

**Newsletter Secretariat:**  
Radiochemistry Group  
Analytical Division  
The Royal Society of Chemistry  
Burlington House  
Piccadilly  
London W1V 0BN  
United Kingdom.



***RADIOCHEMISTRY IN EUROPE***  
***THE NEWSLETTER of the***  
***DIVISION of NUCLEAR and RADIOCHEMISTRY***  
**Issue 45–March 2010**

#### **EDITORIAL COMMENT**

Welcome to the forty-fourth newsletter for Radiochemists in Europe with belated Good Wishes for a Successful New Year. 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.

Prof. Dr Heinz Gäggeler, the Division Chair, has established a database of e-mail addresses, may I remind readers to send their e-mail address to [angela.blattman@psi.ch](mailto:angela.blattman@psi.ch) for inclusion into this new big list..

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. Please note my new e-mail address and change in your address books. **Editor: Dr. Tony Ware (e-mail:tony.ware@tiscali.co.uk)**

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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 the 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 and should be maintained.
5. Co-ordination of T&E in Radiochemistry and Review of Courses.
6. Maintain contacts with the Technical Advisory Boards of both the NRC and Radchem series of meetings that should be organised “on behalf of the DNRC”.

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

It is with pleasure that we would like to remind you that our Division celebrated 10 years anniversary of the establishment of the first formal organisation of the European radiochemists. The following article reviews this history.

### **Nuclear and Radiochemistry in Europe – from Informal Association to the Division of EuCheMS**

#### 1. The Beginning – European Radiochemists Association (ERA)

“In the early 1980’s the Chemical Societies in Europe were asked to indicate their interest in supporting Radiochemistry throughout Europe. As a result the first International Conference on Nuclear and Radiochemistry (NRC) was held in Lindau, Germany in 1984. This was followed by conferences in Brighton, Great Britain (1988), Vienna, Austria (1992) and St Malo, France (1996). These conferences were initiated by an informal International Organizing Committee which invited selected European Country to organize each individual event. The main goal was to hold the conference somewhere in Europe so that there would be a higher attendance of Europeans.

The Radiochemical Method Group of the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) took the initiative to carry out the survey to determine the depth of interest in forming a more formal association. The results of the first survey yielded a list of leading radiochemists in most European countries. Further enquiries indicated that there was no real support for a formal institute or society, but that a newsletter and a means of circulating meeting information would be welcome.

That was the reason for the beginning of the European Radiochemists Association (ERA) - not a formal society. The European Radiochemists Association started almost simultaneously with the appearance of the first issue of the *Radiochemistry in Europe* newsletter in August 1995. The objective of the European Radiochemical Association was to extend and improve communication between radiochemists in Europe through a newsletter. Liaison persons within each country or group were expected to exchange details of their activities, set up a diary of relevant international events and exchange details of specialist equipment, facilities and technology.

#### 2. Formation of the Working Party

On September 1999 Federation of European Chemical Societies (FECS) General Assembly meeting was held in Helsinki. Dr. Lehto (on behalf of Dr. Ware) requested to form a Working Party on Nuclear and Radiochemistry. FECS General Assembly agreed and a new Working Party on Nuclear and Radiochemistry (WPNRC) was formed. It was a formalization of the European Radiochemists Association. Each chemical society was allowed to nominate a member to the Working Party on Nuclear and Radiochemistry.

The Working Party first met during the 5th NRC in Pontresina, Switzerland, September 2000. During the first meeting, the WP established a website and supported the continuing publishing of the Newsletter for Radiochemists in Europe, which was being hosted by the Royal Society of Chemistry. Also the support organization of the conference series NRC, held every four years and also the special symposia between the conferences were included among the activities of the WP. In addition to the ERA aims and objectives, the WP also proposed to put together a syllabus of radiochemistry for undergraduate and postgraduate students – this was the support of the International Atomic Energy Agency initiative. The WP liaised with the International Isotope Society and the International Society on

Radiopharmaceutical Chemistry and Biology to seek to communicate and to consider ways of working together. Dr. Ware was elected as a Chairman and Secretary of the group.

In 2002 at the WP meeting (already 15 members + 2 observers) in London it was agreed to participate in the 1<sup>st</sup> FECS European Chemistry Congress in 2006 in Budapest. In August 30<sup>th</sup> and September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2004 the conference NRC 6 was held in Aachen, Germany (granted FECS sponsorship). WP had 18 members of whom 13 attended the WP meeting during the conference. It was agreed to press for additional members and preliminary programme of the “Hot topics in Nuclear and Radiochemistry” symposium at the first FECS European Congress was established.

### 3. Transformation of WP to the Division of EuCheMS

On 15<sup>th</sup> October 2004 FECS transformed into European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences (EuCheMS) as an “association internationale sans but lucratif” (a non profit organization) under Belgian law thereby taking over the role and responsibilities of the FECS.

In London 2005, during the meeting of WPNRC, the proposal from WPNRC to request Division status (EuCheMS status does not recognize the existence of working parties) was considered. This was formally endorsed at the General Assembly in Moscow in October 2006.

On 23 – 31 August 2006 the 1st European Chemistry Congress was held in Budapest, Hungary. During the congress the “Procedure and Practices” of the new DNRC were approved. Aside from this also the special symposium entitled “Hot topics in Nuclear and Radiochemistry” was held during the congress. The topics covered were:

1. Chemistry of New Elements (Heinz W. Gäggeler, Switzerland)
2. Radionuclides in the Environment (Heino Nitsche, Berkeley, USA)
3. Radiopharmaceuticals (H H Coenen, Jülich, Germany)
4. Chemistry of the Nuclear Fuel Cycle (Charles Madic, CEA, France)
5. Teaching of nuclear and radiochemistry in the modern age (Anthony R. Ware, UK)

It was decided to continue in the activities of WPNRC, including distribution of the newsletter, updating 10 year Conference/ Symposium Calendar on the website and the coordination of the teaching of the young radiochemists in Europe. The Division has incorporated the Radiochemical Conferences held in the Czech Republic every four years, thus establishing a conference covering all aspects of nuclear and radiochemistry every two years as required by its aims. In following months, the links have been already forged with other EuCheMS Divisions notably Analytical Chemistry and Chemistry and the Environment, and with outside organizations having similar interests. An example is the collaboration with IAEA worldwide survey on the “Assessment of the teaching and applications in radiochemistry.”

During the next meeting of DNRC (on September 2007 in Davos, Switzerland) Prof. Heinz W. Gäggeler from university of Bern was called to the chair with Prof. Jan John from Czech Technical University of Prague as secretary. New chairmanship started to work from 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2008.

The NRC series has continued with a successful NRC7 held in Budapest in 2008. The Division has agreed to participate in the 3rd EuCheMS Chemistry Congress in Nuremberg, Germany in 2010. The next conference will be the Radiochemical Conference 18 – 23 April 2010 in Mariánské Lázně, Czech Republic. The NRC series will continue with NRC8 planned for Italy in 2012.

The website ([www.euchems.org/Divisions/NRC](http://www.euchems.org/Divisions/NRC)) includes details of the Division along with the newsletter, future events and a 10-year calendar of regular conferences in the area of nuclear and radiochemistry.

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## □ EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION for CHEMICAL and MOLECULAR SCIENCES

### **EuCheMS Congress '09 Nuremberg, Germany 29. 8. – 2.9.2010**

Nuclear and Radiochemistry is represented at the forthcoming 3<sup>rd</sup> EuCheMS congress as a special Symposium on 1<sup>st</sup> September.

The program includes the following four invited lectures:

Partitioning and transmutation: a solution to the nuclear waste problem?

*Prof. Dr. Horst Geckeis, KIT Karlsruhe, Germany*

Cosmogenic radionuclides: a key to quantify solar forcing on climate

*Prof. Dr. Jürg Beer, EAWAG / ETH Zürich, Switzerland*

Radionuclide therapy for cancer treatment

*Prof. Dr. Jörg Steinbach, FZ Dresden-Rossendorf, Germany*

Chemistry with the newly discovered superheavy elements

*Dr. Robert Eichler, Paul Scherrer Institut / Bern University, Switzerland*

For further information, please see [www.euchems-congress2010.org/scientific/sciother/nuc.htm](http://www.euchems-congress2010.org/scientific/sciother/nuc.htm)

### **European Energy Conference**

**19-23 April, NH Constanza Hotel and AXA Auditorium, Barcelona, Spain**

[www.e2c-2010.org/](http://www.e2c-2010.org/)

A New Forum for Energy Research. The world community, and not least Europe, is confronted with converging crises, economic, environmental, employment and social. Energy – its availability at acceptable economic and environmental

cost, and with the prospect of sustainability – is a key factor in confronting these crises. Given these circumstances, four leading European scientific organisations are committed to a synergetic engagement to evaluate and promote European research and technology competence in the energy field. Fundamental research of course must be structured for application, so that through engineering practice it can fulfil the requirements of society. The first European Energy Conference will not be an isolated event; it launches an ongoing forum of communication and co-operation promoting energy-related research.

The four leading European scientific organisations are [European Science Foundation \(ESF\)](#), the [European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences \(EuCheMS\)](#), the [European Materials Research Society \(E-MRS\)](#) and the [European Physical Society \(EPS\)](#). They share the conviction that fundamental scientific aspects of energy research and development will be substantially more efficient, with faster progress and a promotion of understanding through an interaction of their specialist disciplines, chemistry, material sciences and physics. The European scientific community has the potential to optimise interdisciplinary co-operation and communication in energy research. Therefore this newly launched European Energy Conference series will promote, consolidate and communicate this vitally necessary synergy. Although focused on energy research and technology, this conference series fully recognises the political, economic, social and environmental aspects of energy supply and consumption. Sustainable development is ultimately a social and community imperative, which can only be accomplished within this larger context.

The Conference will cover chemistry, physics and material sciences related to energy technologies. In addition to plenary keynote presentations on diverse energy themes, parallel sessions will deal with energy sources, storage and conversion of energy and end-use including energy conservation.

The scientific committee welcomes original contributions on the following topics:

- **Primary Energy** - sources: solar and environmental, fuels and earth and ocean, fission and fusion
- **Energy Conversion and Storage** - electrochemistry for energy, thermodynamics and thermal processes, supporting technologies
- **End Use of Energy** - the efficient home, transport, demand and environmental management
- **Emerging Topics** - for highly-relevant topics not covered by the sessions above

Invited Speakers will include (list to be completed):

- **Carlos Alejaldre**, Directorate, ITER, ES - *ITER: promise and problems*
- **Nicola Armaroli**, Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, IT - *The ultimate in lighting: LEDs and others*
- **Vincenzo Balzani**, University of Bologna, IT - *Artificial photosynthesis*
- **Ronnie Belmans**, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, BE - *Smart Grids: efficient electricity generation and distribution*
- **Anya Bieberle**, ETH Zurich, CH - *Solid ionic materials for energy*
- **Harald Bolt**, FZJ, DE - *Materials for extreme conditions*
- **Jean-François Dallemand**, JRC, Ispra, IT - *Sustainable biofuels*
- **Gia Destouni**, Stockholm University, SE - *Water & energy/environmental limitations*
- **Jean-Paul Glatz**, Institute for Transuranium Elements, Karlsruhe, DE - *Closing the nuclear fuel cycle*
- **Waclaw Gudowski**, International Science & Technology Centre, RU - *Next generation fission reactors*
- **Stuart Haszeldine**, University of Edinburgh, Scotland, UK - *Scientific and technical basis for carbon capture*
- **Gerhard Hörpel**, Westfälische-Wilhelms-Universität, DE - *Putting traction batteries on the road*
- **David King**, Oxford University, UK - *High level challenges*
- **Rolf Linkohr**, Centre for European Energy Strategy, BE - *Evaluation of the Conference*
- **Martha Lux Steiner**, Helmholtz Centre, Berlin, DE - *Advanced compound semiconductors*
- **Ravindranathan Thampi**, University College Dublin, IE - *Catalysis for fuel processing*

Contact and Information at [www.e2c-2010.org](http://www.e2c-2010.org) or [info@e2c-2010.org](mailto:info@e2c-2010.org)

### **EuCheMS view on Joint Programming**

The EuCheMS has published its view on Joint Programming.

Whilst EuCheMS believes that Joint Programming introduces a systematic approach to EU R&D by shifting the focus from industry to society, it has reservations as to its overall efficiency and applicability. The full EuCheMS report is on the website at <http://www.euchems.org/News/JProg.asp>

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### **□ COOPERATION IN EDUCATION IN NUCLEAR CHEMISTRY (CINCH)**

On the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2010, a Kick-off Meeting of a new FP7 Euratom Fission Training Schemes (EFTS) Coordination Action 249690 marked a formal beginning of a new initiative aiming at the coordination of education and training in the field of nuclear- and radiochemistry in Europe. By this three-years project, the Partners wish to initiate cooperation of the European nuclear- and radiochemistry education and training providers' community on a level comparable to that developed by the nuclear engineers within the European Nuclear Engineering Network (ENEN). The project can be characterised by the following summary:

“The renaissance of nuclear power will require a significant increase of the numbers of the respective specialists, among others also nuclear chemists. Because the current situation in nuclear chemistry education and training in Europe is quite diverse, the project aims at its coordination. The system developed should enable formation of a long-term Euratom Fission Training Scheme (EFTS) providing a common basis to the fragmented activities in this field and thus move the education and training in nuclear chemistry to a qualitatively new level.

The main target group will be not only the doctoral students and research workers but also the students at the master level. Including these students into the system should increase attractiveness of the studies of nuclear chemistry and thus enlarge the source of highly qualified professionals for the future employers.

The project consortium includes both academia and ‘future employers’, representatives of all the key players/countries in the field have been included. The EU experience will be faced with the Russian expertise; “Think-tank” activities will be organized for gathering the views as broad as possible. The experience gained by ENEN association during the coordination of nuclear engineering education will be directly applied, among others to design the common qualification criteria, the mutual recognition system, and in the development of a sustainable system of long-term financing of the scheme.

The expected results of the project with the broadest impact to students, teachers, industries, and research community are a set of compact joint modular courses in different branches of modern nuclear chemistry, an electronic tool in the form of a virtual educational platform available for both education and training (both conceived as applicable at the Ph.D., life-long learning, and MSc. levels), and a long term sustainable strategy for the nuclear chemistry education including a roadmap for its implementation.”

To receive as broad as possible scale of views on the activities and aims of the project and feedback from the end-users of the results, an Advisory Board will be established with high-level responsible representatives of end-users, academia, and NGO (such as e.g. ENEN association). The main task of this body will be to ensure the feed-back during the project and contribute to information interchange with the major nuclear stakeholders’ organisations („future employers“), relevant existing European structures such as, e.g., ENEN, the “training” Working Groups of SNE TP, ENEF and ENSREG, or the YGN; or the part of academia not represented in CINCH. Because of its long-lasting activities in the field of co-ordination of education, the Division of Nuclear- and Radiochemistry will be invited to nominate a representative in to the CINCH Advisory Board.

One of the first activities of the new project will be to update the earlier review of the status of NRC education in Europe conducted few years ago by Dr. Tony Ware on behalf of the DNRC and extended subsequently by J. C. Abbe on behalf of the IAEA. At this moment, the questionnaire is under drafting and a list of education and training providers is under compilation. The questionnaire is expected to be distributed in March/April. In parallel, a survey of the requirements of the end-users regarding the skills, they expect their future new employees to have, will be performed. These data will serve as the basis for drafting the long term sustainable strategy for the nuclear chemistry education including a roadmap for its implementation and also for the development of several demonstration joint modular courses.

The project consortium includes Chalmers Technical University, Gothenburg; University of Helsinki, Finland; Moscow State University, Russia; Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Chimie de Paris, France; Nuclear Research Institute plc, Rez, Czech Republic; and National Nuclear Laboratory Ltd., U.K.; the co-ordinator is the Czech Technical University in Prague, Czech Republic. The project consortium is opened to further collaborations; currently, participation of Norwegian universities is under negotiation; interest was received also from some overseas institutions. The Consortium may be contacted through the co-ordinator – Jan John of the CTU in Prague ([john@fjfi.cvut.cz](mailto:john@fjfi.cvut.cz)). Additional information on the project will be posted soon on the CINCH web site at <http://www.cinch-project.eu> (to be launched). The information on the project achievements will be presented in all the major NRC meetings.

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#### •LABORATORY/BUSINESS PROFILES

No profiles were offered during the past 6 months.

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#### •CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP REPORTS

##### **Radiochemistry Group of the Royal Society of Chemistry**

It is the habit of the Radiochemistry Group to place notes from talks at its one-day meetings on their website.

Slides from most of the talks on “Radioactivity and the Law” are now at:

[www.rsc.org/Membership/Networking/InterestGroups/Radiochemistry/RadioactivityLaw.asp](http://www.rsc.org/Membership/Networking/InterestGroups/Radiochemistry/RadioactivityLaw.asp)

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#### •CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP DETAILS

### **RadChem 2010 18 - 23 April 2010 in Mariánské Lázně, Czech Republic**

This is to draw your attention to RadChem 2010 - the 16th Radiochemical Conference - scheduled to take place on 18 - 23 April 2010 in Mariánské Lázně, Czech Republic. Since the 16th continuation, this successful series won a new grade label - it is organised on behalf of the Division of Nuclear- and Radiochemistry of the European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences (EuChemS). Similar to the previous conferences, the scope of RadChem 2010 will cover most aspects of nuclear- and radiochemistry including, but not limited to

- Radionuclides in the Environment, Radioecology
- Nuclear Analytical Methods
- Chemistry of Actinide and Trans-actinide Elements
- Radiation Chemistry
- Production and Application of Radionuclides
- Separation Methods, Speciation
- Chemistry of Nuclear Fuel Cycle, Radiochemical Problems in Nuclear Waste Management
- Nuclear Methods in Medicine, Radiopharmaceuticals and Radiodiagnostics, Labelled Compounds

Please check the conference web site <http://www.radchem.cz> for the details, preliminary registration and abstract submission.

Jan John and the RadChem 2010 Organising Team look forward to welcoming you in Mariánské Lázně.

### **ITC COURSES FOR 2010**

#### **' Transport and Retention of Radionuclides in Argillaceous and Fractured Media'**

18<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> May 2010, Würenlingen, St Ursanne and Meiringen, Switzerland (see <http://www.itc-school.org/index.php/Present-Courses/Transport-and-Retention-of-Radionuclides-in-Argillaceous-and-Fractured-Media.html> for details)

' **Radiological Risk Assessment and Environmental Analysis**' to be held in Manchester in the autumn. There isn't a detailed link available for this one yet, but information for the same course last year can be found on <http://www.itc-school.org/index.php/Past-ITC-Courses/Radiological-Risk-Assessment-and-Environmental-Analysis-course.html>.

### **11<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM on ENVIRONMENTAL RADIOCHEMICAL ANALYSIS**

**15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> September Chester, UK**

The Symposium web site is located at <http://www.rsc.org/era2010>

The Symposium aims to provide a forum for professional radiochemists who analyse environmental and biological materials to discuss their latest work and ideas. It will also give an opportunity for environmental scientists who apply radiochemical methods to their studies to present their results. The Symposium will take place in the Best Western Queen Hotel, City Road, Chester, Cheshire CH1 3AH. Symposium Fees cover full board at the Queen Hotel.

Deadline for abstracts has been extended to 31<sup>st</sup> March

The Symposium will cover;

- Nuclear counting techniques applicable to environmental measurements
- Analytical radiochemistry & Radioecology
- The behaviour of radionuclides in the environment
- Radioactively contaminated land
- Fate of radionuclides in natural and engineered environments
- Behaviour of radionuclides in radioactive wastes

Online registration now available at: <http://www.rsc.org/ConferencesAndEvents/MemberEvents/ERA/Registration.asp>

### **10<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP on the GEOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF RADON RISK MAPPING**

September 22<sup>nd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010 Prague, Czech Republic

#### **+ RIM – Radon Intercomparison Measurements at Radon Reference Sites**

September 20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010

It is certainly possible to participate both in the Workshop and in RIM, or only in the Workshop or only in the RIM

WEBPAGE: [www.radon.eu/workshop2010](http://www.radon.eu/workshop2010)

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:

Workshop:

Ivan BARNET (CGS)  
Matej NEZNAL (RADON)  
Petra PACHEROVA (CGS)

RIM:

Milan MATOLIN (Charles University in Prague)  
Martin NEZNAL (RADON)

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**NEWS FROM THE INTERNET**

## **“GEORGE HEVESY MEDAL AWARD” NOMINATION 2010**

The George Hevesy Medal Award is the premier international award of excellence in radioanalytical and nuclear chemistry. It is awarded to an individual in recognition of excellence through outstanding, sustained career achievements in the fields of pure as well as applied nuclear and radiochemistry, particularly applications to nuclear analytical chemistry. Established originally in 1968 by the Journal of Radioanalytical and Nuclear Chemistry (JRNC), the George Hevesy Medal Award has been given 19 times during 1968-86. This Award has been reactivated in 2000. It is sponsored by JRNC and adjudicated by the International Committee on Activation Analysis/Modern Trends in Activation Analysis (ICAA/MTAA). The Award has no monetary value. The George Hevesy Medal Award comprises an engraved bronze medal and an ornamental scroll.

The names (year) of the former awardees are: W. Wayne MEINKE (1968), Albert A. SMALES (1969), Ivan Pavlovich ALIMARIN (1970), Philippe ALBERT and Julien HOSTE (1972), Tibor BRAUN and Juraj TÖLGYESSY (1975), Francesco GIRARDI (1976), Saadia AMIEL and Richard E. WAINERDI (1977), Robert E. JERVIS (1978), Vincent P. GUINN (1979), William S. LYON and Max PEISACH (1981), Edward V. SAYRE and Garman HARBOTTLE (1983), Georges AMSEL (1984), Nobuo SUZUKI (1985), Emile A. SCHWEIKERT (1986), Frans DE CORTE (2000), Amares CHATT and Eiliv STEINNES (2001), Enrico SABBIONI (2002), Jeroen J.M. DE GOEIJ (2003), Attila VÉRTES (2004), Nicholas M. SPYROU, Gregory CHOPPIN, Zhifang CHAI (2005), Jan KUČERA (2006), Robert R. GREENBERG (2007), Syed M. QAIM (2008), and Richard M. LINDSTROM (2009).

The George Hevesy Medal Award 2010 (HMA-10) will be presented at the 16th Radiochemical Conference (RadChem-2010) scheduled to be held in Mariánské Lázně, Czech Republic during 2010 April 18-23.

Nominations of worthy candidates for HMA-10 are widely solicited from the international community of practising radiochemists and may be initiated by individual colleagues or their institutes including the members of the Editorial Advisory Board of the JRNC. There are no restrictions with respect to age, gender, nationality or other to who may be nominated among those whose achievements fall within the guidelines of the Hevesy Medal Award. A copy of the complete guideline can be obtained from Professor A. Chatt, President of ICAA/MTAA.

## **Element 112 is Named Copernicium**

IUPAC has officially approved the name copernicium, with symbol Cn, for the element of atomic number 112. Priority for the discovery of this element was assigned, in accordance with the agreed criteria, to the Gesellschaft für Schwerionenforschung (GSI) (Center for Heavy Ion Research) in Darmstadt, Germany. The team at GSI proposed the name copernicium which has now been approved by IUPAC. Sigurd Hofmann, leader of the GSI team stated that the intent was to "salute an influential scientist who didn't receive any accolades in his own lifetime, and highlight the link between astronomy and the field of nuclear chemistry." The name proposed by the Gesellschaft für Schwerionenforschung (GSI) lies within the long tradition of naming elements to honour famous scientists. Nicolaus Copernicus was born on 19 February 1473, in Toruń, Poland and died on 24 May 1543, in Frombork/Frauenburg also in Poland. His work has been of exceptional influence on the philosophical and political thinking of mankind and on the rise of modern science based on experimental results. During his time as a canon of the Cathedral in Frauenburg, Copernicus spent many years developing a conclusive model for complex astronomical observations of the movements of the sun, moon, planets and stars. His work published as "De revolutionibus orbium coelestium, liber sextus" in 1543 had very far reaching consequences. Indeed the Copernican model demanded major changes in the view of the world related to astronomy and physical forces and well as having theological and political consequences. The planetary system introduced by Copernicus has been applied to other analogous systems in which objects move under the influence of a force directed towards a common centre. Notably, on a microscopic scale this is the Bohr model of the atom with its nucleus and orbiting electrons.

The Recommendations will be published in the March issue of the IUPAC journal *Pure and Applied Chemistry* and is available online at *Pure Appl. Chem.*, 2010, Vol. 82, No. 3, pp. 753-755 (doi: 10.1351/PAC-REC-09-08-20).

Priority of claims to the discovery of the element of atomic number 112 was determined by a joint working party of independent experts drawn from the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) and the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP). The group's report was published in July 2009, *Pure Appl. Chem.*, 2009, Vol. 81, No. 7, pp. 1331-1343 (doi: 10.1351/PAC-REP-08-03-05). The Joint Working Party will issue a second report, dealing with claims

for the discovery of elements with atomic numbers in the range 113 to 118, in the near future.

*IUPAC was formed in 1919 by chemists from industry and academia. For more than 90 years, the Union has succeeded in fostering world-wide communications in the chemical sciences and in uniting academic, industrial and public sector*

*chemistry in a common language. IUPAC is recognized as the world authority on chemical nomenclature, terminology, standardized methods for measurement, atomic weights and many other critically evaluated data. More information about IUPAC and its activities is available at [www.iupac.org](http://www.iupac.org).*

For questions, contact Dr. Terrence Renner, Executive Director, at [secretariat@iupac.org](mailto:secretariat@iupac.org)

## **United States Environmental Protection Association (USEPA)**

The USEPA has created a series of web pages they refer to as Science Notebook.

There is a new article on Preparedness which includes a short video on one of the Mobile Environmental Radiation Laboratory out of EPA's NAREL in Montgomery.

<http://www.epa.gov/epahome/sciencenb/preparedness/index.html>

There was also an earlier page on Radiation that covers the EPA's Radiological Emergency Response Team.

<http://www.epa.gov/epahome/sciencenb/radiation/index.html>

### **The Integrated Consortium of Laboratory Networks (ICLN)**

The ICLN's Network Co-ordinating Group's (NCG) Radiological Laboratory Working Group has released their working document "Radiological Laboratory Response - Limiting Issues"

This document describes potential issues that could hold back the production/throughput of an environmental radioanalytical laboratory. Some laboratories may have identified these issues and created solutions while others maybe things that they haven't thought about. It is useful for identifying the "short straw" during a high throughput production scenario.

This document may be downloaded from the Association of Public Health Laboratories website at this URL:

<http://aphl.org/aphlprograms/eh/Documents/RadiationLabLimitingDocument.pdf>

### **Subject: EPSRC/STFC Review of Nuclear Physics and Nuclear Engineering**

The EPSRC and STFC has carried out a review of nuclear physics and nuclear engineering in the UK. The review panel was chaired by Dr Sue Ion and the panel's report is now available to download through either EPSRC's or STFC's website.

<http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/ResearchFunding/Programmes/PhysSci/RC/NuclearPhysicsandNuclearEngineeringReviewReport.htm>

<http://www.stfc.ac.uk/SciProg/NP/NPEngReview.aspx>

EPSRC and STFC welcome comments on the report and its recommendations from members of the research community and other stakeholders. Feedback will be integrated in to the Action Plan for the Review report, which will be prepared by EPSRC and STFC.

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## **JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

### **GSI Helmholtz Center**

The Nuclear Chemistry department at the GSI Helmholtz Center for Heavy Ion Research in Darmstadt, Germany has an open tenure-track position for a nuclear chemist / nuclear physicist available in their department. The application deadline is March 26, 2010.

The job posting in English and in German is available online at <https://www.gsi.de/informationen/internal/vw/pa/1220-09.69engl.htm>

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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: [tony.ware@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:tony.ware@tiscali.co.uk)

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

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## **DIVISION Members**

### **Prof. Mauro Bonardi (Italy)**

Head of Radiochemistry  
Laboratory LASA  
Via F. Ili Cervi,  
20090 Segrate  
Milano, Italy  
[Mauro.bonardi@mi.infn.it](mailto:Mauro.bonardi@mi.infn.it)

### **Prof. Alexander Chekmarev (Russia)**

Russian D Mendeleev University  
of Chemical Technology  
Miusskaya Sic9, 125190 Moscow, Russia  
[Chekmarev@rctu.ru](mailto:Chekmarev@rctu.ru)

### **Dr Divna Djokić (Serbia)**

The Vinča Institute of Nuclear Science  
PO Box 522, 11001 Belgrade  
Serbia and Montenegro  
[djokici@vin.bg.ac.yu](mailto:djokici@vin.bg.ac.yu)

### **Prof. Dr. Heinz W Gäggeler (Switzerland)**

Dept. for Chemistry and Biochemistry  
Freiestrasse 3, CH-3012 Bern,  
Switzerland  
[heinz.gaeggeler@jac.unibe.ch](mailto:heinz.gaeggeler@jac.unibe.ch)  
and [heinz.gaeggeler@psi.ch](mailto:heinz.gaeggeler@psi.ch)

### **Dr Xiaolin Hou (Denmark)**

Risø National Laboratory

Department of Radiation Research  
NUK-202, DK-4000  
Roskilde, Denmark  
[xiaolin.hou@risoe.dk](mailto:xiaolin.hou@risoe.dk)

### **Prof Per Hoff (Norway)**

Nuclear Chemistry Section, Department of  
Chemistry,  
University of Oslo, PO Box 1033,  
Blindern N-0315 Oslo, Norway  
[per.hoff@kjemi.uio.no](mailto:per.hoff@kjemi.uio.no)

### **Mr S Jerome (UK)**

National Physical Laboratory  
G6 – A5 Hampton Road  
Teddington  
Middlesex TW11 0LW, UK  
[simon.jerome@npl.co.uk](mailto:simon.jerome@npl.co.uk)

**Dr Jan John (Czech Republic)**  
Dept Nuc Chem, Czech Tech.Univ.in  
Prague  
Brehova 7, 115 19 Praha 1, Czech  
Republic  
jan.john@fjfi.cvut.cz

**Ir. Zvonimir I Kolar, MSc (The Netherlands)**  
Dept. of Radiation, Radionuclides &  
Reactors. Faculty Applied Science  
Delft University of Technology  
Mekelweg 15, 2629 JB Delft,  
The Netherlands  
[z.i.kolar@tudelft.nl](mailto:z.i.kolar@tudelft.nl)

**Dr Jukka Lehto (Finland)**  
Laboratory of Radiochemistry  
P.O.Box 55  
00014 University of Helsinki, Finland  
jukka.lehto@helsinki.fi

**Dra Catalina Gasco Leonarte (Spain)**  
CIEMAT (DIAF)(Ed3A)  
Avda de la Complutense 22  
Madrid 28040  
Spain  
[catalina.gasco@ciemat.es](mailto:catalina.gasco@ciemat.es)

**Dr Panagiotis Misaelides (Greece)**  
Dept. of Chemistry, Aristotle University,  
PO Box 1547  
GR-54006 Thessaloniki, Greece  
misailid@chem.auth.gr

**Prof. Jerzy Narbutt, (Poland)**  
Head of Dept of Radiochemistry  
Institute of Nuclear Chemistry &  
Technology

Dorodna 16, 03-195 Warszawa, Poland  
[jnarbut@orange.ichtj.waw.pl](mailto:jnarbut@orange.ichtj.waw.pl)

**Dr Ioannis Paschalidis (Cyprus)**  
Assistant Professor of Radiochemistry  
Dept. of Chemistry, University of Cyprus  
[pspasch@ucy.ac.cy](mailto:pspasch@ucy.ac.cy)

**Prof.. Pavol Rajec (Slovakia)**  
Dept. of Nuclear Chemistry, Faculty of  
Natural Sciences  
Comenius University, Mlynska dolina  
842 15 Bratislava, Slovakia  
[rajec@fns.uniba.sk](mailto:rajec@fns.uniba.sk)

**Dr Isabel Santos (Portugal)**  
Instituto Tecnológico de Nuclear,  
Departamento de Quimica  
Est. Nacional 10, 2686 Sacavém, Portugal  
[isantos@itn.pt](mailto:isantos@itn.pt)

**Prof. Eric Simoni (France)**  
IPN, Paris XI University,  
France  
[simoni@ipno.in2p3.fr](mailto:simoni@ipno.in2p3.fr)

**Prof Gunnar Skarnemark (Sweden)**  
Dept of Nuclear Chemistry, Chalmers  
Univ of Technology  
S-41296 Goteborg, Sweden  
gunnar.skarnemark@chalmers.se

**Dr. Rayna Stefanova (Bulgaria)**  
National Centre of Radiobiology and  
Radiation Protection,  
National Laboratory for Control of  
Irradiated Foods  
132 Kliment Ohridsky  
1756 Sofia, Bulgaria

[r.stefanova@ncrrp.org](mailto:r.stefanova@ncrrp.org)

**Prof. Andreas Türler (Germany)**  
Departement fuer Chemie und Biochemie  
Universitaet Bern  
Freiestrasse 3  
3012 Bern and Paul Scherrer Institute  
5232 Villigen, Switzerland  
[andreas.tuerler@radiochemie.de](mailto:andreas.tuerler@radiochemie.de)

**Prof. Turan Unak (Turkey)**  
Ege University, Faculty of Science  
Dept of Chemistry, Div Nuclear Chem  
Bornova, Izmir 35100, Turkey  
incs@mail.ege.edu.tr

**Dr A Vincze (Hungary)**  
Zrinyi Miklos National Defense  
University  
Hungary  
[vincze.arpad@zmne.hu](mailto:vincze.arpad@zmne.hu)

**Dr A R Ware (UK)**  
Avoncastle , South Lane  
Sutton Valence, Maidstone  
Kent ME17 3AZ, UK  
Tel. +44(0)1622 842627  
tony.ware@tiscali.co.uk

**Dr Israel Zilbermann (Israel)**  
Chemistry Department, Nuclear Research  
Centre Negev,  
POB 9001,  
Beer-Sheva 84190, Israel  
[kurzionz@bgumail.bgu.ac.il](mailto:kurzionz@bgumail.bgu.ac.il)

## LIST OF ADDITIONAL LIAISON PERSONS

**Dr Max Bichler (Austria)**  
Technische Universität Wien, Atominst.  
Abteilung Radiochemie Stadionallee 2,  
A-1020 Wien, Austria  
Tel.: 43 1 58801 14192  
e-mail: [bichler@ati.ac.at](mailto:bichler@ati.ac.at)

**Dr Ales Fajgelj (IAEA, Austria)**  
IAEA, Agency's Lab Seibersdorf  
A-2444 Seibersdorf, Austria  
Tel: 43 1 2600 28233  
e-mail: [a.fajgelj@iaea.org](mailto:a.fajgelj@iaea.org)

**Dr. Dusan Razem, Head, (Croatia)**  
Radiation Chemistry and Dosimetry  
Laboratory  
Dept of Chemistry  
Rudjer Boskovic Institute  
Bijenicka cesta 54, P.O.Box 180  
1000 Zagreb  
Croatia  
[razem@rudjer.irb.hr](mailto:razem@rudjer.irb.hr)

**Prof Dr P Benes (Czech Republic)**  
Czech Technical University  
Nuclear Sciences & Physical Engineering  
115 19 PRAHA 1  
Brehova 7, Czech Republic  
Tel: (2) 231 76 26  
e-mail: [petr.benes@fjfi.cvut.cz](mailto:petr.benes@fjfi.cvut.cz)

**Dr D Trubert (France)**  
Institut de Physique Nucleaire  
Division de Radiochimie  
BP 1  
F-91406 Orsay Cedex  
France  
Tel. (33) 16 1 69 41 73 45  
e-mail: [trubert@ipncl.in2p3.fr](mailto:trubert@ipncl.in2p3.fr)

**Prof. Z B Alfassi (Israel)**  
Department of Nuclear Engineering  
Ben Gurion University  
Beer Sheva, 84102 Israel  
Tel. 972-57-461347  
e-mail: [alfassi@bgumail.bgu.ac.il](mailto:alfassi@bgumail.bgu.ac.il)

**Dr R Bojanowski (Poland)**  
Polish Academy of Sciences  
Institute of Oceanology  
Dept of Marine Chem. and Biology  
Powstancow Warszawy 55  
81-712 Sopot  
P.O.Box 68, Poland  
Tel. (48 58) 51 72 81  
e-mail: [rbojan@ocean.iopan.gda.pl](mailto:rbojan@ocean.iopan.gda.pl)

**Dr V P Kolotov (Russia)**  
Verdnasky Institute of Geochemistry and  
Analytical Chemistry  
Kosygin str., 19  
Moscow B-334, 117975, Russia

Fax:7 (095) 9382054  
e-mail: [kolotov@glas.apc.org](mailto:kolotov@glas.apc.org) or  
[kolotov@online.ru](mailto:kolotov@online.ru)

**Prof. Dr Fedor Macasek (Slovakia)**  
Quality Manager BIONT,  
Karloveska 63  
SK-842 29 Bratislava 4,  
Slovakia  
Tel. +421 2 206 70 756,  
Fax: +421 2 206 70 748  
e-mail: [macasek@biont.sk](mailto:macasek@biont.sk)

**Dr Milka Benedik (Slovenia)**  
Laboratory for Radiochemistry  
J Stefan Institute  
1000 Ljubljana  
Slovenia  
Tel: + 386 1 5885 450  
e-mail: [ljudmila.benedik@ijs.si](mailto:ljudmila.benedik@ijs.si)

**Prof. T Eriksen (Rest of Sweden)**  
Dept of Nuclear Chemistry  
S-10044 Stockholm 70,  
Sweden  
e-mail: [tee@nuchem.kth.se](mailto:tee@nuchem.kth.se)

**Dr G Hunter (International Union of Radioecology)**

7A Park Ave.  
Stirling, Scotland  
UK FK82QR  
e-mail: [twohunters@btopenworld.com](mailto:twohunters@btopenworld.com)