Report on the Executive Committee Meeting January 1976 in Chicago

The AOCS Executive Committee held its regular annual meeting in Chicago following the North Central Section all-day winter symposium. The Executive Committee entered into several discussions and made several decisions which should be of interest to the membership.

Report of the President: President William Link reported that he had continued the recent tradition of AOCS presidents by appearing at all AOCS local sections during his tenure in office. He also informed the Executive Committee that he and his wife had been invited to be official representatives of the AOCS on the occasion of the American Chemical Society's 100th anniversary meeting in New York City.

Reporting for the Nominating and Election Committee, R.T. Holman presented the slate of candidates for office for 1976-77: President: F.B. White; Vice-President: T.H. Applewhite and F.P. Khym; Secretary: G.A. Jacobson and E.G. Perkins; Treasurer: D. Firestone and N. Pelick; Members-at-Large: R.B. Alfin-Slater, V.K. Babayan, H.J. Dutton, L.D. McClung, E.M. Sallee, and N.O.V. Sonntag.

Link reported that Dr. William Horwitz had been appointed representative pro tem to a special FAO/WHO study group which is attempting to synthesize certain UPAC and AOCS methods.

Link reported that a special ad hoc committee of the AOCS Foundation would be meeting shortly to discuss a specific proposal to update the AOCS Book of Methods.

James Lyon, AOCS Executive Director, reported on arrangements for the forthcoming World Conference on Oilseed and Vegetable Oil Processing Technology, scheduled for March 1-5 in Amsterdam, and noted that, with over a month to go, over 500 people had registered for the meeting. He anticipated an attendance of over 700. After a discussion of the dedication displayed by the staff of the Dutch Seed Crushers and Oil Processors Association (VERNOF) in helping the AOCS administer the World Conference, it was decided that this special nonmember local committee be recognized through the purchase of personal, suitably engraved gifts. The Executive Committee expressed its strong appreciation for the work of the local committee, under the direction of C.J.M. Meershoek, general secretary of VERNOF.

AOCS Treasurer David Firestone reported for the Finance Committee and outlined plans for earlier dues renewal schedules, the development of an administrative and financial program manual for the AOCS Smalley Check Sample Program, an AOCS headquarters operational manual, and a detailed chart of financial accounts, to be prepared by the Executive Director, which will be of great aid to future Finance Committees in preparation of the AOCS annual budgets. In a discussion of financial controls of AOCS meetings, the Executive Committee recommended that the Executive Director become directly and physically involved in the preparation of AOCS meetings budgets and that he in effect become an additional member of the local committee.

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Without coming to a specific conclusion or recommendation, the AOCS Executive Committee had a lengthy discussion about potential programs and benefits for unemployed AOCS members. While the Executive Committee was unanimous in its agreement that some program of benefits for unemployed members is desirable, they recognize that administrative and logistic problems in this regard would be rather difficult and deferred further discussion and decisions until the committee has more time to consider all the various implications. Further discussion was postponed until the Governing Board meeting in New Orleans in April.

The matter of student involvement in AOCS activities also provided for a rather detailed discussion. President Link is to appoint an ad hoc committee to study the problem of student involvement and to coordinate membership activities in the colleges and universities.

The AOCS Executive Committee discussed the great diversity of interests within the membership of the AOCS and the rather high attrition rate reflected in AOCS membership statistics. From the discussion arose a statement focusing on the need within the Society to provide a wide and diverse program of activities to appeal to all segments of the Society. That statement is as follows: "The Executive Committee of the American Oil Chemists' Society asks that the National Program and Planning Committee develop and report to the Governing Board procedures whereby the interests of all important segments of the AOCS membership be satisfied by ongoing programs sponsored by the Society."

The Executive Committee recommended that the name of the Society Improvement Committee be changed to Long Range Planning Committee and that the scope of that committee be changed as recommended earlier by committee chairman J.G. Endres.