



ACS Newsletter

The Newsletter of the Southern Arizona Section of
the American Chemical Society

Fall 2008



2008 Section Officers and Committee Chairpersons

Chair:

Anne B. Padias

Chair Elect:

Silvia Kolchens

Immediate Past Chair:

Rachel L. Anger

Secretary:

Brenda L. Jackson

Treasurer:

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Councilor:

Patricia Schumann

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Kathryn Louie

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Roger Caldwell

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Awards Committee Chair:

Kathryn Louie

Membership Committee Chair:

Steve Brown

Science Café Chair:

John J. Osterhout

Community Activities Co-Chairs:

Pat Schumann

Seth Ruskin

Publications Committee Co-chairs:

Silvia Kolchens

Tom Selegue

Letter from the Chair

After the slow pace of summer, things have picked up a lot in the last few weeks. This holds true on campus, with all the students back in town, but also the ACS business has come back to life.

On Monday September 15 we held our first dinner meeting of the fall. Unfortunately the scheduled speaker was unable to get to Tucson in time for the meeting. We are enormously grateful to Dr. Wayne Wesolowski who agreed to step in at the last minute. The dinner was at BluePoint in the La Encantada Center. The food was enjoyed by all, and after dinner we all listened with great attention to Wayne's talk entitled: "Abraham Lincoln, Funeral Trains and Urethane Chemistry". We learned a great deal of history, but also how much polymer chemistry is actually involved in building model trains.

What else is happening this fall? Dr. Bronco Gordon from Polymer Chemistry Innovations has agreed to be a speaker at our next dinner meeting, talking about the tribulations of an independent business man in Tucson; the dinner is scheduled for Thursday October 23.

We will hold our annual elections early November. It is always very exciting to get new faces involved in the business of the Local Section. Included in the ballot will also be a request to approve the new bylaws of the local section. The bylaws under which we currently operate were written in the 1970's, and obviously quite a bit has changed. I am very grateful to Dr. Roger Caldwell for all the hard work he has devoted to rewrite the bylaws and to take care of all the minute details. You can read the new and improved bylaws on our website: www.sazacs.org

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Letter from the Chair (cont'd)

The Local Section is also organizing a reception on November 21, to give our members a chance to get to know each other in a social environment. It's a great occasion to build up new connections within the chemical community.

In a new initiative, the Local Section will participate in the Student Showcase during Homecoming Weekend on the University of Arizona campus; a first prize and a second prize will be awarded to the most deserving posters describing a student's research in chemistry. If you want to help judge these posters, feel free to contact me.

In other news, John Osterhout and Kathryn Louie have left Tucson, and have moved to San Angelo, Texas. John accepted a position as Chemistry Department Head at Angelo State University. Both John and Kathryn were very active for several years in our Local Section. John was the main person responsible for the successful Science Café's during the last two years, and Kathryn was the Chair of the Awards Committee and very helpful in many other ways. We miss them both greatly and wish them all the best in Texas.

As always, feel free to contact me if you have any suggestions or problems. I am at your service.

Anne Padias
anne@u.arizona.edu

Upcoming Speakers

Thursday, Feb 26, 2009

Alexander M. Shredinsky - Long Island University
Topic: Irreversible Changes to Paintings due to Time

Thursday, April 23, 2009

Jeffrey I. Seeman - SaddlePoint Frontiers
Topic: A Human Side of Chemistry: A Portrait of Contemporary Heroes

Thursday, September 17, 2009

Victoria Finkenstadt - National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research, USDA
Topic: Food or Fuel? The case for or against ethanol

Times and additional details to be announced.



Last year John Osterhout organized and ran a very successful Science Café'. Unfortunately for us John was offered a great job in Texas which he took. In his absence we'd like to keep the Science Café' going, so we're looking for volunteers. If you're interested in joining a "Science Café' Committee" please contact Anne Padias, anne@email.arizona.edu

Free Shipping Discounts with FedEx® for ACS Members

NEW! ACS members can now enjoy significant savings on envelope and small parcel shipments sent via FedEx®, one of the nation's premier small package carriers. All ACS members can 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. For more information, and to enroll online, go to www.partnership.com/65ACS/.

Local Section Bylaws Revision Process Update

Your Vote is Needed for Final Approval

We updated our 1977 bylaws through a three year process that included reviewing how other sections revised their bylaws, debating options when there were several ways to approach a revision, and working with the ACS Committee on Constitution and Bylaws. The Committee on C&B had a number of requests for review, and we had them review our initial changes a second time, as the bylaws were so old they required a lot of changes. Finally, we had them review a revised draft just to be sure we had made all the required changes. The Committee on C&B was enormously helpful in suggesting particular wording and alerting us to pending changes that ACS was making in their own constitution and bylaws. We feel very good that the draft we are making available to Section members for review and vote will be approved by ACS.

This fall you will be asked by national ACS to vote on a revised ACS constitution and bylaws. There is one section involving membership that will affect the wording of our bylaws. This section relates to changing the description of student members (currently student affiliates). In the bylaws voting materials on our web page there are two versions of a short paragraph related to student members – we will use the version that matches the ACS national vote. After our Section votes, and if approved, we submit the ballots and a description of our election process to ACS for final approval. We anticipate our voting will be final about the time the ACS voting is final, so the bylaws revision process is expected to be completed by late fall.

Voting for the bylaws revision will be combined with the normal fall voting for officers; you should receive a ballot in the mail in late October. A one page insert in this Newsletter summarizes the rationale for revising the bylaws, lists the significant changes, and reviews the overall process for making changes. Copies of the 1977 bylaws, a final draft of the new bylaws, and a marked up version (indicating the deletes and additions) is available on the Section website – <http://sazacs.org> (linked off the home page). If you are unable to read the on-line copies and would like use to mail you a paper copy, please contact Roger Caldwell at 520-325-7709.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

In October you will be asked to vote for your executive committee members for 2009. The nominating committee is currently accepting nominations. The four posts up for election are Chair-elect, secretary, treasurer and alternate councilor. Nominations should be sent to the chair of the nominations committee, Rachel Anger, rachelanger180@gmail.com (or to Southern Arizona Section ACS, P.O. Box 43096, Tucson, AZ 85733), by October 23, 2008.

Bylaws Revision of Southern Arizona Section, American Chemical Society

FAQ List for Section Members

August 28, 2008

All ACS Southern Arizona Local Section members will be asked to vote on a revised set of bylaws this fall. The mailed ballot will include the bylaws vote as well as the vote for officers and Alternate Councilor.

The following documents are posted on our web site (<http://sazacs.org>): 1) this FAQ page, 2) the current Bylaws (1977 - 4 pages), 3) a marked up Bylaws version that shows all changes (8 pages), 4) and a final Bylaws version (7 pages). This revision of the Section Bylaws follows the format recommended by ACS and reflects comments by the ACS Committee on Constitution and Bylaws.

1. Why did we revise the bylaws?

The current bylaws were approved in 1977. Over the last 31 years the bylaws format and terminology suggested by ACS has changed and these changes affect local section operations. In addition, the old bylaws had some gaps due to changes in communications technology and lack of clarity for managing the local section.

2. What are the significant changes? (This is a summary, details are available on Section webpage).

- a. Revised the purpose of our Section to be consistent with ACS revised Constitution and our Section Long Range Plan (copy available on Section webpage).
- b. Redefined members and affiliate members to reflect changes in ACS Constitution and Bylaws
- c. Reworded, combined, added, or deleted several portions of bylaw sections. Overall five Bylaws were deleted and two Bylaws were added and most others were changed.
- d. Added reference to Section Operating Guidelines to allow for flexibility on types of standing committees; the operating guidelines can be revised by the Executive Committee as appropriate.
- e. Clarified and specified options for nominations, voting and details on providing meeting notices to reflect new types of communication.
- f. Added a section on recall of local section elected officials and included specific instructions for Section nominations and voting.
- g. Changed minimum number of meetings the section holds each year from 6 to 2 and the definition of Section meeting quorum from 25% to 2% of total membership. As a reference point the Section membership is about 560.

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Bylaws Revision of Southern Arizona Section, American Chemical Society (Cont'd)

3. What is the process for changing the bylaws?

- a. The Executive Committee submits a draft of the Bylaws changes to the ACS. The Executive Committee consulted with ACS and reviewed the bylaws of 15 other sections, reviewed Robert's Rules of Order relative to bylaws, and held a number of lengthy discussions on what to change. The Section draft changes were reviewed by the ACS Committee on Constitution and Bylaws (C&B) and suggestions were made to the Section for revisions. We benefitted from recommendations by the ACS Committee on C&B and we followed the committee's "model for the preparation of bylaws for a local section". The final draft presented for your vote is unanimously supported by the Executive Committee.
- b. The next step is to share the draft with Section members, including appropriate notification in advance of a vote and an opportunity to review and discuss the draft with the Section leaders. The members vote by a written ballot. Our vote will be combined with the officers elections in late October. Following the vote, the Executive Committee forwards the vote results, the voting procedure, and the revised bylaws to the ACS Executive Director. The ACS Committee on C&B reviews the process and the vote result and either approves the bylaws or requests more changes. If there are additional changes, another vote by the membership is required.
- c. The membership will be notified by newsletter (paper and electronic), alerts in notices of Section meetings, announcement and handouts at fall Section meetings, and postings on the Section web site.

4. Where can I get additional information if I have questions?

- a. Go to the Section web site for copies of the current bylaws, draft bylaws, or a copy of the marked up version that includes additions and deletions. <http://sazacs.org> (bylaws are linked from the home page).
- b. Attend a meeting of the Executive Committee for more detailed discussion (Oct 7 at 5:30 at University of Arizona Chemistry Building - see contact below for more information).
- c. If you do not have electronic access you can request a paper copy of the bylaws materials.
- d. Any Section officer can provide more information but the primary contact should be Roger Caldwell (who has overseen the process). Contact at 520-325-7709 or roger.caldwell@cox.net

National Chemistry Week

October 19-25, 2008

Theme: "Having a Ball with Chemistry" (The chemistry of sports)

National Chemistry Week is a community based program of the American Chemical Society (ACS). This annual event unites ACS local sections, businesses, schools, and individuals in communicating the importance of chemistry to our quality of life.

The mission of National Chemistry Week is to reach the public, particularly elementary and secondary school children, with positive messages about chemistry to:

- Make a positive change in the public's impression of chemistry;
- Promote a mechanism for effectively mobilizing ACS local sections; and
- Motivate the ACS membership through local section activities.



Visit us on the web at
<http://www.sazacs.org/>

You can e-mail update requests to the
ACS Member and Subscriber Services
Department at service@acs.org - or
telephone them 8:30 - 5:00 pm ET at
800-333-9511

**Registration is now open for the
ACS Short Course Circuit in La Jolla, CA, December 1-6, 2008**

Registration has opened for the American Chemical Society Short Course Circuit to be held in La Jolla, CA, December 1-6, 2008. Register before November 3 to receive a \$100 discount on your standard registration fee. Academic and group discounts are also available. Visit the ACS website at www.acs.org and search for "short courses" for complete details.

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