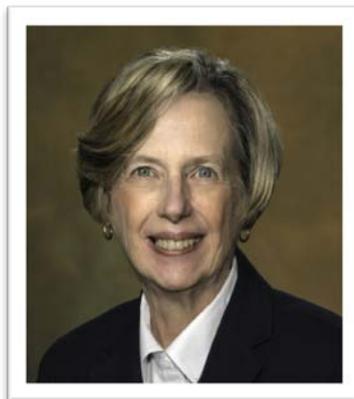




## CANDIDATE FOR DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE, 2018-2020



**BONNIE (HELEN A.) LAWLOR**

**Retired, National Federation of Abstracting and Information Services (NFAIS),  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

**LAWLOR, BONNIE (Helen A.)** *Division of Chemical Information (Philadelphia Section).*  
(Retired) National Federation of Abstracting and Information Services (NFAIS),  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

**Academic Record:** Chestnut Hill College, B.S., 1966; St. Joseph's University, M.S., 1976;  
University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School, M.B.A., 1989.

**Honors:** ACS Fellow, 2013; Meritorius Service Award, Division of Chemical Information, ACS,  
2006; NFAIS Honorary Fellow, 2014; Alpha Epsilon Sigma - 1966; National Federation of  
Abstracting and Information Services Memorial Award, 1998; American Society for  
Information Science Achievement Award, 1996.

**Professional Positions** (for past ten years): Retired, 2014, National Federation of Advanced  
Information Services (NFAIS), Executive Director, 2002-14; Chescot Publishing Incorporated,  
President/CEO 1998-02.

**Service in ACS National Offices:** Committee on Committees, 2012-17, Secretary 2014-17;  
Council Policy Committee (Voting), 2006-11; (Nonvoting), 1997-99; Committee on  
Nominations and Elections, 2000-05, Vice-Chair, 2003, Secretary, 2001; Committee on  
Divisional Activities, 1994-99, Chair, 1997-99; Committee on Copyrights, 1990-98, Chair,  
1993-95, Committee Associate, 1989; Committee on Committees, Task Force on  
Publications/Copyrights Inter-Committee Relationship, 1999; Advisory Board for Industry  
Relations, 1997-99; Board Task Force on Technical Programming, 1998; Program

Coordination Conference Committee, 1997-98; ACS Books Advisory Board, 1991-94; Representative, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Section T, 1985-86.

**Service in ACS Offices:** Member ACS since 1972. *Division of Chemical Information:* Councilor, 1992-2018; Chair, 1989; Chair-Elect, 1988; Secretary-Treasurer, 1984-87; Corresponding Secretary, 1982; Archivist 2006 to date; Publications Committee Chair, 1990-95, continuing member to date; Editor, *Chemical Information Bulletin*, 1977-83.

**Member:** International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC), Bureau Member; Chemical Structure Association Trust, Board of Trustees; Philosopher's Information Center, Board of Trustees. *ACS Division:* Chemical Information.

**Related Activities:** International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry, Bureau Member since 2014; Chair, Committee on Publications and Cheminformatics Data Standards, 2014 to date; Member, *Chemistry International* Editorial Board, 2015 to date; Member, *Pure and Applied Chemistry* Editorial Advisory Board 2014 to date; Chair, Web Vision Task Force, 2014 to date; Chemical Structure Association Trust, Board Member, 1990 to date; Chair, Grants Committee, 2002 to date; Secretary, 2002 to date; Information Industry Association, Board Member, 1997-98; American Society for Information Science, Board Member, 1996-98, Chair, Delaware Valley Chapter, 1994; Secretary 1992-94; National Federation of Abstracting and Information Services, President, 1989; Chair, Information Policy and Copyright Committee, 1991 to 2002; Editorial Advisory Board, *The International Journal of Electronic Publishing*, 1993-96; Chemical Notation Association, President, 1980; Secretary, 1976-79; American Institute of Chemists, Secretary, Philadelphia Chapter, 1981-82. Executive Vice President, Database Publishing, Institute for Scientific Information 1989-95.

## STATEMENT

*The statements of the candidates represent their opinions and do not necessarily represent the views of the ACS.*

With almost 156,000 members around the globe, the American Chemical Society (ACS) is one of the world's premier scientific organizations. To remain so, the Society must continually respond to: 1) the changing needs of its members; 2) the changing needs of the chemical enterprise; and 3) to society's evolving perceptions of chemists and chemistry.

ACS does an excellent job in the first two areas. Its aggressive strategic planning efforts have allowed it to identify the evolving internal and external trends to which it must respond in support of its members and the chemical enterprise. Indeed, the current strategic plan and the addition of ethics and safety to the Society's core values demonstrates the Board's efforts to maintain ACS' relevance to the chemistry community. All of the goals outlined in the plan (See: <http://strategy.acs.org/includes/sp17.pdf>) resonate with my own personal perceptions of what chemists and the chemical enterprise currently need and want - authoritative information, resources for success (e.g. employment), community, and excellence in education. And I have articulated the importance of some of those goals in the past (see: <https://pubs.acs.org/cen/acs/8536elections.html#8>).

Certainly if elected to the Board I would diligently work in support of the above goals. But my personal "crusade" would be to see how we can more effectively respond to the third point noted above. For I

firmly believe that improving the general public's approval of, and confidence in chemistry will have a long-term positive impact on all that the ACS does now and wants to accomplish in the future.

There was a time, long, long ago, when the general public embraced chemistry to the point where they attended lectures by famous chemists, performed chemistry experiments in their homes, and actually wrote books that served as early textbooks in chemistry.<sup>i</sup> That positive perception grew for more than 150 years and peaked after World War II when chemistry sets were ubiquitous playthings, science TV shows such as Mr. Wizard were popular, and parents encouraged their children to seek careers in science. The public perception of science in general, and chemistry in particular, changed in 1962 with the publishing of Rachel Carson's, *Silent Spring*, a book that focused on the powerful pesticide, DDT, and its negative impact on wildlife and the environment. That book resulted in the creation of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and in a series of legislations such as the Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976 that ultimately resulted in the demise of realistic, chemistry-related playthings that served to engage children in science during their early, formative years.

I believe that we must be more aggressive in our attempts to rebuild a positive public opinion of chemistry and I applaud the Royal Society of Chemistry's recent efforts to gain a better understanding of the perception of chemistry in the U.K. as a first step in their determination of how the chemical sciences may evolve to improve the everyday lives of people in the next ten to twenty years (see: <http://www.rsc.org/campaigning-outreach/campaigning/public-attitudes-chemistry>). Public perception is a challenge and there is no quick and easy solution, but the U.K. study shows promise. I would like to see the ACS take similar steps in the fulfillment of its vision to improve people's lives through chemistry.

All four candidates for Director-at-Large are experienced, have served ACS well for many years, are familiar with the inner-workings of the organization, and are more than willing to work tirelessly and relentlessly for the well-being of the Society, its members, and the chemical profession. So why should you consider me?

I believe that I would bring several unique experiences and perspectives to the ACS Board of Directors. My career in the scientific publishing arena has provided me with an understanding of the global disruptive trends in scholarly communication that offer both opportunities and challenges to traditional information resources such as CAS and ACS journals - the Society's major source of revenue. In addition, having served as the Executive Director of a nonprofit member organization, I dealt on a daily basis with the challenges that ACS faces - growing and retaining membership, building and rewarding an active pool of volunteers, and balancing member benefits with fiscal responsibility. From a financial perspective, my work experience has provided significant budget responsibility, and finally, my non-traditional career brings a non-academic, non-laboratory perspective to the Board.

My years of service to the Society have been rewarding and enjoyable, and I would be both honored and humbled if elected to serve on the Board. I thank you in advance for your consideration.

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<sup>i</sup> Lawlor, B., "Science at Play: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow," *Chemistry International*, Vol. 38, Issue 3-4, p. 20, May 2016 (accessible as of 6/1/2017 at: <https://www.degruyter.com/view/j/ci.2016.38.issue-3-4/ci-2016-3-407/ci-2016-3-407.xml?format=INT>)