

OFFICER'S REPORTS

President's Post

Perry Wheless, ACES President

This message for the *ACES Newsletter* was prepared on January 17, a noteworthy date because the email this morning contains enough favorable votes for me to announce that the ACES Board of Directors has approved some significant election changes. Dick and Pat Adler will prepare and send special notification of these changes to the membership as soon as possible. If you are a member of ACES, you should have already seen their notification before you are reading this *Newsletter*. The redundant mention here is because we want all members to take note of these changes.

ACES has nine Directors, elected by the membership to staggered three-year terms. Three Director positions are decided by election each year, so that the full Board turns over every nine years. A list of all the current Directors and their term expiration years appears in each *Newsletter*. The Directors meet annually at the ACES conference to conduct the Society's business. A second major meeting of the Directors occurs each year in the Fall, usually in October, by teleconference. Between major meetings, the Directors occasionally act on business items by electronic information exchange, such as this most recent vote on election details.

The most significant election change is that nominations will now close on May 1 annually. Candidate statements will appear in the July *ACES Newsletter* in the future, and the election procedure will be concluded in time to report the results in the November *Newsletter*. Please direct nominations directly to Adalbert Konrad, Elections Committee Chair, at konrad@power.ele.utoronto.ca. You should contact your potential candidate(s) to verify that (1) their dues are currently paid, so that they are officially members of the Society, (2) they will serve if elected, (3) they will be expending time and effort to advocate for, and advance, ACES, and (4) they are both willing and able to attend the annual Board of Directors business meetings held at the conference in Monterey. Please advise them that a written candidate's statement will be required of them no later than May 25.

In addition to allowing us to archive candidate statements in the *Newsletter* for convenient future reference, and to report election results in advance of the annual conference business meeting, this will allow incoming new Directors to participate in the Fall meeting as "observers," so they will be aware of current ACES business issues before they are installed in office at the next Annual Meeting of Members at conference. The usual schedule at conference is to have the Board meeting on the day prior to the Meeting of Members, so old/outgoing Directors vote at that business meeting and then the new Directors are installed to start their three-year term the next day. With the revised election schedule, new Directors will thus have the opportunity to observe two meetings before their term begins. We believe the new election schedule will allow new Directors to become better informed and have time for reflection and planning in advance of their terms. It is anticipated that a more informed and involved Board of Directors will positively impact the health and vitality of ACES into the future.

Please note that Bruce Archambeault is our new *Newsletter* Editor-in-Chief, starting with this issue. If you wish to contribute to, or discuss, the Newsletter, you can reach Bruce electronically at barch@us.ibm.com. Ray Perez has agreed to continue his association with the *Newsletter* as Associate Editor-in-Chief. We are indebted to Ray for his long and outstanding service as *Newsletter* Editor-in-Chief. We have all been beneficiaries of his contributions, and I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank Ray on behalf of good ACESians everywhere.

If you have not yet completed your March conference registration and travel plans, it is time to move those chores up on your priority list. See you in Monterey!!

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