



ACS Division of  
Professional Relations

New Web site: [acsprof.org](http://acsprof.org)

# BULLETIN

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## Call for Officers

Adam C. Myers

As the past chair, I am charged with putting forth a slate of officers for the coming election. This year, we will elect the following positions:

Chair-Elect  
Treasurer  
Members at Large (3)

If you would like to submit a name for consideration (including your own) to the nominating committee, or have questions, please contact me at [amyers@BASInc.com](mailto:amyers@BASInc.com) by May 15th. Petition candidates have until July 31 to submit their documentation.

## Message from the Chair

John Crawford

This winter and during the national meeting in San Francisco, the Executive Committee convened to re-evaluate our bylaws and to draft a proposal which will be examined by the ACS Constitution and Bylaw Committee before it comes back to you, our members, for your consideration. The basis for the proposed changes is to allow the division to evolve to an organizational structure that accommodates our new subdivision framework. The proposal also allows for modification of our election procedures to clarify how electronic balloting will be applied to the division. We will include the changes in an upcoming issue of the newsletter and on our website once Constitution and Bylaws has had a chance to complete its preliminary review of the proposal.

The ACS has established its strategic plan for 2010 and beyond ([http://portal.acs.org/portal/PublicWebSite/about/strategicplan/CNBP\\_023746](http://portal.acs.org/portal/PublicWebSite/about/strategicplan/CNBP_023746)). I encourage everyone to check out where and how the ACS intends to invest its time and energy. The ACS has defined four core values that place a solid focus on members, professionalism, diversity and inclusion,

and passion for chemistry. Among its six goals the ACS' strategic plan highlights the Society as an indispensable professional and information resource, emphasizes its responsibility to maintain a financially sustainable organization that serves members and the chemical field and stresses our role in addressing global challenges through chemistry, engaging the global community, communicating with the public and advocating for the profession.

At our Fall 2010 National Meeting in Boston, our division will be meeting to examine our long range plans, to identify areas of alignment with the Society's core values and goals and to craft our own updated strategic plan. This activity is particularly timely since we have evolved our organizational structure to include subdivisions in keeping with our previous strategic plan. In fact, at our last meeting, the Executive Committee considered and approved a proposal to establish a sixth subdivision (Gay and Transgender Chemists and Allies). This new subdivision joins our other relatively new subdivisions (women chemists, younger chemists, minority affairs, ethics, and chemists with disabilities) as new outlets for members to network, to volunteer in leadership roles and to explore issues that pertain to professional development. If you have not already done so, please consider signing up for one or more of our subdivisions. As we transition to this new organizational structure, we are working to set up expectations, to finish appointing subdivision chairs and to get these new leaders to begin engaging subdivision members. We will be in touch!

Finally, thank you to everyone who has contacted me and my fellow colleagues on the Executive Committee with ideas and topics that you regard as important to professionalism and the chemical profession. It was great to meet up with colleagues from DPR at the national meeting in San Francisco. We had a lively discussion at the Town Hall Forum in California. We are planning to continue these informal, interactive sessions and look forward to hearing from you. Please

consider submitting a poster to one of these sessions. Also we can always use assistance from members in serving as a presenters or organizers for national and regional programming. Contact me ([jcrawford@dow.com](mailto:jcrawford@dow.com)) or Dan Libby, our Program Chair ([rdlibby@cs.moravian.edu](mailto:rdlibby@cs.moravian.edu)) to volunteer.

As always I look forward to being an advocate for you.

## Town Hall Forum Recap

Adam C. Myers

At the San Francisco ACS national meeting, we continued our newest tradition, the Division of Professional Relations Town Hall Forum. Immediately following the Henry Hill award ceremony, we started our Town Hall Forum and poster session. Thanks to all who were able to make it to the meeting, especially to those who presented posters. While many great topics were raised for discussion, below are a few highlights:

- Alternate routes to teaching
- Open innovation
- What is chemistry? There are many ‘tentacles’ of chemistry.
- Alternate and non-chemistry careers for chemists.
- Hollywood Chemistry – shows that get it right and those that don’t.

Do any of these spur your interest? If so here are a few possible courses of action. You could organize a symposium on one of these topics for a future ACS meeting (Hollywood Chemistry in Anaheim perhaps). You could also submit an article exploring one of these topics to our newsletter.

Of course, the most important thing is to keep the dialog going. And what better place to do that than at our next Town Hall Forum! Join us in Boston for the next installment.

## DPR Subdivisions Update

Christopher J. Bannochie

As part of its 2007-2009 Strategic Plan, the Division of Professional Relations created five subdivisions focused on the four diversity areas (women chemists, younger chemists, chemists with disabilities, and minority affairs) and ethics. This was done in conjunction with representatives from each of these committees that participated in the strategic planning effort and was aimed at providing a “divisional home” for chemists with these interests. These subdivisions have been popularly received by the members of ACS.

At its meeting in San Francisco and after consultation with the National Organization of Gay and Lesbian Scientists and Technical Professionals (NOGLSTP), the division created a sixth subdivision for Gay and Transgender Chemists and Allies effective immediately. For over a decade, NOGLSTP has organized a caucus of ACS members under the name LGBT\* Chemists and Allies. The caucus has met formally at each Fall ACS National Meeting since 2002 and informally for dinner at many of the Spring National Meetings. Since 2008, the formal reception has been an ACS Presidential Event through sponsorship from the Office of the President. The division hopes to attract these caucus members and their allies into the new subdivision to provide them with a formal divisional home within the Society.

The new subdivision represents the first formal outreach by the ACS to members of the gay and transgender community and those concerned about their professional interests and concerns. The division looks forward to more programming at both National and Regional meetings sponsored and organized by members of the subdivision. While the caucus members could have been encouraged to join the DPR Subdivision on Minority Affairs, the Executive Committee decided not to pursue this option since the ACS Committee on Minority Affairs, with which the DPR Minority Affairs Subdivision is aligned, has limited its focus to under-represented ethnic and racial minority issues, to the exclusion of sexual minority issues. Absent full inclusion within the minority affairs umbrella, it was decided to form a dedicated subdivision for these ACS members.

\*LGBT = Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender

## New Dues Structure

Pete Smith

As you have read above, DPR now has six subdivisions that we encourage our members to join. To offset the administrative costs of the subdivision activities, the DPR Executive Committee has approved a modified member dues structure. Dues for membership in the Division of Professional Relations remains \$10 per year. This \$10 will also allow you to join one subdivision of your choice. If you would like to join more than one subdivision, Your dues will increase \$2 for every additional subdivision you join. Please take advantage of these new opportunities for professional development!

## Excellence in Polymer Graduate Research

H. N. Cheng

The sixth symposium in this series was held at the National ACS Meeting in San Francisco on March 22, 2010. It consisted of two half-day oral sessions, a poster session, and a networking social/dinner, with a record number of 36 students (18 oral and 18 poster). Each student received a certificate plus a cash award.

This was a Presidential Event, and Dr. Francisco attended the session and spoke. He mingled and chatted with the students for quite some time.

This symposium was organized and sponsored by the ACS Polymer Division (POLY), and cosponsored as a Presidential Event (PRES), and by the Younger Chemists Committee (YCC), Division of Professional Relations (PROF), and the Society Committee on Education (SOCED). The symposium had the generous support of National Science Foundation Division of Materials Research (DMR), ACS Polymer Division (POLY), Industrial Advisory Board of the Polymer Division (IAB), and Lord Corporation.



## Program for Fall Meeting in Boston

Barb Moriarty

A symposium in honor of Tom Kucera has been organized for the Boston National ACS meeting. The symposium, entitled "Tribute to Tom Kucera: The ultimate professional," is offered by the Division of Professional Relations on Sunday, 8/22/2010, beginning at 1:30 PM. The program follows.



Thomas Kucera

Tom Kucera - "A reflection on the life of a man of great courage, integrity and honor"  
James Shoffner

"Tom Kucera and Chemistry Day"  
David Crumrine

"Tom Kucera, Career Counselor"  
Dorothy Miner

"We all can..... because Tom Kucera showed us how!"  
Judith Summers-Gates

"Tom Kucera: The Ultimate Professional"  
Elizabeth Ann Nalley

"A lighthouse on the stormy seas of a troubled world"  
Attila Pavlath

Tom's obituary can be found in the April 19, 2010 issue of Chemical and Engineering News, or online at <http://pubs.acs.org/isubscribe/journals/cen/88/i16/html/8816obits3.html>

## Councilors' Report from San Francisco

John Borchardt and John Massingill

Councilor Borchardt and George Heinze organized a DPR symposium "How to Succeed in Business: The Consulting Business." Cosponsors were the Division of Small Chemical Businesses, the Senior Chemists Task Force and the Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs. Borchardt also participated in the ACS Career Center presenting a workshop, "Navigating the Federal Employment Process," which he updated for the meeting and helping job hunters improve their résumés. He is an associate member of the Committee on Local Section Activities. Councilor Massingill is an associate member of the Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA) and an associate member of Committee on Patents and Related Matters (CPRM).

About 18,076 people registered for the meeting as follows: Regular attendees, 9,715; Students, 5,705; Exhibitors, 1,219; Exposition only, 923; and Guests, 514.

### ACTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

#### Election News

- The Council selected Luis A. Echegoyen and Bassam Z. Shakhashiri as candidates for 2011 President-Elect. They and any petition candidates will be on the ballot for the Fall Election.

- District II and IV Councilors selected George M. Bodner and Joseph R. Peterson as District II candidates; and Larry K. Krannich and Will E. Lynch as District IV candidates for the Board of Directors.

Ballots will be mailed this Fall to all members in District II and District IV.

- The Committee on Nominations and Elections announced the selection of the following candidates for Directors-at-Large for a 2011-2013 term: Janan M. Hayes, Robert L. Lichter, Kathleen M. Schulz, and Kent J. Voorhees. Ballots will be mailed to the Councilors this Fall.

The Council voted to approve the Petition on Admissions Committee. This petition removes the Admission Committee from the Bylaws and transfers its functions to the Council Committee on Membership Affairs.

The Petition on Candidate Selection by Member Petition failed in a close vote. The Petition on Candidate Selection by Member Petition would have amended the Constitution to emphasize that candidates selected by a petition process from members will have no further screening.

The Petition on Election Timelines 2009 failed by a large majority. This petition would have shortened certain national election timelines and made it more difficult for petition candidates to obtain the necessary number of petitions signatures.

The Council received three petitions for consideration, described below. Action is expected on these at the Fall meeting.

- The Petition on International Chemical Sciences Chapters provides for travel funds for either the Chair or Chair-Elect of International Chemical Sciences Chapters to attend governance meetings at twice the amount allotted for a Councilor.
- The Petition on President-Elect Eligibility requires that nominees or candidates for President-Elect come from an academic background every other election, and that only those from non-academic backgrounds would be eligible in the alternate years. This applies to petition candidates as well as N&E nominees.
- The Petition on Recorded Votes provides for additional voting methods, e.g., clickers that have been recently used at Council meetings, when conducting recorded votes.

The Society's Finances: Net Return from Operations was \$13.7 million. This favorable result was achieved through cost cutting that included an ACS staff reduction, and reduced spending on travel, training and professional services.

2011 Member Dues: Council VOTED to increase the member dues by \$1.00 to \$146.

Member Statistics: At the close of 2009, ACS membership totaled 161,783 which includes 12,999 student members.

## Maintaining Your Value and Contribution: Building Leadership Skills that You Can Bank On

Jan Hayes & Amber Hinkle, Chairs, Leadership Advisory Board

According to a study of 100 organizations by ClearRock, an outplacement and executive coaching firm, the top 10 skills that employers most want high-potential employees to develop are:\*

- Leadership (71%)
- Strategic thinking (71%)
- Communication skills (62%)
- Managing others (54%)
- Building teamwork (53%)
- Engaging others (48%)
- Motivating people (44%)
- Interpersonal skills (34%)
- Decisiveness (34%)
- Vision (33%)

To build the skills employers value, join us at the Fall National Meeting in Boston and encourage your colleagues to participate as well. ACS will be offering four leadership courses designed to develop the kinds of highly valued skills cited in this survey:

### Engaging and Motivating Volunteers

One of the greatest challenges facing a volunteer leader is recruiting and engaging volunteers to help accomplish the project and committee goals. Gain tools to enlist volunteers and make their assignments successful and professionally rewarding so they will participate again in future assignments.

### Fostering Innovation

We are constantly challenged to come up with new ideas, approaches, and solutions, yet most of us feel ill equipped to do this effectively. With a systematic and

proven process to generate ideas you can lead your team to develop new ideas. Gain the understanding and tools to tap into your own innovation style and stimulate innovative thinking among your committee members.

### Collaborating Across Boundaries

Leaders in many roles in the Society need to be able to work effectively with leaders and members in other roles and units to accomplish their objectives. This course provides strategies and tools to make collaboration more productive.

### Developing Communication Strategies

As a senior leader in ACS governance, you will encounter an increasing number of opportunities to represent the society to outside parties, stakeholders, and media often under pressure and in highly visible situations. This course introduces you to executive level communications where you will learn how to skillfully communicate in an interesting and compelling manner.

Each course delivers a combination of practical concepts and hands-on learning that can apply immediately in your current job as well as laying a foundation for future career advancement. The skills are also highly applicable for ACS leadership roles across the society.

For more information, visit [www.acs.org/leaderdevelopment](http://www.acs.org/leaderdevelopment). Schedules will be posted by May 15th. Scholarships covering approximately 50% of the course fee are available from your Local Section, Division or Committee.

\*Talent Management, "Groom High Potentials for Leadership Now," October 2009.



## Save with ACS Member Discounts

Car Rental Discounts with Hertz, Budget, and Avis  
Take advantage of your ACS member discount through Hertz, Budget, or Avis car rentals. Receive a free weekend day and \$20 off a weekly rental through Budget and Avis, and \$10 off a weekly rental and up to \$15 off a weekend rental with Hertz.

### Shipping Discounts with FedEx!

Receive discounts up to 26% on domestic and international shipments sent via FedEx, and up to 20% on printing and copying services at FedEx Offices.

### Hotel Room Discounts - Wyndham Hotel Group

Enjoy a 20% off the best available rate at all Wyndham Hotel Group brands and 10% off accommodations booked through Endless Vacations Rentals by Wyndham Worldwide.

### Plan Your Next Adventure with ACS Expeditions!

ACS offers exciting traveling experiences through Betchart Expeditions. Accompanied by a scientific expert, you will tour places such as the Tibetan Plateau, Madagascar, Aegean Odyssey, and other amazing destinations.

For more information on these and other benefits, visit [www.acs.org/memberhandbook](http://www.acs.org/memberhandbook).

## The Rewards of Volunteering

John K. Borchardt

In accepting this year's Henry Hill Award, William Suits discussed the personal satisfaction he has experienced in his ACS volunteer activities, including his work helping ACS members with employment concerns both at the national level and in the North Jersey Section and his recent work combating AIDS in Africa. Bill is not alone. "Social engagement such as volunteering can significantly improve quality of life," said Dr Gopal Netuveli from Imperial College London. He studies factors affecting the quality of life.

In today's economic climate, many ACS members can use job-hunting and career advice. There are many opportunities for DPR members to help them solve their employment problems. One is to become an ACS Career Consultant at the national level. To request to do so, contact Lynne Greenblatt at [lynne.greenblatt@gmail.com](mailto:lynne.greenblatt@gmail.com). A DPR member, Lynne is chair of the Council Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs. This committee reviews requests to become ACS Career Consultants. She notes there is a particular need for career consultants working in interdisciplinary areas such as biotech, nanotechnology, and in nontraditional careers.

One can also volunteer in one's local section. Many have programs to assist unemployed members.



Programming by DPR and other ACS divisions can also help members with career concerns. Currently DPR is working to develop programming for both national and ACS regional meetings. If you think you can help by presenting a paper or poster, please contact DPR Program Chair Dan Libby at [rdlibby@cs.moravian.edu](mailto:rdlibby@cs.moravian.edu). Of course, symposium organizers are also welcome!

**Henry Hill Award Presented to William H. Suits - Congratulations Bill!**



Division of Professional Relations  
American Chemical Society  
c/o Balbes Consultants  
648 Simmons Ave  
Kirkwood MO 63122

## **PROF MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION – GIVE TO A COLLEAGUE!**

All professional chemists belong in the Division of Professional Relations! In addition to enjoying a newsletter, special symposia, programming, sponsorship of the prestigious Henry A. Hill Award, and other activities, you will have the satisfaction of supporting the premier ACS division within ACS that is concerned with the chemist, rather than chemistry.

Dues for membership in the Division of Professional Relations are \$10 per year, which includes one subdivision. If you would like to join more than one subdivision, add \$2 for each additional subdivision. The current subdivisions are Younger Chemists, Women Chemists, Chemists with Disabilities, Minority Affairs, Ethics, Gay and Transgender Chemists and Allies.

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address and email \_\_\_\_\_

ACS number (if known) and subdivision(s) you want to join \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Sue Schelble, Secretary  
Division of Professional Relations, ACS  
648 Simmons Ave.  
Kirkwood MO 63122