American Chemical Society
ACS Spring 2025 Meeting
San Diego, California
March 23 – 27, 2025

Summary of Governance Issues and Actions

The following summary outlines key actions of the ACS Council meeting held on March 26, and the Board of Directors meetings held on March 21 – 23, 2025.

Actions of the Council

Election Results:

Candidates for President-Elect, 2026

• The Committee on Nominations and Elections (N&E) presented to the Council the following *nominees* for selection as *candidates* for President-Elect, 2026: Christina Bodurow, Dawn Mason, Sheila Murphy, and John Warner. By electronic ballot, the Council selected **Christina Bodurow and Dawn Mason as candidates for 2026 President-Elect.** These two candidates will join any additional candidates selected via petitions to stand for election in the fall 2025 national election.

President-Elect 2026[a]

Nominee	1st Round	2nd Round	3rd Round
Christina Bodurow*	166	175	222
Dawn Mason*	121	128	170
Sheila Murphy	29	-	-
John Warner	105	115	-

[a]421 valid electronic ballots were cast, with 211 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, the lowest vote-getter, Sheila Murphy, was dropped and her second-preference votes were distributed in the subsequent round. Those marked with an asterisk (*) were declared elected as candidates.

Bios for Christina Bodurow and Dawn Mason can be found at https://www.acs.org/about/governance/elections/biographies.html

Candidates for Directors-at-Large

• The Committee on Nominations and Elections announced the selection of the following candidates for **Director-at-Large** for the 2026-2028 term: **Anna Cavinato, Donna Friedman, Malika JeffriesEL, and Will Lynch.** 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 the Council in the fall.

Other Council Actions:

Highlights from Committee Reports and Key Actions

- On the recommendation of the Committee on Committees (ConC), Council voted [Yes 405 (99.26%) / No 3 (0.74%)] to continue the Committee on Chemical Technical Professionals and, subject to the concurrence of the ACS Board of Directors, the Committees on Budget & Finance, Education, International Activities, and Patents and Related Matters.

- On the recommendation of ConC, and with the concurrence of the Council Policy Committee (CPC), Council voted [Yes 403 (99.26%) / No 3 (0.74%)] to amend the duties of the Committee on Patents and Related Matters (CPRM) and change its name to the Committee on Intellectual Property (CIP), subject to the concurrence of the ACS Board

of Directors. This change reflects the committee's mission and vision statements, which refer to "intellectual property" generally rather than elevating patents above other forms of intellectual property.

- ConC announced the opening of the committee preference form to all ACS members began on March 3 and will run through July 3. All ACS members on Standard and Premium packages are eligible to serve on non-elected committees in 2026 and should go to CMTE.acs.org to complete their preferences. Councilors can serve on the three elected committees-Council Policy Committee (CPC); Committee on Committees CONC); Committee on Nomination and Elections (N&E).

- On the recommendation of the Committee on Nominations and Elections (N&E), and with the concurrence of the CPC, Council voted [Yes 374 (95.90%) / No 16 (4.10%)] in favor of increasing the number of Councilors on N&E to 19, subject to the concurrence of the ACS Board of Directors. These additional committee members will support the increased workload from the addition of six Zone Councilor slates to N&E's duties.

- On the recommendation of the Committee on International Activities (IAC), Council voted to approve the creation of new International Chemical Sciences Chapters in Ghana [Yes 383 (96.96%) / No 12 (3.04%)], Ecuador [Yes 389 (97.98%) / No 8 (2.02%)], and Northeast China [Yes 357 (89.70%) / No 41 (10.30%)], subject to the concurrence of the ACS Board of Directors.

- On the recommendation of the Committee on Local Section Activities (LSAC), Council voted [Yes 372 (97.13%) / No 11 (2.87%)] to dissolve the Penn/Ohio Border Local Section. This takes effect on January 1, 2026, and members are being contacted about joining neighboring sections.

- On the recommendation of the Committee on Membership Affairs (MAC), Council voted [Yes 359 (95.48%) / No 17 (4.52%)] to approve the 2026 Schedule of Dues and Benefits, subject to the concurrence of the ACS Board of Directors.

- The Committee on Constitution and Bylaws (C&B) reported the certification of 21 unit bylaws since the fall 2024 meeting. They include 14 Local Sections: Akron, California, Connecticut Valley, East Alabama/West Georgia, Joliet, Kalamazoo, Lehigh Valley, Mississippi, Ole Miss, Orlando, San Gorgonio, San Joaquin Valley, Sierra Nevada and South Carolina; three Divisions: Cellulose and Renewable Materials (CELL), Chemistry and the Law (CHAL), and Medicinal Chemistry (MEDI); and four International Chemical Sciences Chapters: Australia, Bangladesh, East and Northeast India, and West India.

- The Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA) reported on the state of the evolving employment landscape for the chemistry enterprise. ACS Careers programs have seen continued growth and remain a valuable resource for members experiencing career transitions. The updated Professional Employment Guidelines will be up for action at the fall Council meeting. Councilors are encouraged to reach out to CEPA@acs.org for more information on the draft guidelines.

- The Committee on Education (SOCED) reported on their continued efforts to advance chemistry education for all. The ACS Policy Statement on Science Education is currently under revision and the revised *ACS Guidelines and Recommendations for Teaching Middle and High School Chemistry* will be available soon for the upcoming academic year.

Resolutions

The Council passed several resolutions:

- In memory of deceased Past President Attila Pavlath
- In memory of deceased Councilors
- In sincere appreciation of the San Diego Section, host Local Section for the ACS Spring 2025 meeting, as well as the Divisional program chairs, symposium organizers, and ACS staff for the planning and execution of the meeting.

The ACS Spring 2025 meeting was held from March 23-27. As of March 26, there were 15,332 registrations (14,251 in-person and 1,081 online). The ACS Fall 2025 meeting will be held in Washington, DC, from August 17-21, 2025.

Actions of the Board of Directors - Executive Session

The ACS Board of Directors met in Executive Session on March 21-22, 2025, in San Diego, CA. The Board considered several key strategic issues and responded with numerous actions. The meeting opened with a reflection on Inclusion and Belonging.

Board Actions

- Upon the recommendation of the Editor Search Committee, the Board voted to approve the appointment of an Editor-in-Chief of the journal *ACS Earth and Space Chemistry*. The appointment will be announced after the individual has been notified and appropriate arrangements for their service have been made.

- Upon recommendation of the Society Committee on Publications, the Board voted to approve the reappointment of several ACS journal editors. The reappointments will be announced after the individuals have been notified and appropriate arrangements for their continued service have been made.

- Upon recommendation of the Board Committee on Professional and Member Relations, the Board voted to approve a screened list of nominees for the 2026 Award for Volunteer Service to the ACS.

- Upon recommendation of the Board Committee on Professional and Member Relations, the Board voted to approve a screened list of nominees for the 2026 Priestley Medal.

- The Board received an extensive briefing and approved several recommendations from the Committee on Executive Compensation. The compensation of the Society's executive staff continues to be reviewed regularly by the Board.

- The Board approved minutes from the Board Executive Session on December 6-7, 2024, and ratified interim Board actions to approve member appointments for the Board Committee on Executive Compensation for the 2025-2027 term.

Board Discussions

- The Board Chair, Wayne Jones, facilitated a discussion about opportunities to increase efficiency and agility and modernize Board operations while ensuring the Society's long-term strategic success. The discussion focused on an ongoing review of the Board's standing committee structure. He also provided an opportunity for the Board to discuss themes emerging from feedback Board members have received from the ACS member community.

- The CEO, Albert Horvath, facilitated a strategic discussion with the Board on a new approach to increase ACS impact through philanthropy.

Reports

- The CEO, Albert Horvath, and his staff, reported on organizational updates, financials and audit result, the 150th anniversary of ACS, rebranding efforts, talent management and other ACS activities. He shared the strong performance of ACS in 2024 and growth across many areas. He highlighted: ○ Strengthening and deepening engagement with our global community

- Holding virtual annual member gathering, allowing our global members from Southeast Asia, the Middle East, Africa, and Latin America to connect and learn about ACS activities, member benefits, region specific programs, and career-related sessions
- Increasing the global reach of our ACS journals across all key regions by 24 percent as compared the prior year
- Publishing through our more than 90 journals, over 74,000 peer reviewed articles, a 15 percent increase from 2023
- Delivering 346 million article downloads, up 13 percent over 2023.
- Releasing the CAS BioFinder platform, marking an expansion of CAS products into the life sciences sector

- The presidential succession shared updates with the Board on their significant activities and initiatives on behalf of the Society and its members.

- The Committee on Budget and Finance Chair, Natalie LaFranzo, reported on the strong financial position of the organization. Information about ACS finances can be found at https://www.acs.org/about/aboutacs/financial.html.

- The Committee on Public Affairs and Public Relations Chair, Carolyn Ribes, provided an update on plans for the Board to visit with legislators in June to advocate for science.

- The Committee on Strategic Planning Chair, Will Lynch, assembled a working group of directors to shape the June Board meeting strategic discussion topic.

- The Committee on Professional and Member Relations Chair, Katherine Lee, brought recommendations forward to the Board.

- The Governing Board for Publishing provided updates from the Presidents of ACS Publications and CAS, including the full launch of BioFinder in 2025.

- Written reports were reviewed from the 2024 CEO Initiative Fund, General Counsel, Human Resources, Treasurer, and the Committees on Chemical Safety, Education, International Activities, Minority Affairs, Publications, Senior Chemists, Strategic Planning, and Women Chemists.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

The following is a list of URLs and email addresses for supplemental information offered in oral reports at the Council meeting.

Officers

Dorothy J. Phillips, President d.phillips@acs.org

Mary K. Carroll, Immediate Past President	marycarroll-acs@union.edu
Rigoberto Hernandez, President-Elect	acs-hernandez@jh.edu

ACS Offices

Office of the Secretary	secretary@acs.org

Resources

ACS 2025-2029 Strategic Plan	https://www.acs.org/about/strategicplan.html
Committee Preference Form	www.cmte.acs.org
N&E Nomination Form	nominations.acs.org
National Election Candidate Information	www.acs.org/elections
ACS Governing Documents	www.acs.org/govdocs
ACS Board Directors, Wayne E. Jones, Jr.	[Video Message]
	[C&EN Article]