted 291 campers and 62 undergraduate or graduate student cabin leaders and involved 45 speakers, the Committee on Project SEED, 23 ACS member volunteers, and more than 60 ACS staff members across the Society. Dr. Warner concluded his report by asking Councilors to consider donating to Project SEED when renewing ACS memberships.

### Professional Training (CPT)

**Edgar Arriaga**, committee chair, reported that CPT had unveiled a powerful new technological platform, CPARS, i.e., “Chemistry Program Approval and Review System,” that streamlines the process for ACS approval of academic institutions. Dr. Arriaga noted that CPARS will include a new diversity, equity, inclusion, and respect criterion. He noted that CPT has developed a student-centric model to describe excellence in education. This model incorporates the traditional four pillars of excellence: infrastructure, curriculum, faculty, and pedagogy, and recognizes that life skills, diversity and inclusion training, and safety culture are also part of the training for success.

### Minority Affairs (CMA)

**Ann Kimble-Hill**, committee chair, reported that the committee has been actively implementing its new strategic plan and has been collaborating with the Office of Undergraduate Programs, WCC, CPT, LSAC, PROF, and ConC on a variety of diversity initiatives. Dr. Kimble-Hill encouraged Councilors to review the recommendations for the Society’s Diversity, Inclusion & Respect strategies in the written report and in the *Councilor News & Committee Alerts* newsletter.

### International Activities (IAC)

**Jens Breffke**, committee chair, reported that the committee recently welcomed presentations from IUPAC, the Malta Conference Foundation, and heard about ACS’s efforts regarding immigration policy and career panels for international members. Dr. Breffke noted that the committee is working closely with the Committee on Membership Affairs to provide greater value and services to international members.

8. VOTED, on the recommendation of the Committee on International Activities, and with the concurrence of the Council Policy Committee, to approve the establishment of the Israel International Chemical Sciences Chapter, subject to concurrence by the ACS Board of Directors.

### Ethics

**Judith Currano**, committee chair, reported that the committee unveiled its new website, approved a white paper entitled, "Introduction to the Ethics of Scientific Conflict of Interest," and is looking forward to presenting the ChemLuminary Award for Outstanding Programming by a Local Section Related to the Promotion of Ethics in Chemistry. Ms. Currano briefed Councilors on various programming changes that the committee undertook to move from in-person to a virtual meeting.

### Environmental Improvement (CEI)

**Christopher Avery**, committee chair, reported that the committee was in the process of developing a plan to prioritize work on the committee's goal #10: Reduced Inequalities of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Dr. Avery encouraged Councilors to contact the committee for ideas on supporting this goal and on a new initiative they are addressing: single use plastics and their negative impact on the environment.

### Chemical Safety (CCS)

**Debbie Decker**, committee associate, reported on the successful ACS Safety Summit and recommended that ACS staff continue to support the approach of gathering input from the ACS community about our core value of "Professionalism, Safety and Ethics." Ms. Decker noted that the committee is reviewing its mission and vision statements stemming from its strategic planning retreat that was held last year. She noted that ACS has become an increasingly prominent voice for chemical safety since 2010 due to the ongoing support from ACS leadership, governance and staff, long-term commitments to developing sound technical documents by a group of passionate ACS volunteers, and the ACS's ability to leverage new technologies in imaginative ways.

### New Business

#### Resolutions

The Council adopted the following resolutions:

9. BE IT RESOLVED the Council of the American Chemical Society express to Luis Echegoyen, President of the Society in 2020, its sincere appreciation for his service, and its gratitude for his 48 years as a member of the Society. The Council appreciates his calling attention to the need to eliminate systemic racism in the sciences by addressing barriers head on and calling for action in the fight against discrimination, prejudice, and bias against people of color in our community, in our science, and in our lives. The Council urges continued support for his work supporting members to become involved in advocacy efforts and highlighting public office as a means for scientists to effect positive change. The Council extends congratulations to President Echegoyen, his wife Lourdes, and his daughters, and wishes him continued success in his future personal and professional endeavors.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m. ET.

Flint H. Lewis  
Secretary