

HIST Executive Committee  
Washington, DC  
August 16, 2009

Attending: Janan Hayes, Mary Virginia Orna, Roger Egolf, Seth Rasmussen, John Sharkey, Carmen Giunta, Tom Strom, Paul Jones, Vera Mainz

**1. Approval of the Minutes of the Spring 2009 Salt Lake City meeting.**

These minutes were approved with corrections via email vote May 20, 2009.

**2. Report of the Secretary-Treasurer – Vera Mainz.**

Budget and finances – Vera handed out the summary from the spring meeting. No new issues to discuss, since the Award financial planning sessions will be taken up later in the fall at a executive committee teleconference.

Website update – ACS has offered a new server site to divisions and local sections. Vera reported that her own local section has made use of the opportunity to set up a new local section website. It has a variety of templates, which make it simple to use, but also limits the ability to customize extensively. Vera recommends that HIST's website continue as is for the time being.

**3. Report of the Programming Chair – Seth Rasmussen.** See Attachment 1 for summary of future HIST symposia.

a) The Washington DC meeting programming has three strong symposiums and the general paper session is one of strongest we've had for a long time. A short film on Haber will be shown at this general session.

b) For San Francisco we will have the Undergrad symposium and the Jack Stocker Memorial symposium. The current deadline for submission of abstracts for the Mar. 21-25<sup>th</sup> San Francisco meeting is October 26, 2009.

c) The OASYS system for submitting abstracts is now dead. The new system is up, but is currently broken. The new system will be going live for San Francisco. Seth noted that after two hours into training there were lots of negative comments. One big difference is that the program chair can no longer submit abstracts after the deadline. The deadline is a hard deadline. After the deadline, the program chair can now do minor tweaks, such as tweaking a dummy abstract, but the chair can no longer submit an abstract.

d) Seth noted that we need to encourage more posters for Sci Mix.

e) Future Symposia.

Boston: There will be no Edelstein in 2010. Seth notes that he is still fine-tuning the process for the organization of symposia. Having an external organizer, such as happened with several symposia at this meeting does not work. Usually the program chair does organize

symposia but we need to make this more obvious. There are quite a few proposed symposia for Boston:

*Women Chemists and Scientists You Know, or If You Don't Know You Ought to Know Them* (Jan Hayes) [co-sponsor: WCC] has been confirmed.

*ACS Past President's symposium honoring Anna Jane Harrison is still under discussion with WCC.*

*Global Perspectives on Continued Education for Seniors* (Mary Virginia Orna) [co-sponsor: SCTF?]

There was some discussion of Carmen taking over the Myths symposium. Vera agreed to turn over this symposium to Carmen.

Denver: There is a planned symposium on chemistry related stamps with a display at the exposition by Dan Rabinovich. This is a nice tie-in for the IYC.

Philadelphia (2012): Roger would like to do a tie-in to the BCCE in 2012 at Penn State on chemical education and Morrow Landgrant Act. He plans to apply for Innovative Program Grant money.

f) Seth recommended we also look at the RSC calendar of important chemistry events for UK for 2010 and for 2011 (IYC). We are looking for things to involve students, kids, etc. This could be historical tutorials (lectures on general topics of interest to general populace of HIST and ACS). We might be able to fit this into the general thematic programming.

#### **4. Reports from Councilors.** See Attachment 2.

Carmen Giunta reported that he missed DAC meeting this meeting due to other committee assignments.

Mary Virginia Orna reported that she is a member of a long-range planning subcommittee. They've been asked to look at cost-cutting for national meetings, such as one virtual meeting meeting a year at least for division meetings. Mary Virginia requested that we send pros-cons to her so she can present them to the committee.

#### **5. Report on By-laws revisions – Carmen Giunta**

Carmen presented the current By-laws revisions. It was moved and seconded to accept these recommended changes as discussed (e.g., making student members eligible for officer positions) and adding the historian and archivist as members of Executive Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **6. Report from Bulletin Editor: Paul R. Jones**

The next issue volume 34(2), will be sent out for printing in 10 days or so. It will be an 80 page issue.

#### **7. Report from the Past –Chair – Roger Egolf.**

a) Report on MPPG: The topics for Anaheim are chemistry of natural resources; for Denver they are air, space and water; for San Diego they are chemistry of life – chemistry of the ocean; for Philadelphia they are chemistry of health; for New Orleans they are energy and food; Roger is working on the budget subcommittee for these thematic events.

b) At the CHF April meeting most of the discussion concerned money as CHF's endowment has been hit hard. Tom Tritton talked about budget. At the Bolton Society meeting there was a report on the status of current Stocker book – only three rough drafts received, three more due, two more arriving soon; Natalie Foster has taken over this project.

c) Dissemination of meeting information – 13 divisions doing it this meeting; all invited for next meeting. Anyone who registers for the meeting may call up that symposium for two weeks, then the information will be open to the public. Prior publication issues are being dealt with as if it were an abstract. Each speaker will have to give permission, that is, it is an opt-in process for the author.

**8. Report from Chair – Janan Hayes.**

No report.

**9. Report from Chair-Elect – Tom Strom**

No report.

**10. New business.** – Congratulations were given to our chair-elect, Tom Strom, on his becoming an ACS Fellow.

Adjourned 5:30pm.

Attachment 1: Summary of HIST Symposia  
Attachment 2: Report from Councilors

## FUTURE HIST SYMPOSIA

Meeting Dates	Site	HIST symposia	HIST cosponsored symposia
August 16-20, 2009	Washington, DC	(1) <i>Edelstein Award</i> [ <b>Tues pm</b> ] (2) <i>The Heritage of Chemistry. A Symposium to Honor Arnold Thackray</i> (Jeff Seeman) [ <b>full day Monday</b> ] (3) <i>Classic Books in Chemistry. VI – The Language of Chemistry</i> (Jim Bohning and Ned D. Heindel) [co-sponsor: Bolton Society; CINF] [ <b>full day Sunday</b> ]	(1) <i>Best Practices of Starting a Chemical Business From Last Century that Remain Valuable Today</i> (Joseph Sabol, SCHB)
March 21-25, 2010	San Francisco	(1) <i>100+ Years of Plastics: Leo Baekeland and Beyond.</i> (Tom Strom) (2) <i>Undergraduate Symposium in the History of Chemistry*</i> (Rasmussen) [ <b>1/2 day?</b> ][co-sponsor: CHED?]	
August 22-26, 2010	Boston	(1) <i>Edelstein Award</i> [ <b>Tues pm</b> ] - CANCELLED (2) <i>Busted - Myths of a Chemical Nature</i> (Vera Mainz) (3) <i>Women Chemists and Scientists You Know, or If You Don't Know You Ought to Know Them</i> (Jan Hayes) [co-sponsor: WCC] (4) <i>ACS Past President's symposium honoring Anna Jane Harrison*</i> (5) <i>Global Perspectives on Continued Education for Seniors</i> (Mary Virginia Orna) [co-sponsor: SCTF?]	
March 27-31, 2011	Anaheim	(1) <i>Graduate Education in Science History*</i> (Rasmussen) [ <b>1/2 day?</b> ][co-sponsor: CHED?] (2) <i>History of Units and Constants</i> (Giunta) [co-sponsor: NTS?] (3) <i>Pioneers of Quantum Chemistry</i> (Strom)	
Aug 28-Sept 1, 2011	Denver	(1) <i>IYC '11: A Philatelic Celebration</i> (Dan Rabinovich, Ron Hill) [co-sponsor: CHED?]	
Future		(1) <i>Symposium to honor R. B. Woodward*</i> (Jeff Seeman) [ <b>full day</b> ] (2) <i>Citation for Chemical Breakthroughs Symposium to honor R. B. Woodward*</i> (Jeff Seeman) [ <b>1/2 day</b> ]	

\* idea stage

Report of Councilors, Division of the History of Chemistry  
ACS National Meeting, Washington DC  
August 19, 2009

**ACTIONS OF THE COUNCIL**

**Election Results**

- The Committee on Nominations and Elections presented to the Council the following slate of candidates for membership on the Committee on Committees beginning in 2010: G. Bryan Balazs, Dawn A. Brooks, Victoria L. Finkenstadt, Wayne E. Jones, Jr., John M. Long, Les W. McQuire, Ingrid Montes, Douglas J. Raber, Frankie K. Wood-Black, and Steven W. Yates. By electronic ballot, the Council elected G. Bryan Balazs, Dawn A. Brooks, Les W. McQuire, Ingrid Montes, and Frankie K. Wood-Black for the 2010-2012 term.
- The Committee on Nominations and Elections presented to the Council the following slate of candidates for membership on the Council Policy Committee beginning in 2010: R. Gerald Bass, Alan B. Cooper, M. Elizabeth Derrick, Thomas R. Gilbert, Lydia E. M. Hines, Willem R. Leenstra, Sally B. Peters, and Carolyn Ribes. By electronic ballot, the Council elected M. Elizabeth Derrick, Thomas R. Gilbert, Willem R. Leenstra, and Carolyn Ribes for the 2010-2012 term.
- The Council Policy Committee presented to the Council the following slate of candidates for membership on the Committee on Nominations and Elections: Roger F. Bartholomew, Dwight W. Chasar, Milagros Delgado, Kevin J. Edgar, John W. Finley, Martin L. Gorbaty, Sharon P. Shoemaker, Walter O. Siegl, Herbert B. Silber, and Ellen B. Stechel. By electronic ballot, the Council elected Dwight W. Chasar, Milagros Delgado, Kevin J. Edgar, Sharon P. Shoemaker, and Ellen B. Stechel for the 2010-2012 term.

**Candidates for President-Elect and Board of Directors**

- The candidates for the fall 2009 ACS national election were announced as follows:

**President-Elect 2010**

Nancy B. Jackson, International Chemical Threat Reduction Department

Manager, Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM

Cheryl A. Martin, Currently on sabbatical; former Corporate Vice President and

General Manager, Rohm and Haas Company, Philadelphia, PA

Mary Virginia Orna, Professor of Chemistry, College of New Rochelle,

New Rochelle, NY

**Directors-at-Large - 2010-2012**

Dennis Chamot, Associate Executive Director, Division of Engineering and Physical Sciences, National Research Council, Washington, DC

H. N. Cheng, Research Chemist, US Department of Agriculture, New Orleans, LA

Ray A. Dickie, Retired, Ford Motor Company, Efland, NC

Valerie J. Kuck, Retired, Lucent Technologies, Montclair, NJ

Howard M. Peters, Retired, Peters, Verny, LLP, Palo Alto, CA

**Director, District I - 2010-2012**

D. Richard Cobb, Senior Research Associate, Eastman Kodak Company,  
Rochester, NY  
Neil D. Jespersen, Professor of Chemistry, St. Johns University, Jamaica, NY

**Director, District V - 2010-2012**

Judith L. Benham, Retired, 3M Company, St. Paul, MN  
Peter K. Dorhout, Vice Provost, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO

**Petitions**

(For Action)

- The Council received two amendments to the ACS Constitution and Bylaws for action: The Petition on Candidate Selection by Member Petition – (to be considered for Urgent Action) and the Petition on Election Timelines and Procedures 2009.
  - The Petition on Candidate Selection by Member Petition proposes to permit candidates to be selected by a petition process from members. To be considered for urgent action, the petition required a  $\frac{3}{4}$  affirmative vote. After considerable discussion, a vote to consider the petition at the 2009 fall meeting FAILED. Absent urgent action, the Petition on Candidate Selection by Member Petition will now be up for action at the 2010 spring meeting of the Council.
  - Next, the Council discussed in great detail the Petition on Election Timelines and Procedures 2009. This petition proposes to shorten certain election timelines and change petition candidates (who go straight on the ballot if they obtain enough signatures) to petition nominees (who need to be screened by Council along with other nominees chosen by the Committee on Nominations and Elections). After rejecting a request to have a recorded vote, the Council VOTED to recommit the petition to the Committee on Nominations and Elections with instructions. Following this action, N&E sought input through a nonbinding survey to help guide their revisions. A revised petition will likely be up for action at the 2010 spring Council meeting.

(For Consideration)

- The Council received one petition for consideration: the Petition on Admissions Committee. This petition removes the Admissions Committee from the Bylaws and transfers its functions to the Council Committee on Membership Affairs. Action is expected on the petition at the 2010 spring meeting.

**Committee Review**

- As part of a regular performance review, the Council VOTED to continue the Committees on Chemical Safety, Minority Affairs, Chemical Abstracts Service, Technician Affairs, and Analytical Reagents. Continuing the first three committees requires Board of Directors concurrence.

**Registration Report and 2010 National Meeting Registration Fee**

- As of August 19, 2009, the ACS fall national meeting had attracted 14,319 registrants. This was the largest Washington meeting in history. Totals in select categories are as follows: Regular attendees 8,575; Students 3,159; Guests 462; Exhibit Only 676; and Exhibitors 1,447. In keeping with the

objective of the National Meeting Long Range Financial Plan, previously approved by the Board of Directors and Council, the Meetings and Expositions Committee recommended to the Board an increase of \$10 for the 2010 national meeting registration fee. The Board will act on this recommendation shortly.

### **Membership Activity**

- The provisions of the Petition on Membership Categories and Requirements were fully implemented this past June with the transfer of former Student Affiliates to Student Member status, and Associate Members to regular Member status. As of July 31, the Society had 9,732 Student Members – 6,500 of them former Student Affiliates and more than 3,000 of them new Student Members.

### **Dissolution of the Division of Chemical Technicians**

- At the 2009 spring Council meeting, the Divisional Activities Committee (DAC) reported that it had voted to accept a recommendation from the Division of Chemical Technicians (TECH) that the division disband and to recommend this action to Council in the fall. On recommendation of DAC, as recommended by TECH, the Council VOTED to disband the Division of Chemical Technicians effective December 31, 2009. DAC agreed that TECH has accomplished its mission of enhancing the status of technicians in the American Chemical Society, and now they are integrated into the other technical divisions.

### **Changes to Charter Bylaws for New Local Sections and International Chemical Sciences Chapters and Bylaws for Divisions in Probationary Status**

- The Council VOTED to accept changes to charter bylaws for new local sections and international chemical sciences chapters, and bylaws for divisions in probationary status. These changes, which were developed in cooperation with the Committees on Divisional Activities, Local Section Activities, and International Activities, are a result of changes to the Constitution and Bylaws made as a result of the Petition on Membership Categories and Requirements, which became effective on June 30.

## **ACTIONS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **Board Committees and Task Force Actions**

- The Board of Directors VOTED to approve nominees for the 2010 Perkin Medal and the Alan T. Waterman Award. The Perkin Medal, awarded by the American section of the Society of Chemical Industry to a scientist residing in the US, recognizes innovation in applied chemistry resulting in outstanding commercial development. The Alan T. Waterman Award, presented by the National Science Foundation, recognizes an outstanding young researcher in any field of science or engineering.
- The Committee on Public Affairs and Public Relations announced the designation of “Dip-and-read Tests for Blood and Urine Glucose” (work of Al and Helen Free) as a National Historic Chemical Landmark. The committee also reported on its approval of a new healthcare policy statement, received from the Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs.
- The Board VOTED to approve an action recommended by the Committee on Professional & Member Relations to accept with minor revisions the key terms contained in a draft Memorandum of

Understanding (MOU) between ACS and the Royal Society of Chemistry. The MOU: a) offers an opportunity for the ACS and RSC to develop and distribute a “primer,” both in hard-copy and electronic format, to provide the wider population with a basic understanding of the chemistry underlying issues related to sustainability; b) provides a series of joint seminars in the UK, US and elsewhere with participation by scientists, media and decision-makers to focus on sustainability; and c) supports collaboration on activities that train scientists to address issues relating to sustainability and other global challenges in non-technical, readily understandable communications.

- On the recommendation of the Committee on Budget and Finance, the Board VOTED to fund a new program (Science Coaches) and to reauthorize an existing program (ACS Green Chemistry Institute<sup>®</sup>) in the 2010 budget.
- The Board of Directors received a report from the Board–Presidential Task Force on Education. This task force is charged with 1) reviewing recommendations contained in national STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education reports released during the past five years; 2) identifying specific actions that the Society could undertake in response to these recommendations; and 3) creating a priority list of actionable items where the Society can have a unique impact on STEM education. The new Science Coaches initiative was one of the task force’s recommendations.

### **The Society’s Finances**

- In view of the ongoing global recession and its impact of the Society’s finances, the Board received an update on the Society’s current financial position and the projected financial performance for 2009. The Society is projected to end the year with a net contribution from operations of \$11.2 million, or \$528,000 favorable to the 2009 approved budget. The favorable projection is largely the result of Contingency Plan actions and expense management initiatives implemented in early 2009, which are expected to fully offset revenue shortfalls in the Approved Budget across several categories.

### **The Executive Director/CEO Report**

- The Executive Director/CEO, along with several of her direct reports, updated the Board on the activities of the Publications Division, Chemical Abstracts Service, and the Society’s General Counsel (including the Leadscope litigation). As a part of the Publications report, the Board VOTED to approve the re-appointment of three journal editors.

### **Other Society Issues**

- The Board received a briefing from its Chair on her recent meeting with International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) leaders and plans for the International Year of Chemistry-2011 (IYOC-2011). The Board also was briefed by International leaders from the European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences (EuCheMS), the German Chemical Society, the Korean Chemical Society, the Mexican Chemical Society, the Royal Society of Chemistry, and the Serbian Chemical Society on their strategic directions and on their plans for IYOC-2011.
- With the creation of the ACS Leadership Development System, the Society is now better positioned to create the skilled leadership needed to advance as the world’s largest scientific society and to achieve its mission. In recognition of this achievement, the Board awarded plaques to its Oversight Group on Leadership Development for outstanding work on this major initiative.

- The Board received a briefing on a new program to equip ACS members to be more effective spokespersons for chemistry. It is called the Chemistry Ambassadors program, and information may be found at [www.acs.org/chemistryambassadors](http://www.acs.org/chemistryambassadors).

### **ACTIVITIES OF HIST COUNCILORS**

**Carmen Giunta** – serves as a member of the Divisional Activities Committee and its subcommittee on Constitution and Bylaws, liaison to the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws, member of the Committee on Nomenclature, Terminology, and Symbols (NTS) and consultant to the Committee on National Historic Landmarks. He participated in meetings of all four groups in Washington. Of particular interest to HIST members, the division and NTS will co-sponsor a symposium on Chemical Terms and Units at the ACS spring national meeting during the International Year of Chemistry, 2011.

**Mary Virginia Orna** – continues her service (2<sup>nd</sup> year of a three-year term) on the Council Policy Committee (CPC); she is also a member of the CPC Subcommittee on Long-Range Planning and the Subcommittee on Constitutions and Bylaws. She is also a candidate for ACS President-Elect for 2010.

We noted in our last report that many of the matters discussed and reported in governance meetings at Salt Lake City were of interest to ACS members in general, such as the Fellows program and the discussion of recruitment and retention of members. Of particular interest to HIST members is that the Fellows Program counted in its number many active HIST members, including two nominated by the Division (Ned Heindel and Jim Traynham) as well as the Chair-Elect, Tom Strom. Congratulations to all newly-elected Fellows, and especially to our own members: John Adams, James Bohning, Jeannette Brown, Maureen Chan, Helen Free, John Moore, and Mary Singleton.