

## **Chemistry Biology Interface Forum Strategy for the period 2007-2012**

The CBiF is committed to promoting the importance of the chemical sciences in the biological sciences.

### **Vision**

The vision is to build upon an RSC presence in the chemistry-biology interface by

- promoting the critical contribution that the chemical sciences can make to challenges in the biological sciences
- Address the complex problems in bridging the chemistry-biology interface.

### **Broad Goals**

We will focus our efforts on the chemistry biology interface, aiming to add strategic value to the work of the interest groups.

- We will produce RSC policy statements on appropriate topics, working proactively and reactively in order to influence policy in education, research and industry.
- We will use our independent position as a learned society to add clarity to topical debates in matters relating to the chemistry biology interface.
- We will strategically address appropriate topics, to compliment the affiliated interest groups, raising the profile of the chemistry biology interface, through a range of activities
- We will determine where gaps exist in the chemistry biology interface, and address weaknesses in current knowledge and promote research in these areas with which to support policy and consultative work.
- We will interact with other learned societies and funding bodies

### **Strategic Objectives of the Forum:**

The developing RSC strategy for the period 2006-2010 has its vision that the RSC will be the most effective international organisation for the advancement of the chemical sciences. The main themes for this period are:

#### RSC Strategy

- 1. Increase our influence in key decision making bodies**
- 2. Broaden our science base**
3. Foster the study and teaching of the Chemical Sciences
4. Enhance the benefits of membership

5. Promote professional qualifications and ethical conduct
6. Enhance our publishing activities
7. Improve our channels of communication
8. Pursue activities in partnership with other organisations
9. Improve our governance, structure and financial planning
10. Invest in our staff and support our volunteers

CBiF Strategy during this period, with financial support from the RSC, aims to promote the interactions between the chemical sciences and biosciences, and to this end will be supporting overall RSC strategy as follows:

***Increase our influence in key decision making bodies***

*We will participate in, and influence, science and education policy discussions across the UK and with the EU, and ensure we are recognised a key source of expertise and advice on the chemical sciences*

1. To secure and develop RSC membership of, or nomination rights to, key bodies that implement educational, research and industrial policy [e.g. Bioscience Federation, research council panels]
2. To develop policy positions on appropriate topics and to submit evidence to key bodies, by maximising the output from Divisions, Forums and Subject Groups [e.g. Nuffield Council on BioEthics]. Working proactively rather than reactively in order to influence policy in education, research and industry.
3. To use our independent position as a learned society to add clarity to topical and emotive debates in matters relating to the chemistry biology interface.

***Broaden our science base***

*We will support the development of the research interfaces between the chemical sciences and biology and medicine.*

1. Deliver RSC responses to relevant consultations (e.g. on bio energy) and have in place policy statements on the key issues (e.g. stem cell research) participating fully in the development of RSC science policy.
2. Promote the importance of chemistry to the biological sciences, identifying it as one of the key sciences to address future global issues and offer business opportunities in these sectors.

3. Support schemes to engage industry more in the activities of the RSC chemistry biology interface community
4. Promote research which will identify and address gaps and weaknesses in current knowledge, such as the proposal to deliver RSC report 'An assessment of the chemistry biology interface in the UK' to members of the chemistry biology interface community and funding bodies.
5. Participate in the work of RSC Divisions, Forums and Subject Groups that broaden RSC involvement in the chemistry biology interface.
6. Form networks and partnerships with: Research Councils, IoP, IoB, BSF, Biochemical Society, IChemE, government and international bodies to raise our profile in policymaking within the life sciences community
7. To facilitate RSC conferences that should be held in the chemistry biology interface research area, as well as other scientific events (including events of other organisations), to promote understanding, disseminate information, and create membership and publishing opportunities. The emphasis of these events should be on exploring the diverse ways in which chemistry can contribute to bioscience research.
8. Identify publishing and other opportunities at the interfaces of chemical science with other subject areas

#### Budget

The 2007 Budget for the CBiF is attached for information, see Appendix1.

#### Key Performance Indicators for 2007

- Raising the profile of the RSC Chemistry Biology Interface Forum community
- Deliver RSC Report – An Assessment of the Chemistry Biology Interface in the UK
- The establishment of a series of workshops (3) addressing priority areas for chemistry biology interface research.

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April 2007