

Official Reports from the June 2015 Board of Directors Meeting

Grants and Awards

The American Chemical Society (ACS) Board of Directors Standing Committee on Grants and Awards met on June 5, 2015. The committee voted to recommend to the ACS Board of Directors approval of the following:

- Endowment Agreement by which the ACS Exams Institute, through its Board of Trustees, will fully endow the ACS Award for Achievement in Research for the Teaching and Learning of Chemistry, beginning with the 2017 presentation.
- Endowment Agreement by which the *Journal of Chemical Education* and ChemEdX, through the Board of Publication, will fully endow the James Bryant Conant Award in High School Chemistry Teaching beginning with the 2017 presentation.

The call for nominations for the ACS Fellows Program opened on February 1, 2015 and closed on April 1, 2015. A total of 204 nominations were received and 78 were selected as Fellows. The July 13th issue of *C&EN* will list the names of the 2015 Fellows and the ceremony will be held on August 17th during the national meeting in Boston.

Acting under delegated authority, the Committee on Grants & Awards voted to approve the policy whereby ACS Fellows Selection Committee and the ACS Fellows Oversight Committee (excluding the Chair) discussions and membership terms are confidential in perpetuity, but unspecified ACS Fellows Selection Committee and ACS Fellows Oversight Committee service can be disclosed after service has ended.

Acting under delegated authority, the committee voted to accept the recommendations of the Analytical Chemistry and Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Divisions to change the purpose of the ACS Award in Separations Science and Technology to address the overlap in selection criteria with the ACS Award in Chromatography, as follows: To recognize the development of novel implementations of modern advancements in the field of separation science and technology with particular emphasis on industrial applications.

Staff reported that nine sponsor renewal agreements have been received:

- Alpha Chi Sigma Fraternity and the Alpha Chi Sigma Educational Foundation, to support the ACS Award in Pure Chemistry (2017-2021)
- Sigma-Aldrich/Supelco, to support the ACS Award in Chromatography (2017-2021)

- Thermo Fisher Scientific, to support the James Bryant Conant Award in High School Chemistry Teaching (2016)
- Division of Physical Chemistry, to support the E. Bright Wilson Award in Spectroscopy (2017)
- Division of Physical Chemistry, to support the ACS Award in Theoretical Chemistry (2017)
- Division of Industrial & Engineering Chemistry, to support the ACS Award in Industrial Chemistry (2017-2021)
- Division of Computers in Chemistry, to support the ACS Award for Computers in Chemical and Pharmaceutical Research (2017-2019)
- Division of Colloid and Surface Chemistry, to support the ACS Award in Surface Chemistry (2017-2019)
- Cengage Learning, to support the George C. Pimentel Award in Chemical Education (2017-2021)

Additionally the Division of Fluorine Chemistry has agreed to sponsor the ACS Award for Creative Work in Fluorine Chemistry for 2017.

Acting under delegated authority, the committee voted to accept the recommendations of the ACS Petroleum Research Fund Advisory Board (May 2015 meeting) for funding grants totaling \$10.760 million. The 2015 approved distribution is \$25.1M, compared to 2014 income of \$23.9M. As of April 29, 2015 the value of the fund was \$526.7M.

A proposal for a new national award has been received from Richard C. Larock, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Chemistry Organic Chemistry, Iowa State University. The proposed name of the award is the Richard C. Larock Chemistry Book Award and the purpose of the award would be to encourage, recognize, and reward authors who have written a book that advances the field of chemistry research. The proposed eligibility statement is: "Author (or small team of individuals) who has written a seminal chemistry book that redefines the way a field of chemistry is taught or viewed. The book should be pioneering/seminal books in any field of chemistry and not a standard text book." The award would be funded through a testamentary gift from Richard Larock's estate.

The committee voted to recommend that the ACS Board of Directors decline to create The Richard C. Larock Chemistry Book Award and communicate to its proposers its decision and corresponding rationale.

Valerie J. Kuck, Chair

Professional and Member Relations

The Committee on Professional & Member Relations (P&MR) ratified interim votes taken in April on two nominal cosponsorships:

- *Sustainable Industrial Processing Summit & Exhibition*, October 4-9, 2015 in Antalya, Turkey
- *International Symposium on Clusters and Nanomaterials*, October 26-29, 2015 in Richmond, Virginia

Teri Quinn Gray, Chair, ACS Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Board (D&I), updated the committee on recent D&I activities. She shared the primary outcomes from a strategic planning session held in February, as well as a subsequent briefing she delivered to D&I members during the Denver national meeting. Teri outlined several strategic resource needs including formalizing financial support for D&I activities.

Dorothy Phillips, the Board's Science and Human Rights representative, updated P&MR on several matters including a case update on Dr. Abdul Jalil Al-Singace, and plans for producing a book based on the successful Denver symposium: *The Interface of Chemical and Biological Sciences International Disarmament Efforts*.

The committee received a briefing on ACS international growth from H.N. Cheng, Chair, International Activities Committee (IAC). The briefing largely focused on future possibilities, and cited strategies and tactics IAC is recommending that ACS use to develop international markets. P&MR will consider a request to name a representative from the committee to serve on the International Task Force.

At the request of the Committee on Divisional Activities and the Committee on Meetings and Expositions, P&MR agreed to retain the current recording policy which reads as follows:

The use of any device to capture images (e.g., cameras and camera phones) or sound (e.g., tape and digital recorders) or stream, upload or rebroadcast speakers or presentations is strictly prohibited at all official ACS meetings and events without express written consent from the ACS.

Paul Jagodzinski, Chair, Task Force on Implementing the National Meetings and Expositions Financial Targets Recommendations, updated the committee on the recent distribution to Councilors

of a voice-over PowerPoint presentation that explains the logic and reasoning behind the request for a \$15 incremental adjustment to the national meeting registration fee. To decrease the PowerPoint file loading time, P&MR will compress the digital size of the presentation and re-send it to Councilors, in order to provide them with another opportunity to review it, and if they wish, to submit feedback to the task force.

Barbara A. Sawrey, Chair

Public Affairs and Public Relations

The Board Standing Committee on Public Affairs and Public Relations (PA&PR) met on June 5, 2015 in Baltimore, Maryland. The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming committee members and highlighted several items including general committee information, talking points for ACS top-tier policy priorities, a chart of major advocacy coalitions and partnerships with which ACS engages and an update on a climate advocacy matter discussed in March.

The Chair provided an update on two recent National Historic Chemical Landmark ceremonies as well as two upcoming ceremonies. More information can be found at www.acs.org/landmarks.

The committee discussed 3 public policy statements and took the following actions:

- At the recommendation of the Committees on Science; Environmental Improvement, Chemistry and Public Affairs; Corporation Associates and the Division of Energy and Fuels, the committee voted by voice to approve the statement “Hydraulic Fracturing” as a public policy position of the Society.
- At the recommendation of the Committee on Environmental Improvement, the committee voted by voice to adopt the statement “Water Treatment and Conservation” as a public policy statement of the Society.
- At the recommendation of the Committee on Chemists with Disabilities, the committee voted by voice to adopt the statement “U. N. Convention of Persons with Disabilities” as a public policy statement of the Society.

The Chair led the committee in a discussion of the recent ACS Legislative Summit and the Science, Engineering and Technology Working Group Congressional Visits Day (CVD).

Committee members voiced satisfaction with the organization and execution of the Summit, but did make several suggestions and recommendations to help improve future interactions with Congressional offices and federal agencies. As to CVD, the committee’s view is that ACS should continue to participate at a minimal level so as to preserve staff and governance time and commitment for the ACS Legislative Summit.

The Chair asked that the committee’s suggestions and recommendations be reviewed by staff of the ACS Office of Public Affairs for incorporation in future Summits.

John E. Adams, Chair