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***RADIOCHEMISTRY IN EUROPE***  
***THE NEWSLETTER of the***  
***DIVISION of NUCLEAR and RADIOCHEMISTRY***  
**Issue 40–March 2008**

#### **EDITORIAL COMMENT**

Welcome to the fortieth newsletter for Radiochemists in Europe. As reported in the November Newsletter **Prof. Dr. Heinz W Gäggeler** has been elected as chair of the Division for the period from January 1st 2008 to December 31st 2010 and we welcome him to this post. **Dr Jan John** from the Technical University Prague was then nominated and approved to be the secretary for the same period. I am sure that they will lead the Division forward. I remain as co-ordinator of the newsletter and website along with a Task Force to review the form in which they are presented.

The WebPages of the Division can be found at [www.euchems.org/Divisions/NRC](http://www.euchems.org/Divisions/NRC). From the home page the “Future Events”, updated each month or when fresh information is received, and Radiochemistry newsletters are readily available. Useful Links have also been established, including the Homepage of the Radiochemistry Group of RSC. If any other group would like their website to be linked, please send me the details.

The aims and objectives of the division as given in our Procedures and Practices are given below.

This is your newsletter for radiochemists in Europe. Articles, reports on meetings, laboratory profiles, courses, positions vacant, redundant equipment and any other item you feel may be of interest to other radiochemists are still urgently required. Also the early announcement of dates for meetings and conferences is important to avoid the possibility of organising two at the same time on similar topics within Europe. See the 10year Planning Calendar on the website. Details of any courses would also be of interest to extend the existing database.

May I remind readers to inform me of any change to their e-mail address?

Providing that information is available it is intended to compile this newsletter 4 times per year in March, June, September, and December/January. Please send information in good time for inclusion that is by the end of the month prior to publication. **Editor: Dr. Tony Ware (e-mail:tonyware@compuserve.com)**

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□ **DIVISION of NUCLEAR and RADIOCHEMISTRY.**

#### **Mission and Objectives**

The Division of Nuclear and Radiochemistry is a network of societies and their scientists working in nuclear and radiochemistry throughout Europe and aims to have close links to related institutions all over the world. A broad communicative basis is achieved by cooperation with relevant supranational bodies such as IUPAC and IAEA as well as with journals and newsletters. It endeavours to establish and maintain the highest quality standards in science and research. NRC accepts a role to harmonise education and training in all aspects of nuclear and radiochemistry and to offer a means of communication and collaboration between scientists working in the fields.

Objectives of the NRC are:

- To contribute to the advancement of nuclear and radiochemistry in Europe;

- To identify important areas in science, technology and other human activities relevant to nuclear and radiochemistry, and to stimulate actions in such fields;
- To address aspects of importance in or to nuclear and radiochemistry which need regulation, harmonisation, standardisation or codification, and to make recommendations as appropriate;
- To encourage cooperation between analytical chemists whether working in academia, industry or governance, in particular within the countries of the member societies of EuCheMS
- To foster close contacts and cooperation of NRC with the European Commission and other relevant institutions;
- To safeguard the interests of the nuclear and radiochemistry community, especially concerning recognition and legitimisation in matters of regulation and legislation as well as decision making in economic and in social areas;
- To assist and strengthen quality in teaching and training of nuclear and radiochemistry in education and in daily practice;
- To support the transfer and exchange of knowledge, equipment and personnel in the areas of NRC expertise both within Europe and in non-European countries;
- To hold a European Conference at least every other year;
- To assume a general promotion and coordination function for other conferences and courses in Europe related to NRC activities;
- To disseminate information to the wider scientific community and general public about nuclear and radiochemistry and its achievements.

#### **Priorities of the Division**

1. Constitution was established as Practices and Procedures with the aims and objectives given above.
2. The Division should continue editing the Newsletter as official information periodical of the Division with S. Jerome and A. Vertes agreeing to assist A. Ware in editing.
3. Web site. All members are asked to send any links, they would like to have listed here, to A. Ware.
4. Diary of future events (10-years Calendar) – has been established
4. Co-ordination of T&E in Radiochemistry and Review of Courses. A survey will be circulated to Division members for comments.
5. Contact has been made with the Technical Advisory Boards of both the NRC and Radchem series of meetings. The list of these and other Future Events are being maintained up to date on the website.

**If your country does not have a nominee to the Division, please press your Chemical Society to nominate a candidate.**

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#### □ **EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION for CHEMICAL and MOLECULAR SCIENCES** **DIVISION of NUCLEAR and RADIOCHEMISTRY**

**Prof. Dr. Heinz W Gäggeler**, the new chair if the Division studied Chemistry from 1965-71 at Bern University (dipl.chem.) followed by a Doctoral thesis 1971-73: (Independent yields of 150Pm in thermal neutron induced fission of <sup>233</sup>U, <sup>235</sup>U, <sup>239</sup>Pu and <sup>249</sup>Cf). Subsequently his employment has been: -  
 1973-75: Research assistant at Bern university (Nuclear dating of environmental archives).  
 1975-76: Post-Doc at the Flerov Laboratory of Nuclear Reactions, Dubna, former Soviet Union (Cold fusion and search for superheavy elements).  
 1976-84: Gesellschaft für Schwerionenforschung, Darmstadt, Germany. (Search for superheavy elements, extra-push phenomena in heavy ion fusion).  
 Since 1984: Paul Scherrer Institut, Villigen, Switzerland as head of the Laboratory for Radiochemistry and Environmental chemistry.  
 1989: Habilitation (venia legendi) at ETH Zürich in "Nuclear Chemistry".  
 Since 1993 he has been a Full professor for Radiochemistry at the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Bern and from 2000-03 Director, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University Bern.  
 Since July 2002: Head, Department Particles and Matter (TEM), Paul Scherrer Institut and from April 2003 - June 2007 Deputy Director, Paul Scherrer Institut.

In May 2007 the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research, Dubna, Russia awarded him an honorary doctoral degree in recognition of his contributions to the chemistry of the heaviest elements.

During his career to date he has approx. 230 publications in peer-reviewed journals (status 2006)

Besides becoming Chairman of the Division on Nuclear and Radiochemistry, European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences he is a member of the executive board of the Swiss Union for Nuclear Energy (SVA), the Astronomical Commission of the International Foundation High Altitude Research Stations Jungfrauoch & Gornergrat, Jungfrauoch commission of the Swiss Academy of Sciences (SANW), a member of the joint IUPAP/IUPAC working group on the discovery of new elements, a Fellow of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC), Fellow, a Member of the Steering Committee of EURISOL and most recently Chairman of the TAN 07 Conference, 23 - 27 Sept. 2007, Davos, Switzerland.

His current Research Interest are Heavy element properties, Surface chemistry with positron emitters as tracers and the Reconstruction of past atmospheric composition using glacier ice archives.

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**•LABORATORY/BUSINESS PROFILES**

None offered in the last few months. Please send copy if you wish your laboratory or business to be featured.

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**•CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP REPORTS**

**Radiochemistry Group Meeting 21<sup>st</sup> November 2007**

A Joint Meeting of the Radiochemistry and Process Technology Groups of the Royal Society of Chemistry was held in Manchester entitled ACTINIDE MATERIALS SCIENCE. The meeting was attended by 50+ participants and covered a range of topics as illustrated by the following list of speakers and topics.

**Gerry Lander** (ITU, Karlsruhe & ILL, Grenoble) *Condensed Matter Physics of the Actinides- Expecting the Unexpected*

**Paul Roussel** (AWE, Aldermaston) *Actinide Metals*

**Christine Brown** (Nexia) *Actinide Processing for MOX Fabrication*

**Clive Walker** (ITU, Karlsruhe) *Behaviour of LWR Fuel under Irradiation*

**Robin Grimes** (Imperial College) *Modelling Actinide Materials*

**Neil Hyatt** (Sheffield) *Actinide Wasteforms*

**Ron Brown** (Dstl Porton Down) *Depleted Uranium in Anti-Tank Munitions*

**Dominic Rhodes**

When available presentations will be posted on our website under Past Events

<http://www.rsc.org/Membership/Networking/InterestGroups/Radiochemistry/>.

During the day the Bill Newton Award was presented for the first time to Nick Bryan of the University of Manchester. The award has been established in memory of Bill Newton and is to be awarded bi-annually to a UK resident in mid career who has made an outstanding contribution to any aspect of radiochemistry.

Full details of this award and our Becquerel Medal also given bi-annually can be found on our website. This latter award will be presented this year in November.

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**•CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP DETAILS**

**The Seventh International Conference on Nuclear and Radiochemistry (NRC-7) Budapest, Hungary 24 – 29 August 2008**

NRC7 the next in the series of Nuclear and Radiochemistry Conferences will be held in Budapest at the Eötvös Loránd University. It is organised by the University supported by the Hungarian Chemical Society and sponsored by EuCheMS. The website can be found at [www.nrc7.mke.org.hu](http://www.nrc7.mke.org.hu) In keeping with previous conferences it aims to cover a range of topics in nuclear and radiochemistry. They include:

Fundamental nuclear chemistry, Actinides, Transactinides, Radioanalytical chemistry, Radionuclide production, Radiotracers in life sciences, Radionuclides in geo- and cosmochemistry, Radiochemistry in nuclear energy production, Radioecology and environmental sciences and Nuclear methods in material science and industrial applications. The deadline for submission of abstracts is 31 January 2008.

The Web page of the conference is now open for registration and abstract submission. For additional details please visit <http://www.nrc7.mke.org.hu/>

**2<sup>nd</sup> International Nuclear Chemistry Congress**

The 2nd International Nuclear Chemistry Congress (2nd-INCC) will be held between 13 -18 April 2008 in Cancún, Mexico. For further information please contact Professor Turan Unak or Professor J. M. Navarrete.

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## NEWS FROM THE INTERNET

### Summary Report on European Nuclear Power.

As of September 30, 2007 there was a total of 197 nuclear power plant units with an installed electric net capacity of 169,842 MWe in operation in Europe and 12 units with 9,991 MWe were under construction in five countries. France has been Europe's most enthusiastic devotee of nuclear power, constructing dozens of reactors since the 1970s oil crises spurred on its desire for energy independence. It has become the world's biggest net exporter of electricity, and is also a major exporter of nuclear technology.

The report Nuclear Power in Europe analyses the energy situation in Europe and why the continent is in need of utilising nuclear power to serve its growing need for energy and power.

The report begins with an overview of nuclear power and an overview of the electricity industry in Europe. Since nuclear power is primarily used for generating electricity, it is important to gauge the status of the electricity generating market in Europe.

Moving on, the report focuses on the present nuclear power plants in Europe, looking at the installed nuclear capacity and comparing nuclear versus the total generating capacity in the European Union countries and the rest of Europe. No analysis of nuclear power is complete without an economical analysis of the technology, and this research report undertakes a comprehensive analysis of the generation costs, capital costs, decommissioning costs and others as relegated to nuclear power in Europe.

Europe's battle with extending the life of its nuclear power and power upratings is also discussed in the report, along with an all-inclusive view of the serious issue of radioactive waste management and plant decommissioning. This section also undertakes a country-wise analysis of the status of spent fuel and radioactive fuel management.

Institutional and regulatory frameworks are all described in the report, along with the public attitude towards nuclear power in Europe. The report also takes a look at the organisational structures involved in the entire radioactive fuel management process.

The government's role in promoting nuclear power in the future, development of a comprehensive Energy Policy Framework, and the factors affecting the development of new nuclear power plants are analysed in-depth as these go a long way in shaping the future of Europe's nuclear power industry.

Countrywide national nuclear programs conclude this complete guide to nuclear power in Europe.

For a complete index of this report click on:

[http://www.researchandmarkets.com/product/ff9a87/nuclear\\_power\\_in\\_europe](http://www.researchandmarkets.com/product/ff9a87/nuclear_power_in_europe)

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Related Reports also available from Research and Markets:

Global Nuclear Power Industry - [http://www.researchandmarkets.com/product/ff9a87/global\\_nuclear\\_power\\_industry](http://www.researchandmarkets.com/product/ff9a87/global_nuclear_power_industry)

Analysing the Major Players in the Global Nuclear Power Industry - Companies & Nuclear Power Utilities -

[http://www.researchandmarkets.com/product/ff9a87/analyzing\\_the\\_major\\_players\\_in\\_the\\_global](http://www.researchandmarkets.com/product/ff9a87/analyzing_the_major_players_in_the_global)

The Nuclear Energy Report Ed 1 2007 -

[http://www.researchandmarkets.com/product/ff9a87/the\\_nuclear\\_energy\\_report\\_ed\\_1\\_2007](http://www.researchandmarkets.com/product/ff9a87/the_nuclear_energy_report_ed_1_2007)

European Utilities Key Player Profiles: E.On -

[http://www.researchandmarkets.com/product/ff9a87/european\\_utilities\\_key\\_player\\_profiles\\_eon](http://www.researchandmarkets.com/product/ff9a87/european_utilities_key_player_profiles_eon)

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Rachel Thompson ([rachel.thompson@researchandmarkets.com](mailto:rachel.thompson@researchandmarkets.com))

### **Call for Partners: ENEA-Research (Radio-toxicology)**

To evaluate biokinetics and effects on human health of radionuclides it is important to have a constant updating of knowledge in radio-toxicology. It is intended to optimise accuracy and precision of radio-analytical techniques in bioassay treatment and improve models to predict a correct biodistribution of the radionuclides.

We intend to focus our attention to contamination due to professional exposure, like for workers in nuclear plants or radiopharmaceutical laboratories, developing effective radio-analytical methods. Anyway the current international situation leads us to consider also modalities of exposure different from the classical ones, like terrorist attacks. In this occurrence it is necessary to set in advance all the interventions for limiting and determining the radiological contamination. From this point of view we intend to develop the research for evaluating the activity of unusual radionuclides in bioassays (210Po event is illustrative).

We consider that the correct dosimetric evaluation of a person contaminated for any reason can prevent harmful effects, by using timely and convenient medical cares, and estimate the biological damages. If you are interested please contact Sandro Ridone, ENEA-Research Centre of Saluggia, Radiation Protection Institute, Strada per Crescentino 41, 13040 Saluggia (VC), Italy ([sandro.ridone@saluggia.enea.it](mailto:sandro.ridone@saluggia.enea.it))

[http://ims.ukro.ac.uk/NR/rdonlyres/FEC33693-4E0A-4F76-891F-2C41039965AA/5059/ENEAREsearch\\_PartnerSearch.pdf](http://ims.ukro.ac.uk/NR/rdonlyres/FEC33693-4E0A-4F76-891F-2C41039965AA/5059/ENEAREsearch_PartnerSearch.pdf)

### **Sustainable Nuclear Energy Research Platform**

Nuclear energy has won a place in the EU's low-carbon energy mix following the launch of a new forum for nuclear energy research by the European Commission and the French Atomic Energy Commission (CEA).

While the Commission is formally agnostic on nuclear power, officials now encourage progress by those countries that wish to invest more in the sector as a source of low carbon energy.

The Sustainable Nuclear Energy Technology Platform will bring together researchers and industry to define a Strategic Research Agenda (SRA) and Deployment Strategy, with the goal of maintaining European leadership in this sector.

A vision document outlining how the sector should develop in the future was unveiled at a stakeholder meeting in Brussels to officially launch the new European Technology Platform (ETP) on 21 September. The ETP's main goal will be to develop a fully integrated approach to nuclear energy research. "For those countries that choose it, nuclear power will be a very important part of their solution to security of supply and reduction of greenhouse gases," said EU Science and Research Commissioner Janez Potocnik at the launch of the Platform.

The platform forms part of the Commission's wider Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET Plan) to promote EU R&D efforts on low-carbon technologies, due to be published at the 'end of 2007.

Source

[http://cordis.europa.eu/fetch?CALLER=EN\\_NEWS\\_FP7&ACTION=D&DOC=22&CAT=NEWS&QUERY=1192694415387&RCN=28391](http://cordis.europa.eu/fetch?CALLER=EN_NEWS_FP7&ACTION=D&DOC=22&CAT=NEWS&QUERY=1192694415387&RCN=28391)

Links

EU Business.com: [www.eubusiness.com/Energy/nuclear-energy.34/](http://www.eubusiness.com/Energy/nuclear-energy.34/)

Sustainable Nuclear Energy Technology Platform: <http://www.snetp.eu/>

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## **JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Radiochemistry Professor**

The Department of Chemistry at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas is engaged in a search for a radiochemistry professor. This position is a continuation of an open search from last year, which included an additional position for a materials candidate. Our efforts are now focused on bringing a dynamic radiochemistry researcher and educator into the UNLV Radiochemistry Program. We are asking for your help in identifying and notifying additional suitable candidates. Candidate evaluations have already begun, and will continue until a suitable candidate is identified.

We are particularly interested in obtaining applications from individuals that can supplement and augment the research and education areas in the UNLV radiochemistry program utilising existing laboratory facilities and equipment.

Research in the UNLV Radiochemistry program focuses on the chemistry of technetium and the actinides in solids, separations, the environment, and chemical syntheses.

Information on application procedures can be found at:

<http://www.higheredjobs.com/institution/details.cfm?JobCode=175254767>.

Ken Czerwinski

<http://radchem.nevada.edu/>

### **Senior Radiochemist**

Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) is seeking a Senior Radiochemist for the Radiochemistry Section. Candidate must possess radiochemistry degree, or chemistry or health physic degree with extensive radioanalytical training. Must have extensive hands-on experience in radioanalytical separation, radiation detection, and

laboratory QA/QC. Responsible for supervising the radiochemistry laboratory staffs, developing rapid radioanalytical procedures and data management systems, revising and interpreting laboratory data, implementing and participating in quality assurance and safety programs, preparing technical reports and professional papers, and participating in activities related to emergency response. Resumes should be sent to: Lih-Ching Chu, IEMA Bureau of Environmental Safety, 1301 Knotts Street, Springfield, IL 62703; (217) 786-6363. IEMA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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●AND FINALLY

Please send information for inclusion in future issues to your Liaison Person or myself Dr Tony Ware, Avoncastle, South Lane, Sutton Valence, Maidstone, Kent ME17 3AZ, UK. Tel: +44 (0)1622 842627, e-mail: [tonyware@compuserve.com](mailto:tonyware@compuserve.com)

**IMPORTANT PLEASE** send me your e-mail address so that I can inform you when websites have been updated and any other news of immediate interest.

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