

REPORT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE
SET UP BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AT THEIR MEETING OF OCTOBER 18, 1963 TO
REVIEW THE CONSTITUTION AND THE NATURE AND FUNCTIONS OF MACTLAC

The above committee consisting of Perry Moore of Hamline, Jack Powers of Ripon, Richard Ramette of Carleton and Harry Lewis (Chairman) of The Institute of Paper Chemistry met in the office of Perry Moore on April 28, 1964. Thanks to the secretary-treasurer, the members of the committee had been able to review in advance of the meeting various actions taken at the business meetings of the Association together with general discussions and recommendations.

The following report is in two sections, one dealing with the functions of MACTLAC, the other with the recommendations of the committee for amendments to the constitution generally in line with those functions but also with an aim to clarification.

1. MACTLAC's Functions, Objectives and Procedures.

While the Monmouth meeting of 1952 included members of the chemistry faculties of both private and state supported neighboring institutions, the organization committee meeting in Chicago in connection with the meeting of the American Chemical Society in the spring of 1953 elected to limit invitations to the 1953 fall meeting where MACTLAC was formally organized to the chemistry departments of the private liberal arts colleges in the seven state area including Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri and Wisconsin. In the constitution prepared by the organizing committee, the purpose of the Association as expressed was "to bring together teachers of chemistry in the nontax supported liberal arts colleges for an exchange of ideas and for general mutual helpfulness in their profession."

This objective has been pretty well carried out in the activities of MACTLAC. The programs at the annual meetings have provided opportunities for the discussion of a wide range of topics of particular interest to the teacher of chemistry in our small private liberal arts colleges. These have resulted in a strengthening of the teaching, an improvement in facilities and equipment, an increase in available funds for research. In early 1953 shortly after the Monmouth meeting there were only ten MACTLAC colleges on the ACS approved list; in early 1964 there were 24. The yearly average of research support between 1948 and 1953 (or before MACTLAC) was \$57,336, the third year it was \$143,740 and eleventh year \$384,062.

The charter members believed that these ends expressed in the purpose would be best gained by having a homogeneous membership, by limiting the geographical boundaries to such distances as would permit the majority of the members to get to the meetings with fair regularity and by limiting the size of the membership to members which could be handled on a small college-small town campus.

The first was to be achieved by confining the membership to teachers in nontax supported liberal arts colleges thus excluding university teachers, state college teachers, and teacher's college teachers. The second and third were accomplished by confining the membership to the chemistry teachers in nontax supported liberal arts colleges in the state of Illinois and its contiguous states--Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Indiana, and Michigan. The word contiguous is used in the sense of "in close proximity without actually touching" (Rodale, The Synonym Finder).

Now after twelve years of Association experience the time has come for a second look at how well the plan has been followed and the objectives achieved.

In the matter of the homogeneity of the membership, the original constitution, Section 1, Article II, carried a provision for associate membership in the Association. This was intended to apply to "persons not directly engaged in the teaching of chemistry in such colleges" (liberal arts colleges in the seven states) "but definitely interested in their program."

This classification was designed initially to admit representatives of foundations supporting or interested in the quality of chemistry teaching in these colleges such as Walter Thwaite of Research Corporation, Earl Phelan of Argonne, Julian Hill of Du Pont, Robert Marschner of Standard Oil of Indiana, etc. This use of the associate member classification met the original purpose. Soon afterwards chemistry teachers in colleges outside of the geographical limits were elected to associate membership. These were really not eligible for full membership. Finally, it provided entry into MACTLAC for a few university professors who were interested in the original objectives and who contributed to those; Al Garrett, Ohio State, is an illustration. Gradually the list grew to include representatives from universities who had other interests as well. The 1964 membership list of about 230 names (?) included 46 associate members or about 20 per cent of the total membership. Of these, 39 were from states outside of the limits of the Association or were located in tax supported institutions. In February, 1962, the membership was 267 with 48 associates; in March, 1963, 280 with 48 associates; in December, 1963, 275 with 50 associates. The associate membership in 1956 was 9 per cent of the total membership, in 1961 it was 13 per cent, in 1963, 18 per cent, in 1964, 20 per cent. Clearly, a look needs to be taken at the growth of this membership classification for it is closely enough related to the numbers attending the annual meeting to make it impossible for many small college-small towns to serve as the meeting place. That would be unfortunate.

It is the opinion of the subcommittee that the success of MACTLAC is due in large part to the homogeneity of the institutions making up its membership. Its short annual meeting is devoted solely to the interests of its membership. We believe that the original organizing committee made a wise move in limiting the membership to the nontax supported liberal arts colleges.

At the same time we realize that the tax supported liberal arts colleges have common interests and common problems among themselves and that some of these are much the same as our interests and problems. Sheer weight of numbers of chemistry faculty in these institutions make it undesirable for us to open our membership to these chemistry teachers. In Wisconsin alone we have eight state liberal arts colleges providing undergraduate majors in chemistry. These have no connection with the university. In addition, there is talk of building three more four year colleges separate from the eight but with county support. Last year 13 private liberal arts colleges in Wisconsin had 8,978 students while 8 tax supported liberal arts colleges had 20,300 students with numbers increasing rapidly. The ratio of chemistry teachers in the second group to those in the first is probably about 2:1; the same holds for numbers of students.

The subcommittee is suggesting that we approach the tax supported liberal arts colleges to determine their interest in developing an organization like MACTLAC. If they have such an interest, we (MACTLAC) might suggest that they meet at The Institute of Paper Chemistry in 1965 at the time of the MACTLAC meeting at Lawrence to organize. The two groups might get together for the Friday evening dinner and we might be able to get a top man for speaker. The new group would profit greatly from the experiences of the MACTLAC colleges. The Institute now has in addition to the facilities which were used by MACTLAC in 1953, the Calder Center which will seat up to 100 at tables for dinner or 200 at a buffet lunch and up to 200 for a conference. These facilities together with the others would be ample for all phases of such a meeting. In addition, we will have new hotel and motel room to the number of 500 by the fall of '65. We welcome any action on the above suggestions. If carried out, the two organizations could go their independent ways in future years.

As for MACTLAC, we recommend that it continue to pursue the course laid down for it in 1953 in the matter of membership and objective. This recommendation will be supported by our proposals in connection with suggested changes for the Constitution and Bylaws which will appear in the second section of this report.

2. Constitution and Bylaws.

The second part of this report includes the current Constitution and Bylaws which contain amendments approved in 1956 and 1958 together with further amendments recommended by the ad hoc committee.

Article IV - Meetings

Section 1. There shall be at least one annual meeting of the Association, held on the campus of a college where at least one member resides. This locale shall be set one year in advance upon invitation from the host school and with due regard for a good spread of geographical location from year to year.

Section 2. There shall be at least one session of the Council during the annual meeting period.

Article V - Elections

Section 1. The state representatives shall constitute a nominating committee for a slate of the three general officers to be elected at a final business session of an annual meeting.

Section 2. Opportunity for nomination from the floor shall always be given by the presiding officer at the final business session. In case of a single slate of officers the vote shall be by acclamation. Where competing names are presented for a given office, the vote shall be by written ballot.

Section 3. Each state shall elect its representative by nomination and vote of its own group of members present at the annual meeting. On even numbered years, four new Council members are to be elected and on odd numbered years, three new Council members are to be elected.

Section 4. All officers and members of the Council shall assume office at the end of the annual meeting at which they are elected and shall hold office until their successors are elected.

Article VI - Amendments

Section 1. Suggested amendments shall be submitted in writing to the secretary-treasurer of the Association at least ninety days before an annual meeting. Suggested amendments must be signed by at least five members.

Section 2. The secretary-treasurer will circulate the proposed amendments to all members along with the notices of the annual meeting. Members may file written objections to the amendments with the secretary-treasurer at least ten days before the annual meeting.

Section 3. If no more than ten per cent of the members file written objections and if a majority of those present at the annual meeting approve, the amendments shall be adopted.

Section 4. Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of either the Executive Council or the Association.

BY - LAWS

1. Annual Dues. Annual dues shall be one dollar for each member. The fiscal year shall be the calendar year.
2. Membership. The active members shall be those whose dues are not more than one year in arrears. A member who becomes more than one year in arrears for dues shall be removed from the membership list. Reinstatement with full membership privileges shall require payment of back and current dues, but the assessment for back dues shall not exceed two years dues.

3. Quorum. Twenty per cent of the active members shall constitute a quorum at any business meeting.
4. Amendments. Amendments to these By-Laws may be adopted by a majority vote at any annual meeting at which a quorum is present.

The ad hoc committee recommends amendments to the current constitution as follows:

- 1) Add to Article I, Section 2:

, together with areas reasonably adjacent to the borders of the above seven states, not otherwise served by a similar association or agency. These additional areas represent the eastern sections of North and South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas.

- 2) A rewording of Article II, Section 1 to read:

Active membership in this Association shall include those persons directly associated with the several colleges included within the definition of Article I, Section 2 who have demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Executive Council their interest in chemistry teaching and in the purposes and work of this Association.

By these amendments, we recognize a certain responsibility to colleges on the geographical fringes of MACTLAC not otherwise served by a similar association. These include the eastern part in the Dakotas, Nebraska, and Kansas. Kentucky is included in the membership of the South Central Independent College Association of Chemists while the colleges of Ohio are served by the Ohio College Chemistry Teachers Association. The constitution of SCICAC includes the southern borders of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois in its membership area.

- 3) A rewording of Article II, Section 2 to read:

Honorary membership shall be granted only by unanimous vote of the Executive Council, and shall be reserved for those persons who have rendered extraordinary service to this Association or who have made especially noteworthy contributions to the improvement of chemistry teaching in the member colleges.

This was recommended in the general business meeting of October 21, 1960 but was never brought up for action by the Association.

The ad hoc committee recommends the dropping of the associate member classification but suggests the following action with respect to the present associate members: that these associate members in good standing as of October 23, 1964 be granted full membership. Thereafter, the classification of associate membership will not be available.

4) Article III, Section 1.

Insert the word Executive before Council in the last line.
Revise line 2 to read "consist of the president, president-elect and secretary-treasurer."

5) Article IV, Section 1 revise to read:

There shall be one annual meeting of the Association held on the campus of a college where at least one member of the Association resides. This locale shall be set by the Executive Council at the annual meeting one year in advance, upon invitation from the host school. In making the selection, the Executive Council will act with due regard for a good spread in geographic location from year to year.

6) Bylaws, add as a fifth bylaw:

5. Guests. At the annual meeting of this Association, members may sponsor a limited number of guests. Invitation to such guests are to be issued only by or with the approval of either the president or a member from the host institution.

GENERAL ACTIONS NOT INCLUDED IN
CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Other actions which have been taken over the years which need review include the following:

1. In 1954 a standing committee called the Advisory Committee on Research was established. Members were Joe Danforth, E. L. Hill, (now deceased) Gerrit Van Zyl, and G. W. Thiessen with Harry Lewis as Chairman. This had for its purpose stimulation of Association members in the direction of research for and by themselves and their students. A number of annual reports have been submitted to MACTLAC including those put out in 1953 (before the committee was organized), 1954, 1956, 1957, 1958, and 1963 covering 1960-63. The committee chairman must apologize for seeming to make these reports in the name of the committee. The committee as such should be discharged; possibly a new committee should be formed to concern itself with research.

2. The duties and responsibilities of the host institution. Executive Council discussions October 27, 1955.

"The duties and responsibilities of the host institution for the general meeting was discussed. The following suggestions all seemed to be generally approved. The host should be responsible for the program, housing, arrangements, getting out the report on the group discussions (labor only - all costs to be borne by MACTLAC), folder for the sundry items (program, attendance lists, housing location, campus highlights, etc.), coffee break on Saturday morning, arrangements for meals (these are not to be complimentary), registration details, tour details, etc. The secretary's duties in regard to the general meeting are to get out meeting notices, collect dues, keep the host institution informed of its duties, etc."

3. Payment of dues - the following decision was made at the October 19, 1956 Executive Council meeting.

"Hereafter, at the general meeting a registration fee of \$1.00 will be charged, all of which is to go for dues. This will insure a more complete dues payment procedure at the general meetings."

4. Continuity in the office of the secretary-treasurer at the Executive Council meeting in Beloit October 24, 1958.

"The desirability of continuity in the office of secretary-treasurer was discussed. It was decided to keep the tenure flexible, involving an indefinite term rather than to stipulate a definite term."

The above constitution and bylaws, together with its recommendations including the recommendations of the subcommittee, should take care of the matter of associate membership by eliminating this membership. The number of associate members who would be eligible to become members can be ascertained by the treasurer. This would involve the number of associate members who paid their dues as of October 23, 1964. All those associate members who have let their associate membership drop by default of payment of dues would be dropped from the list of associate members and would not then be eligible for reinstatement. The provision is made in the new Bylaw 5 for the invitation of guests to attend the annual meeting by invitation from members. The invitations, however, are not to be issued by the members, but are to be issued by or with the approval of the president or the members of the host institution. Most of the other changes are changes which have already been recommended.