Report of the 2015 Committee on Nominations

The committee is responsible each year for selecting at least two nominees for President to be forwarded to the Assembly of Delegates and at least two nominees for Treasurer every four years to be forwarded to the Assembly. This year, only the office of President was included in the charge to the committee.

Francis C. Dane was elected as Chair of the committee. Additional elected members included Scott Burns, Chris Fasano, Jane Gilman, Vishnu Kamalnath, John J. Kelley, Perry Kurtz, David G. McBride, John Nemeth (Associate Chair), Theodora Pinou, and Miroslav Synek. Jim Baur, Linda Meadows, and Kelly Sullivan represented the Board of Directors as Past Presidents. Jasmine Shah served as Staff Contact and McKinsey Shepherd provided administrative support.

As in recent years the Committee's deliberations were conducted via regular conference calls and electronic correspondence. An electronic repository was used to maintain accessibility of materials and records. Each member of the committee was asked to generate two candidates for consideration, which process produced an initial list of 25 candidates. Some candidates were carried over from the previous year's committee's deliberations. Discussion of desirable qualities for candidates occurred multiple times during the process.

Each candidate was assigned a liaison from the committee to assist in gathering relevant artifacts, which included a Curriculum Vitae and Nomination Form. The latter included a brief biosketch, an accounting of Sigma Xi activities, and a statement in which the candidate was encouraged to reply specific questions regarding leadership of Sigma Xi.

The initial list of 25 candidates was narrowed to 3 candidates through declination and deliberation. All materials regarding the three candidates and a candidate-rating rubric developed by the 2013 Committee on Nominations were distributed to all members of the committee. Responses to the rubric were tallied and distributed by the Chair. Discussion of the ratings and materials produced unanimous agreement to present the names of two candidates to the home office. The two individuals were contacted by the home office, who secured their agreement to stand for election to the office of President Elect.

The nominated individuals are Stuart L. Cooper of the William G. Lowrie Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at Ohio State University and Richard E. Miller, recently retired from University of California, Merced, where he last served as Associate Vice Chancellor for Research.

The Chair is most appreciative of the effort and cooperation exhibited by members of the committee, who often were willing to overcome technical difficulties in pursuit of their responsibilities.