



Double Bond

The Newsletter of the Western New York Section of the American Chemical Society

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THE JACOB F. SCHOELLKOPF MEDAL

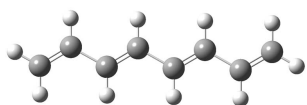
The Schoellkopf Medal is the oldest ACS local section award in the nation, and was named in honor of chemical industry entrepreneur Jacob F. Schoellkopf, founder of National Aniline Works. For 92 years, the award has been a testimony of achievement in chemical technology on the Niagara Frontier.

The WNYACS Schoellkopf award jury has selected Prof. Bing Gong, of the Department of Chemistry, University at Buffalo, as the 92nd Schoellkopf Medal recipient...*"in recognition for contributions to the fields of biomimetic and supramolecular chemistry and for the development of self-assembling organic nanopores that transport ions and neutral molecules across membranes"*

Dr. Gong was honored at the WNYACS Schoellkopf Award Banquet at Hotel Lafayette on October 17, 2023. In his introduction, 2009 Schoellkopf medalist, Dr. John Richard, presented biographical and scientific highlights of the awardee's career. Dr. Gong, a UB Distinguished Professor and recipient of a UB Exceptional Scholar Award, introduced the audience to the sorts of molecules his various projects have prepared. His summary left the audience with a sense of the thoughtful and detailed work which he and his research group have pursued, and for which he was being recognized as a Schoellkopf medalist.

Nominations are currently being sought for the next Jacob F. Schoellkopf award. Information on nominations is on the WNYACS website:

<https://wnyacs.org/schoellk-nomination/>



2024 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

Research labs in the Western New York area should make note of plans under way to bring the WNYACS Undergraduate Research Symposium to the University at Buffalo campus in the spring of 2024.

Save the date of April 13, 2024 for this event to highlight the work of student researchers in all areas of chemistry.

Information on Registration for the URS will be sent out to research labs in the area, and will be publicized in spring editions of *The Double Bond*.

SUMMARY OF COUNCIL ACTIONS FROM 8/16/2023 ACS MEETING.

The meeting was held from Aug13-17, 2023. There were 15,019 registrants:(13,363 in-person and 1,656 online).

Actions of the Council

Election Results: Elected Committees of Council

- The Council elected Martha G. Hollomon, Elizabeth M. Howson, Jeanette M. Van Emon, and Lydia E. M. Hines for a three-year term (2024-2026) on the Council Policy Committee (CPC). James C. Carver was elected for a one-year 2024-2025 term to complete the term of Will E. Lynch, who was elected to the ACS Board of Directors.
- The Council elected Anna G. Cavinato, Andrea B. Twiss-Brooks, Thomas R. Gilbert, Jeanne R. Berk, and W. Matthew Reichert for a three-year term (2024-2026) on the Committee on Committees (ConC).
- The Council elected Linette M. Watkins, Arlene A. Garrison, Zaida C. Morales Martinez, Amber F. Charlebois, and Jetty L. Duffy-Matzner for a three-year term (2024-2026) on the Committee on Nominations and Elections (N&E). Kevin J. Edgar was elected for a one-year term from 2024-2025 to fill Silvia Ronco's vacancy.

Highlights from Reports and Key Actions

- Chief Executive Officer Albert Horvath honored the memory of our newly-appointed Editor-in-Chief of C&EN, Mohammed Yahia, who passed away on the way to the San Francisco meeting. Our thoughts go out to his wife Ola and their two young children.
- Horvath also shared ACS's efforts to engage more members while recruiting and retaining talented staff as we continue to adapt to the post-pandemic workplace. He shared an update on the ACS Strategic Initiatives and the Society's continued strong financial performance.
- On the recommendation of the Council Policy Committee, Council approved the Petition to Amend the Council Executive Function. This amendment codifies the current practice in the Standing Rules, removing the oral reporting requirement for non-elected Society Committees. CPC welcomes oral reports from all Society Committees including those without action before Council.
- CPC voted to discontinue the Councilor Travel Expense Program, effective December 31, 2023, and replace it with the Councilor Attendance Incentive Allotment, effective January 1, 2024. This new approach will provide a single payment of \$2,000 per Councilor, per meeting, directly to Local Sections and Divisions that opt in to the program.
- CPC also voted to move oversight for the Non-Councilor Reimbursement Program to the Committee on Committees with the recommendation that it be renamed the "Volunteer Committee Reimbursement Program."
- On the recommendation of the Committee on Committees, and with the concurrence of the Council Policy Committee, Council approved the Petition to Amend the Duties of the Committee on International Activities (IAC), providing the committee with the same authority permitted to its unit counterparts to assist International Chemical Sciences Chapters with issues arising from officer turnover and other administrative difficulties.
- On the recommendation of the Committee on Nominations and Elections, and with the concurrence of the Council Policy Committee, Council approved the Petition to Add International Representation to the Board of Directors, decreasing the total number of Directors-at-Large from six to five and creating an International District Director. Following approval by the Board of Directors, the amendment to the ACS Constitution will require the support of two-thirds (2/3) majority of voting members.
- On the recommendation of the Committee on International Activities, Council approved the creation of the Singapore International Chemical Sciences Chapter.
- The Committee on Constitution and Bylaws (C&B) reported the certification of bylaws for six Local Sections in 2023: Cornell, East Tennessee, Idaho, Puerto Rico, Tennessee-Virginia Highlands, and Wooster.

Council Special Discussion

ACS President Judith Giordan introduced and led a special discussion on "ACS Council: Equitable

Governance for the Future." She sought Councilor input on ideas to improve representation, broadly defined, on Council and across ACS governance.

Three specific prompts were posed to Councilors for their input and suggestions:

1. Ideally, for ACS Council to equitably represent all members we would...
2. The key areas where we need to ensure greater equity and inclusion in Council are...
3. I wish ACS Council would/could... ..to engender greater equity and inclusion.

Councilors provided their ideas and thoughts, and relevant Society units will receive this input within the next several weeks.

Chief Executive Officer's Report

Chief Executive Officer Albert Horvath reported on issues relating to ACS strategic activities; enterprise risk management (ERM); environmental, social, and governance (ESG); an Orlando 2028 meeting update; and ACS's web presence.

Board Committees and Working Groups

Committees requesting and obtaining Board action on one or more items include the following:

- Upon recommendation of the Society Committee on Publications, the Board voted to approve the reappointment of six ACS journal editors. The reappointments will be announced once the individuals have been notified and appropriate arrangements for their continued service have been made.
- Upon recommendation of the Editor Search Committees, the Board voted to approve the appointment of three ACS Journal editors. The appointments will also be announced once the individuals have 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 the ACS Prism Award to recognize a public figure or prominent leader in their field who has a background in chemistry but is working in a different field or is not a practicing chemist.
- Upon recommendation of the Committee on Professional and Member Relations, the Board approved an ACS nominee for the 2024 Perkin Medal, an award given annually by the Society of Chemical Industry to a scientist residing in the United States for an "innovation in applied chemistry resulting in outstanding commercial development."
- The Board Working Group on Structure and Representation provided an update on their efforts to add an International District Director to the Board of Directors in the form of the Petition to Add International Representation on the Board of Directors. The Board unanimously supported the petition, which would amend the ACS Constitution and Standing Rules.

Submitted by,

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