

Robert Kaarls

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To whom it may concern

During the recent period of well over 25 years I have had the opportunity and pleasure to cooperate with Dr. Willie E. May in his successive positions of Chief of the NIST Analytical Chemistry Division, Director of the NIST Material Measurement Laboratory, Associate NIST Director for Laboratory Programs and finally as Director of NIST/Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology.

This successful and pleasant cooperation started on a bilateral basis between the Analytical Chemistry Division and the Chemistry Division of the National Metrology Institute of the Netherlands VSL, Netherlands.

During the last two decades the cooperation developed further into an intensive cooperation, in particular in the scope of the CIPM (the decision-making and supervisory International Committee for Weights and Measures of the Inter-Governmental Treaty Organization of the "Metre Convention"), where Dr. May became elected as a Vice-President of the CIPM, as well as in the context of the CCQM (CIPM scientific Consultative Committee for Metrology in Chemistry and Biology), where Dr. May has been an excellent CCQM Working Group Chairman, and has succeeded me as President of the CCQM.

In all these positions, I have experienced Dr. May as an excellent scientist, good organizer and excellent manager with sufficient insight and good feeling for financial and political sensitive issues, and with common sense for cooperation and human relations, supported by a good sense of humor.

Dr. May is a very creative, out-of-the-box thinker, always prepared to listen and, if convinced, to agree on the best solution. He is a very active person with almost unlimited energy.

Dr. May has demonstrated to be able to act as a very good representative of the USA, maintaining worldwide good relations with many scientists, academia, national and international organizations and bodies, scientific, testing and quality systems institutes, sister-institutes, authorities, industry and others.

So concluding, I am convinced that Dr. May has all the attributes needed for the position of an excellent President of the American Chemical Society - ACS.

Yours faithfully,


Dr. Robert Kaarls

Former Director of the NMi VSL, the Netherlands

Past Secretary CIPM

Past President CCQM