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Councilor News and Committee Alerts

Fall Meeting 2020



Dear Councilors,

I wish to have been able to see you all this August in San Francisco. However, due to the continued threat of COVID-19, we will make the best of our virtual National Meeting. Regular in-person symposia are being converted to virtual ones, and social events are being modified to bring together participants from their home offices. The governance of the Society will continue unabated, as the Board, Council, and committees will meet virtually and proceed with their work.

Although this may feel unusual to experience an ACS National Meeting and all Governance meetings in such a different manner, I encourage you to make the most of this National Meeting and find new ways to network and collaborate with colleagues.

For Presidential events, I encourage you to seek out the PRES symposium on a milestone anniversary of the Petroleum Research Fund: "Celebrating 65 Years of Awarding PRF Grants". Please also keep your eyes out for the Presidential Outreach event that has migrated to a virtual event this fall. The ACS Kids Zone will occur at different times in conjunction with the National Meeting, and kids and families can log in at different times to see presentations in both English and Spanish. Please add these and other great events from the National Meeting planner to your agenda.

We never know what the future may hold, and meeting virtually may become more frequent in all our professional lives. However, I do hope to see you all in San Antonio next year! In the meantime, please keep safe, follow all appropriate guidelines, and let's work collectively to flatten the curve.

Thank you,
Luis Echegoyen
ACS President

ACS Fall 2020 Virtual Council Meeting

Due to the termination of the in-person San Francisco National Meeting for the Fall of 2020, the Council Policy Committee met on June 25, 2020 and authorized a virtual Council Meeting to be held on Wednesday, August 19, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. EDT. The agenda for the meeting is located on the [Council](#) webpage. We ask Councilors and other Local Section and Division Officers to please look for emails from secretary@acs.org with further details.

Resources

To familiarize yourself with the virtual meeting platform, please watch this [video](#) which explains how you will need to log into Lumi, and from there access the meeting's Zoom link. As well, the [Instruction Sheet for Councilors attending the Fall 2020 virtual Council meeting](#) gives more detail on how to access the sites, what browsers to use, and detailed instructions on voting and entering the speaking queue. We request that you watch the video and read the Instruction Sheet to better familiarize yourself with the virtual Council software platform.

Mock Meetings

On Tuesday, August 4 at 2:00 p.m. EDT, and on Thursday, August 13 at 11:00 a.m. EDT "mock meetings" will be held for all Councilors to test logging into the Lumi system, practice voting on the Lumi platform, and practice indicating that you wish to be recognized to speak. Please note that we would like all our Councilors to participate in one of these mock meetings, or watch the recordings of one afterwards if you are unable to attend. During the mock meetings, instructions will be provided to ensure everyone is comfortable with the technology and how to participate. Due to the virtual platform, we will not be able to provide closed captioning service for this Council meeting.

Governance Schedule at the ACS Fall 2020 Virtual Meeting & Expo

Council Policy Committee Open Forum

Virtual Meeting

**Tuesday, August 18,
1:10 p.m. EDT**

Council Virtual Meeting

**Wednesday, August 19,
11:00 a.m. EDT**

(Councilors login at 10 a.m.)

Councilor and Officer Caucus Schedule

2021 Standing and Other Committee Chairs Announced

Acting on the recommendation of the Committee of Committees (ConC), ACS President-Elect H.N. Cheng has appointed or reappointed chairs for the Council Standing and Other Committees, effective January 1, 2021. Remaining chairs will be appointed in December.

2021 Standing Committe Chairs

Constitution and Bylaws (reappointment)

Donna Friedman

Divisional Activities (reappointment)

John M. Takacs

Economic and Professional Affairs (reappointment)

Eric Bruton

Local Section Activities (reappointment)

W. Matthew Reichert

Meetings and Expositions (reappointment)

Rick Ewing

Membership Affairs (reappointment)

Brian Mathes

2021 "Other" Committee Chairs

Analytical Reagents (reappointment)

Tom Tynner

Ethics (appointment)

William W. Leong

Nomenclature, Terminology and Symbols (reappointment)

Michelle Rogers

Project SEED (appointment)

Bryan W. Boudouris

Technician Affairs (reappointment)

Jennifer McCulley

What Are We Voting On At Council?

The Council agenda for August 19, 2020 contains items for ACTION. They are abstracted below, with corresponding numbers from the agenda. For background information and details, please refer to the full Council Agenda that was distributed on July 8, 2020. It is available under the Council tab of the ACS Governance page:

<https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/about/governance/councilors.html>

FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Committee on Committees (ConC) Virtual Open Meeting

Due to the cancellation of the in-person meeting in San Francisco, the Committee on Committees (ConC) will be hosting a virtual open meeting on Monday, August 17, 2020, from 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (EDT) to offer your views on any topics on the agenda, or other matters of interest.

Agenda

Recognize Inspiring Work – Nominate a Noteworthy Chemist for a 2022 ACS National Award by November 1

Your opportunity to highlight outstanding work in the chemical sciences and chemical education is here! By nominating a peer or colleague for one of the many ACS National Awards, you'll help recognize that person's extraordinary accomplishment and inspire other scientists and students to strive for excellence in their own work, in support of each other and the larger chemistry enterprise.

The ACS National Awards program is designed to encourage the advancement of chemistry in all its branches, to support research in chemical science and industry, and to promote the careers of chemists. We encourage nominations from women, underrepresented groups, industry, national laboratories, and university faculty.

Recognizing the inspiration and achievement of a peer is only a [click](#) away! For more information on submitting a nomination for an ACS National Award, visit www.acs.org/nationalawards.

Updated ACS Governing Documents +Check Your ByLaws: Time to Update?

The May 1, 2020 edition of the ACS Governing Documents is available at <http://www.acs.org/govdocs>. This edition was effected by the Petition on Benefits and Dues and the new Schedule of Membership. The model bylaws for units (Divisions, Local Sections, and International Chemical Sciences Chapters) have been updated and are in accordance with the new ACS Governing Documents. The model bylaws and unit bylaws are also available at the above link. Check your bylaws; if these have not been updated within the past 10 years, it's time to update your bylaws. Contact the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws (C&B) at bylaws@acs.org if you have any questions or comments, or would like our assistance in helping you to update your bylaws.

ACS Chemistry Advocacy Workshop

The ACS has launched *ACS Chemistry Advocacy Workshop*, a free, online course designed to train ACS members passionate about science and chemistry advocacy. The workshop includes four modules covering skills, resources, logistics, and communication for the purposes of advocating for chemistry on the federal level. Participants will learn to successfully plan and execute advocacy activities as well as have an opportunity to network and build a community with others passionate about science advocacy.

[Learn More](#)

Recommended Committee Dissolution for Council Action in Philadelphia

The Committee on Committees (ConC) values the time, talents, and energy that ACS volunteers invest in our committees and believes these investments should be impactful and meaningful. ConC is tasked with conducting performance reviews of many ACS committees, and advising if the committee should be continued. ConC thoughtfully prepares reviews and makes recommendations to Council and the Board of Directors, as appropriate. These recommendations are based on the need for the committee, especially in light of their responsibilities as described in the Governing Documents. In 2019, ConC reviewed the Committee on Chemical Abstracts Services (CCAS). After much discussion and thoughtful consideration, ConC voted to recommend to Council and the Board of Directors that it disband CCAS.

This was not an easy decision, and we want to ensure that this recommendation to disband CCAS is managed with transparency and respect. ConC has reviewed CCAS over multiple cycles, and has come to the conclusion that most, if not all, of its responsibilities are already being performed by Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) and/or Governing Board for Publishing (GBP). ConC members do not believe that there continues to be a need for a full committee, especially one that is not fully utilizing the expertise and time of its volunteer members in a meaningful and impactful way. The roles of CCAS and GBP are fully described in the [ACS Governing Documents](#).

[Read More](#)

Joint Board-Council Committee on Chemical Abstracts Service

The Joint Board-Council Committee on Chemical Abstracts Service (CCAS) has as its central charge:

- Serving as a channel for information flow between the Governing Board for Publishing, SOCIETY members, and individual Chemical Abstracts Service users to help assure that each party's needs and support are researched, recognized, and appreciated
- Encouraging and considering suggestions from the membership concerning CAS and transmitting these suggestions to the Governing Board for Publishing and the SOCIETY's Board of Directors

In pursuing these charges, we have initiated discussions with several committees and divisions, and undertook several steps to translate those anecdotal responses into more concrete data prior to bringing concerns to the Board of Directors and the Governing Board for Publishing. However, in the midst of this process we were informed of the proposal, now before Council, to disband CCAS.

[Read More](#)

News from the Committee on Minority Affairs

Ann Kimble-Hill, Ph.D., Chair

In January, the Diversity, Inclusion and Respect Advisory Board (DIRAB), the Board of Directors, and several members of the ACS staff participated in the Diversity, Inclusion, and Respect (DIR) retreat held at the Leadership Institute in Atlanta, GA. As a result, we now have Guiding Principles for the DIR Core Value for all of ACS:

We believe in the strength of diversity in all its forms, because inclusion of and respect for diverse people, experiences, and ideas leads to superior solutions to world challenges and advances chemistry as a global, multidisciplinary science.

Details from this strategic plan will be forthcoming by DIRAB and Professional and Member Relations as a coordinated approach towards annual measuring of progress towards this value.

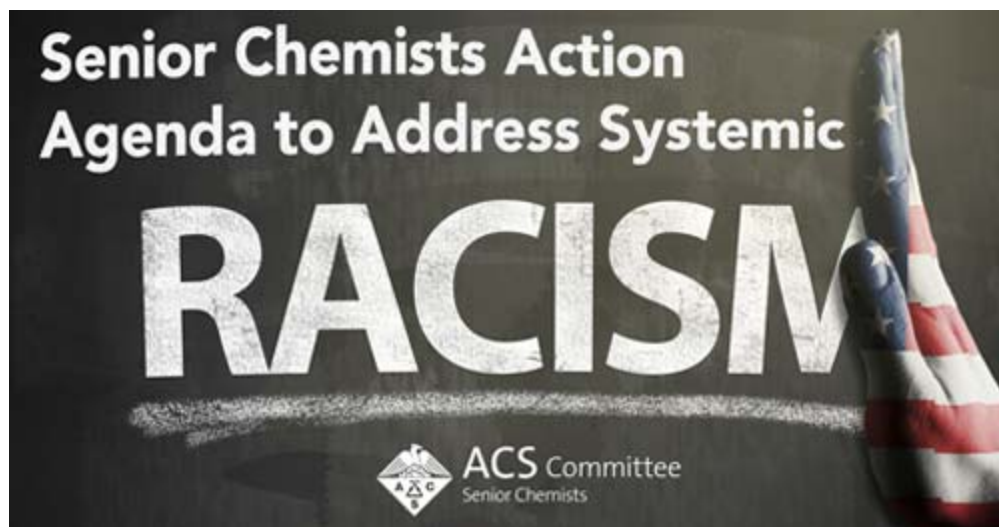
In light of this work, Committee on Minority Affairs would like to share some of our strategies within that we suggest the ACS as a whole to distribute and adopt by the 2021 Leadership Institute.

[Read More](#)

Virtual ACS Kids Zone - A Presidential Outreach Event

For the first time, the ACS Committee on Community Activities, along with ACS President

For the first time, the ACS Committee on Community Activities, along with ACS President Luis Echegoyen, will host a virtual Kids Zone presidential outreach event as part of the Fall 2020 Virtual National Meeting & Expo. The online educational event will take place on Saturday, August 15 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. EDT. Host Bibiana Campos Seijo, Editor-in-Chief of Chemical & Engineering News, will lead viewers through four activities and demonstrations from experienced science educators. All activities align with the national meeting theme "Moving Chemistry from Bench to Market" with the goal of educating students, parents, and teachers about the vital role chemistry plays in innovating products that better our lives. Best of all, the event will be offered in two languages, with four English presentations taking place from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. EDT and four Spanish presentations taking place from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. EDT. Information about the event and a link to register can be found at www.acs.org/kidszone.



Online Panel Discussion to Address Systemic Racism, Moderated by ACS President Luis Echegoyen

The ACS Senior Chemists Committee (SCC), in collaboration with ACS Webinars, hosted a webinar on July 9 to address systemic racism and its impact on ACS members and others in the chemistry community, including academia, government, and industry. SCC developed this free webinar to give the guest panelists and participants an opportunity to identify specific action to encourage engagement by minority chemists and diversify the chemical enterprise and ACS. ACS President Luis Echegoyen moderated the session that included panelists: Dr. Isiah Warner, Vice President for Strategic Initiatives at Louisiana State University, Dr. Dabney Dixon, Director of STEM Educational Initiatives at Georgia State University, Dr. Lucenia Dunn, first elected female Mayor for the City of Tuskegee, AL in 2000 and Founder and President/CEO of the Tuskegee Macon County Community Foundation, Inc., and Dr. Denise Barnes, who served as Head of the Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research at the National Science Foundation. Participation for the discussion was strong with more than 300 attendees "live" – many asked questions and shared thoughts for action." If you were unable to participate, a recording of the event can be accessed [here](#). If you have any questions or further ideas you would like to share, please send an email to seniorchemists@acs.org.





Dr. Luis Echegoyen



Dr. Dabney Dixon



Dr. Isiah Warner



Dr. Lucenia Dunn



Dr. Denise Barnes



Tips for Successful Virtual Meetings

By Angie Abraham

Virtual meetings are the new normal. And with people starting to ask whether remote work arrangements might continue well into the future, it's important to take steps to enhance the video experience of meetings. ACS Web and Research Representative Courtney Swecker offers these tips to make your next video-assisted call a success:

- **Get the lighting right.** Make sure you're positioned for ample and balanced lighting.
- **Choose the right background.** Avoid a cluttered environment to help keep the meeting distraction-free. Check ahead to see if the videoconferencing platform has alternate backgrounds to select from.
- **Do a sound check.** Test your microphone and speakers before joining a virtual meeting. When you're the presenter, a dry run is essential.
- **Convey the right body language.** Remember to sit up straight, just as you would in an in-person meeting.
- **Get close, but not too close.** Place your computer at the distance, where your shoulders or torso are visible.
- **Play to the camera.** Put the camera at eye level and look directly into your computer's camera.
- **Maintain interaction.** Keep the attention of your meeting attendees with interactive features like polling, multiple choice questions and breakout rooms.
- **Evaluate and enhance.** Record your session and review later to identify areas of improvement.
- **Say your acknowledgements at the finish.** If hosting the meeting, take a moment to thank everyone for their time and attendance. Wrap up by acknowledging those who helped with the meeting or presented.

ACS FREQUENTLY REQUESTED NUMBERS

Unless otherwise noted, first dial (800) 227-5558. When prompted, dial the extension given below. To contact other offices, dial the 800 number and ask for operator assistance, or visit the ACS website at www.acs.org.

Address Changes	(800) 331-9511	
Career Services	Ext. 6080	https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/careers.html
Individual Giving	Ext. 4094	donate@acs.org
Corporate and Foundation Giving	Ext. 4503	partnership@acs.org
Divisions		division@acs.org
Education		education@acs.org
Gifts and Other Products	Ext. 4600	help@acs.org
National Chemistry Week		outreach@acs.org
Public Affairs	Ext. 8455	
Local Sections	Ext. 8212	olsa@acs.org
Meetings, National		nationalmeetings@acs.org
Meetings, Regional		reglmtgs@acs.org
Membership		service@acs.org

Regional Meetings

ACS Strategic Plan

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