

COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Harmon B. Abrahamson, Chair
March 28, 2012, San Diego, CA

The Committee on Constitution and Bylaws (C&B), continues to be extremely productive in certifying and reviewing proposed bylaws from divisions and local sections. In 2011, C&B certified a record 28 bylaws. Since the beginning of the year, C&B has already certified seven bylaws. All certified bylaws and the status report are available at www.acs.org/bulletin5. At the same address, the ACS Governing Documents, known collectively as Bulletin 5, have been updated effective January 1. For the first time, the Table of Contents is hyperlinked.

C&B finalized two petitions for action and reviewed the two petitions that are up for consideration at this meeting; these appear in the Council agenda.

Since the fall 2011 meeting in Denver, C&B has submitted detailed bylaw reviews to **9 Local Sections** and **1 Division**.

Remember that the certification process is not complete until you submit the required information and vote outcome to C&B, which certifies all unit bylaws, acting for the Council. 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 bylaws.

At this meeting, there are two petitions for consideration. The attention of Council is invited to the yellow sheets, pages 79 through 83 of the Council agenda, for the Petition on Candidate Comment in C&EN and the Petition on International Chemical Sciences Chapters Funds. 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 fall 2012 meeting in Philadelphia.

Within **30 days** from this Council meeting, which is **April 27th**, opponents of the petitions for consideration, 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 May 2nd** to be included in the Council agenda, **for consideration** at the fall 2012 meeting in Philadelphia. C&B is available to provide assistance with the preparation of new petitions, **if** requested, **prior** to their formal submission.

If you are a Councilor and interested in making an impact on the Society’s governing documents and unit bylaws, you should consider membership on C&B; please see me or send an email to bylaws@acs.org.