

C&B REPORT FOR ACS.ORG  
Spring 2014, Dallas  
Oral Report to Council (modified)

## COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Donna G. Friedman, Chair  
March 19, 2014, Dallas, TX

Mr. President, members of Council, and guests: last year, the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws (C&B) certified 16 bylaws, the fourth largest number of bylaws certified in any previous year. Since the beginning of this year, C&B certified **six** bylaws.

Since the fall meeting in Indianapolis, C&B has submitted detailed bylaw reviews to **eight Local Sections** and **one Division**. We thank these units for taking the initiative to update their bylaws.

At the fall meeting, C&B announced a new optional process for expedited bylaw reviews. Although it offers limited customization, this expedited process is faster than C&B's current three-month turnaround. We are happy to announce that the Kansas City Section was the first unit to take advantage of this expedited bylaws review process. It took less than a month from the time they requested this process until the time that their members voted on the proposed bylaw changes and C&B certified their bylaws.

In addition to C&B's expedited bylaws process, I am pleased to announce that C&B has created a new, easier way for local sections and divisions to prepare bylaw revisions for C&B review; these proposed bylaws are not as restrictive as those permitted through the expedited process. The unit must first indicate its desire to update its bylaws. C&B would then offer to create a first draft of proposed bylaw changes for consideration by the unit. Alternatively, the unit may still prepare its own draft changes for C&B review.

Councilors, please inform your Local Section or Division officers that they should contact us at [bylaws@acs.org](mailto:bylaws@acs.org) for information on how to update bylaws.

There will be no petitions for action in San Francisco, unless we receive an urgent action petition.

New petitions to amend the Constitution or Bylaws **must** be received by the Executive Director **by April 23** to be included in the Council agenda **for consideration** at the fall 2014 meeting in San Francisco. We encourage you to send your draft petition to C&B at least a month before the deadline, so that C&B can give initial input. Note that petition guidelines are in Bulletin 5, which is available on the web: [www.acs.org/bulletin5](http://www.acs.org/bulletin5).

Mr. President, this concludes my report.