



American Chemical Society  
Virtual Council Meeting  
March 23, 2022

## Councilor Talking Points: Summary of Governance Issues and Actions

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### Actions of the Council

#### Election Results

##### **Candidates for President-Elect, 2023**

- The Committee on Nominations and Elections presented to the Council the following nominees for selection as candidates for President-Elect, 2023: Frank Blum, Mary Carroll, Rigoberto Hernandez, and Ingrid Montes. By electronic ballot, the Council selected **Marry Carroll** and **Rigoberto Hernandez** as **candidates for 2023 President-Elect**. These two candidates, along with any candidates selected via petitions, will stand for election in the Fall National Election.

**President-Elect, 2023<sup>a</sup>**

Nominee	1 <sup>st</sup> Round	2 <sup>nd</sup> Round	3 <sup>rd</sup> Round
Frank Blum	76	-	-
*Mary Carroll	129	169	198
*Rigoberto Hernandez	119	132	173
Ingrid Montes	86	105	-

<sup>a</sup>410 valid electronic ballots were cast, with 206 being the majority. The results of the first preference vote totals are shown in the 1st round column. No nominee attained a majority. Following the procedures approved by Council, second-preference votes were distributed in two subsequent rounds. Those marked with an asterisk (\*) were declared elected as candidates.

##### **Candidates for Directors-at-Large**

- The Committee on Nominations and Elections announced the selection of the following **candidates for Directors-at-Large** for 2023-2025 terms: **Milagros (Milly) Delgado, Malika Jeffries-El, Will E. Lynch and Ellene Tratras Contis**. The election of two Directors-at-Large from among these four candidates and any selected via petition will be conducted in the fall. Ballots will be distributed to all Councilors around October 1, 2022.

## **Council Actions**

### **Committee on Committees Actions**

- The Council approved the *Petition to Amend the Duties of the Committee on Chemists with Disabilities*.
  - This petition sought to change the language in the duties of CWD from **students** to **persons** to be more inclusive to ACS members of all levels and backgrounds participating in the Society's meetings and events.
- The Council approved the continuation of the Committee on Chemists with Disabilities
  - The Committee on Committee reviews each Society Committee no less often than every five years and advises the Board of Directors and Council whether they should be continued. ConC completed the performance review for the Committee on Chemists with Disabilities and recommended its continuation.

### **Committee on Budget & Finance Petition**

- The Council approved the *Petition to Amend the Use of Dues*.

The petition has two major components. The first changes the basis for developing the total pool of allotments available for local sections and technical divisions. The second eliminates the connection between dues revenue and C&EN. (Explanation: The approved change references general society revenues as opposed to specifically earmarking dues. Resources allocated to C&EN now significantly exceed this legacy allocation, and the value of this process is diminished.)

  - The total resource pool available for distribution to Local Sections and Divisions will be funded via a quasi-endowment established from the Society's unrestricted investment balances. This replaces the previous pool that was funded through the allocation of 20% of dues revenue to local sections and divisions. (Explanation: Because of the trend of falling dues revenue over the past several years, the amount available for Sections and Divisions has fallen proportionally as well. And while dues revenues have decreased, overall Society revenues and assets have seen healthy growth during this period. This change earmarks a portion of the Society's long term investment pool to this activity and also provide a more stable and growing basis for this funding in the future.)

### **Committee on Divisional Activities Action**

- The Council approved a division name change.
  - Effective January 1, 2023, the Division of Carbohydrate Chemistry (CARB) will change its name to the Division of Carbohydrate Chemistry & Chemical Glycobiology (CARB).

### **Committee on International Activities Petition**

- The Council approved a *Petition to Charter an International Chemical Sciences Chapter*
  - This petition, contingent on approval by the ACS Board of Directors, allows for a new International Chemical Sciences Chapter in Switzerland.

### **Committee on Membership Affairs**

- The Council approved the extension of market testing of the international dues discount program based on World Bank country income levels.
  - The test provides reduced dues for international members residing in emerging nations,

which host an ACS chapter, and as defined by World Bank income criteria.

- The test results to date have suggested a positive impact on membership through new members and the expanded inclusivity that a wider global community provides.
- The Council approved the 2023 Schedule of Membership
  - The 2022 Schedule went live a few short months ago, and the 2023 Schedule was designed to add more value and increased choice for membership by adding clarity and a more intuitive explanation of how our membership works.
  - The 2023 Schedule of Membership did not change any dues, benefits, eligibility, or privileges from the 2022 Schedule.

### **Resolutions**

- The Council passed several resolutions:
  - in memory of Past President Nancy B. Jackson;
  - in memory of deceased Councilors;
  - to officers and members of the San Diego Local Section.

### Highlights from Committee Reports

#### **Budget and Finance**

In 2021, ACS generated a net from operations of nearly \$79 million, which was almost \$48 million higher than budgeted. Total revenues were \$660 million, which was 5.2% or \$32.6 million over budget. Expenses for the year were \$581 million, or 2.5% below budget. This overall result was attributed to strong revenue performance from the Society's Information Services units (CAS and ACS Publications), reduced spending due to COVID-19 related impacts, and careful management of expenses across the ACS.

The Society's overall financial position strengthened considerably in 2021 as Unrestricted Net Assets, or reserves, increased by \$123 million to \$676 million on December 31. The increase was primarily the result of the \$79 million net from operations and growth of the Society's investments totaling \$71 million.

#### **Nominations and Elections**

The Committee on Nominations and Elections solicits Councilors' input regarding qualified individuals for President-Elect and/or Directors for future consideration. Suggestions may be sent to [nomelect@acs.org](mailto:nomelect@acs.org).

#### **Committee on Committees**

All Councilors, including new Councilors, were reminded to complete their online committee preference form for 2023 committee assignments. The preference form will be open to all ACS members and no one will be required to request permission to gain access to the form. The new form will allow users to review each committee by its main topic and focus, along with the skills and expertise needed to serve.

The committee preference form will open mid-April at [CMTE.acs.org](http://CMTE.acs.org). Users will also be able to submit a skills assessment which will be used when considering which committees may best suit their talent.

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### **Actions of the Board of Directors - Executive Session**

The ACS Board of Directors met in Executive Session on March 18 and March 19, 2022 at the ACS spring meeting in San Diego. They considered several key strategic issues and responded with numerous actions.

The Board opened its session with a reflection on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Respect (DEIR), led by Immediate Past President, H. N. Cheng.

### **The Chief Executive Officer's Report**

The Board received an extensive report from the CEO on issues relating to ACS core values of safety and DEIR, membership, financials, the ACS Institute, strategic initiatives, and upcoming events and activities. Notably, the strategic initiatives include funding of up to \$50 million over 5 years for sustainability, fostering a skilled technical workforce, accelerating digital research data projects, and accelerating life sciences growth.

### **The Board's Committees and Task Forces**

The Board received and discussed reports from its committees on Executive Compensation, on Professional and Member Relations, as well as the ACS Governing Board for Publishing, Budget and Finance and the Working Group on Structure/Representation. Some of these committees requested and obtained Board action on one or more items, as follows.

- The Board received an extensive briefing and approved several recommendations from its Committee on Executive Compensation. The compensation of the Society's executive staff continues to be reviewed regularly by the Board.
- Upon recommendation of the ACS Governing Board for Publishing, the Board voted to approve the reappointment of one of its members. The reappointment will be announced once the individual has been notified and appropriate arrangements for their continued service have been made.
- Upon recommendation of the Committee on Professional and Member Relations, the Board approved five nominees each for the 2023 Priestley Medal, the 2023 Award for Volunteer Service to the ACS, and the 2023 Charles Parsons Award as well as a recommendation for an ACS nominee for the 2022 GRAND PRIX of the Fondation de la Maison de la Chimie.
- Pending the approval by Council of the Petition to Amend the Use of Dues, the Board of Directors resolved to authorize the creation of a quasi-endowment from proceeds in the ACS General Fund. This would have an initial principal amount of \$85 million, the annual payout from which would fund individual technical divisions and local sections per the allotment policies established by the Committees on Divisional Activities (DAC) and Local Section Activities (LSAC). Further, the amount of funding available made available for this purpose would be the standard payout from this quasi-endowment or \$3.2 million, whichever is greater.

### **Other Society Business**

By consent, the Board ratified interim actions on moving the June 2022 Board meeting to Sunday, May 22-23 in Atlanta, GA (so as to be co-located with the leadership institute); and approved the recommendation of the Office of Research Grants (with assistance from the Frasch Committee) for the 2022 Herman Frasch Foundation Grant in Agriculture Chemistry.

As is customary, the Board heard reports from the Presidential Succession on their current and planned activities for 2022 and 2023.

Also, the Board adopted the resolution in memory of ACS Past President Nancy B. Jackson, who passed away in January.