**Council Committee on Meetings and Expositions**

**ACS 2019 Spring National Meeting & Exposition**

**Orlando, FL**

Madame President, Members of the Council, the Committee on Meetings and Expositions (M&E) wishes to report that 12,830 scientific contributions have been made to the 2019 ACS Spring National Meeting and Exposition in Orlando, Florida. As of April 2, the total attendance for this meeting was 15,605. The Exposition included 369 booths with 235 exhibiting companies, including the career fair.

**[Show Registration Breakdown Slide]**

As part of M&E’s sustainability plan, last fall M&E voted to eliminate the print version of the program book. A PDF version of the technical program is available for download on the ACS National Meeting website. As of April 2, the mobile app had received more than 11,000 downloads, and the online planner had been accessed more than 160,000 times.

The success of ongoing meeting cost reduction efforts, including concentration of the program in the convention centers, has allowed M&E to recommend today that we NOT enact the final $15 registration escalator. M&E therefore recommends that the Early Member Registration Fee for the 2020 national meetings be set at $505.

**[Registration Fee Slide on Screen]**

The Technical Program subcommittee is focusing on setting later deadlines, after the spring meeting concludes, for meeting abstract submissions, by enacting early room assignments for the fall 2020 meeting. Discussions are being planned with divisions and program chairs to help plan a new process together.

There have been issues of poor audio quality in the theaters set up to accommodate the unexpectedly high number of concurrent technical sessions during this national meeting. These theaters were used successfully for technical sessions at the New Orleans and Boston national meetings on smaller scales. The equipment used here in Orlando was different from that used in the past. And proved unexpectedly to be insufficient to deliver needed performance. New equipment was brought in to help address the situation, somewhat improving audio quality some, but issues persist. We apologize for inconvenience this has caused speakers and organizers, and will ensure that the situation is improved for San Diego.

The Exposition and Industry subcommittee continues to work on the M&E strategic goal of increasing industrial participation in the Exposition. Over 40 different industry-recommended programs and events were identified in Orlando, many of which took place on the show floor in the theaters, the ACS booth, and in the Career Fair area.

More than 4,400 attendees participated in nine regional meetings in 2018. The Regional Meeting subcommittee and ACS staff will continue to create and implement resources to support local section volunteers, who create the regional meetings. The Regional Meeting Planning Conference once again took place in conjunction with the Leadership Institute, held this past January in Atlanta.

Finally, M&E voted unanimously to endorse the petition to streamline the ACS governing documents.

Madame President, this concludes my report.