Petition to Amend the Duties of the Committee on Minority Affairs
(AMENDMENTS TO THE STANDING RULES)

Standing Rule VIII, Sec. 1, b, (9)

Petition

We, the voting members of the American Chemical Society Committee on Minority Affairs, hereby petition the Committee on Committees to amend the SOCIETY Standing Rules as follows (additions underlined; deletions struck through):

STANDING RULE VIII
Duties of Committees

Sec. 1.
b. Duties of Committees that Report to both the Council and the Board of Directors

(9). Committee on Minority Affairs

The duties of this committee shall include the following, inter alia:

(a) oversee the SOCIETY’s programs devoted or related to minority issues regarding underrepresented and marginalized groups in the chemical sciences;

(b) develop a long-range plan to ensure increased participation of minority chemical professionals from underrepresented and marginalized groups in the profession and in the SOCIETY at all levels;

(c) study and make recommendations on the current status of minorities underrepresented and marginalized groups in the SOCIETY and in the chemical sciences;

(d) promote and recognize the professional accomplishments of minorities people with underrepresented and marginalized identities in the chemical sciences and in the SOCIETY; and

(e) increase the interest of minority chemical professionals with underrepresented and marginalized identities in the work of the SOCIETY; and

(f) study the impact of the SOCIETY’s activities on diversity, equity, inclusion, and respect on underrepresented and marginalized groups and provide impact statements and recommendations to the Council and the Board of Directors.

Explanation

The American Chemical Society’s Committee on Minority Affairs (CMA) seeks to amend the committee’s duties that are in the Standing Rules, to reflect more current and inclusive terminology. In particular, CMA seeks to change the language from “minority” to “underrepresented and marginalized groups” or “people with underrepresented and marginalized identities”.

Additionally, the Society has included in its most recent strategic plan the core value and strategic goal on “Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Respect”. To that end, CMA recognizes the need to implement a standing and sustainable framework to study and give an impact statement to the Council and Board of Directors on the potential unforeseen consequences or desirable benefits of future proposed changes to its activities, governance structure, and procedures. This petition intends to ensure consistency between the ACS Core Values, the Society’s Strategic Plan, and the Standing Rules.