**ACS Joint Board-Council Committee on**

**International Activities (IAC)**

**Council Report**

**248th ACS National Meeting, San Francisco, CA**

**August 2014**

Mr. President and Councilor Colleagues:

In guidance and fulfillment of the principles expressed in the ACS Constitution – “the SOCIETY shall cooperate with scientists internationally and shall be concerned with the worldwide application of chemistry to the needs of humanity” - the 2014 International Activities Committee has formed part of a remarkable ACS National Meeting in San Francisco. As evidence of its reach worldwide, a search of the meeting’s abstracts for the terms ‘international’ and / or ‘global’ yielded 4,316 items, roughly 37% of the total oral and poster sessions at the conference. As part of its contributions to the success of the meeting, IAC organized or co-sponsored seven symposia, convened Brazilian young scholars studying in the USA for leadership training, conducted an experimental networking event for Chinese chemists and allied practitioners, and initiated a ‘soft launch’ of the ACS International Chemical Sciences Chapter in South Korea – which the Council approved at its meeting in Dallas. In terms of the work of the Committee, IAC received, reviewed and approved to move forward to Council in Denver next year, three international chapter applications from Australia, India, and Taiwan. IAC reviewed annual reports from our international chapters in Hong Kong, Hungary, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Shanghai, and Thailand. In addition, in San Francisco IAC heard reports on preparations for the Latin American Federation of Chemical Associations (FLAQ), the 2015 ACS PITTCON delegation from Central America and the Caribbean, ACS interactions with the Organization for the Prevention of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), our placement of US chemistry students in Europe and Southeast Asia for international research experiences, and our programs with the US Department of State on young scientist and engineer training in Malaysia, Indonesia, and Thailand.

As we know, we have 186 local sections in the ACS, but only 8 international chapters. IAC is pleased to receive an application to establish an International Chapter in South Africa. The application has strong support from the South African Chemical Institute and constitutes fulfillment of a provision of the ACS / SACI Alliance Agreement. IAC supports this application and respectfully moves that Council approve the establishment of an ACS International Chemical Sciences Chapter in South Africa.

Mr. President, this concludes my report.

H.N. Cheng, Chair