**Membership Affairs Committee**

Council Report

249th ACS National Meeting, Denver, CO

March 2015

Madame President and fellow Councilors,

The Membership Affairs Committee (MAC) continues to focus on new efforts to recruit and retain members. The past three years had disappointing results as the domestic job market for chemists has stagnated, and yet, the Society continues to attract large numbers of new members each year and a growing student and global population.

To gain insights into how it might better serve these growing segments of the ACS membership, MAC invited members of the Younger Chemists Committee, a student member of the Graduate Education Advisory Board, and ACS members from India to join them for informal discussions over lunch. The exchange led to commitments for further engagement and started some discussions about future collaborations.

MAC also approved a recommendation from staff to ask individuals who have been receiving the 50% graduate Student Discount for four years or more if they are still graduate students so they can receive the correct dues renewal. The current renewal process does not provide an opportunity for graduate students to change their status after graduation except by contacting ACS Member Services.

The current MAC-approved tests in progress are described and updated in my written report on pages 63-64 of the Council agenda. In cooperation with Chemical Abstracts Service and ACS Publications, MAC approved an Enterprise Model test to include memberships as part of institutional packages including other Society offerings. These enterprise model packages could be customized for industrial, academic, or government institutions.

In addition, the committee was pleased to endorse 2015 ACS President Diane Grob Schmidt’s campaign to invite faculty from the PhD-granting U.S. institutions to give ACS membership as an award to their outstanding students in chemistry. Diane is offering to match their gift, if the university will pay for one student’s membership, she will pay for a second student’s membership from her Presidential funds. An initial communication was sent to the faculty in early December and a detailed email message was addressed to them on March 11. Non-respondents will receive follow-up emails and letters.

MAC reviewed the Petition on Preferential Voting and the Petition Revising Member Expulsion Procedures and voted in favor of both.

We invite individual councilors to participate in the Member-Get-A-Member program and the Local Sections to be active in the 2015 President’s Challenge.

Madame President and fellow Councilors, this concludes my report.