

Faraday Division Annual Report to RSC Council 2008-2009

Purpose of paper: This paper sets out the Annual Report of the Faraday Division Council for the year ending at the 2009 RSC AGM.

RSC Strategic Imperatives: Faraday Division's activities cover a number of the new RSC Strategy on a Page strategic priorities.

Faraday Division Strategy: Strategy is set out in the Faraday Division Strategy 2006-2010 document which is available on the Division's web page at <http://www.rsc.org/Membership/Networking/InterestGroups/FaradayDivision/Council.asp> Faraday Division currently has 5,056 members of whom 761 are academics and 2,126 are industrialists. Its main objective is to promote physical chemistry as the area where quantitative aspects of chemical, physical and biological sciences interact.

Highlights:

Faraday Discussions: In 2008-9 successful meetings on Biopolymers, Nanotechnology, Cold Molecules, Electrocatalysis and Water. Proposing to move to 6 meetings per year (one or two overseas). Three Nobel Prizewinners (Herschbach, Marcus, Tsein) will speak at FDs this year and new Discussions are covering increasingly wider areas of science (eg Healthcare, Chemistry of Planets, Bioinorganic chemistry). Latest impact factor 5.0 is best of any journal in physical chemistry.

Recently appointed academics: A second meeting for recently appointed academics in physical chemistry was organised in September 2008 in Edinburgh to follow on from the previous successful meeting in Nottingham. The next meeting will be at Warwick University in 2010.

EPSRC: The first EPSRC sponsored UK Summer School in Theoretical Chemistry took place in September in Oxford and was supported by the Faraday Division.

Maths for chemists: Following the completion of pilot project to establish an on-line resource for chemists to address the shortfall in maths skills of undergraduate chemists a bigger project has been developed through RSC/Pfizer "Discover Chemistry".

RSC Groups: These 14 groups are thriving - activities were highlighted in RSC News.

RSC Publishing: PCCP impact factor up by 15% to 3.3.

RSC Awards: Faraday Awards announced under the new RSC scheme.

Communication: Faraday Discussion and FD Council websites very informative. Annual news entry appeared in the April 2009 issue of "RSC News"

KPIs:

- Continuing success of PCCP and Faraday Discussions
- Increased engagement with industrial activities
- Integration of divisional strategy with RSC Strategy On A Page

Issues:

Still need to involve more industrial activities in the Faraday Division.

Future plans:

Faraday Discussions: move to six a year and continue to emphasise their importance worldwide.

Intend to support summer internships for undergraduate students in research labs.

Financial details:

Budget year 2009 is £53,400

Projected budget 2010 is £50,100

Budget:

Name	2009 Budget/£	2010 Budget/£
Communication	£3,000	£1,000
Grants and donations	4,000	20,000
Meetings	20,000	0
Member and other travel expenses	3,300	3,500
BH catering and room hire	1,500	2,000
Sundry	500	500
Overheads	21,100	23,100
Total	53,400	50,100
FTE staff	0.35	0.35

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President, Faraday Division
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