## COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

**Oral Report to Council**

## James C. Carver, Chair

**August 19, 2015, Boston, MA**

[show slide 1] Madam President, members of Council, and guests: the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws (C&B) certified 14 bylaws in 2015. This number includes 8 bylaws that have been certified since the meeting in Denver. Three of these bylaws were certified under C&B’s expedited bylaw process.

[show slide 2] C&B is working with one Local Section and has reviewed bylaws for 9 Local Sections and 2 Divisions since the spring meeting in Denver. We thank these units for taking the initiative to update their bylaws. With the use of C&B’s new bylaw Templates and expedited bylaw process, we are doing bylaw reviews much faster than in previous years.

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[show slide 3] Certified bylaws and a status report are posted on ACS’s website as shown on the slide, so that you and everyone else can see how long it’s been since your Local Section or Division has updated its bylaws. Seventy-nine Local Sections and 4 Divisions have not updated their bylaws since 2000. These and many other Local Sections and Divisions should be concerned about the validity of their elections if they conduct electronic balloting, which may not be authorized in their bylaws.

New petitions to amend the Constitution or Bylaws must be received by the Executive Director no later than November 25, to be included in the Council agenda for consideration at the spring 2016 meeting in San Diego. If you wish, you may send your draft petition to C&B at least one month before that deadline, and we will be happy to give you initial feedback. The petition guidelines are in Bulletin 5, which is available on the web.

Contact C&B if you have any questions or need any information on petitions or bylaws. Madam President, this concludes my report.