

William Batschelet
Councilor's Report
Executive Committee Meeting
April 5, 2007

Attended the ACS National Meeting and Council Meeting in Chicago at no expense to the Local Section

Highlights of Council Meeting

- The Chicago meeting had approximately 12,500 registrants (7152 regular attendees, 5059 students, 1283 exhibitors).
- Selected Thomas H. Lane and Howard M. Peters as candidates for 2008 President-Elect.
- ACS continues work on reinventing its web presence. Roll-out date: 30 September 2007.
- Dues are a good news/bad news situation again. The dues are going up. Dues are pegged to the cost of living increase, with an automatic increase based on that. The Council voted to set the member dues for 2008 at the fully escalated rate of \$136, an increase of \$4. However, there has been a five-year special assessment to help fund local section and division activities. Last year it was \$4. The Board of Directors approved eliminating it next year, so the net increase in dues is \$0. If history repeats itself, the dues will increase next year. However, there will be no decreased in special assessment so out-of-pocket costs will increase.
- Related to dues, the Council approved a petition which will allow members to pay dues for periods of two or three years if they wish, at a rate equal to two or three times the rate for a one year period. Subject to approval by the ACS Board of Directors, this will be effective when technical components are instituted to offer and track the payments, but no later than January 1, 2010.
- The Committee on Budget and Finance reported that the Society ended 2006 with a net contribution from operations of \$12.2 million, which was \$7.8 million favorable to the approved budget. The favorable variance was primarily attributable to higher-than-budgeted electronic information services revenue and investment income, as well as expense savings from health care costs and reductions in information technology spending. Overall, the Society had revenues of \$424.0 million and expenses of \$411.9 million.
- ACS closed 2006 with 160,491 members, the highest year-end membership since 2002. Of the 17,857 applications processed in 2006, more than 1,000 came from the Member-Get-A-Member campaign.
- ChemJobs Career Center summary: 1439 job seekers, 683 positions, 73 employers. This was an unusually large number of jobs for a smaller number of employers.

On a personal note, ChemJobs is a valuable resource for ACS members. It conducts workshops, career consultations, and mock interviews. The on-site job listings seem particularly focused on individuals early in their career; however, ChemJobs has support for individuals throughout their professional life. I

participated in one of the workshops and found it both educational and entertaining. Overall, I was impressed with the quality of the job seekers.

- The Spring 2008 ACS National Meeting will be held jointly with the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) in New Orleans. 2008 will be the Centennial Year for AIChE.
- ACS has launched ChemInsight, a service to match experts in chemistry and applied sciences looking to serve as consulting professionals for the legal, forensic, and accounting fields. For more information, visit the website at <<http://www.cheminsight.org>>.

From the Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA)

- The Council VOTED to approve the Chemical Professional's Code of Conduct as submitted by CEPA. This document offers guidance for Society members in various professional dealings, especially those involving conflicts of interest.
- CEPA organized a half day symposium *Benefit Trends for the Chemical Workforce*. Presentations included national trends, trends observed in the ACS surveys, benefits at small and large chemical businesses, and the ACS member insurance program.