

C&B REPORT FOR ACS.ORG
Fall 2011, Denver, CO
Oral Report to Council (modified)

COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
Harmon B. Abrahamson, Chair
August 31, 2011

The Committee on Constitution and Bylaws (C&B) has been extremely productive in certifying and reviewing proposed bylaws from divisions and local sections. In addition to the items in the written report in the Council agenda, C&B recently issued certified bylaws to the Shanghai and Thailand International Chemical Sciences Chapters. Also, the ACS Governing Documents, known collectively as Bulletin 5, have been updated on the web effective as of July (www.acs.org/bulletin5).

Since the spring meeting in Anaheim, C&B has submitted detailed bylaw reviews to 10 Local Sections and three Divisions. As a reminder, the certification process is not complete until your unit submits the required information and vote outcome to C&B, which certifies all unit bylaws. Also, if your bylaws include words such as “mail” and “envelope”, you may not conduct electronic balloting. Please contact us at bylaws@acs.org if you need or wish to update your unit’s bylaws.

In addition to reviewing bylaws and petitions, C&B has also been working on revising its internal guideline documents.

At this meeting, there are two petitions for consideration, both of which will be up for action at the spring 2012 meeting in San Diego. The attention of Council is invited to the yellow sheets, pages 104 through 108 of the Council agenda, for the Petition on Market Data Collection and the Petition to Amend Recorded Vote Request Procedure. C&B’s preliminary report is included with each petition. Both the Society Committee on Budget and Finance and C&B will issue their final reports on the petitions when they are up for action. These reports will be included in the Council agenda for the ACS meeting in San Diego.

Within 30 days from this Council meeting, which is September 30, opponents of the petitions may submit arguments to bylaws@acs.org and C&B will forward your comments to the Chairs of those committees with primary responsibility to review the petitions.

New petitions to amend the Constitution or Bylaws must be received by the Executive Director of the Society by December 7 to be included in the Council agenda, for consideration at the spring 2012 meeting in San Diego. C&B is available to provide assistance with the preparation of new petitions, **if** requested, **prior** to the formal submission.

We thank all of you who have worked with us this past year on petitions and to bring unit bylaws up to date, and we look forward to working with others during this coming year. If you are a Councilor and are interested in making an impact on the Society’s governing documents and unit bylaws, please see me or send an email to bylaws@acs.org.