

John E. Adams
Chair, Board of Directors
Oral Report to Council
August 28, 2019

Madam President and Fellow Councilors,

Good morning all! I want to briefly review with you some of the most significant items considered by the ACS Board of Directors here in San Diego, focusing primarily on those that fall outside the normal flow of routine Board business.

The Board received a report from the Society Committee on Budget and Finance recommending approval of an advance member registration fee for 2020 national meetings of \$505, an amount equal to the 2019 fee adjusted for inflation only, and recommended inclusion in the 2020 budget of several requests for new or reauthorized funding. You will hear more about these requests later this morning in the B&F report. The Board voted to adopt these recommendations as presented.

We also were provided by the Committee on Strategic Planning with a preview of recommended changes to the ACS strategic plan development process that would include a lengthening to five years of the time between the consideration of a top-to-bottom overhaul of the Strategic Plan, the inclusion of additional market-based research into the planning, and a narrowing of focus to only the highest-value elements of the Plan. For 2020, the staff has recommended, and the Board has approved, centering Society-wide performance goals around the ACS Core Value of Diversity, Inclusion, and Respect and around membership, especially with respect to industrial members.

The Task Force on the Future of Meetings is charged with examining the current portfolio of ACS meetings and conferences and recommending actions that will ensure the future sustainability and relevance of these events. A presentation of their preliminary findings is expected next year, I hope at the Regular Session of the Board in Philadelphia. The scope of their work includes all features of our national meetings as well as the support provided to the organizers of our suite of regional meetings.

In a continuing effort to strengthen our relationships and alliances with sister organizations, the Board met with members of the executive committee and staff leadership of the Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science (known as SACNAS) and focused on how the two organizations can work synergistically to promote and achieve diversity in STEM and how we can jointly support the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. These latter Goals are becoming a centerpiece of the Chemistry Enterprise Partnership agreements that we are pursuing with a number of domestic and international societies, recognizing that combined and coordinated efforts will be required if we are to make a significant contribution to achieving these aspirational goals.

I hope you were able to join us on Sunday for our Regular Session that featured the work done by the Task Force on the Next Generation of the ACS leadership program portfolio as well as a celebration of the tenth anniversary of the ACS Leadership Development System.

Madam President, this concludes my report.