**COUNCIL POLICY COMMITTEE**

**REPORT TO COUNCIL**

**DENVER  
March 25, 2015**

Madam President, Colleagues of Council:

The Council Policy Committee (CPC) remains quite active between meetings through its subcommittees and task forces.

The Long-Range Planning Sub-committee (LRP) continues to enthusiastically manage the orientation program for new Councilors. For this meeting, we also extended the orientation program to Alternate Councilors. The New Councilor Webinar in February and the New Councilor Orientation day here on Saturday, March 21 were attended by a large majority of new Councilors and were assisted by many committee chairs and veteran Councilors. The programs were well received by the new Councilors, and many constructive suggestions were made to improve the program in future years.

The LRP also continues to focus on improving training opportunities for our new leaders. One of the resources provided is the ACS Councilor Mentorship Program which matches new Councilors with experienced Councilors. In preparation for next year's programming, we are still seeking more experienced Councilors to serve as mentors, ideally to provide assistance to all new Councilors as well as Alternate Councilors.

Strategy Cafes continue to be scheduled. Two were held at this meeting on the strategic Environmental Scan that assists the Board Planning Committee regarding proposals to the Board for future revisions to the ACS Strategic Plan. One of those Strategy Cafes was held within the New Councilor Orientation Program. The other was held at an ice cream social for undergraduate students co-organized with the Undergraduate Program Advisory Board. As drafted by the LRP, CPC approved revisions to the Guidelines for Special Discussion for ACS Council Meetings; the guidelines will now be distributed widely, including on the Councilor site of the ACS Network.

I am a Bylaw designated member of the Board Committee on Planning. The focus of this group is developing and communicating the ACS Strategic Plan. In 2012, the Committee began research on an ongoing "Environmental Scan," which is intended to explore and evaluate the forces affecting the future for chemists and the chemical enterprise. At this Denver meeting, we focused on three of the most significant Forces Affecting the Future of the Chemistry Enterprise. In Denver, they were discussed at the New Councilor Orientation (in the Strategy Cafes), and, as part of the outreach to all ACS committees, to the Committee on Patents and Related Matters.

The CPC Subcommittee on Petitions, Constitution & Bylaws (formerly Subcommittee on Constitution & Bylaws), in conjunction with the joint CPC-MAC-C&B Task Force on Councilor and Member Duties and Responsibilities has been preparing two Bylaw changes. One is a petition to revise the SOCIETY’s Bylaws on expulsion of members for "conduct injurious to the SOCIETY." This would significantly simplify the current Bylaw procedure while preserving due process. This petition is before you for consideration at this meeting. It is likely to be amended with the consent of the petitioners and the revised version will be up for action in Boston.

The other Task Force petition effort is to add Bylaw sections that will provide a process for removing Councilors and Alternate Councilors from office for neglect of duties and other misconduct. It would also authorize Local Sections and Divisions to remove locally elected officers from office for neglect of duties and other misconduct.

By now, you know that the CPC recommendation to revise the Councilor Travel Reimbursement Policy was approved by the SOCIETY Committee on Budget and Finance and the Board and is being implemented. The new limits were included in your reimbursement instruction letter for this meeting from the Secretary's office. The CPC task force that pored over the data with ACS staff and drafted the revisions was formally discharged by CPC with CPC's gratitude, and I am sure, all of Council's.

As required by the SOCIETY's Bylaws, CPC has set the divisors for allocation of Councilors seats among Local Sections and Divisions for 2016-2019. The formula is based on membership numbers as of December 31, 2014. Official notification of the Councilor divisor and the number of Councilors permitted for Local Sections or Divisions will be sent to Locals Sections and Divisions within two weeks, well in advance of the Bylaw required May I, 2015, in order to accommodate units' conduct of

their elections in 2015. CPC's Long Range Planning Subcommittee is forming a task force to consider whether changes are in order for the calculations and policies, and to implement any recommendations in time for the 2020 election cycle.

CPC concurs in the N&E petition to amend the Bylaw for conducting preferential voting and CONC's recommendations to continue the Committee on Science and Committee (COMSCI) on Ethics (page 53 of your Agenda). The COMSCI recommendation must also be approved by the Board. CPC also concurs in M&E's recommended raise in dues (page 57 of your Agenda)

CPC also concurs in the Committee on International Activities' proposal to charter new International Chemical Sciences Chapters in India and Taiwan, the 10th and 11th International Chemical Sciences Chapters (pages 86-87 of your Agenda).

In its continuing effort to assist the SOCIETY in finding ways to cut costs, CPC is considering alternatives to reduce the printing and mailing costs of the Council Agenda. Currently, the Agenda is mailed to all Councilors, unless they opt out of the hard copy. Only a small percentage of Councilors have opted out. CPC will be conducting a survey to evaluate some potential strategies.

Madame President, this concludes my current report.

Alan M. Ehrlich

Vice-Chair