



FOR DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE



THOMAS W. SMITH

Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY

SMITH, Thomas W. *Rochester Section.* Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, New York.

Academic Record: John Carroll University, B.S., 1969; University of Michigan, Ph.D., 1973.

Honors: ACS Polymer Division, Fellow, 2011; ACS Fellow, 2009; ACS Division of Polymer Chemistry, Chair Recognition Award, 2003; ACS, Rochester Section Award, for Outstanding Service 1996; African-American Who's Who, Greater Rochester Area, Mike F. Molaire Editor, Norex Publications, Award, 1994; Xerox Corporate Research Group Team Excellence Award, 1989; ACS Rochester Section, Chair Recognition Award, 1982; American Men & Women of Science, Community Educators Award, 1975-76; Rackham Fellowship, 1971-72; Eastman Kodak Fellowship, 1971-72.

Professional Positions (for past 10 years): Rochester Institute of Technology, Professor, 2002 to date; Golisano Institute for Sustainability, Interim Academic Director, 2010-12.

Service in ACS National Offices: Committee on Minority Affairs, Associate Member 2014-15; Committee on Education, 2005-13, Associate, Member, 1997-2004; Board Special Committee on Corporation Associates, 1990-2001; Advisory Board, Graduate Education, 2007-09; Advisory Board, Petroleum Research Fund, 1994-99.

Service in ACS Offices: Member since 1970. *Rochester Section:* Immediate Past Chair, 1983, Chair, 1982, Chair-Elect, 1981, Treasurer, 1980-81, Member-At-Large, 1976-79.

25th Northeast Regional Meeting: General Chair, 1995. Division of Polymer Chemistry: Chair, 2002; Chair-Elect, 2001; Vice-Chair, 2000; Alternate Councilor, 1994-99, 1980-81.

Member: *NOBCChE* (National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers). *ACS Divisions:* Polymer Chemistry; and Polymeric Materials Science and Engineering.

Related Activities: ACS Project SEED, Certificate of Appreciation in Recognition for Commitment and Outstanding Service, presented in celebration of the 40th Anniversary of Project SEED, 2008; Co-Chair, Symposium on Polymers in Electrophotography, 237th ACS National Meeting, 2008; Co-organizer, ACS Polymer Division Workshop, Photonics 2005, Orlando, FL; Co-Chair, Field-Responsive Polymers Symposium, POLY Millennial 2000; Co-Organizer, Frontiers in Polymer Science in the 21st Century - Macromolecular Secretariat, 219th ACS National Meeting, San Francisco, 2000; Xerox Corporation, 1973-2002, Research Fellow, 1996-2002; Certificate of Appreciation in Recognition of Support to the ACS Scholars Program, 1999; Certificate of Appreciation in Recognition of Service, 1993-99 on the Petroleum Research Fund Advisory Board, 1999; Co-Chair, Biennial Meeting, ACS Division of Polymer Chemistry, Santa Barbara, CA, 1996; Co-Chair, 1993 ACS Corporation Associates Symposium, "Diversity in the Chemical Workforce of the 21st Century," Chicago, 1993; ACS Certificate of Recognition for Leadership of the Rochester Section-Winner of the 1983 Award for Outstanding Performance by a Local Section, 1983; 53 journal articles, 70 U.S. patents.

STATEMENT

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

It is a distinct honor to have been nominated as a candidate for Director-at-Large of the world's largest scientific society and the organization chartered by Congress to ". . . *foster public welfare and education, aid the development of our country's industries, and add to the material prosperity and happiness of our people.*"

Giving voice to our shared perspectives

It is this call to stewardship that I focus on in my candidate statement. As Members of the ACS and as a scientific society, we are obligated by our Charter to be a force in the current dialogue on climate change, sustainability, and science education. Indeed the Society has issued important position statements on "Global Climate Change," "Sustainability and the Chemical Enterprise," and "Science Education Policy." But we must do more! We must be ambassadors for action, conveying the ramifications of global warming with greater urgency and clarity. We must leverage the knowledge, experience and perspective of the chemistry enterprise to better articulate and exemplify the environmental, social, and economic principles that define sustainability. We must be an even greater resource, at State and National levels, in focusing science education policy. If elected to be a member of the Board of Directors I will work tirelessly to give greater voice to our efforts in these areas and join with those who have been working to translate our policy statements into impactful initiatives that improve STEM

education, promote ecologically sustainable practices, and communicate the reality of climate change to the American people. As educators, scholars and professionals in the chemistry enterprise we are uniquely positioned to speak with authority on these matters.

Diversity

In this year in which we are celebrating the contributions of Henry Hill to the ACS and the chemical enterprise, it is important to recognize our community of members and the leadership of the ACS for embracing forward thinking principles of diversity and inclusiveness. Yes, the Society also has a "Statement on Diversity." More importantly, we have a track record of inclusion of women and minority populations in governance and activities of the Society. This being said, there is more to be done. As a member of the Board of Directors, I would work tirelessly to build on this legacy and engage every constituency in our chemical community and chemical enterprise in the critical initiatives of the Society.

Who am I?

I am one of those persons who, as a child, were given a Gilbert Chemistry set. Accordingly, I have been a chemist since the age of 12 and an active member of the ACS since 1970, serving in elected and appointed roles at Local Section, Division and National levels of the Society since 1976. By virtue of 7 years as a technician and chemist at the Lubrizol Corporation in Cleveland, Ohio and 28 years in research at the Xerox Corporation in Webster, New York, in my core, I am an industrial scientist. Moreover by virtue of 13 years as a member of the faculty at the Rochester Institute of Technology, I am also an academic scientist and educator. If elected as Director-at-Large, I may therefore have the experience and background to represent you and bring your perspective to the table.

I would be honored to serve you!