

## **Council remarks San Diego – Peter K. Dorhout**

Madam President and Fellow Councilors,

(SLIDE 1)

I am here today, delivering my final report to Council in my role in the Presidential succession because ACS prepared me to be here. I am a proud alumnus of the Younger Chemists Committee, started my leadership journey as a local section chair and was elected Councilor by the Division of Inorganic Chemistry. Then, local section Councilor service led to leadership on committees and the Board of Directors.

When I was running for election to this post, many people asked me about my “platform” – what was my legacy going to be? From all that I learned in leadership, I recalled one important philosophy that I share with you now:

Chief Seattle was alleged to have stated about westward expansion in the 1840s: “Take only memories, leave only footprints.” Lord Baden-Powell, the creator of Scouting, adopted that philosophy for hiking and camping with a slight variation: “Take only photographs, leave only footprints.”

To me as a leader, that philosophy means that I should lead by observing and by listening, and then I should act responsibly, ensuring that whatever impressions I leave on my journey, they should be meaningful and respectful.

So, I listened as I led a dialog about safety, and President Charpentier joined me in that dialog with our 2<sup>nd</sup> Safety Summit.

I led a dialog around diversity and inclusion in hiring and mentoring faculty at our national meeting, and continued the dialog about diversity, inclusion, and respect as a liaison to the Diversity & Inclusion Advisory Board.

With the Women Chemists Committee, we launched a Presidential dialog around sexual harassment in the sciences, and I led the dialog a year ago on the floor of Council where we discussed how ACS should act as we build a respectful environment for students and professionals in our Society.

Take only memories, leave only footprints – listen and act responsibly.

In the limited time I have left, I am pleased to share with you that ACS leadership has listened to the members. We are acting responsibly, but there is still much on the journey ahead. Safety is being embraced not just in our meetings, but through Joint Safety Team training and development. We are beginning to change attitudes in academic laboratories. Thank you to the members of the Division of Chemical Health & Safety and the Committee on Chemical Safety for your vigilance and leadership.

(SLIDE 2) We have communicated our expectations for behavior at professional meetings and gatherings by introducing signage, and we made reporting

inappropriate behavior at national meetings easier through the meeting App. I hope regional and local section meeting planners will follow suit.

The ACS Board of Directors has listened, too, and acted at its Executive Committee session this summer to revise our awards policy, which empowers ACS to act responsibly when we recognize individuals for their accomplishments. This policy will be shared with Councilors in the next *Councilor News & Committee Alerts*.

(SLIDE 3) This year, President Charpentier and I celebrated the International Year of the Periodic Table at the World Scouting Jamboree with a patch that was given to attendees who visited the STEM sites across the Jamboree grounds.

I started this most recent journey as ACS President two-and-a-half years ago. Like so many other trails I've hiked, this journey has taken me places I've never been, through situations I've never experienced, and provided vistas that I've never imagined.

(SLIDE 4 – one click). Sometimes that trail is well marked, and other times (2<sup>nd</sup> click) the trail needs blazing.

In this Council, we are all leaders, and as leaders, I invite you to take only memories and leave only footprints, listen and act responsibly. Thank you for what you continue to do for our members, and I look forward to joining you back

on Council in Philly, where the term “heroes in chemistry” doesn’t mean what you think it does.

Madam President, members of Council, this ends my report.

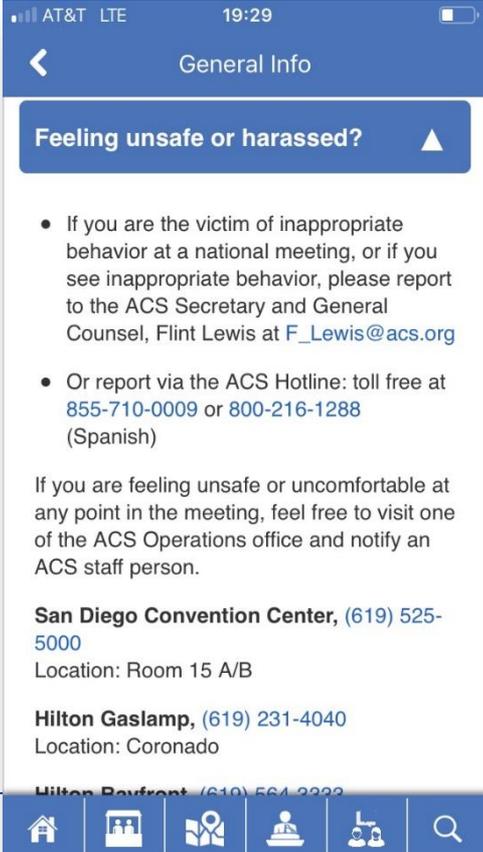
American Chemical Society



# Immediate Past President Report to Council

Peter K. Dorhout  
Immediate Past President

# Setting expectations for professional behavior & respect



AT&T LTE 19:29

General Info

Feeling unsafe or harassed? ▲

- If you are the victim of inappropriate behavior at a national meeting, or if you see inappropriate behavior, please report to the ACS Secretary and General Counsel, Flint Lewis at [F\\_Lewis@acs.org](mailto:F_Lewis@acs.org)
- Or report via the ACS Hotline: toll free at 855-710-0009 or 800-216-1288 (Spanish)

If you are feeling unsafe or uncomfortable at any point in the meeting, feel free to visit one of the ACS Operations office and notify an ACS staff person.

**San Diego Convention Center, (619) 525-5000**  
Location: Room 15 A/B

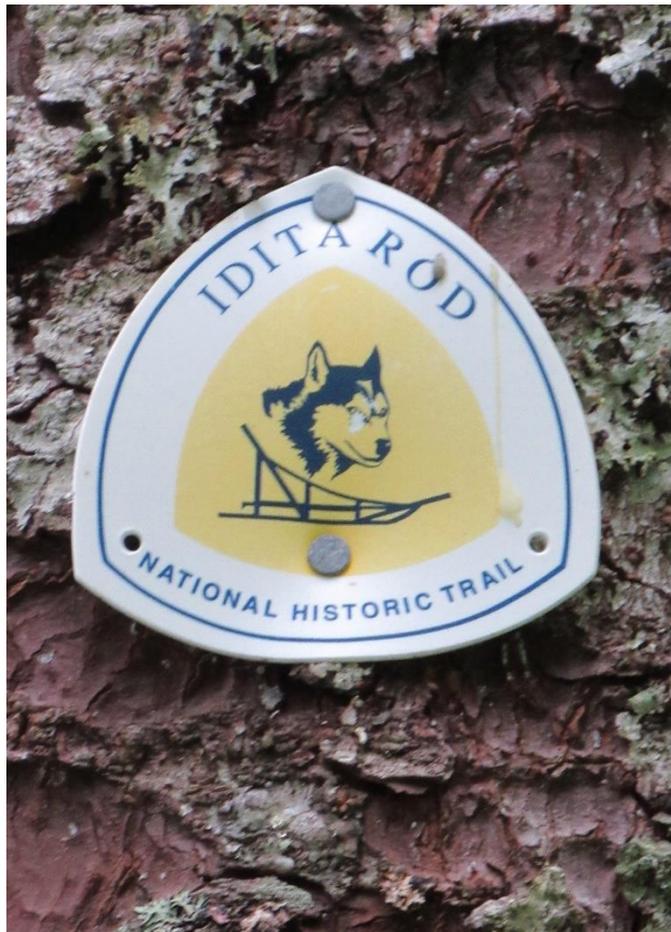
**Hilton Gaslamp, (619) 231-4040**  
Location: Coronado

**Hilton Bayfront, (619) 564-2323**

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# IYPT Celebration at the 24<sup>th</sup> World Scout Jamboree – July, 2019





**Thank you for  
your leadership**