

Peter K. Dorhout
ACS President-Elect
Oral Report to Council
Wednesday, April 5, 2017

Madame President, fellow Councilors. Ninety-Five days into my year as President-Elect...

I left Philadelphia last fall excited by the prospect of maybe returning to Council. My heart nearly jumped out of my chest the morning that our Nominations & Elections chair called to tell me that in San Francisco, I would be joining Council as our next president elect.

High on a hill was how I felt, ready to serve the members of this Society in a new leadership role. It's calls to me like this, however, that remind me that there's a lot of work to be done. Who knew it would be this hard?

To be where little job growth awaits recent graduates or mid career chemists presents significant challenges for me and ACS, which is something I hope to change. I've had the good fortune to participate with volunteer leaders in Corporation Associates during their recent strategic planning retreat to discuss careers and student preparation, with a special focus on safety training – we will see some key projects arise from this planning retreat.

Cable cars climb Powell Street while ACS members at this meeting stroll about on their way to outstanding presentations and professional development sessions. What a great meeting! I extend my thanks to all the volunteers.

Halfway isn't what ACS members do – we are a Society replete with great volunteers like yourselves. In 95 days, I've had a chance this year to facilitate a session in the Leadership Institute, connect with our Younger Chemists Committee members and encourage the next generation of ACS leaders, and visit the North East Local Section where I jointed two of my passions: ACS and Boy Scouts at a STEM Journey outreach event.

To the stars of our awards ceremony who were recognized last night and throughout our meeting, I say congratulations! I pledge to continue to make our recognition of chemists as inclusive as I can. Diversity and inclusion are passions of mine and are valuable to the profession. I will spend my three years campaigning to grow our endowment to support the ACS Scholars program.

The morning fog may fill the air – this is San Francisco – but I hope you've had your coffee and are prepared to get down to business today. I'm so very pleased and proud to be on this leadership journey with you.

I don't care if you can't make them all, but I am hoping that you will join me after San Francisco, as I embark on a virtual listening tour. I'm planning a series of web chats where I hope to stay connected to you, the members, as I continue to plan for a great 2018, because, Your golden sun will shine for me and all of ACS.

[SLIDE 1] Please continue to share your ideas and suggestions with me

Madam President, this concludes my report.

Ideas and Suggestions



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