This petition was defeated at the March 24, 2010 Council meeting in San Francisco.

**Petition on Election Timelines 2009**

Bylaw V, Sec. 2, a, b, c, d (paragraph 1)
Bylaw V, Sect. 3, a, b, c (paragraph 1)
Bylaw V, Sec. 4, c, d, e, f (paragraph 1)
Bylaw V, Sec. 12

**Petition**

We, the undersigned Councilors of the American Chemical Society, hereby petition to amend the SOCIETY Bylaws as follows (additions underlined; deletions struck through):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVISED</th>
<th>BYLAW V</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manner of Election</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sec. 1.</td>
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<td><strong>A candidate is a MEMBER whose name appears on the final ballot that elects a person to office. A nominee is a MEMBER whose name appears on an earlier ballot from which the Councilors select candidates.</strong> (9/24/94)</td>
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<th>VERSION</th>
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<td>Sec. 2.</td>
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<tr>
<td>President-Elect</td>
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| a. On or before **January 15 March 1**, the Committee on Nominations and Elections shall transmit to the Executive Director of the SOCIETY, for presentation to the Council, the names of four MEMBERS of the SOCIETY as nominees for President-Elect. **The names of the nominees shall be communicated to members of the Council by March 15.** (9/29/94) |

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<tr>
<th>COUNCIL</th>
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<td>b. The Council, at a meeting to be held not later than <strong>May 1 October 1</strong>, shall select as candidates for President-Elect two of the nominees presented under the provisions of these Bylaws. (9/24/94)</td>
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<th>ACTION</th>
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| c. Members of the SOCIETY may nominate additional candidates for President-Elect by providing to the Executive Director by **July 15 June 15**, nominating petitions endorsed by at least one-half percent (0.5%) of the SOCIETY membership entitled to vote in the SOCIETY’s most recent fall national election, with neither more than one-sixth (1/6) of that from members of a single Local Section nor more than two-thirds (2/3) from any one District of the SOCIETY. Each member may nominate no more than one candidate for President-Elect in a given election. The names of any candidates duly nominated by petition shall be included on the ballot along with the names of those
candidates selected by the Council. (6/7/08)

d. On or before October 31, the Executive Director shall distribute to each member of the SOCIETY a ballot containing the names of all candidates for President-Elect and constructed as provided herein. (6/2/07)

[Note: The remaining paragraphs in Section 2, d are not affected by the proposed changes.]

Sec. 3.

Director-at-Large

a. On or before January 15 March 1, the Committee on Nominations and Elections shall transmit to the Executive Director of the SOCIETY the names of the MEMBERS of the SOCIETY selected as candidates for the positions of Director-at-Large to be filled. The number of such candidates shall be at least twice the number of such positions to be filled. These names shall be communicated to members of Council by March 15. (9/24/94)

b. Members of the SOCIETY may nominate additional candidates for Director-at-Large by providing to the Executive Director by July 15 June 15, nominating petitions endorsed by at least one-fourth percent (0.25%) of the SOCIETY membership entitled to vote in the SOCIETY’s most recent fall national election, with neither more than one-sixth (1/6) of that from members of a single Local Section nor more than two-thirds (2/3) from any one District of the SOCIETY. Each member may nominate no more than one candidate per Director-at-Large position in a given election. The names of any candidates duly nominated by petition shall be included on the ballot along with those nominated by the Committee on Nominations and Elections. (6/7/08)

c. On or before October 31, the Executive Director shall distribute to each voting Councilor a ballot containing the names of all candidates for the positions of Director-at-Large to be filled. If there are multiple positions to be filled, those candidates receiving the greatest numbers of votes shall be declared elected Directors-at-Large. (6/2/07)

[Note: The remaining paragraphs in Section 3, c are not affected by the proposed changes.]

Sec. 4.

District Director

...
of District Director to be filled. Each nominee must be entitled to vote in the District electing the District Director for which the nominee would be a candidate. When elected, each District Director may serve a complete term despite changes in Local Section or address or in any District boundary. (4/4/04)

d. On or before March 1 July 15, the Executive Director shall send distribute a ballot to each Councilor in the District electing a District Director; the ballot shall contain the names of the nominees for District Director of that District, as selected by the Committee on Nominations and Elections. Ballots shall be returned to the Executive Director no later than four weeks after the ballots are distributed. The two nominees receiving the greatest number of votes shall be announced to the Council orally at its next meeting or, if timing does not permit, in the official organ of the SOCIETY, as candidates for District Director of the District. (10/19/04)

e. One percent of the members of the Society entitled to vote in the District electing a District Director, not more than one-third (1/3) of whom are assigned to any one Local Section, may nominate a candidate for District Director by filing a petition with the Executive Director by July 15 June 15. Each member may nominate no more than one candidate for District Director in a given election. A petition candidate must be entitled to vote in the District electing the District Director for which the MEMBER is a candidate. The names of any petition candidates shall be included on the ballot along with the names of those selected by the District’s Councilors. (10/19/04)

f. On or before October 10 31, the Executive Director shall distribute to each member of the SOCIETY entitled to vote in the District electing a District Director a ballot containing the names of all the candidates for Director from that District and constructed as provided herein. (6/2/07)

[Note: The remaining paragraphs in this Section 4, f are not affected by the proposed changes.]

Sec. 12.

Procedure for Special Elections

If, in a specific nomination or election, circumstances do not permit the procedures prescribed elsewhere in these Bylaws to be carried out, the Committee on Nominations and Elections shall forthwith devise a special procedure. If such election will have the effect of filling an office for a longer period longer than six months, the special procedure shall include an opportunity for nomination of candidates by petition, which differs from the regular procedure for the office involved only in the date that petitions must be received by the Executive Director. Such procedure shall be transmitted to and publicized promptly by the Executive Director, and used for that specific nomination or election. (9/29/94)
Explanation

Councilors and candidates have asked the Committee on Nominations and Elections (N&E) to consider changing the timing of the national election process (i.e., elections for President-Elect, Directors-at-Large and District Directors). Candidates routinely express concern about the length of time between being asked to run by N&E (becoming formal nominees or candidates) and the time of the actual election. Candidates also complain about the length of the campaign period, which starts one month after the Spring National Meeting and runs until ballots are counted in November.

In response to Councilor and nominee/candidate concerns, N&E surveyed ACS Councilors and other members (2004) to determine their understanding of and satisfaction with the current nominations and elections process. In 2007, the committee continued its review by conducting three Councilor conference calls, and hosting a town hall meeting at the Fall National Meeting. This was another opportunity to solicit comments and advice on the petition process and the nature of campaigning. Early in 2009, the committee again sought Councilor input and perspectives – this time on the possibility of shortening the president-elect timeline. In this forum as in other surveys and call, Councilors consistently encouraged refinement of the current election process.

It is the intention of the petitioners that this change in the Bylaws, if passed, would become effective January 1, 2011.

Signed:

Frank D. Blum
William H. Breazeale, Jr.
Milagros Delgado
Carol A. Duane
Merle I. Eiss
Ruth A. Hathaway

Peter C. Jurs
Robert A. Pribush
Sharon P. Shoemaker
Herbert B. Silber
Andrea B. Twiss-Brooks

(This petition has been referred to the *Committee on Nominations and Elections, Committee on Membership Affairs, the Council Policy Committee, the Society Committee on Budget and Finance, and the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws.)

*Committee having primary substantive responsibility

FINAL STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL IMPACT

The Society Committee on Budget and Finance has examined this petition and concludes that it will have no impact on the finances of the Society ($0).

FINAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

This petition is the recommitted portion of a petition presented for action at the fall 2009 ACS National Meeting in Washington, DC.. In its review of the petition in fall 2009, the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws (C&B) found the petition to be legal and consistent with other provisions of the SOCIETY’s documents.

3/10
12/23/09
The recommitted petition amends timelines for national elections found in Bylaw V for President-Elect (Sections 2a–2d), Directors-at-Large (Sections 3a–3c), District Directors (Sections 4c–4f) and Special Elections (Section 12). The objectives of the petitioners are to address interests in accelerating and compressing the timing of the national election process as part of an overall effort to ensure that the national election process is fair, equitable and efficient.

Comments from committees, petitioners and other interested members on the substance of the petition should be directed to the Committee on Nominations and Elections, which has primary substantive responsibility for the petition. Other comments may be directed to the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws.

A two-thirds vote of Council is required for approval of amendments to the Bylaws. If approved by Council and confirmed by the Board of Directors, the amendments will become effective January 1, 2011 as stated in the petition.

Dr. Alan M. Ehrlich
Chair