

**AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY, 241st ACS NATIONAL MEETING, ANAHEIM,
CA MARCH 27-31, 2011**

Fellow Chemists,

The meeting dedicated to the theme of Chemistry of Natural Resources was a great success: 14,047 registrants as follows: Regular attendees, 7,336; Students, 4,682; Exhibitors, 1,097; Exposition only, 599; and Guests, 333; nearly 9,400 papers were presented.

Explore key presentations at ACS 241st National Meeting & Exposition picked by the organizers: http://www.eurekaalert.org/pub_releases/2011-03/acs-opk030911.php and listen to 500 recorded oral presentations: <http://www.softconference.com/ACSchem/slist.asp?C=4321>

Sincerely,

Venera Jouraeva
Councilor
(315) 560-8525
vajourae@gmail.com

ACTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

Election Results

The Committee on Nominations and Elections presented to the Council the following nominees:

- **Nominees for President-Elect, 2012:** Judith L. Benham, Dennis Chamot, Diane Grob Schmidt, and Marinda Li Wu. By electronic ballot, the Council selected [Dennis Chamot and Marinda Li Wu](#) as candidates for 2012 President-Elect. These two candidates, along with any candidates selected via petitions, will stand for election in the Fall National Election.
- **Nominees for a Director at Large for District III** included Susan B. Butts, Pat N. Confalone, David J. Lohse, and Judith A. Summers-Gates. **Nominees for District VI** included G. Bryan Balazs, Bonnie A. Charpentier, Carlos G. Gutierrez, and Victor J. Hruby. By mail ballot, the Councilors from these districts selected Pat N. Confalone and David J. Lohse as District III candidates and Bonnie A. Charpentier and Carlos G. Gutierrez as District VI candidates. Ballots will be mailed on or before October 10 to all members in District III and District VI.
- **Candidates for Directors-at-Large** for a 2012-2014 term: Ken B. Anderson, William F. Carroll, Jr., Charles E. Kolb, and Barbara A. Sawrey. The election of two Directors-at-Large will be conducted in the fall. Ballots will be mailed to the Council on or before October 10.

Change in Committee Charge

- The Council VOTED to amend the charter of the Committee on Technician Affairs to include updated terminology.

The Society's Finances

- In spite of the economic challenges faced in 2010, the Society's operating performance held up remarkably well. Total revenue was \$463.7 million, up +0.8% from 2009, and \$2.4 million (+0.5%) higher than the 2010 budget. The Net from Operations was \$23.8

million, or \$11.9 million favorable to budget. This resulted largely from cost containment initiatives and lower-than-budgeted salaries and fringe benefits.

2012 Member Dues

- The Council VOTED to set the member dues for 2012 at the fully escalated rate of \$148. This rate is established pursuant to an inflation-adjustment formula in the ACS Constitution and Bylaws.

Petitions to Amend the Constitution and Bylaws

(For Consideration)

- The Council received one petition for consideration: The Petition on Position Statements seeks to assure that the Board of Directors has primacy in issuing position statements that establish policy for the full Society and that Society bodies other than the Board may issue statements on issues that fall solely in their jurisdiction so long as they do not impair other Society bodies' ability to do the same. Action is expected on this petition at the fall Council meeting.

Local Section Name Change and Grant Deadlines

- The Council VOTED to change the name of the Northeast Oklahoma Section to the Northern Oklahoma Section. The proposed name change more closely reflects the combined territories of the two Sections.
- The Council was reminded of grant deadlines from the Committee on Local Section Activities as follows:
 - Science Café Grants – Ongoing
 - Bridging the Gap: Student Member Grant – December 1
 - Bridging the Gap: IYC Grant – June 1
 - Innovative Project Grants – June 30
 - Joint LSAC/IAC International Interaction Grant – TBA

Division Allotment Calculator

- The Council VOTED to continue for three years the current formula for determining allotments to divisions.

Member Statistics

- The official membership number for 2011 stands at 163,111.

Petition to Charter New International Chemical Sciences Chapters

- The Council VOTED to authorize the formation of the following two new international chemical sciences chapters: the Shanghai International Chemical Sciences Chapter and the Thailand International Chemical Sciences Chapter.

Strategic Issue: ACS Worldwide Strategy

- At this meeting, the Board continued its discussion of a Society Worldwide strategy as a follow-up to the strategic issues retreat in January, and is also involving the Planning Committee in a more thorough review to engage other members and stakeholders in these discussions. The Board plans to wrap up its ACS Worldwide strategy discussions by year-end.

Special theme: BUILDING A ROBUST WORKFORCE IN THE U.S.

From the beginning of Joseph Francisco's presidential succession, he has focused on one overarching theme—ensuring that aspiring chemists and seasoned professionals in the U.S. have the skill sets, resources, and external environment to build and sustain a robust workforce in the U.S. Given the historic job losses in our enterprise in the past few years, he felt that this was by far his most important priority. Last year, President Francisco appointed a presidential task force that developed recommendations in four categories:

First, the task force recommended that ACS should **develop a single organizational unit—a kind of “technological farmers’ market”—offering affordable (or free) help to entrepreneurs.** This unit is envisioned as supporting entrepreneurs by facilitating more affordable access to resources that should foster the creation of small companies from startups. Relevant resources might include information, management expertise, key services, and mentors. The unit could also support entrepreneurs in making introductions to much-needed capital and fostering partnerships with large companies. ACS staff and several ACS governance units are already exploring how this one-stop portal can be implemented.

Second, the task force recommended that ACS should **increase its advocacy of policies at the federal and state level to improve the business environment** for entrepreneurs and startup companies. The task force suggested that ACS should urge reforms within the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to assure more accurate patents and faster issuance. The USPTO has a backlog of 700,000 patents, and the slow pace of issuance is a deterrent to keeping the U.S. competitive. ACS needs to lobby for legislative reforms, but in addition, ACS has talented unemployed members who could be of assistance to patent examiners. ACS has written to the head of the USPTO and have already heard back that they are interested in exploring a number of ideas. The task force also outlined a number of financial policies that if enacted could encourage large companies to partner with small ones to promote entrepreneurship. These include preferential tax treatment for repatriated income invested in U.S.-based developers of technology and making the R&D tax credit more simplified, permanent, and transferable. And there was a host of other ideas.

The third recommendation urged ACS to **partner more vigorously with academic institutions and other relevant organizations to promote awareness of career pathways and educational opportunities** that involve or include entrepreneurship. The task force had several interesting suggestions that will be pursued by various staff and governance units.

And finally, the task force felt that ACS should **increase public awareness of the value of early-stage entrepreneurship** in the chemical enterprise with focused media coverage and information targeted to federal agencies that support chemistry. In addition, ACS should provide ways to recognize entrepreneurs publicly, to increase their visibility and enhance their opportunities for success.

In the near future, President Francisco plans to release the entire report to members, the public, and policymakers. If you have ideas, please send them to Madeleine Jacobs, m_jacobs@acs.org.

Things you might be interested in:

IYC2011: Join the movement! Spread the word! Get connected! Visit 365: Chemistry for Love! <http://iyc2011.acs.org> Enjoy watching chemists dancing at Anaheim meeting: <http://bit.ly/ChemDance>

New software and websites:

- eXplore Chemical Information Teaching Resources: www.xcitr.org free sharing Computer-Information-Chemistry
- Interactive Lab Safety Training Library: www.academysavant.com
- Mass Spectra of Pesticides: www.stmdata.de

Middle School Chemistry: Big Ideas about the Very Small. This six chapter resource is available for free at <http://middleschoolchemistry.com> and can serve as either a stand-alone chemistry unit or as a supplement to any middle school science curriculum. Middle School Chemistry uses a hands-on inquiry approach, along with specially designed molecular model animations, to take students from concrete experiences to an understanding of the abstract world of atoms and molecules.

Upcoming conferences:

- Energy Frontier Research Centers – Transforming the future of energy and the environment, May 25-27, 2011, Washington DC: www.energyfrontier.us
- The 4th Congress on Ionic Liquids (COIL-4), June 14-18, Crystal City, VA. This will be the first Congress held in the United States: <http://coil-4.org>
- 15th Green Chemistry and Engineering Conference, June 21-23, 2011, Washington DC: www.gcande.org
- The 2nd Annual conference of the American Council for Medicinally Active Plants, July 17-20, 2011, Huntsville, Alabama: www.acmap.org
- IUPAC World Chemistry Congress, Chemistry Bridging Innovation among the Americas and the World, July 30 – August 7, 2011, Puerto Rico: <http://www.iupac2011.org/Default.html>
- Bio-Energy and Bio-fuels: The 6th Sino-US conference on Chemical Engineering, November 7-10, 2011, Beijing, China: www.sinouschemeng.com/

Books on hot topics and Journals:

- “Enantioselective Chemical Synthesis:” <http://corey-kurti.com/>
- “Fuel Cells: Technologies for Fuel Processing:” http://www.elsevier.com/wps/find/bookdescription.cws_home/724635/description#description
- ChemSusChem is an international journal of chemistry and sustainability, energy, materials science, chemical engineering, biotechnology, and environmental research. It is co-owned by the 14 European chemical societies that together form the Chemistry Publishing Society Europe (ChemPubSoc Europe), supported by the Asian Chemical Editorial Society (ACES), and published by Wiley-VCH. ChemSusChem publishes Communications and Full Papers, Reviews and Mini-reviews, Highlights, Concepts and Essays, Book Reviews, and Conference Reports. Authors can submit articles to ChemSusChem online: <http://www.chemsuschem.org>

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES & RESOURCES

- **Funds for International Research Travel**

The ACS Committee on International Activities and the ACS Office of International Activities announce the inaugural call for proposals for the Global Research Experiences, Exchanges, & Training (GREET) program. The program aims to support intensive, high impact international chemistry research experience and collaboration opportunities to US researchers by providing all-inclusive travel awards of up to \$10,700 for at least five teams comprised of an early-to-mid career faculty mentor and a graduate or undergraduate student mentee. The experience is intended to significantly impact the student's career path and professional development while catalyzing new global collaborations. Interested applicants are invited to visit www.acs.org/greet or email greet@acs.org to learn more about the program and obtain application.

- **International Collaboration in Chemistry between US Investigators and their Counterparts Abroad**

The National Science Foundation (NSF) seeks to enhance opportunities for collaborative activities between US and foreign investigators. NSF Chemistry will accept collaborative research proposals in chemistry, written in English, which establish new bilateral collaborations between US investigators and investigators from Germany, Austria, United Kingdom, China, France, Japan, Russia, Poland, Luxembourg or Spain.
http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=13627&org=CHE&from=home

- **Joint activities between NSF and funding organizations in Africa, Asia, and Europe** provide opportunities for collaborative activities in materials research and education between US investigators and their colleagues abroad.

http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=12820&org=OISE&from=home

- **Pan-American Advanced Studies Institutes Program**

(PASI) is a jointly supported initiative between the Department of Energy (DOE) and the National Science Foundation (NSF). PASIs aim to disseminate advanced scientific and engineering knowledge and stimulate training and cooperation among researchers of the Americas in the mathematical, physical, and biological sciences, the geosciences, the computer and information sciences, and the engineering fields.

http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5327&org=MPS&from=home