

Official Reports from the
San Francisco, California Meeting and June Board Meeting

The major actions taken by the ACS Board and Council during the national meeting in San Francisco, California were reported in C&EN, April 10, page 5.

Reports of Society Committees

Budget and Finance

The Society Committee on Budget and Finance (B&F) met on Saturday, April 1, 2017, to review the Society's 2016 financial performance. ACS ended 2016 with a net contribution from operations of \$23.8 million, on revenues of \$526.7 million and expenses of \$503.0 million. This was \$10.4 million favorable to the 2016 Approved Budget. After including the results of the Member Insurance Program, the Society's overall net contribution for 2016 was \$24.1 million, which was \$11.0 million favorable to the Approved Budget. The Society's financial position improved in 2016 with unrestricted net assets increasing from \$163.3 million at December 31, 2015, to \$206.5 million at December 31, 2016. The year-end balance includes a \$23.8 net from operations, investment gains of \$15.2 million, and a \$4.2 million partial reversal of previously recorded accounting charges for the Society's underfunded postretirement benefit.

The committee elected Dr. William Greenlee as Vice Chair and voted to recommend to Council that dues for 2018 be set at the fully escalated rate of \$171.00, an increase of \$5.00 versus the 2017 dues rate. In addition, the committee received reports from the Subcommittees on Communications, Program Review, Program Funding Requests, and Financial Impacts of Constitution & Bylaw Amendments.

Joseph A. Heppert, Chair

Education

The Society Committee on Education (SOCED) held a special discussion on mentoring in STEM. During this discussion the committee sought to: understand what motivates and challenges those providing mentoring; considered functions and mechanisms of mentoring; and, identified ways ACS can encourage the use and assessment of research-based mentoring practices by those providing and receiving mentoring.

SOCED received an update from the ACS government affairs staff on federal science education policy. The committee approved of extending the current position statements on the importance of hands-on laboratory activities and the teaching of evolution.

The committee received an overview of a survey that ACS, the American Physical Society, the Computing Research Association and the Mathematics Teacher Education Partnership conducted to address the shortage of middle and high school STEM teachers in high needs areas.

The committee discussed the fall 2016 workshop on General Chemistry Performance Expectations, which is part of a process for the creation of performance expectations in general chemistry. SOCED recommended that staff pursue improved iterations of the workshop.

SOCED was informed of recent developments related to the American Association of Chemistry Teachers (AACT), including a recent member survey, content writing teams sponsored by PPG Industries, and incorporation of the Science Coaches program. More than 4,200 individuals, with 88 % being K-12 teachers, are now AACT members.

SOCED discussed and unanimously passed a resolution that recommends that a policy statement be developed to ensure that ACS events only occur in nondiscriminatory locations.

Diane Krone, Chair

Board Committee Reports

Standing Committees

Professional and Member Relations

The committee approved and accepted the minutes from the final report of the Grants and Awards (G&A) committee, which was dissolved on December 31, 2016.

The chair shared some 2016 P&MR accomplishments. They included establishing three new international chapters and approving alliances with six organizations. A new volunteer portal was developed for a planned launch in 2017, which will help members more readily understand volunteer opportunities across ACS, and will provide existing volunteers with access to information to help them execute their volunteer duties more efficiently and effectively. The Collaborative for Re-Imagining a Diverse ACS Membership, under the leadership of Dorothy Phillips, established milestones for membership growth for African Americans and Hispanics, and identified opportunities for greater synergies with ACS Scholars and Project Seed. Finally, P&MR participated in two important workshops in 2016: (1) Inclusion training hosted by the Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Board (D&I), and (2) A ‘red-teaming’ exercise, which required participants to view a challenge or problem from an adversary or competitor’s perspective.

The chair then turned to a brief review of 2017 committee priorities. They include the following:

- Review and advise on services ACS provides to international members, chapters, and student chapters
- Help members advance professionally through information and training
- Better understand industry member needs and engage our industry members more effectively
- Enhance member-facing IT with a continued emphasis on safety
- Explore ways to expand diversity and inclusion efforts more globally
- Serve as the policy-making body for the ACS National and Fellows Awards programs.

The committee was briefed on the January 2017 ACS Leadership Institute. Overall, feedback received was highly positive for the many tracks that were held in Dallas, as well as for the 10 facilitated ACS Leadership Development courses that generated 393 enrollments. Some concern was expressed about whether the larger strategic goals of the Leadership Advisory Board were on track – with a particular focus on whether staff and governance were properly aligned regarding the future of the Learning Management System. The Web Strategy and Innovation subcommittee (WSI) will consider its role in assisting with this matter.

The Committee on Minority Affairs (CMA) sought feedback from P&MR regarding a revised statement titled, “American Chemical Society Statement on Diversity and Inclusion.” The committee discussed the statement, and in general, there was relatively little feedback for CMA at this stage in the process.

The chair alerted P&MR to a recent request from a member seeking to establish a new ACS National Award focusing on safety. Given the recent nature of the request, additional information is being developed and will be shared with the committee in June.

The WSI subcommittee shared some priorities for 2017, and provided updates on two ongoing initiatives: (1) ACS Chemical Safety Initiatives, and (2) ACS.org Transformation. Regarding the Chemical Safety Initiative, the goal is for ACS to be the preferred site for matters regarding chemical safety.

The committee was updated on recent activities designed to increase international engagement. The presentation focused on International Chemical Sciences Chapters, the ACS International Center, and activities planned for the impending San Francisco National Meeting. Regarding the International Chapters, they exist to serve as ACS 'local connections' to their geographical regions, along with gathering and catalyzing ACS members worldwide, facilitating global networking and collaboration, and otherwise supporting the ACS global growth strategy.

Regarding the International Center, P&MR was reminded it is designed to encourage, engage, and support international scientific information at all levels. It features information on nearly 600 programs spanning 16 geographies including Brazil, China, France, Germany, Global, the Netherlands, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Singapore, South Africa Portugal, Turkey, the U.K., the U.S. and New Zealand. At year-end, the center had exceeded 2016 targets established for unique visitors, daily unique visitors, and page views.

The committee received an update regarding 2016 year-end membership numbers, which finished at 156,129 - down 747 from the previous year. The report also featured an update on a variety of marketing tests being conducted under the auspices of the Membership Affairs Committee. The committee was interested in learning the retention rates for undergraduate and graduate students; staff will share that data with the committee as soon as possible.

P&MR received information on the ACS National Awards program, which included a slide detailing the financial status of endowed awards. Following these updates, the chair of the subcommittee shared his initial thoughts on some key aspects of the Awards program, including sponsor funding, and the diversity of the National Awards nominations and selection process. The committee discussed these matters on a preliminary basis, and agreed to hold a more substantive discussion on the matters when the committee meets face-to-face in June.

The committee concluded by expressing its thanks to Denise Creech for her years of superior service in her role as staff liaison to P&MR.

Ingrid Montes, Chair

Public Affairs and Public Relations

The Board Standing Committee on Public Affairs and Public Relations (PA&PR) met virtually on March 20, 2017. The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming new and returning committee members, reviewed the agenda, support materials in the agenda book and highlighted several upcoming events of interest to the Committee:

- **Senate Chemistry Caucus** – will be kicked off on March 29 at an evening reception with the bipartisan group of Senators creating the Caucus along with ACS, the American Chemistry Council, and the National Association of Chemical Distributors.
- **March for Science** – ACS announced its support for the March for Science, which also coincides with the annual ACS Chemists Celebrate Earth Day event.
- **ACS Legislative Summit** – will be held on April 25 & 26 in Washington, DC.
- **National Historic Chemical Landmark designations** – two events are upcoming:
 - April 18 - designation of CFCs & Ozone, UC Irvine
 - May 15 - designation of Mars Mariner infrared spectrometer, UC Berkeley

ACS Public Policy Statement Prioritization - The chair introduced the annual exercise to prioritize individual ACS public policy statements and thanked committee members for submitting their input via a survey instrument. Based on survey input received from both PA&PR members and Office of the Secretary and General Counsel staff, policy statements were put into four tiers. The committee reviewed each tier, discussed the statements proposed for inclusion in each tier, and after discussion the committee voted to approve the advocacy prioritization for 2017.

External Affairs & Communications - The committee received an update from staff about the December 2016 creation of the External Affairs & Communications (EA&C) unit in the Office of the Secretary and General Counsel. EA&C combined the government affairs and communications functions of the former Office of Public Affairs with the Office of International Activities, formerly located in the Membership division. A new Domestic Outreach & Alliances function was also added to the new unit.

New Administration & Congressional Outlook - Staff provided committee members with an overview of the 115th Congress' agenda, the ACS strategy to engage with the new Congress, the establishment of a Senate Chemistry Caucus, the agenda for the 2017 ACS Legislative Summit, the status of the Administration's filling of key cabinet and senior science positions, and the President's FY18 budget outline.

Chemical Weapons Task Group Report - The chair gave an overview of a report he received from a chemical weapons working group he convened in December 2016 and reviewed its various recommendations. The chair discussed a request received from the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) requesting ACS and the American Chemistry Council to organize a technical workshop on chlorine for its staff, the workshop to be held at The Hague this spring. The workshop is in line with recommendations of the working group. The chair will request that the working group continue refining its work by setting priorities among their recommendations and identify metrics that would measure progress toward reaching their targeted outcomes.

Human Rights Report

ACS Board member Dorothy Phillips provided the committee with an update on her recent activities in her role as the Board's human rights representative, including a visit to the United Nations (UN) and attendance at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) "Science and Human Rights Coalition Meeting." She also provided an overview of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Communications Update

ACS staff provided the committee with updates on an agreement with PBS Digital Studios to start marketing ACS videos on their YouTube site, which has 10 million+ subscribers and 915 million+ content views. Also, the Embargoed Content program is being expanded from four to seven ACS journals in an effort to build on current publicity success by securing even greater media attention to research published in ACS journals.

John E. Adams, Chair

Other Board Standing and Joint Board-Council Committees

Chemical Abstracts Service

The CCAS Committee met in Executive Session on March 31, 2017 and prepared for the upcoming CCAS Strategic Planning Retreat (SPR) to be held April 29-30, 2017.

In addition, CAS President Manuel Guzman provided a brief management report stating that CAS' new product initiatives are all performing well and SciFinderⁿ was launched in November. This powerful new solution provides innovative answer relevancy capabilities, new and unique authoritative CAS content, and enhanced workflow features. Also highlighted for the committee was Chemistry Class Advantage, a digital chemistry learning solution that provides undergraduate students with lessons based on peer-reviewed research and teaches SciFinder skills with real world examples, illustrating the empirical nature of chemistry. A successful pilot and beta phase were completed in 2016.

The committee looks forward to sharing the results of the SPR after updating the committee's mission and setting strategy. Input from multiple Society stakeholders has been invited to help identify ways in which CCAS can serve Society members as a unique conduit and help CAS to fulfill the ACS Mission. As always, ACS members are encouraged to contact CCAS members with questions or suggestions related to the committee's activities or to CAS.

Wendy D. Cornell, Chair

Chemical Safety

Leading efforts on strengthening safety culture, the Committee on Chemical Safety (CCS), along with the Division on Chemical Health & Safety (DivCHAS) applauded the ACS Board of Directors on positioning chemical safety in the 2017 ACS Strategic Plan. A study on how chemical and procedural hazard safety information is communicated in core chemistry journals was conducted by the CCS Communication Subcommittee. Information obtained resulted in a new safety reporting requirement in ACS Journals starting in 2017. The CCS applauded ACS Publications on this new requirement and offered its support as this new policy is implemented. The committee has launched the 8th edition of the *Safety in the Academic Laboratories: Best Practices for the First- and Second- Year Students*. The content for this edition shifted from safety based primarily on compliance to learning about safety through the RAMP (**R**ecognize the hazards, **A**ssess the risks of the hazards, **M**inimize the risks of the hazards and **P**repare for emergencies) principles. The new edition also includes sections on safety culture and use of the Globally Harmonized System (GHS). The publication is available through [ACS Online Store](#).

Final draft of *Safety Guidelines for the Chemistry Professional – Understanding Your Role and Responsibilities* was approved by the CCS. This document establishes guidelines for the ACS Membership and other interested parties on behalf of the community of safety professionals within ACS. The committee hosted a lunch for faculty members to discuss *Guidelines for Chemical Laboratory Safety in Academic Institutions*. More than 100 participated in the lunch and discussion focused on opportunities and barriers of implementing the new guidelines.

Elizabeth M. Howson, Chair

Chemistry and Public Affairs

The Committee on Chemistry and Public Affairs (CCPA) provides ACS with advice and recommendations for action on public policy matters that impact the chemical sciences and technology.

At the 2017 National Meeting in San Francisco, CCPA members were pleased to meet with ACS President Allison Campbell and learned about her plans to encourage and train ACS members to advocate for science, including an advocacy workshop to help prepare ACS members to reach out to their members of Congress and urge them to join the Congressional Chemistry Caucus. This workshop will take place at the Fall meeting in Washington DC, and members of CCPA stand ready and eager to assist President Campbell with this effort.

ACS Congressional Fellow Caitlyn McGuire reported on her fellowship experience working with Senator Richard Durbin (D-IL). ACS Science Policy Fellow Christopher Yarosh reported on his ACS Science Policy Fellowship experience working on science policy issues in with ACS External Affairs & Communications. CCPA selects and ACS supports two Congressional Fellows to work on Capitol Hill for a year and one Science Policy Fellow to work in the ACS Office of Public Affairs for one to two years. More information can be found on the ACS website at www.acs.org/policyfellow.

Raymond E. Forslund, Chair

Chemists with Disabilities

CWD continues to work with other entities (ACS and non-ACS) to ensure that all individuals have opportunities to advance the chemical sciences by drawing on their full range of talents.

American Institute of Chemical Engineers is working with ACS CWD to develop a proactive AIChE subgroup for chemical engineers with disabilities.

ACS Division of Chemical Health and Safety is working with CWD to prepare an ACS Symposium Series monograph on Accessibility in the Laboratory. CWD members are serving as chapter co-authors and editors.

ACS Examinations Institute and CWD continue to work together to make ACS Standard Exams, Practice Tests and Study Guides available to blind students.

- ACS is creating a lending library for braille versions of ACS Standard Exams (overcoming the hurdle of the increased costs that university chemistry departments might incur to create braille tests).
- CWD members are providing feedback/suggestions on Braille chemical structure images.

To increase awareness and receptiveness of scientists with disabilities, CWD is continuing to develop posters of famous scientists with disabilities. Current featured scientists with disabilities include Thomas Edison, Albert Einstein, Sir Humphrey Davy, Joseph Priestley, Florence Seibert and John Cornforth. At the request of teachers, these posters have been made into bookmarks and posters suitable for classrooms.

To expand the reach and awareness of ACS Committee on Chemists with Disabilities, CWD has created a Facebook page. CWD is initiating efforts to become more visible on Linked-In and Twitter.

To permit increased accessibility for members with disabilities, CWD is working on integrating Adobe Connect with Dragon voice-to-text software to develop a universally accessible platform for remote conferencing.

CWD is creating a travel award to facilitate participation of students and post-docs with disabilities at the ACS National Meetings. This opportunity will be available for the 2017 Fall ACS meeting in Washington DC.

CWD is updating a ChemLuminary award to encourage and reward local sections that create events facilitating and promoting participation by persons with disabilities.

John J. Johnston, Chair

Community Activities

On Saturday, April 1, 2017 approximately 350 members of the public and 200 children participated in a Presidential Outreach Event led by the Committee on Community Activities (CCA). Volunteers from CCA and from California, and local sections as far away as Puerto Rico led participants through seven activities at the Exploratorium, a science museum located on the Embarcadero in San Francisco. Activities were chosen to highlight the 2017 Chemists Celebrate Earth Day (CCED) theme, “Chemists Help Feed the World.” ACS President Dr. Allison Campbell presented a “Salutes to Excellence” award to the Exploratorium to show the ACS’s appreciation for hosting this event.

After the Presidential Outreach Event, CCA members participated in the National Chemistry Week (NCW) 2017, Chemists Celebrate Earth Week (CCEW) 2018, and NCW 2018 theme team meetings. On Sunday, CCA approved the themes for these events and continued planning for these outreach campaigns. The approved themes are NCW 2017 “Chemistry Rocks!” (geochemistry), CCEW 2018 “Dive into Marine Chemistry”, and NCW 2018 “Chemistry out of this World!” (space chemistry).

On Monday, April 3, volunteers from CCA led approximately 60 undergraduate students through the activities described in the 2017 CCED Edition of “Celebrating Chemistry” and those used during the April 1 Outreach Event. Students learned how to explain the experiments to young children and prepared them to volunteer in outreach events hosted by their local sections and student chapters.

CCA held their open meeting jointly with LSAC on Tuesday April 4. Following the CCA/LSAC opening meeting, a hosted reception was sponsored honoring local section officers, outreach coordinators and tour speakers.

CCA is looking for theme team members for 2018 and beyond. Those interested in joining a theme team should contact outreach@acs.org for more information.

Michael B. McGinnis, Chair

Environmental Improvement

The joint Board-Council Committee on Environmental Improvement met in Executive Session on Saturday, April 1 and Sunday, April 2, 2017. The committee continued ongoing work on ACS public policy statements, as well as related documents and activities.

During 2017, CEI will be recommending draft statements to the ACS Board of Directors to replace the expiring documents on integrity in the use of science in public policy and on sustainability in the chemistry enterprise. In San Francisco, the committee adopted a series of facts sheets related to the new statement on chemical risk assessment and regulatory decision making that the Board adopted in December. CEI also discussed getting wide exposure for the climate statement passed in December while continuing an ongoing discussion on climate with ACS members.

CEI also provided grants for local section activities and identified the local section finalists for its 2017 ChemLuminary Award. As part of the technical program of the Chemical Education Division in San Francisco, the committee recognized the winners of the 2017 ACS-CEI Award for the Incorporation of Sustainability into Chemistry Education, and a symposium featured the students who attended the 2016 Conference of the Parties (COP22) global climate negotiations in Marrakech as ACS student observers.

Anthony M. Noce, Chair

International Activities

At its meeting in San Francisco on Saturday, April 1, 2017, the ACS Joint Board-Council Committee on International Activities (IAC) continued its work to help formulate and refine a pathway forward for ACS to be more welcoming of chemists, chemical engineers and chemistry educators with international interests and for connecting our members with the global practice of chemistry.

IAC welcomed dignitaries from our sister societies and partners from Brazil, Canada, South Korea, Germany, Japan, Nigeria, the UK and IUPAC, as well as leadership of ACS International Chemical Sciences International Chapters from China, South Korea, Saudi Arabia, and Hungary.

At its distinguished speaker luncheon, the committee welcomed the executive director and CEO of ACS who provided information on ACS global interests and priorities, followed by discussion on IAC synergies going forward.

During its subcommittee and open meetings, the committee heard reports on its key programs and activities, such as the 2017 ACS PITTCO Delegation from South America; 2016 ACS International Center usage; the ACS Chemistry Festival Series; our work with the US Department of State for early career scientist and engineer training in safety and chemical security in North Africa and the Maghreb and plans for similar offerings in East Africa and Australia; our 2016 Global Innovation Initiative program in Brazil, the ACS National Science Foundation (NSF) Chemical Sciences and Society Symposia and the NSF International Research Experiences for Undergraduates programs; and plans for the July 2017 IUPAC World Congress and General Assembly in Sao Paulo, Brazil; the ACS Saudi Chapter Labtech Conference in Doha, Qatar in November 2017; and the First Asia Pacific International Chapters Conference in Jeju, South Korea in November 2017. For further information and detail on these and other ACS International Activities endeavors, please visit www.acs.org/international.

IAC approved Pakistan and India as the regional focus for the 2018 ACS PITTCO Delegation; unanimously endorsed of the ACS Bylaw IX revision for ACS International Chapters; supported of Committee plans to lead drafting a revised ACS Visa Policy Statement by the end of 2017; and supported of exploring quality assurance for overseas first-degree chemistry programs. The committee also created a working group to explore its contributions to the international dimensions and the success of the celebration of Project SEED's 50th Anniversary.

At our IAC International Welcoming Reception, the committee was pleased to host over 400 international meeting attendees and ACS member volunteers with global interests.

Ellene T. Contis, Chair

Minority Affairs

The Committee on Minority Affairs (CMA) passed a new Diversity and Inclusion statement and sent it to the Board Standing Committee on Professional and Member Relations for approval. The statement was in the works for nearly a year and was approved by the Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Board in San Francisco and also contained feedback from P&MR. It replaces a 2007 statement. The Committee voted on a nominee for ACS Fellow, discussed nominees for the Stanley Israel Award, and previewed and solicited comments on planned programming for the Washington, D.C., meeting. Committee members received and discussed reports from the Committee on Committees on the committee demographic survey, the Joint Board-CPC Task Force on Governance Improvement, and the ACS Scholars Manager. CMA cosponsored three symposia: “The Importance of Role Models and Mentors in Reaching Gender Equity in the Chemical Sciences: A Symposium in Honor of Judith Iriarte-Gross,” who received the ACS Award for Encouraging Women in the Chemical Sciences (with the Women Chemists Committee); and a symposium honoring Saundra McGuire, who received the ACS Award for Encouraging Disadvantaged Students into Careers in the Chemical Sciences (with the Division of Chemical Education [CHED]); and “Advancing Undergraduate Research” (with CHED and the Division of Professional Relations). CMA hosted Dr. Miyoung Chun, Executive Vice President of Scientific Programs of The Kavli Foundation, as its luncheon speaker. President Elect Peter Dorhout also spoke at the luncheon the ACS Scholars Program.

Madeleine Jacobs, Chair

Patents and Related Matters

The Committee on Patents and Related Matters serves the ACS in a number of ways. The committee monitors legislative and regulatory developments influencing intellectual property. The committee provides ACS members and the general public with information about patents and other intellectual property issues. The committee's website is updated frequently and contains a wealth of helpful information about intellectual property matters relevant to those of us in the chemical enterprise.

CPRM also prepares nominations of notable inventors for external national awards recognizing the inventions of chemical professionals. We welcome your suggestions for possible nominees.

The committee has begun providing speakers for the PTO's Technology Fair. These speakers provide patent examiners with hour-long updates on the latest developments in the chemical sciences. If you would like to participate in these efforts, please let us know.

We have reorganized the committee to encompass such diverse topics as intellectual property aspects of entrepreneurship, technology transfer and sponsored research.

Any and all communications regarding these matters should be sent to Patents@acs.org.

Sadiq Shah, Chair

Professional Training

At the April 2017 meeting, the Committee on Professional Training (CPT) evaluated 28 periodic reports from currently approved programs and held conferences with seven departments applying for ACS approval. CPT also evaluated a site visit report from a program seeking approval, four reports from approved programs on probation, and one appeal of an action to withdraw approval. CPT voted to withdraw approval of one program. Currently, 688 colleges and universities offer an ACS-approved bachelor's degree program in chemistry.

New documents on the value of ACS approval to chemistry programs and the value of certification to students were published on the CPT web page. A survey to solicit information on the use of online courses and virtual laboratory experiences in undergraduate chemistry programs is underway with a report on the results to be published later in 2017. The committee approved a short survey on undergraduate research funding to be included in the CPT 2016-17 annual report that is completed by ACS-approved programs. A subcommittee developed plans for a special meeting this summer that will be devoted to developing policies and procedures to improve the consistency of program reviews and better orient new members to the review process.

A breakfast meeting was held with the Visiting Associates, the volunteers who make site visits to programs that are seeking initial approval by ACS. The committee also met with representatives from 41 PhD-granting institutions. The committee held a symposium on the role of undergraduate research experiences in the ACS-certified degree.

Thomas J. Wenzel, Chair

Publications

The committee voted unanimously to elect Jerzy Klosin as vice chair, who will serve in that capacity from March 31, 2017 to December 31, 2017.

The progress reports for *ACS Omega* and the *Journal of the American Chemical Society* and the editorial monitoring reports for *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces*, *ACS Photonics* and *Bioconjugate Chemistry* were presented, discussed thoroughly and accepted with thanks. Editor reappointments were reviewed and recommendations were made.

C&EN staff highlighted a new monthly column by chemistry blogger Chemjobber and a chemistry cartoon series with chemist cartoonist Brendan Burkett. Staff also highlighted C&EN's strategic plan 2017-2020 which will position C&EN as an influential and innovative digital news media player.

The Committee on Committees (ConC) presented the Committee on Publications demographic survey results along with a brief overview of how the Committee on Committee interacts and works to suggest ACS Councilors for committees.

The Joint Board-Council Policy Committee Task Force on Governance Design presented an update on the task force's charge to ensure flexibility in the ACS governance structure, processes and procedures to sustain ACS as the preferred place where scientists and engineers collaborate, publish, network, learn and volunteer.

The committee heard a presentation and discussed a guidelines document developed by a group of volunteers from the ACS Division of Chemical Health and Safety (CHAS). The Division made recommendations for ACS Editors to consider in promoting chemical safety in ACS journals. The sample documentation was viewed as being a potentially important tool for researchers.

Nicole S. Sampson, Chair

Science

The Committee on Science (ComSci) organized a forum in San Francisco on “Chemical Innovation Partnerships: Industry-University Success Stories”. This session explored principles and approaches for successful partnerships and included an informative panel discussion on best practices. At the Fall 2017 National Meeting in Washington, ComSci will offer a symposium on “Sustaining Water Resources: Environmental and Economic Impact”. This symposium will be featured as part of the Multidisciplinary Program Planning Group thematic program and will be recommended by ACS President Allison Campbell. ComSci will be collaborating with other committees to update expiring policy statements on innovation, chemistry, and jobs; on scientific integrity; and on sustainability. A subset of ComSci members will meet over the summer to review and update the Committee’s current strategic plan. On behalf of ACS, ComSci has submitted nominations for the National Medal of Science and the Dreyfus Prize in the Chemical Sciences.

Mark C. Cesa, Chair

Senior Chemists

The Senior Chemists Committee (SCC) met via conference call on February 7 and face-to-face on April 3 in San Francisco, CA during the ACS National Meeting. The committee members convened to discuss the progress of its new strategic goals established in December 2015. To date, the committee has launched the Senior Chemists Group on the ACS Network to provide two-way communication among senior chemists; the number of Local Section senior chemists committees has increased to 30; collaborative efforts are being made with AACT to get senior chemists involved in the ACS Science Coaches Program; mini-grants were awarded to 10 Local Sections in 2016 and the program is being continued in an effort to increase the engagement of senior members; readership for *The Newsletter for Senior Chemists* increased to 30%; the symposium “The Golden Age of Industrial Chemistry” was organized and held at the national meeting in San Francisco; and now 70-year certificates of ACS Service will be included in the 50- and 60- year packets sent annually to Local Sections.

On April 4, during the Senior Chemists Breakfast, Dr. Paul Alivisatos, UC Berkeley's Samsung Distinguished Professor of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology and Vice Chancellor for Research, presented an engaging talk focused on his journey through nanoscience and answered numerous questions from attendees.

Thomas R. Beattie, Chair

Women Chemists

The Women Chemists Committee (WCC), founded in 1927, is celebrating its 90th anniversary. During a special symposium, past committee chairs showcased WCC activities and highlighted persistent issues, such as bias, harassment, and the under-representation of women in certain sectors of the workforce and in national technical awards.

“Perspectives,” a WCC Newsletter section to engage younger women, premiered with “Barbie takes on STEM.” Written by members of a high school chemistry club, the article makes salient points about the portrayal of women scientists and safe lab attire.

WCC and the ACS Committee on Grants & Awards hosted the webinar, “Becoming Award Ready.” It can be accessed on the WCC website (<http://womenchemists.sites.acs.org>), along with recent *Chemical & Engineering News* articles on the topic and a one-page guide to assist nominators.

WCC is developing key partnerships:

- Working with Divisions will help nominees be “award ready” and expand the quality and quantity of nominations.
- WCC is working with journal editors and technical divisions to produce virtual journal issues highlighting the science of women.
- WCC will be considering the outcomes of the American Geophysical Union’s recent workshop on sexual harassment in the sciences, as well as potential next steps. The workshop outcomes and resources are available at <https://harassment.agu.org/>.
- Resources for local sections’ women chemist committees are being compiled.

In 2017, WCC will be revising its strategic plan. Suggestions regarding ways to fulfill the WCC mission – attracting, retaining, developing, promoting, and advocating for women chemists – can be sent to wcc@acs.org.

Laura Sremaniak, Chair

Younger Chemists

The Younger Chemists Committee (YCC) had a fruitful and exciting meeting in San Francisco as we continued working to achieve our mission: *to advocate for and provide resources to early career chemists and professionals in the chemical sciences and related fields.*

By collaborating with ACS entities such as the Undergraduate Programming Advisory Board, the Division of Professional Relations, and other technical divisions and committees, the YCC strives to deliver valuable career and soft skill programming at each National Meeting. This is complimented with informal activities such as the YCC Social and the YCC Fun Run, sponsored by the Member Insurance Program. Many of these programs connect seasoned chemists with younger chemists to enable knowledge sharing and mentorship opportunities while empowering both groups to expand their networks and perspectives.

Beyond National Meetings, the YCC also supports the growth and development of Local Section YCCs. We routinely update our “Starter Kit” and offer grants for new chapters and new programs, with the goal of seeing a network of driven, passionate young chemists flourish across the US, and the world. We celebrate the continued success of the YCC Track at the annual Leadership Development Institute which enables us to prepare current and future leaders within the ACS, and our profession.

The YCC has a collective passion for engaging all younger chemists in the Society, through national and local section governance. We look forward to raising awareness of the value of volunteerism, and recruiting new members to participate in the rewarding work with which we are tasked.

Natalie A. LaFranzo, Chair

Council Committee Reports

Elected Committees

Committees

During the meeting in San Francisco, the Committee on Committees (ConC) approved its new vision, mission statement, and strategic goals, which were created during its strategic planning retreat held in February.

Based on their performance reviews, ConC recommended to Council and CPC concurred that the Committee on Project SEED be continued and that the Committees on Chemists with Disabilities, Public Relations and Communications, and Women Chemists, subject to concurrence by the Board of Directors, also be continued. Council approved both these recommendations.

ConC liaisons presented the committee data to their assigned committees from the demographic survey that was conducted last summer. Survey participation was excellent with a 76% overall participation rate. ConC is reviewing the aggregated data to guide its future inclusion efforts and voted to continue this effort by conducting the survey every three years. Incomplete membership data makes it difficult to assess whether the committees and leadership are reflective of the Society as a whole.

ConC has begun developing its recommendations for 2018 Committee Chair appointments for consideration by the President-Elect and the Chair of the Board of Directors. The online committee preference form opened on March 27 at <https://www.yellowbook.acs.org/>. It is especially important for committee associates, those finishing a term, those who will reach the statutory limit (final year) on their present committee, and those who are up for reelection as Councilor for a division or local section, to fill out the online form.

Wayne E. Jones, Jr., Chair

Council Policy

The work of the Joint Board-Council Policy Committee (CPC) Task Force on Governance Design was introduced at almost three dozen governance meetings in San Francisco. A special discussion on the topic was also held at the Council meeting, with 40 Councilors offering input from the floor.

The Future Council Representation Working Group met during the CPC Long-Range Planning Subcommittee meeting in San Francisco. The group includes representatives from the committees on Local Section Activities, International Activities and Divisional Activities, as well as from CPC members of the subcommittee. The working group anticipates continuing in tandem with the Task Force on Governance Design.

On the recommendation of a working group appointed last fall, CPC approved amendments to its policy on the distribution of supplemental material at Council meetings, effective immediately. To promote good practices for sustainable meetings, paper handouts at Council are no longer allowed. Committee chairs are urged instead to include URLs and links to the materials in oral reports and graphics. A listing of such references will be published in the Councilor Talking Points. Promotional items (brochures, buttons, and pins) will no longer be placed on chairs, but made available on a designated resource table where Councilors can obtain the materials if they wish.

CPC also approved an amendment to the Committee Travel Expense Reimbursement Policy for Non-Councilors. The new policy permits a non-Councilor chair of a Council-related committee to be reimbursed at a rate of up to twice the amount set for a non-Councilor, so that the chair can attend the Council meeting to deliver the committee's oral report.

Mary K. Carroll, Vice-Chair

Nominations and Elections

The Town Hall Meeting for Nominees for President-Elect 2018, sponsored by the Committee on Nominations and Elections (N&E) and conducted at the San Francisco meeting, was very successful. Excellent feedback was received from the nominees for President-Elect and the audience. N&E solicits input of qualified individuals for President-Elect and/or Directors for future consideration. Members may send suggestions by email to the committee at nomelect@acs.org.

N&E is responsible for reviewing annually the distribution of the member population within the six electoral districts, to assure that the districts have equitable representation. According to ACS Bylaws, the year-end member population of each electoral district must be within ten percent of the average number of members residing in each district. The December 31, 2016 year-end report showed that the six Districts were in compliance with the Bylaw requirement.

N&E approved an important change in the preferred method of balloting in the Society's national elections. Effective with the 2017 fall national elections, balloting for national elections will be conducted primarily online, with voters provided the option to receive paper ballots upon request.

The committee developed slates of potential candidates for the Council Policy Committee for four 2018-2020 terms and a one-year term for 2018; and the Committee on Committees for five 2018-2020 terms. The names of the candidates will appear in the Council agenda for the fall ACS National Meeting in Washington.

Les W. McQuire, Chair

Standing Committees

Constitution and Bylaws

The ACS Governing Documents (Bulletin 5) were updated effective January 1, 2017. The online edition (www.acs.org/bulletin5) is the authoritative version.

The Committee on Constitution and Bylaws (C&B) certified 19 unit bylaws in 2016, plus four bylaws since January 2017. Since the Philadelphia meeting, C&B reviewed bylaws for 11 Local Sections and one Division.

There are two fast and easy ways to update bylaws: use the model bylaws or respond to the questions document, which gives suggested answers. You may still do the time-consuming method of marking up your current bylaws, but you also must add required text from the model bylaws. For any method, you may include unique provisions from your current bylaws, if the text is in accordance with Bulletin 5.

Council approved 1) changes to the Charter bylaws for new International Chemical Sciences Chapters, and 2) the Petition on the Rights of Affiliates, which expands their rights if specified in unit bylaws; changes per the petition will be effective upon confirmation by the Board. The Petition for Removal of Officers and Councilors did not pass. The Petition on International Chemical Sciences Chapters was up for consideration; by May 5, written opposition may be submitted to bylaws@acs.org.

New petitions to amend the Constitution and/or Bylaws must be received by the Executive Director by May 3, for consideration at the fall meeting.

You can access information on petitions, current bylaws, how to update your bylaws, and other information at www.acs.org/bulletin5. Contact C&B at bylaws@acs.org if you have any questions.

James C. Carver, Chair

Divisional Activities

The Council approved a request from the Divisional Activities Committee (DAC) to approve the existing formula for allocating dues funds to the divisions.

DAC received proposals seeking the establishment of two new probationary divisions: The Division of Space Chemistry, and the Division of Materials Chemistry. If the committee can resolve several outstanding issues regarding the proposals, it may bring one or both to Council for action at the upcoming Washington, D.C. meeting.

DAC is eager to continue to increase the visibility of ACS technical divisions on acs.org. While the committee is very pleased with the progress made over the last year, it voted to ask staff to investigate additional ways to make divisions more prominent on the website. It believes this will have a positive impact on the number of ACS members who join one or more divisions.

On a related note, DAC asked staff to investigate the implications of offering new ACS members the opportunity to join up to three divisions on a complimentary basis for the first year. Currently, new ACS members can receive one such complimentary division membership.

The committee voted to fund nine Innovative Project Grants (IPG) totaling nearly \$63,000. DAC will consider another set of IPG proposals during the Washington, D.C. meeting; the deadline for that round of submissions is July 1, 2017.

DAC acknowledged the efforts of the divisions and the Multidisciplinary Program Planning Group in organizing and delivering a wide range of excellent programming in support of the San Francisco theme, *“Advanced Materials, Technologies, Systems and Processes.”*

Rodney M. Bennett, Chair

Economic and Professional Affairs

The Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA) provides programs, products, and services to support ACS members in achieving their career goals. CEPA's main activity at this meeting was a strategic planning retreat to develop its goals for the next 3 years.

One instrument that CEPA uses to track the health of the US job market is annual surveys of new graduates and ACS members. As discussed in a [2016 CEPA C&EN comment](#), response rates to these surveys have been in decline and are now so low (both below 20%) that this committee can no longer be confident in their accuracy.

Historically, the old survey methodology worked well but in order to modernize our data collection we have responded by creating a new modular survey. This survey deploys different modules throughout the year, providing a wealth of data on member, chemist, and new graduate professional outcomes. The results are the same as previously collected, but now also provide quarterly running averages.

Under this new process, CEPA expects to return to regular reporting to Council on the economic and professional data at the next Fall 2017 national meeting in Washington, DC.

The ACS onsite career fair is celebrating its 80th anniversary and changes were implemented in order to ensure the continued sustainability and relevance of the program. The fair has been integrated with the exposition to provide employers and candidates a seamless and high traffic experience. To provide as many career opportunities to as many members as possible, the need to check-in onsite was eliminated and the registration process was removed for many participants. We are delighted to note that decade-long records were set for the number of booths sold, employers opting for a booth, private offices sold, and spring fair revenue.

CEPA believes the time is appropriate to investigate the creation of an ACS policy statement on work-related visas and immigration. At this meeting CEPA moved to create a cross-committee working group to investigate this topic with the goal of bringing a recommendation to the ACS Board of Directors. The topic has been discussed in many forums including the two most recent presidential task forces on Supply and Demand and Job Creation. CEPA has also brought in external experts to discuss the issue. The ACS committees involved and their representatives to this working group are: Susan Butts (Working Group Chair), John Gavenonis (Chemistry and Public Affairs), Christopher Proctor (Corporation Associates), John Berg (Economic and Professional Affairs), Donald Wink (Education), Madan Bhasin (International Activities), and Ralph Wheeler (Science). The group requests that any comments at this time be sent to policy@acs.org.

William R. Ewing, Chair

Local Section Activities

The Committee on Local Section Activities (LSAC) recognized local sections celebrating a significant anniversary in 2017: for their 50th—Sierra Nevada; 75th—Kalamazoo and Mid-Hudson; 100th—Central Texas, Delaware, Greater Houston, Michigan State University, and Toledo; and 125th— the Cincinnati local section.

156 local sections have completed their 2016 annual reports. LSAC monitors the submission of annual reports and is attentive to suggestions for improvements. Please send comments and questions to FORMS@acs.org.

Beginning this year, the maximum amount for Innovative Projects Grants (IPG's) has increased from \$3,000 to \$3,500. The deadline for the next round of IPG and Science Café Mini-Grant proposals is May 31st, and, remember, IPG's do not need to be new, they just have to be new to your local section! LSAC also funded Leadership Institute partnership grants of \$250 to encourage collaboration between local sections that attended the ACS Leadership Institute. Our goal was to foster new collaborations and seed the hosting of joint events between neighboring sections. The committee received 12 proposals and have funded nine of the proposals.

At the Leadership Institute, LSAC hosted the "Getting Your Section Back on Track" program where 15 challenged local sections were provided travel support for the Leadership Institute to participate in a nuts-and-bolts discussion to help them reenergize their sections. LSAC is working to continue the engagement with these sections.

LSAC received and approved a petition from the Santa Clara Valley Section to change its name to the Silicon Valley Local Section.

Jason E. Ritchie, Chair

Meetings and Expositions

More than 14,000 scientific contributions were made to the 253rd National Meeting in San Francisco, CA. The Exposition had 430 booths with 285 exhibiting companies. The total attendance for this meeting was 18,917, unaudited. This was record attendance for San Francisco.

As part of M&E's comprehensive sustainability plan, print copies of the program book were reduced and a limited number were available for sale. Stats show 2,466 program books were sold. The mobile app has been downloaded 12,515 and the online program has been accessed 17,408 times.

ACS continues to be recognized as a leader in sustainability through focus on attendee engagement through the Greener Meetings Pledge and partnership with the American Forests which allowed us to indirectly offset a portion of the greenhouse gas emissions associated with our meetings. To date, ACS has planted over 16,000 trees through this partnership.

The Exposition Subcommittee has confirmed that beginning in 2018, the Exposition's booth fee will increase by \$100 and the schedule will remain the same for Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. The Regional Meetings Subcommittee will investigate the feasibility of having the 2017 Regional Meeting Planning Conference (RMPC) during the 2018 Leadership Conference.

After reviewing the National Meeting Study Group on Programming's Future of National Meetings Report, M&E will work with DAC to further evaluate the following: monitor the impact of the immigration policy on technical programming participation; consider the elimination of Thursday technical programming; review overall meeting space and cost concerns; conduct a competitive analysis of the Exposition; improve the functionality of meeting mobile app, and evaluate Multi-disciplinary Program Planning Group MPPG's mission of driving cross division collaboration. In compliance with the National Meeting Long Range Financial Plan, the early member registration fee for the 2018 national meetings will be \$475.

M&E has prepared a request that the Board of Directors and the President of ACS send a letter to officials in the State Government of Texas indicating ACS's intent to relocate the 2021 Spring National meeting, currently scheduled for San Antonio, if SB 6 (the bathroom bill) is adopted, because SB6 is in opposition to our Society's commitment to diversity and inclusion.

Kevin J. Edgar, Chair

Membership Affairs

The Committee on Membership Affairs (MAC) continues to focus on efforts to recruit and retain members. The Society ended 2016 with 156,129 members, including 27,388 international members. The Society's overall retention rate is 83.5%.

At the meeting in San Francisco, MAC heard from the Joint Board-CPC task force on Governance Design. MAC is actively discussing how the committee can support this initiative to bring further value to our members through increased flexibility to recruit, retain, and serve the membership.

A facilitated Strategic Planning Retreat will be held by MAC in August, in Washington, DC. The retreat will enable MAC to update its mission statement following an in-depth stakeholder analysis and environmental scan. This will ensure that the Committee is aligned with the ACS Strategic Plan, and is poised to bring the highest level of value to ACS membership in the coming years.

MAC participated in the ACS Board's "Collaborative for Re-Imagining a Diverse ACS Membership", and is addressing its goals to increase recruitment and retention of diverse populations. MAC is considering best practices for collaboration with sister societies, as well as increased focus on building relationships with underserved minority student populations.

In San Francisco, the committee recommended, and the Council approved, a petition to extend the Rights of Affiliates of Local Sections and Divisions. This petition enables Local Sections and Divisions to amend their bylaws to enhance and align voting and participation rights of Society Affiliates within these sections. Additionally, MAC considered the Petition on International Chemical Sciences Chapters. The committee was in favor of supporting this petition. A market data collection test, which provides \$15 commission payments to ACS International Chemical Sciences Chapters for the recruitment of new members, was extended for an additional three years (through 2019), so that MAC may gather additional data on the effectiveness of this program at recruiting and retaining international members.

Margaret J. Schooler, Chair

Other Committees

Ethics

The ACS Committee on Ethics (ETHX) met Sunday, April 2, 2017 from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm in open session. The committee discussed the recent expansion of the committee from nine to twelve members, and had a brief discussion of the operation of the committee for the new members and associates.

Following the subcommittee working sessions the full committee heard progress reports. The Subcommittee on Resources and Communications updated the committee concerning a publication designed for undergraduates highlighting ethics in the chemical sciences. The Subcommittee on Awareness and Education updated the full committee concerning several symposia, including those at the current meeting, and plans for upcoming national meetings.

The committee heard a presentation from the Committee on Committees (ConC) regarding the recent ConC survey on diversity. Also, the committee received a report from a representative of the Board-CPC Task Force on Governance Design on the task force's efforts.

A preliminary discussion regarding the criteria for the new ChemLuminary award from the committee (Outstanding Local Section Programming Related to the Promotion of Ethics in Chemistry) was held. The committee agreed to finalize criteria for the award at our Fall meeting.

Keith R. Vitense, Chair

Nomenclature, Terminology and Symbols

The ACS Committee on Nomenclature, Terminology and Symbols (NTS) met in an open executive session in San Francisco on Monday, April 3rd, 2017. NTS continues to work toward building awareness among the members and committees of the ACS about the work of the committee. The committee continues, as well, to build relationships with groups outside of the ACS, such as IUPAC. NTS welcomes collaborative projects on nomenclature, terminology, symbols, and units from other ACS internal committees.

NTS members continue to provide educational outreach efforts on nomenclature, terminology, and symbols through publication of numerous articles on IUPAC standards, summaries of nomenclature rules, and informative essays on definitions. Planning is underway to extend these efforts to high school teachers and students in the form of level-appropriate pamphlets, handouts, and activity sheets. NTS is planning on an informational poster for the Fall ACS National Meeting on the redefinitions of SI units and an exposition booth at the Spring 2018 ACS National Meeting to further build understanding and awareness of the committee's work.

NTS continues to monitor, evaluate, and provide input into various nomenclature issues, such as similar names among dissimilar compounds governed by the United States Adopted Names (USAN) council and assistance with the evaluation and rework of IUPAC organic nomenclature.

Michael D. Mosher, Chair

Project SEED

Since its inception in 1968, ACS Project SEED has provided hands-on research experiences to more than 10,000 economically disadvantaged high school students in chemically-related research in academic, government and industrial laboratories. In November/December 2016 a survey was conducted to Project SEED College Scholarships (2001-2016). Most of the participants reported that the top benefits of the program were to encourage them to consider a science-related career (86%); to provide opportunities to conduct research in the chemical sciences (84%); and to acquire new skills from their Project SEED mentor (78%). The participants stated that the highest area of influence of the mentors on their academic career was to improve their research skills. These findings reflect similar results from the 2016 exit student survey.

The Programs I and II Subcommittee reviewed 492 research projects, of which 364 are Summer I and 128 Summer II from 100 programs in 38 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. The committee approved 465 projects with 24 pending and a projected cost \$1,296,000. The Scholarship Subcommittee reviewed 38 applications and awarded 27 scholarships to Project SEED alumni entering college in fall 2017 totaling \$135,000. The students were selected from 15 states. Fourteen of the recipients are females and thirteen are males.

The committee approved revised program guidelines and made them effective April 1, 2017. The committee reviewed activities for the 50th Anniversary celebration in 2018 in Boston.

The committee encourages ACS members to support Project SEED via the check-off on their ACS membership renewal form.

Anna G. Cavinato, Chair

Technician Affairs

The Committee on Technician Affairs (CTA) met on Sunday, April 2, 2017 in San Francisco. The committee discussed the outcomes of its strategic planning retreat, which was held Nov. 5-6, 2016 in Washington, D.C.

The committee appointed a Program Chair for the committee, who will support CTA programming at national meetings, seeking co-sponsorship opportunities with other ACS divisions and groups.

CTA honored the 28th recipient of the National Chemical Technician Award at a luncheon at this meeting. This annual award was established to recognize the outstanding career achievements of exceptional technicians, who have significantly contributed to the field through their technical achievements, leadership and mentoring, publications, presentations, patents, quality and safety practices, and professional and community activities. The luncheon was well attended. For more information about the award, please visit the CTA website at www.acs.org/cta.

For the second year, CTA partnered with the Younger Chemists' Committee to provide a travel award to a younger chemical technician interested in attending the ACS Leadership Institute in January. CTA plans to increase its commitment to include two awardees for the coming year as part of its effort to develop younger leaders in the chemical technician community.

CTA would like to encourage all local sections and divisions to plan technician-related events this year so that they may apply for the committee's 2018 ChemLuminary Award. Interested local sections and divisions may nominate themselves for the award via their annual reports.

For the second year, Corporation Associates invited CTA members to attend its spring luncheon, providing an opportunity for the two groups to network in San Francisco.

Kara M. Allen, Chair

June Board Committee Reports:

Professional and Member Relations

The committee reviewed, and voted to approve the revised statement on Diversity and Inclusion as it appeared in the P&MR agenda book. P&MR also discussed the preliminary results from the recently-concluded Diversity Study. It reviewed the purpose of the research, as well as some top-line findings. A more detailed analysis of the research will be presented to the committee during its next meeting in August.

A brief report was given on the recent activities of the Leadership Advisory Board. One of the focus areas was creating, implementing and refining an overall plan for building ACS leadership pipelines.

The Web Strategy and Innovation subcommittee briefed the committee on activities regarding the acs.org transformation, the recent launch of the new safety site on acs.org, and spikes of activity in the ACS Network related to the April 2017 March for Science.

Staff shared some thoughts on a proposed process to identify, prioritize, and improve the most critical virtual “touch points” that members and potential members have with ACS. The committee had a robust discussion about the importance of this issue and focusing on the overarching need to create a personalized experience for members at the touch points. With that in mind, the committee asked staff to bring back a short list of possible interventions for discussion at the August meeting.

The committee was briefed on an inventory of external awards. This ultimately led to discussing an invitation from the Tang Prize Foundation for ACS to submit a nomination for the 2018 Tang Prize in Pharmaceutical Science. The committee voted to accept the invitation to submit an ACS nominee for the 2018 Tang Prize in Biopharmaceutical Science. Details regarding the process for identifying the nominee are still to be decided.

P&MR reviewed the process for ACS assuming responsibility for sponsoring or cosponsoring awards lacking sufficient funding. The process includes the following guidelines:

- ACS will assume sponsorship of an award for one award cycle if an external sponsor is not found.
- If no sponsor is found for the subsequent award cycle, the award shall lie fallow for that award cycle.
- If the award lies fallow for three consecutive award cycles and no sponsor has been found, then the award shall be dropped from the list of ACS national awards.
- Reinstitution of the award shall require a commitment by a sponsor for at least three, and preferably five, award cycles.

Afterwards, the committee reviewed three awards in need of financial support.

P&MR voted to:

- recommend to the ACS Board of Directors that the ACS Award for Creative Advances in Environmental Science and Technology be financially supported by the ACS for the 2019 presentation unless a cosponsor is found to support this award.
- recommend to the ACS Board of Directors that the ACS Award in Inorganic Chemistry be financially supported by the ACS for the 2019 presentation unless a sponsor is found to support this award

- recommend to the ACS Board of Directors that the E. Bright Wilson Award in Spectroscopy be financially supported by the ACS for the 2019 presentation unless a sponsor is found to support this award

The current process by which the 55-57 (depending on the year) ACS Awards Selection Committees are created was reviewed. It was then proposed, generally, to have fewer selection committees staffed with larger numbers of committee members. Currently, five people serve on each of the 55-57 selection committees.

There was broad support in principle expressed by the committee for this proposal. Many issues were raised that need to be investigated, such as how to more accurately group the current inventory of awards, how to manage the increased workload of committee members who would necessarily have more nominations to review, the challenges surrounding scheduling meetings with larger committees, and others. Committee members volunteered to serve on the Awards Subcommittee as it further develops this proposal to consolidate the Awards Selection Committees.

The chair of the International Activities Committee and staff updated the committee on the subjects of the Asia Pacific International Chapters Conference and ACS-Cuba relations.

Ingrid Montes, Chair

Public Affairs and Public Relations

The Board Standing Committee on Public Affairs and Public Relations (PA&PR) met on June 1, 2017 in Baltimore, Maryland.

Chair's Remarks: The Chair discussed a draft statement – “Freedom to Meet Without Limitation” – developed by a special Board-appointed group tasked with formulating an ACS response to state legislation that seeks to dictate use of bathroom facilities based on stated sex at birth, thus potentially imposing discriminatory limits on the rights of individuals who identify with a different gender. The Committee discussed the statement and voted to endorse the recommendation of the working group that the ACS Board of Directors approve the statement for the American Chemical Society.

Informational Updates: Staff provided the committee several updates on matters that occurred since the committee's last meeting in March:

- **April 22 - Chemists Celebrate Earth Day (CCED) & March for Science – April 22**
- **April 25 & 26 ACS Legislative Summit in Washington, DC**
- **May 15 – 19 Global Chemists Code of Ethics training in Nairobi, Kenya**
- **May 11 - Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) Chlorine Training Workshop, The Hague, Netherlands**
- **National Historic Chemical Landmark Designation Ceremonies:** April 18 - designation of CFCs & Ozone, University of California, Irvine; and, May 15 – designation of Mars Mariner Infrared Spectrometer, University of California, Berkeley.

Update: Congressional Chemistry Caucus Activities & FY 18 Federal Budget: Staff presented the Committee with an update on the increased membership of the Congressional Chemistry Caucus (CCC), and an overview of the President's FY18 budget, with a focused look at the impact on ACS key federal agencies.

External Affairs & Communications Updates – Communications & International Activities: Staff updated the Committee on the recently reorganized Communications function as well as the addition of International Activities into the recently formed External Affairs & Communications function within the Office of the Secretary and General Counsel.

Usage of ACS Public Policy Statements & Broad Policy Discussion: Staff illustrated, using real world examples, how ACS public policy statements are utilized once approved by the Committee. The Committee also discussed potential gaps in current ACS policy coverage and a couple of opportunities were identified for staff follow-up. Staff was encouraged to modify statements appropriate for the needs of specific audiences, i.e. general public, media, etc., as well as to seek ways to make the policy statements more easily searchable and accessible on the ACS website.

Dr. John Adams, Chair