

## **Northeast Wisconsin Local Section of the American Chemical Society**

### ***Councilor Report from 242<sup>nd</sup> Fall National Meeting – Denver, CO***

The meeting was held in Denver from 26<sup>th</sup> August – 1<sup>st</sup> September, with the technical program starting on 28<sup>th</sup> August.

As the local section councilor for the Northeast Wisconsin Section, I am providing a report of my activities.

ACS Council Meeting (Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> August): The meeting was called to order at 8.00am by ACS Nancy Jackson. The minutes of the 241<sup>st</sup> ACS Council meeting from Anaheim were unanimously approved. There were several items of action for the Council's attention. (see PDF attachment)

Membership Affairs Committee (MAC). I attended the Open Meeting of MAC on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> August. There were probably around 15 members of the committee present including ACS Staff Liaison. We heard reports from the MAC Subcommittees following an introduction and welcome by Dr. Wayne E. Jones Jr, Chair.

After sub-committee reports, much of one hour session was centered around the continuing efforts to reach members and define the benefits of being a member. Although the membership numbers are steady at around 163,000 there is about a 10-11% turnover each year (i.e. thousands of members who do not renew replaced by thousands of new members). The committee is proposing testing the market with packages of benefits specific to particular groups, something they are unable to do at present without approval from Council.

Committee on Community Affairs (CCA) joint meeting with LSAC. I attended the Open Meeting and Reception of CCA/LSAC on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August. There were about 45 people present including members of both committees and ACS Staff liaisons. This committee has representation with and on several other ACS committees. I went to hear about the plans that are developed for the last quarter of the International Year of Chemistry and the themes for National Chemistry Week and Chemists Celebrate Earth Day (both of which are determined by CCA. Both these committees are responsible for a large number of ChemLuminary Awards and so changes to the application process has greatly increased the number of reviews that have been needed. This group is probably also the best at leveraging and rewarding volunteers.

Local Section Activities Committee (LSAC) I spent the weekend (Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 28<sup>th</sup>) at the Local Section Activities Committee's meeting (I am a full member of the committee). On Saturday, we had a full agenda to discuss changes to FORMS, local section speakers, awards, discussion of the petition changes proposed for action by ACS Council. This was followed by a meeting of the sub-committee on which I sit (Grants and Awards) – in that meeting we reviewed the Innovative Project Grants from 30<sup>th</sup> June (awarded >\$40000) and developed guidelines for underfunding repeat awards and partial funding.

On Sunday we heard sub-committee reports and discussed changes to sub-committee grant funding. For instance, the "Bridging the Gap" nanogrant will, for 2012, focus on member retention.

I also attended the Chem Luminary Awards Reception for 2010 and the poster session highlighting the best local section activities of last year.

Town Hall Meeting for Director-at-Large (Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August). I attended a town-hall style meeting where 4 candidates for the upcoming Director-at-Large answered questions from the floor and from the Committee on Nominations and Elections. The position will be decided in an open election for ACS members in the Fall. Members will have an option to receive their ballots electronically.

District V Caucus (Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August). The meeting began at 6.00pm. Immediately following the Town Hall Meeting, I went to the District V Caucus. About 45 people were in attendance, mostly local section councilors and some divisional members. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Marvin Lang (Central Wisconsin). An agenda was distributed beforehand. The minutes of the District V Caucus from the 241<sup>st</sup> ACS National Meeting were unanimously approved.

The Caucus heard reports from three directors from District V regarding the activities of the Board Meeting over the weekend. There were some new and current reauthorizations of programs.