

ORAL REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Council

San Diego, March 2012

President Bassam Z. Shakhashiri proudly acknowledged that he is a 50-year member of the Society and then presented a check for what normally would be his meeting registration fee to the Executive Director Madeleine Jacobs in support of the Project SEED program. Dr. Shakhashiri complimented and thanked volunteers and staff for the excellent work they do. He then reviewed his presidential theme, “Advancing Chemistry – Communicating Chemistry” and its accompanying four initiatives.

Dr. Shakhashiri reported on efforts to enhance the role of the Council Policy Committee. He noted the importance and relevancy of the word “Policy” in the committee’s title and also urged Councilors to take a more proactive role in matters of Society policy and other issues. Dr. Shakhashiri stated that it is his belief that the collective talent of the Council must always have the greatest influence possible on policy matters affecting the ACS and its role in the chemical enterprise. He concluded his comments by reminding Councilors of current Society challenges, including matters of unemployment among chemists; sustaining the preeminence of our scholarly scientific communications and the business success of our Publications and Chemical Abstracts Service divisions; and elevating our presence on the national scene in chemistry and enhancing the effectiveness of science education at all levels in the classroom and post- graduation.