

**COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**  
**Oral Report to Council and ACTION ITEM**  
**James C. Carver, Chair**

**April 5, 2017, San Francisco, CA**

[show slide 1] Madam President, members of Council, and guests. The ACS Governing Documents, known as Bulletin 5, were updated as of January 1, 2017. Please note that the online version of Bulletin 5 is the authoritative version because it is usually updated throughout the year as petitions are approved and Board Regulations are changed.

[show slide 2] The Committee on Constitution and Bylaws (C&B) certified 19 unit bylaws in 2016 plus 4 additional unit bylaws since the beginning of this year. Congratulations and thank you to those who were involved in updating your bylaws.

Since the fall meeting in Philadelphia, C&B reviewed bylaws for 11 Local Sections and one Division.

Your bylaws are the governing documents for your Division and Local Section. Please check your bylaws. If they are out of date, your business might not be conducted in accordance with your bylaws and your elections may be invalid.

[show slide 3] There are two fast and easy ways to update bylaws: use the model bylaws or respond to the questions document, which gives suggested, default answers.

If you wish, you may still do the old, more time-consuming method of marking up your current bylaws, but you must still add the required text from the model bylaws. No matter which method you use, you may include any unique provisions from your current bylaws, if the text is in accord with Bulletin 5 ([www.acs.org/bulletin5](http://www.acs.org/bulletin5)).

[show slide 4] On ACS's website, you can access information on your current bylaws, how to update your bylaws, and other information. ([www.acs.org/bulletin5](http://www.acs.org/bulletin5)).

**\*\*\* ACTION ITEM \*\*\***

Council's attention is now drawn to an action item from C&B, which is the Charter Bylaws for International Chemical Sciences Chapters, on the blue sheets on pages 89 through 98 of the Council agenda. The Charter Bylaws are used by new International Chemical Sciences Chapters and must be approved by Council.

In addition to minor edits, changes to the Society's Bylaws necessitate changes to the Charter Bylaws, which were last approved by Council in 2013.

C&B recommends the changes noted on these pages. The Committee on International Activities supports the proposed changes and the Council Policy Committee concurs.

Madam President, the *Charter Bylaws for International Chemical Sciences Chapters*, is ready for discussion and vote by Council.

[AFTER THE VOTE, the floor is yielded back to Jim Carver for him to finish his oral report.]

\*\*\* Jim Carver finishes the C&B oral report \*\*\*

The attention of Council is invited to the yellow sheets, pages 99 through 101 of the Council agenda, for the Petition on International Chemical Sciences Chapters, which is up for consideration at this meeting.

Within 30 days from this Council meeting, which is May 5, opponents of the petition for consideration may submit written arguments to [bylaws@acs.org](mailto:bylaws@acs.org).

[show C&B's slide 4 again] New petitions to amend the Constitution or Bylaws must be received by the Executive Director no later than May 3, to be included in the Council agenda for consideration at the fall 2017 meeting in Washington, DC.

If you wish to get initial feedback from C&B, please send your draft petition to C&B within one week after this meeting.

The petition guidelines are in Bulletin 5. Contact C&B if you have any questions or need any information on bylaws or petitions.

Madam President, this concludes my report.

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