

Meeting

Division of Inorganic Chemistry Executive Committee Philadelphia, Fall 2004

Minutes of the Fall Meeting 5:00pm, Saturday, September 21, 2004 Room 202A, Pennsylvania Convention Center

Present:

Buhro	Gladfelter	Morrow	Templeton	zur Loye
Donovan-Merkert	Hutchison	Sattelberger	Theopold	
Eichhorn	Kubiak	Scott	Tilley	
Fagan	Meyer	Shapley	Turro	

Judith Jankowski, ACS staff member, was also present.

1. Call to Order

Al Sattelberger called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm. Bill Buhro was asked to record the minutes in the absence of the Secretary, Kim Dunbar.

2. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from the Anaheim DIC Executive Committee meeting (Spring 2004) was made and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Chair's Report (Sattelberger)

ICCC

Al reported that the July 18-23 International Conference on Coordination Chemistry (ICCC-36) in Merida, Mexico with 1100 attendees had been a great success. He noted that the conference had required 2 years of intensive planning, and that \$67K in support had been raised. The DIC provided \$10K to support student attendees. Al indicated that the DOE, NSF, PRF, Los Alamos, and several companies had provided generous support for the conference.

Award Announcements

Al reported that the 2005 ACS Award winners would be officially announced on 23 September 2004. Bill Evans is to receive the Inorganic Chemistry Award, Tom Spiro the Distinguished Service Award, Jack Norton the Organometallic Award, and Phil Power the second F. A. Cotton Award in Synthetic Inorganic Chemistry. Al also noted that Debbie Crans would receive the 2005 Vanadis Award.

Symposia

Al noted that the Metal-Cyanide Renaissance Symposium being organized by Steve Koch, Kim Dunbar, and Jeff Long had been cancelled, and would be rescheduled for the San Diego Meeting. He also reported that the inaugural DIC Young Investigator Symposium would be held at the Fall 2005 Meeting in Washington DC, and provided a handout describing this Symposium. Al observed that 800 papers would be presented in the Division of Inorganic Chemistry at this, the Philadelphia meeting.

Royalties

Al reported that the DIC had earned \$862 in royalties from symposium-proceedings books. He noted that the Division had at one time offered a financial incentive of additional symposium support to symposium organizers who agreed to edit and publish a proceedings volume. He asked if the DIC should reinstate such a policy. Cliff Kubiak commented that a book incentive would make sense in targeted topical areas where such books could have greatest value. He suggested synthesis and characterization in nanoscience as one such possibility. A deficiency noted for such proceedings volumes is that the papers they contain are not available electronically, and so the publication medium is behind the current times. Cliff indicated that he would prefer to take the incentive idea under study, as he intends to target symposium topics, and potential symposium volumes.

President Casey's Query About Nanoscience

Al reported that the DIC had been asked to advise Chuck Casey about how the ACS should cover the area of nanoscience. Is a new, Nanoscience Division necessary or desirable? Or, should a Nanoscience Secretariat be created? Bill Buhro commented that the DIC should not prefer to have nanoscience separated from its topical coverages, as nanoscience had become important to the mission of the DIC and the interests of its members. Bill proposed that all traditional ACS Divisions that choose to do so may create Nanoscience Subdivisions, and that these Subdivisions could work together when appropriate to sponsor symposia and other activities and events. Al noted that Chuck needs a formal response by mid September, and he asked Bill Buhro and Jim Hutchison to prepare a formal proposal that would be subsequently approved by Al and Cliff Kubiak.

4. Chair-Elect's Report (Kubiak)

Nominations Committee

Cliff reported that the 2004 Nominations Committee consisted of Tom Baker, Jillian Buriak, Alison Butler, Paul Chirik, Rapheal Raptis, and Arnie Rheingold. The Committee had drawn up a slate of candidates to run for DIC offices in 2004, and a handout containing the candidate's names was circulated to the members present. A motion to approve this slate was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Tara Meyer suggested that DIC councilors should be encouraged to run again at the conclusions of their terms, because the ACS uses a seniority system for staffing ACS committees. The DIC would gain influence by placing councilors on the important committees. In some divisions the councilors hold their positions for 10-20 years, whereas in the DIC our tradition has been to rotate councilors after three-year terms. The DIC has four councilor positions, so perhaps two should rotate per tradition and two should be long term.

DIC Symposia

Cliff reported that he is planning for a total of 6 DIC symposia for 2006, three to be held at the spring meeting and three at the fall meeting. He noted that some proposals, 5 or so, had come forward, and that the organization for these proposals was under development and consideration. He indicated that a final list would be presented for approval at the San Diego meeting.

5. Secretary's Report (Dunbar by Sattelberger)

Al Sattelberger gave the Secretary's report for Kim.

DIC Email List

Al reported that the ACS provides the DIC with updated membership lists periodically, which include member email addresses. Many of the email addresses are incorrect or out of date. Having 400-500 invalid addresses (out of ~ 5000) is typical. Kim's office conducted a search to replace invalid email addresses, and out of 391 recent "bounce-backs" was able to recover 56 valid addresses. Al noted that we lose ~10% of our DIC membership per year for unpaid dues, and typically gain ~ 10% new memberships each year.

DIC Travel Awards

Al reported that Claudio Turro and Cathy Murphy had considered 30 applications for the Philadelphia Meeting, and had notified the 10 winners on 1 August 2004. The winners each receive \$200 in travel support. Al noted the need for more volunteers to join the selection committee, and the Alternate Councilors were suggested as potential volunteers. This will be revisited in San Diego.

DAC Report

Al noted that the DIC makes an annual report to the ACS, which is reviewed by the ACS. The review is returned to us as a "DAC Report" on a Technical Division Annual Report Reviewer's Form. Copies of the 2003 Reviewer's Form were distributed to the Committee members, and Judith Jankowski was present to help interpret the report. Although the DIC was given a healthy rating, several issues were raised. The DIC was criticized for not having councilors attend the Council meeting, which is incorrect and likely reflects an error in the DIC annual report. The DIC was also criticized for having no Division meetings or open Executive Committee Meetings. The DAC report indicated that the DIC had insufficient outreach and participation at Regional meetings, although the DIC *had* contributed funds to the St. Louis Regional Meeting for student support in return for advertisement of DIC membership. Finally, the DIC was criticized for failing to apply for an ACS Innovative Projects Award, which can provide funds for meetings, symposia, or awards. Tara Meyer suggested that we invite local-section officers and councilors who are inorganic chemists to attend our Executive Committee Meetings to increase communication between the DIC and local sections. The suggestion was also made that our DIC guidelines for local-section (regional-meeting) support should be posted on the DIC website. Judith Jankowski was invited to the Executive Committee Meeting to be held in San Diego to continue the discussion.

6. Secretary-Elect's Report (Buhro)

Bill reported that a new DIC website was under construction. Prototype pages were distributed to the Committee members for their comments. Bill indicated that he would need help with the contents of the subdivision, membership, and awards pages. Wayne Gladfelter asked Bill to have Mike Clarke's old Boston University DIC website deactivated. Bill promised to have the new site online by the time of the San Diego meeting.

7. Treasurer's Report (Eichhorn)

Bryan reported that the DIC had about a year of reserves in its accounts. He noted that the rate of expenditure had been slightly higher this year, although we were close to a balanced budget. He also observed that the DIC hadn't raised dues in several years, although that option always existed. Bryan agreed to report on the dues charged by other Divisions at the San Diego meeting.

8. Program Chair's Report (Donovan-Merkert)

Bernadette reported that just under 800 papers were to be presented in the DIC program at the Philadelphia Meeting. She noted that she had received program help from John Belot. Bernadette also described the Academic Employment Initiative, which is a special cluster of posters to be

presented at the SciMix by candidates on the academic job market. She reported that abstracts for the Spring 2005 Meeting in San Diego would be due by 4 November 2005, which is a little earlier than normal, but necessitated by the size of the Spring Meeting. Bernadette also indicated that she needs the titles of the DIC Symposia for the Fall 2005 Meeting. She requested that these titles be posted on the DIC website as soon as is possible.

9. Membership Chair's Report (Scott)

Mike circulated handouts containing membership statistics for the DIC and other ACS Divisions. He noted that the DIC seemed to be growing with many new members, although many existing members had failed to pay DIC dues in the past year. He reported that most ACS Divisions have a similar experience with unpaid dues. Thus there is quite a bit of turnover in division membership.

10. Bioinorganic Subdivision Report (Morrow)

Janet reported that an important upcoming meeting is the international conference on biological inorganic chemistry (known as "ICBIC"), which will be held at the University of Michigan on July 31-August 5 2005. Registration starts October 1 at <http://www.umich.edu/~icbic/>.

11. Organometallic Subdivision Report (Shapley)

Pat reported that Elsevier will publish the 3rd edition of *Comprehensive Organometallic Chemistry* by the end of 2006, and that the content would be available online. She also indicated that she and Klaus Theopold would provide content for the DIC website.

12. Solid State and Materials Chemistry Subdivision report (zur Loye)

Hanno reported that the 2005 Solid State Chemistry Gordon Conference would be held in Tuscany in June. He noted that 2004 Conference had 169 participants, and that registration had closed two months before the meeting. Hanno also reported that Jack Johnson had been able to obtain an additional \$2K per year, to begin next year, from the ExxonMobil Foundation to support the expense of the ExxonMobil Faculty Fellow Award Symposium.

13. Nanoscience Subdivision Report (Hutchison)

Jim reported that the San Diego Meeting would include programming for "Nanoscience in the Environment," and suggested that the DIC may wish to coordinate with the organizers. Jim also reported that he was asked to help an ACS committee draft an ACS policy statement on "Environmental Impact of Nanomaterials," which he had done. He requested members willing to provide a critique of the document to identify themselves to him.

14. Councilor's Report (Meyer)

Tara reported on Council action from the 2004 Anaheim Meeting (Councilors attending: Tara Meyer, Pam Shapiro, Julie Kovacs, and Paul Fagan).

President-elect nominees

The nominees are:

E. Ann Nalley, Cameron University, Lawton, Oklahoma

F. Sherwood Rowland, University of California, Irvine, California

Isiah M. Warner, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Electronic balloting

After the Inorganic Division set the precedent, the rest of the society has decided to move towards electronic balloting. The council is trying to change the constitution to allow for it. The measure will be voted on during the Philadelphia meeting.

Division report date change

The ACS is trying to move the deadline for the submission of divisional reports to one month earlier than it has been in the past. A vote on the proposal will be taken in Philadelphia and is likely to pass.

AICHE Partnership/Alliance

The council investigated the possibility of combining some of the activities and programming with AICHE (American Institute of Chemical Engineers). *History:* AICHE almost went bankrupt in 2001 after the September 11th events caused many to cancel their plans to attend the already scheduled AICHE national meeting. They were forced to pay the hotel room block guarantees out of their operating budget and it nearly emptied their coffers. Unlike ACS, AICHE doesn't have a profitable business like CAS to help with cash flow issues. Initially, the top-level people at AICHE were so desperate that they wanted to be absorbed by ACS. Those talks fell through for a variety of reasons. Nonetheless, the AICHE is still interested in forming a closer alliance with us.

Current Proposal: AICHE will collect dues from its members and then pay the full ACS dues to us. The Chem E's will then be full members of ACS and be entitled to run for council and participate at all levels.

Concerns:

- 1) We would need new divisions for the engineers. These new divisions would compete for resources and would dilute the representation of current divisions on the council. (Note: representation on council by local sections would also be affected).
- 2) The ACS has a positive income flow mostly because of CAS. If we add membership the CAS subsidy will be diluted.

Advantages:

- 1) The more members we have in ACS, the more clout we have with the government.
- 2) We have a natural overlap of interests and we would be well-served to communicate and cooperate in these areas.

Overall: It is probably not worth worrying about consequences yet, since the plan changes every 5 minutes.

Meetings and Expositions Committee (M&E)

Programming overlap: M&E is looking for strategies to help session organizers from different divisions coordinate programming in areas of overlapping interest. Meeting attendees complain that symposia covering the same topic are often running in rooms at the same time.

Meeting sites: The list of possible meeting sites is still large enough to provide regional diversity. The Philadelphia meeting is an experiment to see if that city can adequately meet our needs. If the meeting is profitable and the site is well-liked by attendees it will be added to the list of future good sites.

Hotel block rooms: The ACS does actually get very good prices for the rooms that they block. The problem is that only the more expensive hotels have meeting rooms as a fringe benefit for booked hotel rooms. Since we need those meeting rooms we have to use these big hotels and pay the higher prices.

Academic Education Initiative: The AEI will be a showcase for those who wish to be considered for faculty positions. At the Philadelphia meeting, there will be 125 applicants presenting posters during Sci-Mix. The future format is being discussed and may change in some particulars based on our experience in Philadelphia.

Division activity at regional meetings: The ACS would like to increase the participation of divisions in programming at regional ACS meetings. They are particularly interested in creative ideas, not simply financial support.

Postdoctoral fees at meetings: We continue to discuss the possibility that fees for attending ACS meetings should be lower for postdoctoral associates. It is a difficult topic, however, as lowering fees for postdocs, will simply result in higher fees for the rest of us. Moreover, postdoctoral status is difficult to establish. Many scientists remain classified as postdocs indefinitely.

15. Nomenclature Committee Chair's Report (Donovan-Merkert)

Bernadette emphasized the need for a new chair of this committee, as her efforts as program chair are extremely time consuming.

16. Old Business

There was no old business.

17. New Business

Joe Templeton proposed that the DIC devise a new form to criticize the DAC Report Form. He was not taken seriously, and the proposal did not pass.

The meeting was adjourned by Al Sattelberger at 7:01 pm.

The Executive Committee dinner was held at the Swanky Bubbles Restaurant and Champagne Bar, 10 S. Front Street, Philadelphia, PA.