**Council Committee on Meetings and Expositions**

**Report to Council**

Mister President, Members of the Council, the Committee on Meetings and Expositions (M&E) is happy to report that we accepted 11,847 papers for the 248th National Meeting in San Francisco, CA. As of a few minutes ago, the total attendance for this meeting was 15,761. The Exposition had 432 booths with 285 exhibiting companies.

**[Registration Breakdown Slide on Screen]**

The Committee voted to recommend to the ACS Board of Directors the following cities for the sites of National Meetings:

* Boston – Fall 2024, 2029, 2031
* San Diego – Spring 2025, 2031, and Fall 2027
* New Orleans – Spring 2027, 2032
* Chicago – Fall 2022

**[Future Sites Slide on Screen]**

Recently Boston, San Diego, San Francisco and New Orleans have been recommended for a 3 meeting cycle. This new M&E policy provides significantly greater negotiating power when leasing the convention center. The negotiations for both San Francisco and New Orleans are virtually complete and this policy has created a dramatic reduction in the cost of the convention center.

The Democratic National Committee has Philadelphia, PA as a finalist for the Presidential Convention in 2016. The dates for the Fall ACS National Meeting in 2016 conflict with the proposed dates of the Democratic Convention. We have been asked to move our meeting forward 1 week should Philadelphia’s bid be accepted by the DNC. M&E voted to consider moving the meeting from August 18 – 24 to August 25 – 31 if the financial incentive provided to ACS by the City of Philadelphia is acceptable. Negotiations will begin when staff returns to headquarters.

The Committee heard an update on Meeting Abstracts Programming System (MAPS). The new system will launch on August 25th in preparation for the Denver national meeting. 2015 Regional Meetings and specialty conferences will begin to use MAPS in January.

In support of the ACS’s role as a leader in sustainability, the Committee approved the proposal to include an option within the registration process to allow registrants to make a $1 tree-planting donation through the American Forests Program.

**[Policy Slide on Screen]**

The Committee spent considerable time debating the recording policy for attendees at our meetings. The current policy precludes all photography and recording of technical sessions and posters without the permission of ACS. Despite an expanded educational effort on this policy, M&E has noticed a significant increase in the number of attendees violating this policy. M&E voted to strengthen the policy by including enforcement language in the recording policy. Please see the slide on the screen. The italicized wording is the expansion of the policy.

Mr. President, this concludes my report.