

COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Oral Report to Council and ACTION ITEMS on 2 CHARTER BYLAWS James C. Carver, Chair

August 24, 2016, Philadelphia, PA

[show slide 1] Madam President, members of Council, and guests. The ACS Governing Documents (also known as Bulletin 5) were updated effective July 1, 2016, with changes to Board Regulations. The online version of Bulletin 5 is the authoritative version.

[show slide 2] The Committee on Constitution and Bylaws (C&B) certified bylaws for 9 Local Sections and 1 Division since the beginning of this year, including 5 that were certified since the meeting in San Diego. We thank all Local Sections and the Division that have updated their bylaws since January and also those Divisions and Local Sections that are currently working with C&B.

[show slide 3] Since the spring meeting in San Diego, C&B has responded to 8 Local Sections with bylaw reviews and expedited bylaws.

[show slide 4] Certified bylaws, a bylaws status report, and options to update your bylaws are posted on ACS's website as shown on the slide (www.acs.org/bulletin5).

Rather than just announcing at Council that Local Sections and Divisions have not updated their bylaws, as we have done at the last several meetings, we are being more proactive in working with them. For example, during the past several months, C&B has sent notices and bylaws options to 31 Local Sections that need to update their bylaws; some of these sections had not updated their bylaws since before 1978.

*** ACTION ITEMS ***

Council's attention is now drawn to two action items from the Committee. These are Bylaws for Divisions in Probationary Status and Charter Bylaws for New Local Sections, which provide a framework for the operation of new Divisions and Local Sections.

In addition to housekeeping changes, changes to the Society's Bylaws necessitate the changes to the Charter Bylaws, which were last approved by Council in 2009.

The Bylaws for Divisions in Probationary Status appear on the blue sheets on pages 97 through 103 of the Council agenda. C&B recommends the changes noted on these pages. The Committee on Divisional Activities supports the proposed changes and the Council Policy Committee concurs. These Charter bylaws are used by new divisions and must be approved by Council. In addition, C&B proposes to change three references to the term, "Chair-Elect" to "Vice-Chair" in BYLAW IV, Sec. 6, since Vice-Chair is used in BYLAW IV, Sec. 1 and because the officers are not elected, but appointed each year by the President of the SOCIETY; therefore, the term, Chair-Elect is not appropriate for Divisions in Probationary Status.

Madam President, the *Bylaws for Divisions in Probationary Status*, as modified, is ready for discussion and vote by Council.

... [AFTER THE VOTE, the floor is yielded back to Jim Carver for him to present the next action item.]

Council's attention is now drawn to the Charter Bylaws for new Local Sections on the blue sheets on pages 104 through 113. C&B recommends the changes as noted.

The Committee on Local Section Activities supports the proposed changes and the Council Policy Committee concurs. These Charter bylaws are used by new Local Sections and must be approved by Council.

Madam President, the *Charter Bylaws for New Local Sections*, as presented, is ready for discussion and a vote by Council.

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

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

At this meeting, there are two petitions for consideration, for which C&B met with petitioners at its meeting on Sunday. The attention of Council is invited to the yellow sheets, pages 114 through 119 of the Council agenda, for the Petition for Removal of Officers and Councilors, and for the Petition on the Rights of Affiliates. 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 spring 2017 meeting.

Within thirty days from this Council meeting, which is September 23, opponents of the petitions for consideration may submit written 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.

[show slide 4 again] New petitions to amend the Constitution or Bylaws must be received by the Executive Director no later than **December 14**, to be included in the Council agenda for consideration in the spring. The petition guidelines are in Bulletin 5 (www.acs.org/bulletin5).

We are happy to walk you through the process if you would like and urge you to contact us at least six weeks before the petition deadline. We are available to give you initial feedback on the draft petition before it is formally submitted.

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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