

ORIGINAL**FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Petition to Amend the Duties of the Committee on Divisional Activities**
(AMENDMENTS TO THE STANDING RULES)**Standing Rule VII, Sec. 2, b****Petition**

We, the voting members of the American Chemical Society's Committee on Divisional Activities hereby petition to amend the SOCIETY's Standing Rules as follows (additions **underlined**; deletions ~~struck through~~):

STANDING RULE VII**Units (Local Sections, Divisions, International Chapters) Functions**

...

Sec. 2.**Divisions Function**

...

b. The duties of the Committee on Divisional Activities shall include the following, *inter alia*:

...

(3) perform the duties incident to the creation of new Divisions as prescribed elsewhere in these Standing Rules ~~and making recommendations to the Council for combination or dissolution of Divisions;~~

(4) **take such actions as necessary if any Division has an inactive Executive Committee such as to appoint an interim Executive Committee or facilitate the Division's elections;**

(5) **make recommendations to the Council concerning combining or dissolving Divisions;**

...

Note: subsequent sections remain and are renumbered.

(68) determine the formula for distribution of ~~due~~ **SOCIETY** funds allocated to Divisions as provided elsewhere in these Standing Rules and convey that formula for approval by the Council; and

...

Explanation

The Committee on Divisional Activities (DAC) seeks to amend the committee's duties that are in the Standing Rules. On occasion, Divisions experience challenges either through lapses of leadership of their governing elected bodies or decreasing interest in the Division's focus. Lapses of leadership may occur due to resignations, ineffective succession planning, or failure to conduct elections, among other reasons and could result in a Division without a duly elected Executive Committee and unable to fulfill certain responsibilities outlined in their bylaws. Divisions may consider combining or dissolving units due to changes in relevance of the focus area. When these situations occur, Divisions may need support to navigate processes specific to their circumstances. This petition seeks to provide DAC with the authority to support Divisions by facilitating the appropriate processes and/or taking action on their behalf, including the appointment of an interim Executive Committee and/or facilitating a Division's elections, if necessary.