Overview

At the ACS Fall 2023 Meeting in San Francisco, CA, the ACS Council approved the Petition to Add International Representation on the Board of Directors, with 88% of the voting Councilors in favor. The ACS Board of Directors also supported the petition, intended to provide a voice and a vote on the Board for our international members, ensuring inclusion of all members with no impact to the current processes on selection, election, and representation of the Districts I - VI. Because the petition would change the ACS Constitution Article VII, Sec. 1, (b); Sec. 3, (c), it will not become effective unless ACS Members approve the proposed revisions to the Constitution by a two-thirds vote. To review the petition, visit: https://tinyurl.com/2023ACSPetition

Petition Explanation

The ACS is an organization made up of members from around the world. The goal of this petition is to provide a mechanism to enable a voice and a vote on the Board for our international members, while ensuring respect, equity, and inclusion of the diverse voices of all members. This petition would decrease the total number of Directors-at-Large from six to five. It would create a new International District Director position leveraging the current District Director framework.

This proposal keeps the total number of members of the Board of Directors the same. The international district would have a similar number of members as the existing districts. This would not impact our current processes on selection, election, and representation of Districts I – VI.

As proposed, the initial slate of four nominees for International District Director would be selected by N&E; down-selected to two candidates by Council; and voted upon by SOCIETY members residing outside the United States and Canada who are not a member of a Local Section. Candidates may also be nominated by SOCIETY members residing outside the United States and Canada by filing a petition with the Chief Executive Officer within the specified deadline.

N&E will be responsible for ensuring the diversity, equity, and inclusion of nominees that broadly represent international members and do not over represent one country or region, just as they do for Local Sections in current districts; establishing fair balloting procedures for all eligible members of the SOCIETY; and making recommendations to the Council so that the voices of all of our international members are heard. All updates herein facilitate the creation of an International District Director.