

Committee on Nominations and Elections
Report to Council
San Diego National Meeting, March 28, 2012

The numerical results of the morning's election to choose two candidates to run for President-Elect 2013 in the fall 2012 ACS national election will be placed in the agenda book for the next Council Meeting in Philadelphia. Councilors elected Thomas J. Barton and Luis A. Echegoyen.

All candidates, including the two elected by Council today and any other petition candidates certified by the July 15 deadline, will be placed on the ballot this fall.

The Town Hall Meeting held Sunday, March 25 was very successful with excellent feedback from the N&E nominees for President-Elect. All appropriate questions that were submitted at the Town Hall Meeting by the audience will be provided to all nominees. N&E is considering ways to improve the Town Hall Meetings, and welcomes feedback.

N&E is responsible for reviewing annually the distribution of member population within the six electoral districts to assure that the districts have equitable representation. According to Bylaw V, Section 4(a), the year-end member population of each electoral district must be within ten percent of the average number of members residing in each district. *The 2011 year-end report shows that District 3 is out of compliance. N&E has established a Task Force to review and propose revisions to the Membership Affairs Committee and the Local Section Activities Committee to bring the membership back into compliance among the electoral districts.*

N&E continues to remind all Divisions and Local Sections that their elections must be conducted in compliance with *their bylaws and with ACS Bylaws. ACS Bylaw III, Section 1 a., (2) and b. (2) states that "The Secretary of each Local Section or Division shall certify to the Executive Director of the SOCIETY not later than December 1 of each year, much earlier if possible, the names, addresses, and terms of the elected Councilors.*

The Committee developed slates of potential candidates for the Council Policy Committee (CPC) and the Committee on Committees (ConC) for 2013-2015 terms. These slates will appear in the Fall Council agenda.

N&E does not support the *Petition on Candidate Comments in C&EN* currently under consideration. N&E believes:

- (1) the item is not appropriate for the bylaws, rather, it should be a guideline;
- (2) that guidelines should be put in place by N&E;
- (3) that a six-month moratorium restricting comments in C&EN and other ACS venues is too long, as this could interfere with the normal business of the Society.

N&E continues to work on election guidelines, and is considering a shorter time period for this moratorium. The new guidelines will be available at the N&E website by the Fall Meeting.

In addition, N&E is in the process of examining several preferential voting methods to enable the election process to be more consistent across all ACS elections. The progress on this project will be shared with Council at the Fall Meeting,

N&E appreciates the feedback that we have received on nominations, campaigns, and elections. We are continuing to consider possible improvements to nominations, campaigns, and elections, and have formed two new task forces to address possible improvements. The first is the Task Force on Town Hall Meetings, and, the second is the Task Force on Campaign Services, which will look into ways to aid candidates through the election process.

N&E solicits Councilors input of qualified individuals for President-Elect and/or Directors for future consideration. We ask that each Councilor send two names to include in a pool of potential candidates for District Directors and ACS President-Elect. Please submit these names on the form located on page 31 of your council agenda, and turn it in to any N&E member, or send your suggestions electronically to the committee at nomelect@acs.org. These forms are also available at the N&E tables as you exit the Council meeting.

William H. (Jack) Breazeale, Jr., Chair