

RSC NEWS

NOVEMBER 2010 www.rsc.org



International year of chemistry

THROUGHOUT 2011 PEOPLE WILL CELEBRATE THE
WONDER OF CHEMISTRY AROUND THE WORLD

RSC | Advancing the
Chemical Sciences

**A REWARDING
CAREER IN
CHEMISTRY**

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**DEVELOPING
TALENT
IN INDIA**

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ROUNDUP



◀ Lady Barbara Judge, former Chairman of the UK Atomic Energy Authority, gave an engaging and informative talk on nuclear energy at the latest in the *Chemistry for Tomorrow's World* policy events series.

She highlighted the political and practical issues associated with generating the UK's energy through nuclear power to a mixed audience of representatives from the policy sector, the nuclear industry and academia. Her talk was followed by a lively discussion, during which the audience presented views for and against using nuclear power in the UK, along with the issue of maintaining university funding to secure a strong science base.

Lady Judge supports the use of nuclear power to generate a constant, secure energy supply in the UK and drew the evening to a close saying, "Nuclear power is not the answer, but it is an answer. At this stage we cannot afford to throw anything off the table."



▲ Harry Heaney, Emeritus Professor at Loughborough University and former student at Keele University, returned to his old university on 13 October to give a lecture as part of their Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

Heaney arrived at Keele as one of the very first undergraduate intake to the then University College of North Staffordshire, on 14 October 1950. Harry is pictured here (right) in 1957 with Gurnos Jones, former Head of Chemistry, in the research laboratory where he was a postgraduate.

In 1950 there were no teaching laboratories, whereas the intake of students in 2010 are enjoying the delights of a new £3 million undergraduate teaching lab. The university was also awarded additional student places for chemistry, leading to their largest ever undergraduate intake this year.



▲ The Association of Public Analysts (APA) held a celebratory lunch on 10 September at the Chemistry Centre, London, to mark the 150th anniversary of the first Act to prevent the Adulteration of Food and Drink. The lunch was attended by David Phillips, RSC President, and 28 current and former Public Analysts, including four past presidents of the RSC.

Public Analysts make up the front line of the UK's public protection service where chemical analysis and related tests are needed. Public Analysts safeguard the health and safety of the public in areas of food standards, environmental matters and consumer protection.

This event also marked the APA's update and reissue of its 1960 publication *A Hundred Years of Public Analysts*, which can be downloaded from the APA website. www.publicanalyst.com

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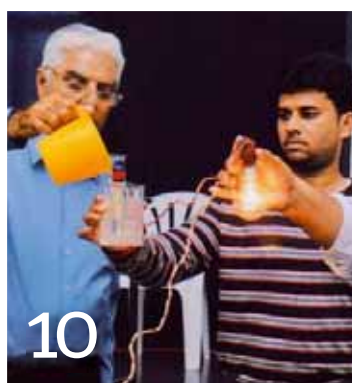
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 **EuCheMS Newsletter**



snapshot

A look at the latest news from around the world

Spending review science freeze less than feared



The RSC organises many events to bring scientists and policy makers into the same room; David Willetts is pictured here at Parliamentary Links day in June

Campaigns to showcase the value of chemistry research to the UK economy paid off

The RSC welcomes the Government's decision to prioritise science in the UK Spending Review.

RSC Chief Executive, Richard Pike, said: "This is the best scenario in the current challenging circumstances. We appreciate that science has fared better than many areas, which shows the Government understands just how important science is to our country's immediate and long-term prosperity.

"We and other science organisations asked the government ahead of the review to value science and they have heeded this message."

The RSC has been heavily involved in campaigning in the lead up to the comprehensive spending review. The RSC and EPSRC commissioned a report on the economic benefits of chemistry (see *RSC News* October page 16), which David Willetts, Minister of

State for Universities and Science, used in support of his own arguments for science funding, including when he appeared in front of the House of Lords Science and Technology Committee in the lead up to the spending review.

At the end of September, representatives of the RSC, Institute of Physics and Society of Biology met with Willetts and put forward a strong case for investment in science research.

Pike warns, however, that we still risk falling behind internationally in science in this economic environment.

"When times allow, we need to increase funding considerably to stay competitive. Although a budgetary freeze has been announced, in reality this is a cut over time, when inflation is taken into account."

Join the debate on MyRSC.

<http://my.rsc.org>

IN BRIEF

THE DESIGNATION VICE-PRESIDENT

Key roles for David Phillips, as RSC President, are 'advocate for the chemical sciences' and 'ambassador for the RSC'. To assist David Phillips in these roles, especially internationally, Council has agreed that, until the 2011 AGM, Paul O'Brien and Graham Richards may use the designation 'Vice-President' while representing RSC. Paul O'Brien and Graham Richards serve on Council as Appointed Member (External Relations and Communication) and Chair of Publishing Board, respectively. The designation 'Vice-President' carries no additional responsibilities associated with governance.

ARE YOU UP TO DATE?

To ensure we can keep you posted on all important RSC developments, it is vital our records are accurate. Update your email address or other information online. www.rsc.org/members

Biodiversity in Latin America

The RSC co-organised a symposium on biodiversity and ecosystems at the 29th Congress of the Federation of Latin American Chemical Societies held in Colombia. The symposium was held in collaboration with the Sociedad Colombiana de Ciencias Químicas, the Brazilian Chemical Society and the Pan Africa Chemistry Network.

Researchers from Africa, Brazil, Colombia and the UK came together to discuss biodiversity, which is especially rich in Africa and Latin America. Speakers addressed topics including the use of natural products in medicines and crop protection, marine and plant biodiversity, and the management and conservation of ecosystems. The RSC sponsored 11 Colombian students to participate and to present their work.

The RSC invited Marcel Jaspars, who is from the University of Aberdeen and chair of the editorial board for *Natural Product Reports*, to speak at the symposium. He explained that in addition to the RSC symposium two full days were committed to natural product chemistry at the congress: "This highlights the level of interest in this subject in South America; the overall enthusiasm of the audience was remarkable."

The symposium concluded with an invited speaker covering the legal aspects of bio-prospecting with special focus on Colombia. Alejandra Palermo, Manager of International Projects, explained that restrictions on sampling make biodiversity research very difficult: "the Brazilian and Colombian participants felt this was a very important session, which produced a very lively debate."

Record annual increase of chemistry students



ChemNet 'Meet the Universities' events help students choose a university

The number of students accepted on UK university chemistry courses increased by 10.4% this year

The number of chemistry students in Higher Education increased by more than any other core science, official UCAS figures revealed in October.

A 10.4% increase meant 4,290 students were accepted on courses in 2010 – the biggest annual increase on record. This figure falls only slightly short of the RSC's strategic aim to increase the number of students entering chemistry in higher education in the UK to 4,500 annually.

For comparison, those studying biology and physics increased by 6.6% and 2.8% respectively.

The RSC is involved with many initiatives aimed at encouraging more young people to take up chemistry; this has led to direct interaction with hundreds of thousands of students in the past four years.

The RSC Chemistry for our Future

Programme ran from 2006 to 2009 and has now been extended as part of a National Higher Education STEM programme. With support from corporate partners, the RSC has created a number of educational resources, which include online resources, curriculum enrichment projects and teacher training. The RSC also offers ChemNet membership for 16-18 year olds.

While the RSC cannot quantify how much such programmes have influenced students' decisions, it is confident the overall impact has been very positive.

RSC President, David Phillips, said: "This trend reinforces the message that all students should select courses wisely, and choose subjects which will be most likely to lead to gainful employment on graduation."

IN BRIEF

WORLD WATER WEEK

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) invited the RSC Pan Africa Chemistry Network (PACN) to attend the high-level World Water Week meeting that takes place in Stockholm every year in September. Steve Ntifo, a water expert, represented PACN during a UNEP workshop on 'Short Cutting Historical Pollution Trends', and particularly during discussions on the issue of water quality degradation. This meeting built on the content of the PACN report, *Africa's Water Quality - A Chemical Science Perspective*, which was launched on World Water Day in March (see p8 RSC News, May 2010). PACN is an RSC initiative, launched in partnership with Syngenta, aimed at advancing the chemical sciences across Africa. The PACN will continue to work together with UNEP and other organisations on water issues and the essential role of chemistry.

www.rsc.org/PACN

First issue of Food & Function

The first issue of a new RSC journal, *Food & Function*, was published in October. The journal will bridge the gap between the physics and chemistry of food with health and nutrition. It includes the physical properties and structure of food, the chemistry of food components, biochemical and physiological actions and nutrition and health aspects of food.

Articles in the first issue covered topics including the cholesterol-lowering mechanism of red onions and the antioxidant properties of red wine.

www.rsc.org/foodfunction

Free access to RSC Publishing

Free access to all new journals from RSC Publishing has been opened up to members, thanks to a new service available on the RSC Publishing Platform. All you need to do is register for an RSC Publishing personal account.

Setting up your account is simple – all we ask is that you provide some very basic information, including a valid email address for authentication. Then, when you are logged in, you will be able to access all our free content. This includes:

- all content of our newest journals, including *Food & Function* and *Chemical Science*, for the first two volumes;
- any articles that are part of a special free access promotion (such as 'hot' papers and web theme issues);
- in 2010, all content of RSC journals published from 1997 to 2007;
- a sample chapter from each book in the RSC eBook Collection.

And with an RSC Publishing personal account you can save your searches, and receive results of regular searches by email or RSS feeds. So don't delay – register today.

www.rsc.org/personalregistration

onetoone

Take advantage of a wide range of member services

Reaching out to the global chemistry community – this year's ChemCareers is a careers fair with a difference

This year's RSC careers fair for chemists, ChemCareers 2010, will be held online for the first time. It will be hosted on MyRSC, the online professional network for chemists, from 15-19 November.

By hosting the fair on the internet, chemists anywhere in the world will be able to benefit from this event at a time most convenient to them.

Careers advice

ChemCareers aims to highlight the breadth of career opportunities available to chemical scientists at any stage of their career, such as:

- students looking for their first job
- graduates and postgraduates exploring their career options
- mid-career members looking for a change of direction
- members who may have been made redundant

ChemCareers 2010 will also help members seeking careers

Catch yourself a great career

@ ChemCareers 2010
THE CAREERS FAIR WITH A DIFFERENCE

guidance. Expert advice will be available on topics such as career planning, making your next career move, marketing yourself to employers and further study options.

An interactive event

ChemCareers 2010 will be a truly interactive event. Delegates will be able to get one-to-one advice from industry experts in live chat rooms; there will be careers profiles of employees from over 30 top companies in a variety of sectors in the form of videos, podcasts and transcripts. MyRSC will also host a series of webinars and online



presentations throughout the week.

Through ChemCareers 2010, delegates can network with employers and chemical scientists across the globe. On

MyRSC they can create their own professional profile, find chemists working in their area of expertise and discuss employment and other career-related issues with company representatives and chemical scientists in many different countries.

Sessions

ChemCareers 2010 will include the following sessions:

- **Job Hunting Tools**
For CVs, application forms, interviews, professional development and networking;
- **Industrial Careers**
For jobs in industry, from research and development to sales and marketing;
- **Opportunities in Further Education and Academia**
For masters degrees, PhDs, postdoctoral research and working in academia;
- **Alternative Career Options**
For details on careers such as teaching, publishing and working in the public sector. There will also be webinars on using recruitment agencies and working abroad, and presentations on job searching strategies and what lies beyond a PhD or Postdoc. Register now on MyRSC and sign up to the 'ChemCareers' group to keep up to date with events.
<http://my.rsc.org/chemcareers>

A generous bequest



The ChemCareers video profiles have been made possible by the generous bequest of Harold Russell CChem FRSC (1929-2009). Harold's brother Norman Russell describes his brother's passion for chemistry: "Harold was devoted to chemistry all of his life, and had a profound practical and theoretical knowledge of the subject. He was a proud member of the RSC for 54 years, and was always keenly interested in developments in chemistry.

"Harold noted with concern that fewer bright youngsters were opting to study it at school. He left school at 14 and, while working in Liverpool, he attended night classes at Byrom Street Technical College (now John Moores University). Through these he sat the examinations for the qualification of Associateship of the Royal Institute of Chemistry (ARIC), which later became Fellow of the Royal Institute of Chemistry (FRIC). Added to the rank of Chartered Chemist, these are all qualifications of which he was immensely proud."

If you would like advice or guidance on how give a gift in Will to the RSC, please contact Kathryn Westmore, Development Executive. Email: westmorek@rsc.org Tel: 01233 432660

profile

A closer look at our members and their interests

60
seconds
with...

Ryoji Noyori

A rewarding career in chemistry



RYOJI NOYORI
HONFRSC FRS

Ryoji Noyori is President of RIKEN research institute in Japan, and Professor of Nagoya University. He shared the 2001 Nobel Prize in Chemistry with K. Barry Sharpless and William S. Knowles for the development of catalytic asymmetric synthesis.

He was the RSC 2010 winner of the Sir Derek Barton Gold Medal for his visionary research in the design and use of chiral ligands in many transition metal catalysed reactions of fundamental significance (see far right).

“In Japan we have no natural resources and strength in science will be vital for our survival”

Q What first sparked your interest in chemistry?

A Shortly after entering junior high school, I was taken by my father to a chemical conference, where we attended a presentation on how nylon is synthesised from air, coal and water. I was highly impressed by this talk, showing the power of chemistry to make a very important compound from almost nothing. This was very important for me, because in the years following World War II the people of Japan were suffering due to a shortage of food. I decided to become a chemist so that I could make many important compounds for the benefit of society.

Q What has been your most satisfying achievement?

A I discovered the asymmetric catalyst principal when I was 23 years old and working as a laboratory instructor at Kyoto University. Like many important scientific achievements, I made this discovery by accident. At the time, no one appreciated the importance of the principal because the reaction selectivity was very low. However the principal was right, as I demonstrated many years later. Curiosity has driven me to continue research ever since.

Q Does Japan's current investment in research reflect the importance that Japan places on science?

A In Japan we have no natural resources and strength in science will be vital for our survival. Fundamental science and technology is particularly important, like that which led to

the discovery of my asymmetric catalyst. Of course it takes a very long time for the discovery of something new to lead to some sort of innovation – at least 20 years or more. But people, including politicians, should be patient. We must nurture our talented young people and attract the very best and brightest to science. The Nobel Prize continues to be a useful tool for this.

Q Do you think that scientists in the UK are politically active enough?

A I think you have a very strong tradition of fundamental science in the UK. In Japan we admire and respect this tradition. Japan is too much interested in economy. Although economy is very important, the money for science and technology, and for higher education, needs investment – and it should be seen as an investment, rather than a cost.

Q What does the future hold for organic synthesis?

A Of course catalysis is very important. We should try our best to discover new catalysts, either artificial or biological. Not many catalysts are as efficient as biological catalysts in terms of selectivity, however the range of target molecules that can be prepared by biological catalysts is limited. In the future, biological catalysts will be complementary to new kinds of chemical catalysts with unique functions and higher efficiencies.

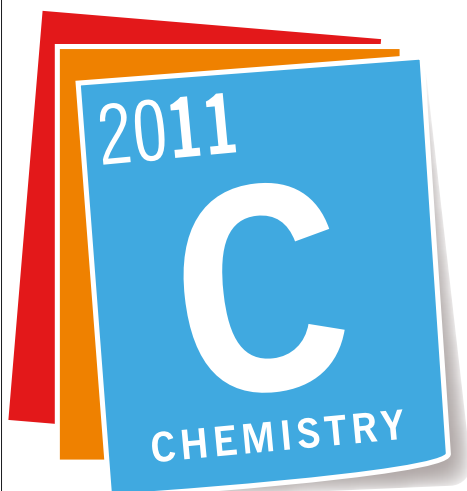
THE SIR DEREK BARTON MEDAL

This award was established in 2001 to commemorate the life and work of Sir Derek Barton who died in 1998.

After the development of a new technique of conformational analysis, and his work on the conformation of the steroid nucleus, he was awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1969. Rather than facing retirement in the UK at 65, he moved to CNRS, Paris, and then to Texas A&M University, where he worked until the day of his death at age 80.

To celebrate Sir Derek's unique approach to his work, this award is for work published after the age of 60 only. The award is presented, as requested by Sir Derek in his bequest to the RSC, at a special dinner and ceremony held in London.

For more information on RSC Prizes and Awards, which are currently open for nominations, visit the website. www.rsc.org/awards



International Year of CHEMISTRY 2011

“This is a one-off chance to tell the world about chemistry”

-RSC President, David Phillips

Next year has been designated the International Year of Chemistry – this presents a fantastic opportunity to demonstrate to the world the vital role of chemistry to our everyday lives and to our future.

The International Year of Chemistry 2011 (IYC 2011) is a UN-approved initiative of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) and the United Nations

Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). It has global support by chemical societies and other organisations around the world. IYC aims to increase the public's appreciation of chemistry in meeting world needs, to engage young people in chemistry and to generate enthusiasm for chemistry's creative future.

Throughout 2011, a wide range of interactive, entertaining and educational activities for all ages will take place, allowing people to explore the critical role of chemistry in improving our lives.

The RSC is helping to lead the way in IYC 2011, launching a number of exciting activities based around the following themes:

- the human body;
- sustainable energy;
- conservation of scarce natural resources.

Inspiring young chemists

The RSC is currently working with a number of its corporate partners on an exciting new video project for schools called 'Faces of Chemistry'. This will form an engaging education resource to showcase the relevance of chemistry in our everyday lives – from health and food, to personal care and transport. It will feature videos of industrial scientists, alongside end-users and 'customers', describing how the application of chemistry has a direct and positive effect on people's lives.

This is a wonderful opportunity to give a personalised insight into

the chemical industry, and the RSC would encourage members to find out how they can get involved. Contact the communications team via RSC News.

RSCNews@rsc.org

Through a collaboration with scientists in Canada, the RSC is generating an educational resource to demonstrate the science of climate change.

The RSC is also coordinating a touring art exhibition where children in Europe and Africa will be asked to paint the role that water plays in their lives; working with other chemical societies, the exhibition will be displayed in major cities across Europe.

A global audience

The RSC has a Chemical Landmarks programme, which officially recognises historical sites where significant chemical breakthroughs have been made. Next year the RSC will hold joint Chemical Landmark events with both the German Chemical Society and the American Chemical Society to celebrate the important contributions of international chemists.

Next year will also mark the 100th anniversary of Marie Curie's Nobel Prize for Chemistry, and to celebrate this an international networking initiative will honour the important role of female chemists. The RSC is taking an active role in this event, called 'Women Sharing a Chemical Moment in Time'; this is a fantastic opportunity for RSC members to get



involved with a global event for IYC (see box for more details).

The RSC is also supporting the 'Global Experiment', an IYC activity which will potentially be the biggest chemistry experiment ever conducted. Sponsored by IUPAC and UNESCO, school children across the world will perform simple experiments on their local water and examine how chemistry can improve drinking water quality. Children across all continents will be able to take part in these experiments using equipment that is widely available at little or no cost. For more information on how to take part in the Global Experiment, see the IYC 2011 website.

www.tinyurl.com/globalexperiment

Take part

Many RSC members are already getting involved in activities for IYC 2011. To mark the 350th anniversary of the publication of *The Sceptical Chymist* (1661) by Robert Boyle, members of the Analytical Division are organising a public lecture and exhibition at the Chemistry Centre.

The Belgium section has proposed a joint Chemical Landmark to honour the work of the German chemist Kekule into the structure of benzene.

The Radiochemistry and

Historical groups have organised a conference on Marie Curie and the history of radiochemistry; this will take place 18 March at the Chemistry Centre.

Pauline Meakins, RSC External Promotions Manager explains that there are many ways members can take part in IYC 2011: "Our membership is already very active in promoting chemistry and taking part could be as simple as publicising the International Year of Chemistry in all the worthwhile activities that they already organise. We would also encourage members to take part in other IYC activities such as the Global Experiment and Women Sharing a Chemical Moment in Time.

"There will be promotional materials available to use at IYC events and members can discuss and promote their activities on MyRSC."

RSC President, David Phillips, will be taking an active role in IYC 2011 himself, by giving chemistry demonstration lectures to school children. He sees next year as an ideal opportunity for members and the wider chemistry community to engage and inspire people of all ages in chemistry: "This is a one-off chance to tell the world about the chemical sciences – its relevance to health, to energy and to conserving the scarce natural materials that we use every day."



A CHEMICAL HANDSHAKE AROUND THE WORLD

An international networking breakfast will celebrate the pivotal role of women – and in particular Marie Curie – in chemistry. 'Women Sharing a Chemical Moment in Time' will be held in different locations around the world on 18 January 2011.

Using Skype software, or other conferencing methods, participants at breakfast meetings in different countries (albeit in similar time zones) can link together to discuss and compare women's role in chemistry within their culture. In remote locations text messaging will be used as an alternative.

The RSC is taking part in this activity by holding a breakfast meeting at the Chemistry Centre, but would like to expand its reach to the rest of the UK and beyond. As such, RSC members are encouraged to take part in this exciting networking event by holding their own breakfast meetings for the local chemistry community. This celebration of women does not exclude men from taking part!

For more information on holding your own breakfast, please see the IYC 2011 website. www.tinyurl.com/chembreakfast



▶ MORE INFORMATION

Contact us: iyc@rsc.org
www.rsc.org/iyc
www.chemistry2011.org

DEVELOPING TALENT IN INDIA

For innovative chemistry to become a major driver of growth in India, academic-industry links need to be strengthened

The developments of science and education in India are likely to be on a vast scale. This was the overriding impression of RSC Chief Executive, Richard Pike, on his return from a trip to India in September.

As part of his visit, Pike met

with CNR Rao, Chairman of the Science Advisory Council in India, who has just overseen a 'vision' paper for science in India by 2025 (see page 15, *Chemistry World*, November 2010).

Indian chemistry is growing rapidly with increasing funding from central government, along with a programme of building new universities and research institutes. To bring the proportion of the Indian population that enter tertiary education to the level of that in the UK, for example, would mean an increase of at least 30 million students compared to today. This would need to be supported by significant changes in the primary and secondary



education sectors as well.

The RSC has had strong links with India for many years, particularly through its Indian international sections (see box) and more recently with its international cooperation agreement with the Chemical Research Society of India. With the first RSC office opening in India in September (see *RSC News*, October 2010), the ability for the RSC to support the chemical sciences in India at all levels will grow.

RSC presence in India

The RSC opened its first Indian office in Bangalore in September, and this will help the RSC to develop its networks in India and to explore opportunities.

The RSC also has five international sections throughout the country; these play a significant role in supporting chemistry and science education in their areas through many educational and networking events.

The Deccan Section, which encompasses Bangalore, Hyderabad, Warangal, Kurnool, Nizamabad and Vishakapatnam, has recently been revived and it has established a new committee. Venkat Peesapati, the new vice chairman of the Deccan Section, is looking forward to being involved with future events: "We are planning a growing number of activities for school students, undergraduates and postgraduates. Recently we organised a symposium-cum-workshop on "Science in Everyday's Life" at a secondary level school in Hyderabad. At this event, students, teachers and parents from the area heard about the range of RSC initiatives, and eminent scientists presented a variety of popular chemistry topics, which included the practical demonstration by way of simple experiments on the role of chemistry in every day's life."

The four other Indian sections are also very active and October's issue of *RSC News* covered the RSC West India PhD Students Symposium, which attracted students from across India. This event also brought together the chairmen and secretaries from the other Indian sections.





Developing Talent

In September the RSC Chemistry Leadership Network held a UK-India Developing Talent workshop. This brought together academics and industrialists as well as representatives from the British High Commission and umbrella bodies in India. The purpose of the high-level workshop was to explore the roles of government, academia and industry in the innovation and development processes for positioning India more competitively in the world. Underlying this was how the UK and India could collaborate more effectively to mutual benefit.

It was co-organised by the RSC, the National Chemical Laboratory (NCL) and the Indian Institute for Science, Education and Research (IISER) in Pune, and it was financially supported by Shell Global Solutions through the RSC Chemistry Leadership Network.

The delegates participated in breakout sessions that focussed on the needs of education, research and innovation, and the roles and interplay between those in academia, industry and government. The resulting recommendations will

be presented in a detailed report to be published in early 2011.

Richard Pike highlighted some of the interesting conclusions after the meeting: "In India, high-level chemistry research tends to be mainly limited to the Indian Institutes of Technology and a few of the universities – within these there is actually very little competition for funding. Although this may seem like an enviable luxury, the consequence is that academic research projects very often have little relevance to current or longer-term industry applications and needs.

"For industry, this means that there tends to be very little input from university research and there is a mismatch between the skills delivered through the university sector and those needed by industry to support innovation.

"I'm looking forward to seeing the full report resulting from this workshop and linking this in with future RSC activities to support education and chemistry in India."

Thomas Faust was one of the UK PhD students who attended the workshop and he took away some very positive experiences from India: "I was astounded by the enthusiasm of the young Indian researchers at both PhD and post doctoral level. Their passion for science and drive to establish a framework in which

they could become a world leader in the chemical sciences was clear to see.

"There was also a real sense of excitement surrounding the newly established IISER at Pune, which brought with it a new working practice of interdisciplinary research from an early stage to develop scientists with a truly holistic approach to their discipline. This is something from which the UK could learn very much."

Next steps

The chemical sciences have an essential role to play in global social and economic development. Despite the tremendous growth and support from government, without a clear link between science and its applications, chemistry in India may not become a major driver of growth. This may have serious consequences for the development of the pharmaceutical and chemical industries and impact their ability to compete internationally.

With the help of its networks, the RSC will support collaboration, both within India and between the Indian, UK and global chemical science community.

For more information on how to get involved, email Alejandra Palermo, RSC Manager of International Projects.

palermoa@rsc.org



Shortly after the workshop, one of the Indian students, Agnimitra Banerjee, sadly died in a freak accident where he was drowned in flash floods in Pune, on 4 October, 2010. Agni (pictured above, centre) made a great contribution to the workshop and delegates from the RSC were incredibly impressed with his enthusiasm and commitment. He spoke strongly and passionately about the role of the younger generation of Indian chemists.



MEETING IN THE MIDDLE

The Materials Chemistry Division provides a central forum for chemists in this interdisciplinary field

▲ Members of RAPS and RAMS held a successful joint meeting in September



WORDS

STEVE YEATES
MATERIALS CHEMISTRY
DIVISION PRESIDENT

Materials chemistry is a highly interdisciplinary field that underpins many exciting new technologies. The design of future products for storing energy, improving medical care and ensuring clean water supplies will utilise novel materials with specific, tailored properties. This will use technologies that cross the boundaries of chemistry, biology, physics, engineering and materials science. The broad spectrum of materials chemistry – from polymer science to biomaterials to nanotechnology – will play an important role in overcoming global challenges.

The Materials Chemistry Division (MCD) is open to all RSC members and provides a central forum for chemical scientists working in this interdisciplinary field. The division supports members in a number of ways, including organising scientific



INTEREST GROUPS

The following interest groups report directly to the MCD:

Macro Group (UK)
Solid State Chemistry Group
Biomaterials Chemistry Group
Chemical Nanoscience and Nanotechnology Group

Interest groups that have related interests include:

Applied Materials Chemistry
British Carbon Group
Colloid & Interface Science Group
Historical Group
Law Group
Macrocyclic and Supramolecular Chemistry Group
Solid Surfaces Group

meetings, providing networking opportunities, supporting students and promoting materials chemistry in schools.

Showcasing science

Bringing materials chemists together from across many different fields, to share and discuss developments in their science is at the centre of MCD activities. One of the highlights of the last year was hosting 'Macro2010', the 43rd IUPAC (International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry) World Polymer Congress, which took place in July. Over 1,600 scientists, young and old, from 51 countries around the world descended on the city of Glasgow to discuss the applications of modern polymer science in technologies such as

electronics, optics, personal care, health and diagnostics. The feedback from the event was excellent, with one delegate commenting that, "the quality of the keynote talks was excellent. A couple in particular really opened my eyes to the varied uses of polymers, from targeted medicines to stopping your coloured clothes running in the wash." I would like to take this opportunity to thank Peter Lovell and his excellent team for organising this incredibly successful event.

Looking ahead, we have a number of exciting events to look forward to, in particular the next in the division's 'MC' series of conferences. These are extremely popular internationally-attended meetings and the MCD's flagship event; they have provided a

showcase for developments in materials chemistry every two years for nearly two decades. The 10th International Conference on Materials Chemistry (MC10) will be held in Manchester, from 4–7 July. The symposium will cover contemporary scientific topics within themed sessions:

- advanced technologies and nano-materials;
- energy and sustainability;
- life and health;
- soft matter;
- crystalline solids.

Amongst the world-class line-up of invited speakers, the symposium



will also include a plenary talk by the winner of the 2010 Nobel Prize in Physics, Andre Geim.

We strongly encourage students to participate in the 'MC' conferences; there is the opportunity to give oral presentations and we also place a particular emphasis on the value of poster presentations. Bursaries are available to support students and recent graduates to attend. For more information, please visit the website. www.rsc.org/MC10

Encouraging young researchers

Providing support for early-career researchers is a vital part of the division's activities. We have established specialist networks for

young academics and industrialists to encourage their participation in the materials chemistry community. Two of these networks – Recent Appointees in Polymer Science (RAPS) and Recent Appointees in Materials Science (RAMS) – recently held a highly successful joint meeting in Leeds, that provided researchers at the beginning of their careers with the opportunity to exchange knowledge, share experiences and discuss collaborations and career development in an informal environment. Going forward, the two groups plan to continue with this successful joint meeting format, coming together biennially and meeting individually every alternate year.

www.raps.org.uk
www.rams-materials.org.uk

Engaging schools

The division takes an active role in engaging tomorrow's scientists in materials chemistry. We are about to embark upon a series of annual lectureships entitled 'Materials Chemistry in Tomorrow's World', specifically aimed at school children. The lectureships will be awarded to prominent and engaging researchers in materials chemistry.

The first lecture in the series takes place in the Chemistry Centre on 8 November and will be delivered by Tony Ryan from the University of Sheffield. Tony is very active in engaging the public in science; he delivered the Royal Institution Christmas Lectures in 2002 – entitled 'Smart Stuff' – on the topic of science and technology in everyday items. His lecture, 'Materials Chemistry at the Origin of Life', will examine the biological materials that are central to life and look at how materials chemists have turned to nature as inspiration for future generations of new materials.

Subsequent lectures are planned to take place in Sheffield and Glasgow. We would like to thank the Royal Armours and Brassiers Company for their kind bursary to help make these events happen.

Recognising Excellence

Rewarding outstanding achievements and dedication in materials chemistry is an important part of the division's remit. The winners of the 2010



MCD awards were highlighted in the August issue of *RSC News*, recognising excellence in the areas of soft matter, polymer synthesis and the use of non-oxide and mixed anion solids as new functional materials. The awards symposia will be held in March 2011, at the University of Warwick.

The MCD awards which will be presented in 2011 are listed in the box – nominations are now open. My opinion is that recognising the achievements of materials chemists in industry as well as academia is very important; so I'd like to echo David Rees' words in a previous issue of *RSC News* (see September 2010) and urge for more nominations from industrialists this year.

Getting Involved

Looking forward, I would like to encourage all members with an interest in materials chemistry to get involved with and shape the MCD's activities and those of its related interest groups (see box, left). We are always keen to hear members' views to ensure that we serve the needs of the materials chemistry community as best we can.

▶ **MORE INFORMATION**
www.rsc.org/MCD

▲ **An attentive Macro2010 audience listens to the 2010 DSM Performance Materials Award Lecture by Han Meijer, Eindhoven University of Technology**

2011 AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE

De Gennes Prize

Peter Day Award

John B Goodenough Award

Materials for Industry - Derek Birchall Award

Barrer Award

Nominations for the 2011 Materials Chemistry Division Annual and Biennial Awards are now open.

The deadline for nominations is 31 January 2011.

www.rsc.org/awards

opinion

Letters and comments on RSC activities and issues



In the lead up to the comprehensive spending review many of us were following debates with a degree of scepticism –

apprehensive of whether the UK Government would really take on-board our messages of the true importance of investing in science.

This month the RSC celebrates an outcome for science which could have been a lot worse (see page 4). Yet, as Stephen Benn points out opposite, the scientific community cannot be complacent. It's up to scientists to continue to engage with decision makers, and to persuade those in parliament that it is vital to maintain and increase funds for chemistry.

Take a look at the RSC policy pages to find out about some of the Parliamentary Links activities that the RSC organises and how you can get involved.

www.rsc.org/parliament

Sheena Elliott

Sheena Elliott

RSCNews@rsc.org

The economic benefits of chemistry



In reference to the article on 'The economic benefits of chemistry' (*RSC News*, October 2010, page 19), the statement that amlodipine was "developed thanks to public funding" is incorrect and misleading since it appears to be based on Pfizer scientists being trained at UK universities. Such a claim could probably be made for every example in the report.

The discovery and development of amlodipine was funded solely by Pfizer who invested several £100ms over nearly a decade to bring this innovative new medicine to millions of patients world wide.

Such an erroneous statement on amlodipine is inconsistent with the bulk of the report which recognises the massive investments made by the UK pharmaceutical industry.

Dr Simon Campbell, CBE CSci CChem FRSC FRS

Editor: *The RSC agrees that the text in the Oxford Economic report was indeed misleading and apologises for this. The RSC has ensured that references to amlodipine are corrected, and that Pfizer's sole contribution to the discovery is recognised. To see the full report "The Economic Benefits of Chemistry Research to the UK", visit the website. www.rsc.org/chemistryimpact*

Testing times for members

When I took my GRIC [Graduate of the Royal Institute of Chemistry] examination back in the 60s, we had to take a four-day practical examination in inorganic, physical and organic chemistry. This tested our ability as practical chemists and to follow instructions. We need to test our new entrants in a similar way.

N Nicolson CChem MRSC

GRSC/GRIC courses were valuable in producing highly competent professional chemists. Nowadays, the RSC upholds professional standards through the accreditation of university degree programmes. A key requirement of accreditation is that students carry out a wide range of practical experiments and complete at least 400 time-tabled hours. This ensures that graduates have the full range of practical abilities and skills for future employers. We presently accredit chemistry programmes at 36 UK universities.

David Barr, RSC Membership and Qualifications Manager

RSC News welcomes letters, which should be concise (normally less than 300 words) and timely. Those selected for publication are subject to editing for clarity and length. Letters should be marked 'for publication'; letters are not routinely acknowledged. rscnews@rsc.org



Get set for Britain

"... The Secretary of State and I have decided to protect the science budget"

Chancellor of the Exchequer Rt Hon George Osborne MP
Statement on the Comprehensive Spending Review

Early career scientists have a great opportunity on 14 March 2011 to exhibit their research in Parliament – and to maximize its impact on MPs.

The Government's Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) announced on Wednesday 20 October will probably be seen as the defining moment of this Coalition Government.

Science has not done as badly as some predicted – but that's not to say that we don't face considerable challenges in the wake of the CSR and the Browne Review on university funding.

That's why the case for science still needs to be made at every opportunity. It needs to be made with Government and it needs to be made in Parliament.

Successful flagship events like Parliamentary Links Day and the Bill Bryson Science Prize are important. But

we can do more.

One reason why SET for BRITAIN 2011 is so vital is because it's not just another poster session at a scientific conference.

It's the only event in Parliament where scientific work is displayed and when scientists can talk directly to MPs and opinion formers about the potential significance of their research.

If you're an MP, reading about science is all very well.

It's seeing the science and talking to the scientists of the future – that's what SET for Britain offers. And it's down to you to help make that a reality.

This showcase offers you the chance to make a real impact with some of the 233 new MPs elected last May and do so during National Science & Engineering Week 2011.

A first prize of £3,000 will be awarded

▲ **Stephen Benn is Parliamentary Affairs Officer at the RSC. He is pictured above with Lord Drayson, former Minister of Science in the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills.**

to the winner of the chemistry session.

The top priority is to encourage as many RSC members from academia to industry to submit their abstracts.

Look at the website:

www.setforbritain.org.uk

And don't leave it as late as Christmas Eve. Apply now!

Stephen Benn
RSC Parliamentary Affairs Officer

▶ **ThaoNguyen Nguyen from the University of Southampton won the prize for chemistry in 2010**



diary

YOUR GUIDE TO
ALL IMPORTANT EVENTS

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FURTHER INFORMATION

The RSC News Diary this month lists RSC events from November to December 2010 that are held on the RSC conference database. Further details on any of these meetings can be obtained from the named contact or from the conference website at www.rsc.org/ConferencesAndEvents/conference

Type in the specific ID number for each event in the search box. You can also browse events by type, organiser or region.

Major conferences

Artificial Photosynthesis: Faraday Discussion 155

5-7 September 2011
University of Edinburgh, UK

Call for oral abstracts deadline: 18 November 2010

There is a growing conviction that the only real prospect for our long-term energy provision relies on the ability to collect and store sunlight in the form of chemical potential.

This meeting aims to bring together researchers from diverse backgrounds to discuss identifying novel solutions for converting sunlight into chemical and/or electrochemical potential. Discussions will explore these themes:

- Electronic energy transfer
- Bio-inspired mimics and integrated photo-systems
- Solar fuels
- Water oxidation
- Photo-electrochemical approaches

Visit the website for more information and how to submit an abstract for oral presentation. www.rsc.org/FD115

22nd International Symposium: Synthesis in Organic Chemistry

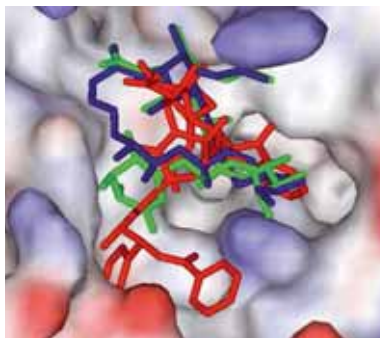
11-14 July 2011
Churchill College, University of Cambridge, UK

Registration opens in November 2010

The Synthesis in Organic Chemistry conference is the flagship event of the RSC's Organic Division. This symposium traditionally provides an international showcase for the core area of organic chemistry – synthesis – covering all aspects of contemporary organic synthesis and providing a forum for the ever more exciting methodologies and strategies that continue to emerge.

This symposium will be a high point in the year for academics, postdoctoral researchers and students in universities, as well as those involved in research and development and discovery chemists in industry.

Visit the website for more information. www.rsc.org/OS11



DATES AND DEADLINES

Antibiotics 2011 – Where Now?

20 January 2011
The Chemistry Centre,
London, UK
Call for posters –
deadline 19 November
www.rsc.org/antibiotics11

1st International Conference on Clean Energy

10-13 April 2011
Dalian, China
Call for oral abstracts –
deadline 26 November
www.icce.cas.cn

2011 ISACS – Save the date

Present your research at the International Symposia on Advancing the Chemical Sciences (ISACS) – a global symposia series organised by the RSC.

Call for abstracts now open

• Challenges in Renewable Energy (ISACS4)

5-8 July 2011, Boston, USA
www.rsc.org/isacs4

• Challenges in Chemical Biology (ISACS5)

26-29 July 2011
Manchester, UK
www.rsc.org/isacs5

• Challenges in Organic Materials & Supramolecular Chemistry (ISACS6)

2-5 September 2011
Beijing, China
www.rsc.org/isacs6

➤ MORE INFORMATION

To find out more about any event on this page, see www.rsc.org/events
Call +44 (0) 1223 43 2254/2380
Or email events@rsc.org



Why We Love Chocolate – It's All in the Chemistry
See listings below

Events

SCOTLAND

Mid-Scotland Section

Top of the Bench 2010
17 November at 18:30
ID=106210

Forth Valley College, Falkirk
Annual laboratory-based competition to decide the winner of the 'Top of the Bench' trophy and, consequently, the school that will represent Mid Scotland at the UK finals.
Contact Frank Murray
t 01324 553913
e franktmurray@blueyonder.co.uk

Senior Members' Lunch
16 December at 11:45
ID=106211

A chance to get together, meet old friends and catch up on all the news while enjoying a superb lunch.
Contact Martin Jones
t 01324 712282
e martin@martintjones.plus.com

WALES

South East Wales Section

Electrocatalysis: Alloy, Particle Size and Support Effects

15 November at 16:00
ID=106607

Cardiff University
• Prof Brian Hayden, University of Southampton
Contact James Redman
e redmanje@cardiff.ac.uk

Chemistry of Supermolecules: Ligand-protected Au Nanoparticles

22 November at 16:00
ID=106795

Cardiff University
• Dr Victor Chechik, University of York
Contact James Redman
e redmanje@cardiff.ac.uk

Photochemistry and Time-Resolved Spectroscopy

29 November at 16:00
ID=106857

Cardiff University, School of Chemistry
• Prof Mike George, University of Nottingham
Contact James Redman
e redmanje@cardiff.ac.uk

Exploring Biological Catalysis with Models, Mimics and Enzymes - and Physical Organic Chemistry

6 December at 16:00
ID=106854

Cardiff University, School of Chemistry
• Dr Nick Williams, University of Sheffield
Contact James Redman
e redmanje@cardiff.ac.uk

Mechanistic Studies of Organocatalysis

13 December at 16:00
ID=106608

Cardiff University
• Dr AnnMarie O'Donoghue, Durham University
Contact James Redman
e redmanje@cardiff.ac.uk

South Wales West Section

Hydrogen Storage Systems

4 November at 13:15
ID=106273

Neath Port Talbot College, Neath

• Prof David Antonelli, University of Glamorgan
Explaining the Kuber Interaction.
Contact Bill George
t 01792 406994
e wogeorge@glam.ac.uk

Blue – The Heavenly Colour

12 November at 19:00
ID=106275

Memorial Hall at Christ College, Powys
• Dr Brian H Davies, Aberystwyth University
Contact Bill George
t 01792 406994
e wogeorge@glam.ac.uk

Why We Love Chocolate – It's All in the Chemistry

26 November at 13:15
ID=106276

Gorseinon College, Swansea
• Prof Tim Harwood, Cardiff University
Contact Bill George
t 01792 406994
e wogeorge@glam.ac.uk

Other Events

Education Division – Wales Biological and Medicinal Chemistry Sector PEG-based Hyperbranched Polymers for Tissue Engineering and DNA Delivery
2 November at 16:15

ID=106680

School of Chemistry, Bangor University
• Dr Wenxin Wang, National University of Ireland, Galway
Contact Hongyun Tai
t 01248 382383
e chemadmin@bangor.ac.uk

Analytical Division – North West Environmental Chemistry Group

RSC Lecture
30 November at 16:15
ID=106683

School of Chemistry, Bangor University
• Prof Gillian M Greenway, University of Hull
Taking measurements out of the lab – new approaches for robust in situ microfluidic systems.
Contact Hongyun Tai
t 01248 382383
e chemadmin@bangor.ac.uk

EASTERN

East Anglia Section

Science Investigation Day

5 November at 09:30
ID=106813

Bayer CropScience, Norwich
Regional 'Top of the Bench' heats.
In association with Bayer CropScience
Contact Stephen Ashworth
e S.Ashworth@uea.ac.uk

Essex Section

Chemistry Mastermind Heats

Throughout November
ID=106096

Various schools throughout Essex
Quizmaster: Dr Alan Osborne
Contact Alan Osborne
t 02085902021

Joint RSC/IFST Meeting and Talk

3 November at 19:00
ID=106094

South Lodge Hotel, Chelmsford
• Dr Mark Woolfe, IFST
Talk entitled 'Food fraud; what is it and is it a problem?'
In association with Institute of Food Science and Technology
Contact Ron Rattenbury
t 01268 542583
e ronald.w.rattenbury@btinternet.com

Lecture – Rare Events Rare Opportunities: Towards Combating Amyloid Disease

18 November at 13:00
ID=106269

University of Essex
• Prof Sheena Radford, University of Leeds.
Amyloids are an abnormal accumulation of insoluble fibrous protein aggregates associated with a number of diseases, e.g. Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, Huntington's and Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE).
In association with University of Essex
Contact Jody Mason
e jmason@essex.ac.uk

▶ DIARY

Chemistry Mastermind Semi-Final

December
ID=106097

King Edward VI Grammar
School, Chelmsford
Quizmaster: Dr Alan
Osborne
Contact Alan Osborne
t 02085 902021

A Molecular View of Prion Disease

9 December at 13:00
ID=106299

University of Essex
• Prof Anthony Clarke,
University of Bristol and
UCL
Contact Jody Mason
e jmason@essex.ac.uk

Mid-Anglia Section

Delights of Chemistry – A Spectacular Demonstration Lecture

11 November at 19:00
ID=106426

University of Cambridge
Where does the energy
we need to keep us

alive come from? Mike
Hoyland takes us through
some classic chemistry
experiments that show
how energy is transformed.
Find out why it's correct to
say that water boils at 373
degrees, what elephant's
toothpaste might look like
and what three thousand
explosions in less than
three seconds would
sound like.

In association with SCI
Cambridge & Great Eastern
Section
Contact John O'Toole
t 01223 894174
e john.otoole9@
btopenworld.com

Chemistry and Light

7 December at 10:30
ID=106789

The Open University,
Milton Keynes
This talk/show will
highlight the importance
of photochemistry in our
world, how light is made,
how light is used today
and how light might be
used in the future to solve

problems facing mankind.
Contact Yvonne Ashmore
t 01908 653389
e y.y.ashmore@open.ac.uk

Armagnac – A Scientific Brandy Tasting

9 December at 19:00
ID=106409

University of Cambridge
• Bruce Perry, Eaux de Vie
Ltd, London
Come along and enjoy a
tutored tasting and learn
the difference between VS,
VSOP and XO.
In association with SCI
CaGE Section
Contact John O'Toole
t 01223 894174
e john.otoole9@
btopenworld.com

Other Events

Biological and Medicinal Chemistry Sector 4th BMCS Biological and Medicinal Chemistry Postgraduate Symposium

10 December at 10:00
ID=106499

University of Cambridge
Presentations by PhD and
postdoctoral students on
their relevant work. Prizes
for the best talk and best
poster will be presented
during a wine mixer
sponsored by RSC Mid-
Anglia Local Section.
Contact Dave Alker
e dave.alker@btinternet.
com

MIDLANDS

Birmingham and West Midlands Section

Senior Members' Lunch

1 November at 12:30
ID=106711

The Park House Toby
Carvery, Sutton Coldfield
Get-together for retired
members.

In association with
RSC Midland Region
Benevolent Fund
Contact Christina Folkes
t 0121 704 4091
e cfolkes@hotmail.co.uk

Nanotechnology

2 November at 19:00
ID=106419

University of Birmingham
• Prof Jon Preece,
University of Birmingham
A lecture for sixth-form
students.
In association with West
Midlands Chemistry
Teachers' Centre
Contact David Jones
e d.j.jones@blueyonder.
co.uk

Greyhound Racing Evening

2 November at 18:30
ID=106784

Hall Green Greyhound
Stadium, Hall Green
A chance to meet other
members and the local
section committee. There
will be a complimentary
buffet and soft drinks.
Contact Daniel Payne
t 07775 334332
e DXP854@bham.ac.uk

GCSE Practical

10 November at 13:30
ID=106420

King Edward VI High
School for Girls,
Birmingham
Teachers' CPD course.
In association with the
Association for Science
Education and West
Midlands
Chemistry Teachers' Centre
Contact David Jones
e d.j.jones@blueyonder.
co.uk

Year 12 AQA AS Revision Topic: Making a Success of Module 1: Moles Revision.

23 November at 19:00
ID=106422

University of Birmingham
• Dr Janice Perkins, AQA
Principal Examiner
A sixth-form revision
lecture prior to the January
2011 examinations.
In association with The
West Midlands Chemistry
Teachers' Centre
Contact David Jones
e d.j.jones@blueyonder.
co.uk

Chemical Magic

7 December at 19:00
ID=106423

University of Birmingham
A sixth-form lecture/
demonstration.
In association with The
West Midlands Chemistry
Teachers' Centre
Contact David Jones
e d.j.jones@blueyonder.
co.uk

Other Events

Thermal Methods Group The Use of Thermal Methods in the Investigation of Biomaterials

24 November at 09:00
ID=106705

Manchester Conference
Centre
A one-day specialist
meeting on the
application of thermal
analysis to biomaterials,
covering topics such
as thermal analysis
and authentication of
historical, collagen-based
materials, biocalorimetry
and rheology of cosmetic
emulsions.
Contact Franz Wortman
e franz.wortmann@
manchester.ac.uk

NORTH EAST

Huddersfield Section

Aspects of Modern Colour Chemistry

3 November at 15:15
ID=106465

University of Huddersfield
• Dr Mike Hutchings
Review of latest
developments in this field.
Contact Steve Turner
t 01484 422383
e steve@turners7.
freeserve.co.uk

Top of the Bench

10 November at 14:00
ID=106466

University of Huddersfield
Regional heat.
In association with
University of Huddersfield

▶ HIGHLIGHT



Chemistry for non-specialists

Through November and December there are a number of Chemistry for Non-Specialists courses planned. These affordable training courses provide teachers who do not have a specialism in chemistry with the confidence, flair and enthusiasm to teach chemistry. The four-day course comprises a two-day residential with two one-day follow-up sessions.

For a full list of courses in your area and further details see www.rsc.org/chemnonspec

Contact Steve Turner
 t 01484 422383
 e steve@turners7.
 freeserve.co.uk

Wine Tasting
25 November at 19:30
ID=106467
 University of Huddersfield
 • Prof John Hepworth
 Contact Steve Turner
 t 01484 422383
 e steve@turners7.
 freeserve.co.uk

Hull and East Yorkshire Section

Christmas Cocktail Chemistry
November
ID=106716
 Sharkeys, Hull
 The chemistry behind successful cocktail blends.
 Contact Jonathan Oxley
 e Jonathan.Oxley@bp.com

Perspectives on Global Warming & Climate Change
4 November at 18:30
ID=106714
 University of Hull
 • Dr Benny Peiser,
 Global Warming Policy Foundation
 Contact Jonathan Oxley
 e Jonathan.Oxley@bp.com

Hull and East Yorkshire Top of the Bench Competition
10 November at 18:30
ID=106715
 University of Hull
 Local Schools in Hull and East Yorkshire.
 Contact Jonathan Oxley
 e Jonathan.Oxley@bp.com

Fish and Chips with your Vinegar?
16 November at 18:30
ID=106713
 University of Hull
 A potted history of the Saltend site through the last 90 years.
 Contact Jonathan Oxley
 e Jonathan.Oxley@bp.com

Southumbria Section

Analytical Division – North East Curry Social Evening
26 November at 19:30
ID=106834
 Spice of Life Restaurant, Grimsby
 Please let Carol know by 20 November.
 Contact Carol Torne
 t 01472 870196
 e carol.torne@franklin.ac.uk

Newcastle upon Tyne and North East Section

Inaugural ‘Kilcoyne’ Lecture
15 December at 14:00
ID=106856
 Newcastle University
 • John Kilcoyne
 An annual public demonstration lecture to celebrate the work of Dr John Kilcoyne in promoting chemistry; the 2010 lecturer is by John Kilcoyne himself.
 Contact Ross Harrington
 t 0191 222 6641
 e r.w.harrington@ncl.ac.uk

Teesside Section

Top of the Bench
1 December at 14:00
ID=106844
 University of Teesside
 Competition final for Teesside section school.
 Contact Leila Elliott
 e leila_elliott@yahoo.com

Other Events

Energy Sector Technical and Economic Aspects of Co-combustion of Biomass with RSC Energy Sector Annual General Meeting
10 November
ID=106251
 University of Leeds
 One-day symposium on biomass co-combustion held jointly with the Coal Research Forum. This

meeting will include the RSC Energy Sector AGM during the lunch break.
 In association with Coal Research Forum
 Contact Jon Gibbins
 t 0131 6504867
 e jon.gibbins@ed.ac.uk

Formulation Science and Technology Group Black and Green 2

10 November at 10:00
ID=106818
 University of York
 The key challenge for formulation science over the next decades will be the accelerating change from largely oil-based and energy-intensive ingredients to mainly sustainable ingredients. Discover how a diverse selection of industries are approaching sustainable formulation at an interactive workshop.
 www.constableandsmith.com/blackandgreen2
 Contact Simon Gibbon
 t 8708802988
 e simon.gibbon@akzonobel.com

NORTH WEST

Cumbria Section

Wine Tasting
19 November at 19:00
ID=106221
 Chase Hotel, Whitehaven
 An evening of fine wines with local wine merchant Gerard Richardson.
 Contact Hazel Reardon
 t 07761 858321
 e hazel.reardon@sellafieldsites.com

Top of the Bench – Cumbria Heat
14 December at 13:00
ID=106492
 Location to be confirmed
 The Cumbria heat will involve some practical chemistry work and a chemistry pub-style quiz.
 Contact Sarah Beard
 t 019467 80334
 e sarah.m.beard@sellafieldsites.com

Lancaster and District Section

Modern Approaches to Small Molecule Drug Design
2 November at 19:30
ID=106669
 Preston College, Fulwood Campus
 Contact Harry Clarke
 t 01995 640003
 e hclarke906@btinternet.com

From Einstein to the Large Hadron Collider
30 November at 19:30
ID=106682
 Preston College, Fulwood Campus
 In association with Institute of Physics, Lancashire & Cumbria Division
 Contact Harry Clarke
 t 01995 640003
 e hclarke906@btinternet.com

Liverpool Section

Applied Materials Chemistry Group Younger Member Network
Chemistry Degree – What’s Next?
18 November at 17:00
ID=106673
 University of Liverpool
 A series of short career talks by younger members from a wide range of professional backgrounds, to show chemistry undergraduates and postgraduates the wide variety of career paths available with a chemistry degree.
 Contact Claire Rees
 t 01514 959852
 e crees@rockwoodadditives.com

SOUTH EAST

Chilterns and Middlesex Section

Education Division – South East
Top of the Bench: Section Heat
23 November at 17:00
ID=106407
 St Benedict’s School, London
 Question Master: Dr SD Robinson
 Competition to find school to represent the Section in the national final of ‘Top of the Bench’.
 Contact Stephen Robinson
 e stephenrobinson_3@hotmail.com

Downland Section

Look What Chemistry Has Done For Me
17 November at 18:00
ID=106855
 Royal Holloway, University of London
 A careers evening aimed at students in years 12 and 13 and their teachers. We would also be interested to hear from any chemists working in local businesses, who would be willing to come and speak about their career paths for 10-15 minutes at this event.
 Contact Emm Barnes
 e Emm.Barnes@rhul.ac.uk

Kent Section

Chemistry Challenge
1 October-19 November
ID=106842
 Kent
 A postal round will run until 19 November. Winning teams will be invited to a live final.
 Contact Amanda Hardy
 e drhardyteacher@hotmail.com

Molecules and Murder
4 November at 19:00
ID=106430
 Sutton Valence School, Maidstone

▶ DIARY

• John Nicholson, Professor of Biomaterials Chemistry, University of Greenwich
A lecture on the chemistry of poisoning, using examples of criminal activity from throughout history. There is no charge for this lecture but please confirm attendance. If you do not have internet/e-mail access, contact David Hall, Natural Resources Institute, Central Avenue, Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4TB.
Contact David Hall
e dijphall@aol.com

Other Events

Biological and Medicinal Chemistry Sector, High Throughput Chemistry and New Technologies Group
1st RSC/SCI Symposium on Continuous

Processing and Flow Chemistry

3-4 November
ID=105595

GlaxoSmithKline, Stevenage
For those already involved in the area and individuals with a curiosity as to what flow is and how it may benefit them and their organisations. This meeting highlights the latest developments and cutting edge research. In association with SCI Contact SCI Conference Team, RSC
e conferences@soci.org

The Chemistry Centre 2050: Sustainable Britain

4 November at 18:30
ID=106849

The Chemistry Centre, RSC London
John Emsley explains how, together, we could create

a healthy, wealthy, and sustainable Britain and set an example to the world.
Contact Lucy Sandbach, RSC
t 01223 420066
e chemistrycentre@rsc.org

Biological and Medicinal Chemistry Sector Medicinal Chemistry of Tropical Diseases: The Hidden Battle

11 November at 09:30
ID=106479

London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine
This meeting will focus on recent advances in the discovery of new therapeutic agents to tackle some of the world's most deadly and widespread diseases.
Contact Dave Alker
e dave.alker@btinternet.com

Analytical Division Education Division Water Science Forum The Open University Foundation Degree in Analytical Science: Year 1 Review and the Way Forward

11 November at 09:45
ID=106393

The Chemistry Centre, RSC London
An opportunity to discuss experiences from running the first year of the course with students from water industry laboratories. This event will also explore the application of the Foundation Degree to other industries, e.g. contaminated land, nuclear, oil, food and pharmaceuticals.
In association with: RSC Water Science Forum, the Education Division and the Analytical Division, the SCI Environment and Health and Safety Groups and the Open University.
Contact Stephanie Fernandes, RSC
t 01223 432325
e events@rsc.org

Analytical Division – South East, Education Division – South East Law Group Seminar on Recent Chemistry Case Law – Patents

16 November at 13:00
ID=106279

The Chemistry Centre, RSC London
Chair – Donald Lewis
This seminar will focus on recent high-profile patent law developments in the UK, Europe and the US, relevant to the field of chemistry. Registration will commence at 12:30.
Contact Maggi Churchouse
t 01359 221004
e maggi@maggichurc-houseevents.co.uk

Industry and Technology Division Biological and Medicinal Chemistry Sector Inflammation 2010

18 November at 09:00
ID=106175

GSK, Stevenage
This meeting will bring together scientists with an interest in inflammation research, and encourage the communication and discussion of recent advances and results – ranging from early research findings to clinical data.
Contact Maggi Churchouse
t 01359 221004
e maggi@maggichurc-houseevents.co.uk

Protein and Peptide Science Group Protein and Peptide Science Group (PPSG) Early Stage Researcher Meeting

19 November at 09:30
ID=106616

The Chemistry Centre, RSC London
This meeting aims to provide a forum for PhD students and postdoctoral research workers, in all branches of peptide and protein chemistry and in both academic and industrial laboratories, to present their research and

discuss their results. Prizes for the best poster and the best oral presentations will be awarded. Professor Annette Beck-Sickinger, University of Leipzig, will give a plenary lecture, sponsored by Enzo Life Sciences.
Contact Alethea Tabor
e a.b.tabor@ucl.ac.uk

Organic Division Biological and Medicinal Chemistry Sector MedChemComm UK-China Symposium

22 November at 10:00
ID=106477

The Chemistry Centre, RSC London
A one-day symposium featuring invited lectures by UK and China-based researchers. Open to anyone from academia or industry with an interest in medicinal chemistry.
Contact Richard Kelly
t 01223 432193
e medchemcomm-rsc@rsc.org

RSC Policy Events Chemistry for Tomorrow's World: Sustainable Design Policy Event

23 November
ID=106411

The Chemistry Centre, RSC London
• Dr Mike Pitts
This lecture will provide an insight into the role of the chemical sciences in implementing sustainable product design and the policy issues which surround this.
Contact Mindy Dulai, RSC
t 01223 432674
e policyevents@rsc.org

Celebration Lecture 25 November at 13:00 ID=106244

University of Essex
• Professor Jon Dilworth
Professor Dilworth was winner of the RSC Applied Chemistry Award 2009 and was previously Chairman of the Chemistry Department, Essex

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University.
Contact Jody Mason
e jmason@essex.ac.uk

Marketing Group Food Supply and Sustainability

**25 November at 16:00
ID=106781**

The Chemistry Centre, RSC
London

• Dr Simon Branch
Contact Ian Gordon
e ian.gordon@bopen-
world.com

Chemical Information and Computer Applications Group, Historical Chemistry Group

A Celebration of the History of Chemical Information

**29 November at 10:30
ID=106668**

The Chemistry Centre, RSC
London

A very special one-day
meeting celebrating
the history of chemical
information, covering
significant developments
in the last few decades.
In association with CSA
Trust

Contact Diana Leitch
t 0161 445 9461
e diana.leitch@google-
mail.com

Analytical Division Joint Pharmaceutical Analysis Group Characterisation of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients

**2 December at 10:00
ID=106536**

Royal Pharmaceutical
Society, London
This symposium
discusses approaches
to characterising APIs,
novel techniques
and applications for
investigating chemical and
physical characteristics.

In association with
Pharmaceutical Analytical
Sciences Group
Contact Gabriella Highfield
t 0207572 2640
e events@rpsgb.org

Colloid and Interface Science Group McBain Award Lecture

**8 December at 13:30
ID=106491**

Society of Chemical
Industry, London
The McBain Medal is an
annual award by the RSC's
Colloid and Interface
Chemistry Group
and the SCI's Colloid and
Surface Chemistry Group
to honour a younger
scientist who has made a
meritorious contribution
to colloid and interface
science.

Contact Laura Grimsley
t 0207 598 1500
e laura.grimsley@soci.org

Analytical Division NMR Discussion Group Christmas 2010 Meeting

**15 December at 10:00
ID=106837**

Institute of Child Health,
Guilford Street, London
This year's meeting will
include presentations of
recent research work in
the fields of materials,
metabolism and imaging.
In association with East
Anglia, Essex and Thames
Valley Local Sections.
Contact Stephen Byard
t 01665 608300
e john.parkinson@strath.
ac.uk

Theoretical Chemistry Group Electronic Excited States and Dynamics in Chemistry and Biology

**15 December
ID=106308**

Imperial College London
This symposium is linked
with this year's Theoretical
Chemistry Day and is in
honour of Professor Mike
Robb, who recently retired.
Contact Michael Bearpark
e m.bearpark@imperial.
ac.uk

SOUTH WEST

Bristol and District Section

**Lecture: History of the
Royal Society
10 November at 19:00
ID=106688**

University of Bristol

• Keith Moore, Head
Librarian, Royal Society
In association with SCI
Contact Hilary Kitchen
t 0117-939-2563
e papahil@blueyonder.
co.uk

Family Evening: A Pollutant's Tale

**16 November at 19:00
ID=106686**

University of
Gloucestershire
Tim Harrison, University of
Bristol

In association with
SCI, University of
Gloucestershire
Contact Adam Hart
t 012422-714670
e ahart@glos.ac.uk

Lecture – Trash Incineration: A Very Poor Choice for the 21st Century

**17 November at 18:00
ID=106690**

University of West of
England, Bristol
• Prof Paul Connett, St
Lawrence University, New
York

In association with SCI,
CIWEM
Contact Hilary Kitchen
t 0117-939-2563
e papahil@blueyonder.
co.uk

Family Evening Lecture: Chemistry for the Terrified

**24 November at 19:00
ID=106689**

University of Bristol
• Dr John Kilcoyne
In association with SCI
Contact Hilary Kitchen
t 0117 939 2563
e papahil@blueyonder.
co.uk

RELAND

Northern Ireland Section

**Solar Disinfection of
Drinking Water in the
Developing World
2 December at 19:00
ID=106847**

University of Ulster
at Jordanstown,

Newtownabbey
• Dr Kevin MCGuigan,
Royal College of Surgeons
in Ireland
The lecture will be followed
by a social evening during
which wine and cheese will
be served.
Contact Dermot Hanna
t 07894309840
e d.hanna@regulatus.
co.uk

Republic of Ireland Section

Organic Division/ Chemistry Biology Interface Division

**4 November
ID=106621**

Trinity College Dublin
Half-day symposium
featuring 2010 Award
winners.

Contact Thorri
Gunnlaugsson
e gunnlaut@tcd.ie

Organic Division Norman Heatley Award (2009)

**19 November
ID=106620**

University College Dublin
• Prof Ben Davis, University
of Oxford
Contact Donal O'Shea
e donal.f.oshea@ucd.ie

Organic Division Perkin Prize for Organic Chemistry (2009)

**25 November at 12:00
ID=106619**

Trinity College Dublin
• Prof Steven Ley,
University of Cambridge
Contact Rachel Evans
e raevans@tcd.ie

INTERNATIONAL

Africa

Pan Africa Chemistry Network

**1st PACN Green
Chemistry Congress**

**15-17 November
ID=105400**

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Sessions at the conference
will include catalysis and
biocatalysis, renewable
feedstocks/energy, green
solvents, metrics and
product design.
Contact Alejandra Palermo,
RSC
t 0207 440 3336
e palermoa@rsc.org

China

Industry and Technology Division, Materials Chemistry Division

Unilever-RSC International Symposium on Functional Materials Science

**8-11 November at 18:00
ID=106628**

China
This symposium will feature
three one-day meetings
that will take place at
three different locations
throughout China. Each
meeting will feature a
selection of lectures
covering the properties
and applications of many
different materials given by
some of the world's leading
international scientists. In
association with Unilever
Contact Sarah Thomas, RSC

t 01223 432164
e international@rsc.org

India

Indian Sections Workshop on Green Chemistry Education: Necessity of a Sustainable Future

**20 November at 09:00
ID=106712**

University of Delhi
This one-day workshop
will be a combination of
lectures, discussion, and
demonstration of green
chemistry laboratory
experiments.
Contact R. K. Sharma
t 91-11-27666250
e rksharmagreenchem@
hotmail.com

Admissions

November 2010

Chartered Chemist (CChem)

Gordon James Armstrong, Peter Butler, Liam Byrne, Thereza Cardozo, Samir Chahine, John Alexander Cooper, Peter Cope, Sharmila Devi, Elizabeth Higgins, Philip Kay, Ian Anthony O'Neil, Gareth Read, Paul John Rovardi, Rajesh Amrit Salkar, Wai Ting Joanne Tung.

Fellow (FRSC)

Sudhir Agrawal, Jonathan Bennett, Michael Birkett, Kevin Booker-Milburn, Yonas Chebude, Kwang Leong Choy, Roger Cracknell, Augustine Nnaluo Eboatu, Sara Evans, Ian James Stewart Fairlamb, Olalekan Siyanbola Fatoki, Ian William Fletcher, Daniel Frenkel, Ahmed Eliass Hussien Gassim, Simon B. Hall, Adrian Donald Hobson, Stephen Husbands, Guddadarangawanahal Jayaprakasha, Christopher Johnson, Ali S. Karim, Khosrow Kashfi, Irfan H. Latif, Nathan Scott Lawrence, Bruce Lennox, Peter Licence, Gert Lubec, Sepiso Lungwebungu, Tony McNally, David Milstein, Stuart Mucklejohn, John Parkinson, Ali Pervez, Andreas Roodt, Anil Kumar Saxena, Desiree Lisa Spriggs, Molly Stevens, F Dean Toste, Dongsheng Wen, Graham Michael Wynne, Matteo Zanda.

Member (MRSC)

Ademola Adesokan, Uche Agwo, Majid Al Nakeeb, Ayebainasuoton Francis Alagoa, Amir Ali, Murugaiah Andappan M S, Doris Angus, Sophie Apoux, Shaghayegh Ardalan, Olaniyi Ayoola Awe, Ayi Ayi Anyama, Raminder Kaur Bahia, Claire Barber, Frederique Barucka, Alexander Baturin, Martyn Sean Beauchamp, Shah Md Reduwan Billah, Rafael Bou Moreno, Lee Brennan, Michael Paul Brogden, Claire Brown, Adam Burgess, Gabriella Buscemi, Marco Cardosi, Ivan Castillo Perez, Dwaipayana Chakrabarti, Emma Chapman, David Chappell, Soumya Chatterjee, I-Jen Chen, Barbara Ciani, Kieran Cole, Nuala Commins, Anna Company Casadevall, Susannah Coote, Anthony Cossburn, Jesantha Coy, Elaine Victoria Crawford, Fiona Helen Cunningham, Scott Dalgarno, Bratati De, Hazel Dickson, Narahara Chari Dingari, Lee Dingwall, Bhathiya Dissanayake, Cheryl Doherty, Magdalena Drozd, Karyn Duffy, Anna-Marie Easson, Giles Edwards, Emem Ekaette, Leila Elliott, Carsten Engelhard, Richard Ferguson, Stephanie Fernandes, Alan James Finch, Matthew Finerty, Robert Flowers, Gary R. Fones, Heather Marie Foucault, Philippa Frewin, Ellen Friel, Jonathan James Gammon, Alexey Ganin, Mohamed Ghazzali, Stephen Gillard, Mark Gillibrand, Kendon Stuart Graham, David Robert Greenwell, Michael Roy Griffin, Marianne Groves, Polly Louisa Grundy, Anita Haider, Sarah Harris, Wayne John Harrison, Patrice Hartmann, Tim Harvey, Helen Hawkins, Barry David Glyn Haylor, Robert Hetterley, Swen Hoelder, Karen E. Hornsby, Emily R. House, Samantha Ibbotson, Emanuele Instuli, Gavin Jack, Jennifer Jacoby, Anthony James, David Alan James, Dominic Janssen, Dilipkumar Joshi, Sylwia Jozwiak, Amisha Madhusudan Kanabar, Venkata Subbarao Kandula, Kathleen Kelly, James Alastair Kendall, Jayant Khandare, Monika Krajewska, Siva Krishnadasan, Ravi Krishnamoorthy, Suvam Kulkarni, Dhiraj Kumar, Elizabeth Lakin, James Lapworth, Igor Larrosa, Damien Cedric Lorenzi, Boris Mahtig, Laura Mallon, Panagiotis Manesiotis, Giuseppe Mantovani, Peter K. Marsden, Gillian May Marshall, Ann McCormack, David Megson, Danielle Middleton, Louise Miller, James Mitchell, Kenji Miyatake, Heather Montgomery,

Samantha Mora, Carlo Francesco Morasso, Ben Morgan, Angus Morrison, Jennifer A. Morton, Philip Joseph Mosley, Sharon Mullin, Annabel Murphy, Suryakiran Navath, Nikolay Nenov, Suzanne Northwood, Ejike Emmanuel Obikili, Ruth Odihambo, Paul O'Hagan, Jesus Javier Ojeda, Philip O'Keefe, Ian Anthony O'Neil, Patricia Akpomedaye Onocha, Elizabeth Anne Parker, Phillip Parker, Nicholas Parkin, Teresa Elizabeth Parsons, Mayank Patel, Vibhuti Jitendra Patel, Gavin Patrick, John Pavey, Meher Kumar Perambuduru, Thomas Pesnot, Mark Platt, Andrea Pritchard, Joravarsinh Rana, Paul Ratcliffe, Samrina Rehman, Thomas Riis-Johannessen, Andrew Peter Lyles Robinson, John Robinson, Lynda Robinson, Phillip Robinson, James Rose, Shakir Saied, Vindhya Salwatura, Kara Sampson, Bamunu Achchige Sandunika Nethmi, David Schofield, Natasha Shirshova, Kuldeep Singh, Susan Jane Sloper, Hannah Jayne Smart, Alan Smith, Linden C. Smith, Matthew Smith, Shiau Chian Soh, Asha R. Srinivasan, Andy Stanier, David Stapleton, Edward Stutt, Nikolaos Tasopoulos, Israel Temprano, Michelle Letitia Thomas, Fraser Neil Torrance, Kieran Trickett, Geraldine Sarah Clinton Turner, Jeroen Van Berkel, Paul Waddell, Dong Wang, Steven Watt, Alexander Watts, Thomas Willett, Rich Williams, Stuart John Williams, Emma L. Wilson, Emma Wilson, Richard John Wright, Kevin Wyndham, Bin Xu, Hengrui Yang.

Associate Member (AMRSC)

Nurulsiadah Abdul Rahim, Samina Akbar, Clare Liana Allen, B. Chandrika Ambati, Sadaf Saad Anjum, Faisal Ashraf, Isaac Ayensu, Anil Bagha, Narinder Singh Bains, Meera Basa, Madeeha Batool, Tushar Borase, Joshua Brook, Matthew Capener, Filip Ciesielski, Joanna Clark, Lawrence Clark, James Clulow, Michael Cook, Andrew Cornish, Helen Catriona Cox, Rebecca Docherty, Russell Down, Cormac Duffy, Alison English, Thomas Faust, Pim Frederix, Scott Gallifent-Holmes, Joseph Gault, Anne Inger Germeroth, Joshua Goldberg, Antony Graham, Eleanor Grimes, Deborah Harris, Umar Hassan, Elizabeth Anne Heaviside, Barry Herschy, Jennifer Hiscock, Yifan Huang, Tanya Hutter, Maitha M. Kaabi, Sahar Kandil, Christopher Kingsland-Roberts, Gordon Kirkpatrick, Holger Bernd Ralf Kramer, Richa Kumar, Kimberley Leather, Jennifer Lucy Lewis, Cheuk Fai Li, Radoslaw Michal Lipinski, Hui Liu, Daniel Paul Maddox, Nicolas Malet, Sabrina Marie, Nirubiha Mariyanayakam, Katie Marriott, Joanne Meredith, Fabrizio Minicone, Bingli Mo, Sarah Jane Murray, Russell Needham, Ikenna E. Nnaoma, Adam Noble, John Ikuba Ona, Ann Margaret O'Sullivan, Greg Owens, Rami Pashameah, Sophie Marie-Clementine Pelletier, Kelly Pereira, Francesco Piga, Alessandro Poma, Martina Preis, Philippa Preston, Seidjolo Quenum, Mohammed Mahmudur Rahman, Muhammad Saifur Rahman, Samuel Reddington, Thomas Robert Rees, Julia Rinck, Kelly Roberts, Georgina Rojc, Gemma Rothwell, Saima Saleem, Callum Scullion, Sandiana Seenevassenpillay, Khilna K. Shah, Ashif Yasin Shaikh, Darryl Short, Ryan Alan Skilton, David Mark Slade, Graham Smith, Paul Smith, Abder-rezzaq Soltani, Carolyn Spencer, Eric Talbot, Shohei Taniguchi, Laura Taylor, Biniam Fessehayee Tesfatsion, Shivaji Thadke, Paul Thornton, Srinivasa Rao Vidadala, Zuzana Vobecka, Ruth Wamsley, Garry White, Matthew Wilding, Nicky John Willis, Richard Wilson, Thomas Winstanley, Yong Yan.

Admitted to The Science Council's Register of Chartered Scientists (CSci)

Chris Brennan, Thereza Cardozo, John Alexander Cooper, Cheryl Fish, Jonathan James Jones, Bhekile Brilliance Mamba, Cathy McCullagh, Sarah Jane Roberts, Hannah Southey-Davis, Benjamin Wilson.



EuCheMS

NEWSLETTER

November 2010

EuCheMS Chemistry Congress in Nürnberg: Building on success

Some 2500 chemists from over 60 countries came together in Nürnberg from 29 August to 2 September to celebrate their science as “the creative force” and to continue the success story which has started in Budapest 2006 and Torino 2008. The congress format is now well established within the scientific community.

Housed in the Congress Centre Nürnberg, the congress saw an ambitious and wide ranging lecture programme. Chairmen François Diederich and Andreas Hirsch had coordinated a tightly packed programme consisting of seven plenaries, around 180 invited talks and 370 oral presentations – all in all more than 180 hours of science and science related topics as research funding, job related self understanding of chemists and ethics of chemical education.

The plenary lectures:

From biological systems to nuclear fusion

With an almost completely filled Frankenhalle, the opening ceremony of the congress was the first highlight and a perfect start. On offer was an entertaining mixture of welcome addresses, award ceremonies and two plenary lectures: Barbara Imperiali (Cambridge, MA) introduced molecular probes to improve our understanding of biological systems. Klaus Müllen (Mainz) presented chemistry at the interface to ma-



Tabletop football with congress chairman François Diederich (second from left).

terials and emphasized the need for new compounds with controlled functions.

The remaining five plenary lecturers – all of which were very well received – formed the cornerstones of the remaining four congress days. EuCheMS lecturer Michael Grätzel (Lausanne) shared his vision of a photochemistry driven energy supply with the audience. Bert Meijer (Eindhoven) touched on fundamental questions on chirality while introducing his polymeric and dendritic molecular architectures. Hans-Joachim Freund (Berlin) showed how catalysts can be visualized. Lechoslaw Latos-Grazynski (Wroclaw) impressed organic and inorganic chemists alike bringing metal-locenes into play while dealing with new concepts on aromaticity. For Joshua Jortner (Tel Aviv) nuclear fusion is the ultimate energy source and well worth investigating.

Posters, awards and a living molecule

More than 1400 posters were on display throughout the whole congress with a well received “beer and pretzel” poster session and intense discussions all night long. For the youngsters there was also the winners’ symposium of the Reaxys PhD Prize and the finalists’ round of the European Young Chemist Award. In addition to technical presentations in the chemistry areas meeting attendees had the chance to participate in the



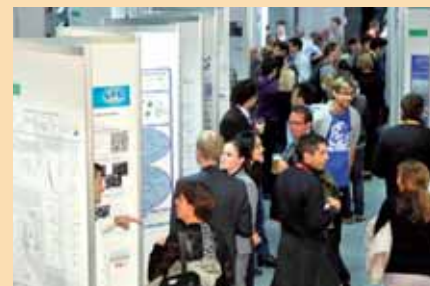
Exhibition with chemical companies, research organisations and publishing houses.



Frankenhalle during the opening ceremony.



Congress assistants at the counters.



Poster session and intense discussions.



Congress concert at St. Sebald.



Reaxys PhD Prize winners Robert Phipps, Hiroyuki Miyamura and Thomas Maimone (front row from left) with Phil Mestecy (Elsevier).



CV check by recruiting experts from industry.

Career Days in Nürnberg: CV checks and more

Two days with lectures, CV checks, career advice and a jobfair marked the Career Days, organised by the European Young Chemists Network (EYCN) and GDCh's Career Service.

A varied mixture of 14 companies, funding organisations, civil service and other organisations participated in the jobfair on 31 August. Representatives from several funding organisations presented their programmes to support young scientists either to come to Germany or to go abroad.

Companies presented themselves with lectures and booths and answered questions about getting started and pursuing a career. "It's a stimulating atmosphere", said one of the human resources managers. "The young people are very interested and ask a lot of details about our company". Julia Rasche from Contact Singapore, whose aim is to attract people to work, invest and live in Singapore, said: "It's the first time we have been to a chemist's jobfair. And it is really worth it."

Young scientists from all over the world appreciated the possibility to talk with company's representatives and to learn more about grants and funding programmes. Many PhD students or postdocs had their CV checked by recruiting experts from different companies and the RSC's Careers Service and received helpful tips how to improve their CV.

Karin Schmitz, k.schmitz@gdch.de



BASF booth at the job fair.

Career Days organised by the GDCh Career Service together with EYCN (see left).

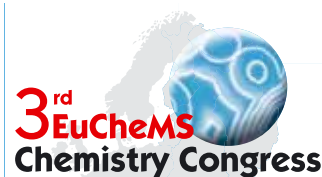
The congress also included an exhibition with 38 booths of chemical companies, research organisations and publishing houses. The so-called vendor seminars organised by the sponsors and supporters of the congress, enjoyed great visibility and traffic even during lunch.

The congress concert and the congress party showed the best of two worlds. While being serious and more contemplative in St. Sebalds church on Monday, the stadium event on Wednesday saw sporting activities, "molecule building on the green" and fulminant fireworks.

On Thursday, the closing ceremony started off with the ceremony for the European



Perfect shot: Congress chairman
Andreas Hirsch.



Young Chemist Award. Nicolai Cramer (Zürich) and Sophie Carencu (Paris) received prizes for their excellent presentations. After closing remarks by GDCh president Michael Dröscher, EuCheMS president Luis Oro and Pavel Drasar, chairman for the 4th EuCheMS Chemistry Congress, thanked the organisers for their excellent work and invited the participants to the 4th congress in Prague 2012.

Gerhard Karger, GDCh
g.karger@gdch.de



Pavel Drasar, chairman for the 4th EuCheMS
Chemistry Congress, invited the participants
to the next EuCheMS Chemistry Congress in
Prague 2012.



The living EuCheMS heptacene molecule. (All photos: Bischof&Broehl, Nürnberg)

Congratulations: Awards presented in Nürnberg



Angelika Niebler, Member of the European Parliament, presented the **European Sustainable Chemistry Award** to **Matthias Beller** (Leibniz-Institute for Catalysis in Rostock, Germany). The award was recently launched by EuCheMS and has been awarded to Beller for his exceptional contributions to homogenous catalysis and its application to eco-compatible processes.



Winners of the **European Young Chemist Award** with finalists and jury. The award was sponsored by the Italian Chemical Society (see also page 4).

C.N.R. Rao (Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research in Bangalore, India) is the first scientist from Asia who received the **August Wilhelm von Hofmann Denkmünze**, a medal of gold donated by the Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker (GDCh).



Luisa Torsi (University of Bari "Aldo Moro", Italy), has received the **Heinrich Emanuel Merck Award** for analytical sciences. This was the first time that the renowned award has been granted to a lady scientist. Luisa Torsi has investigated organic semiconducting chemical sensors based on organic thin-film field effect transistors.



Elsevier presented the **Reaxys PhD Prize** (see photo on page 1) to **Robert Phipps** (University of Cambridge, UK), **Hiroyuki Miyamura** (University of Tokyo) and **Thomas Maimone** (MIT).

Michael Grätzel gave EuCheMS Lecture: Learning from photosynthesis

Michael Grätzel from the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) delivered the EuCheMS Lecture on molecular photovoltaics and mesoscopic solar cells at the EuCheMS Chemistry Congress on 30 August.

Michael Grätzel's lecture introduced the congress session on resources and environment (energy research, water and food for an increasing population, environmental analytical sciences). Grätzel directs the EPFL Laboratory of Photonics and Interfaces. He pioneered research on energy and electron transfer reactions in mesoscopic materials and their application in solar energy conversion systems, optoelectronic devices and lithium ion batteries. Learning from the concepts used by green plants, Michael Grätzel's team has developed a molecular photovoltaic device whose overall efficiency for solar energy conversion to electricity has presently attained 12.3%.

The EuCheMS Lecture honours outstanding achievements by a European chemist. It also serves to enhance the image of European chemistry and to promote scientific cooperation in Europe. It rotates among EuCheMS member societies and is delivered at a scientific event outside the lecturer's own country.

ks



EuCheMS lecturer Michael Grätzel talked about solar energy conversion using the concepts of green plants.

Chemical organisations issue calendar for International Year of Chemistry 2011

In view of the International Year of Chemistry (IYC) 2011, the European Young Chemists Network (EYCN), and two sections of the Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker (GDCh), namely the German JungChemikerForum (JCF) and the Society for Chemistry and Economics (VCW), have decided to jointly contribute to the IYC 2011 by producing a calendar representing chemistry in everyday life.

To this end, the organisers announced an international picture contest during March and June 2010. Twelve of overall more than 180 pictures have been selected by a jury, containing the president of the GDCh and the chairpersons of EYCN, JCF and VCW. The winners were rewarded at the EuCheMS Congress in Nürnberg with a share of the total prize money of 3000 Euro. The winning pictures have been included in the calendar, which can now be purchased. The revenue from sales of the calendar will be spent on activities across of the contributing organisations during the year 2011. These activities will set the target on bringing chemistry to the public and will show that everything is really just chemistry.

The calendar can be ordered via www.eycn.eu, via the web shop of the Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker (va.gdch.de/gdch_shop/shop.asp) or by e-mail to calendar@jungchemikerforum.de. The prize of the calendar is 10 Euro inclusive VAT, exclusive shipping costs.

Manuel Renz, m.renz@uni-wuerzburg.de



Everything is chemistry: The calendar for the International Year of Chemistry 2011 can be ordered now.

Events

11 – 14 April 2011, Manchester University, UK

EuCheMS Inorganic Chemistry Conference (EICC-1)
www.rsc.org/ConferencesAndEvents/RSCConferences/EICC1

31 August – 3 September 2011, Budapest, Hungary

4th European Conference on Chemistry for Life Sciences (4th ECCLS), www.4eccls.mke.org.hu

4 – 8 September 2011, Granada, Spain

5th EuCheMS Conference on Nitrogen Ligands
www.ugr.es/local/nligands

11 – 15 September 2011, Belgrade, Serbia

Euroanalysis XVI, www.euroanalysis2011.rs

EYCN's activities in Nürnberg

Since the formation of the European Young Chemists Network (EYCN), our motto has been "You have the chance to do anything, you can achieve everything you want!". This is why EYCN was created: To support and encourage young professionals on their future careers.

The 3rd EuCheMS Chemistry Congress, a European wide event attended by over 1100 young chemists, gave us an excellent opportunity to spread the word about EYCN and to connect young scientists. Our programme focused on creative activities to enlarge the opportunities of young chemists and help in their professional development, as well as just provide a meeting place for young scientists and young ideas.

In cooperation with the Career Service of the Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker (GDCh) and GDCh's Young Chemists Division (JCF) we held a three-day programme englobing the wide options' palette that a career in chemistry has to offer under Career Days (see page 2). One of the events was "Science meets business" where chemical companies – Evonik, Merck and BASF – presented examples from



Members of the European Young Chemists Network.

innovative ideas to successful concepts within their organisations.

To highlight the International Year of Chemistry 2011, EYCN came up with the "Everything is chemistry" competition (see left). The winners were presented in a ceremony held on Wednesday afternoon.

Another award given in this 3rd EuCheMS congress was the European Young Chemist Award, sponsored by the Italian Chemical Society (SCI) and organised in association with EuCheMS, EYCN and SCI. High level and innovative researchers participated and the final candidates had the opportunity to present their projects to a jury. The winners were announced in the closing ceremony on Thursday afternoon.

Viviana Fluxa, viviana.fluxa@eycn.eu

EuCheMS Newsletter



Newsletter coordinator: Karin Schmitz
Please send all correspondence and manuscripts to k.schmitz@gdch.de

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UK-China visiting researchers programme

In 2010, a joint chemical research initiative was established between the RSC and the State Administration for Foreign Experts Affairs in China (SAFEA); this scheme links UK researchers with Chinese universities and scientists. Following the enormous success of the pilot scheme we are now looking to recruit a new cohort of people to take part in the Visiting Researchers Programme in 2011/2012.

The fully funded programme enables UK academics to visit a Chinese institution with a shared chemical interest. The aims are twofold: to investigate the opportunity of collaboration between host and researcher, and for the visitor to share their knowledge about presenting research, writing papers and organising research groups.

In March 2010, Annie Bligh from London Metropolitan University visited Sun Yat-sen University in Guangzhou; she reported huge benefits from the China-UK scientific collaboration: "It makes sense to collaborate with groups who work in a committed and high quality environment."

Since then Rob Davies from Imperial College has successfully completed a visit to Nankai University, Beijing, and a further three researchers are due to depart for China in the near future.

If you would like to broaden your research collaborations through this programme, contact Lindsay Vare. international@rsc.org Tel: +44 (0) 20 7440 2189

Interest group awards

The Knox Medal is awarded by the RSC Separation Science Group.

Please send nominations to John Langley, Chair of the Separation Science Group. gjl@soton.ac.uk

Closing date for nominations Tuesday 30 November.

Visit the awards section on the separation science website for more information.

www.rsc.org/separationscience

The RSC Fluorine Award is associated with the RSC Fluorine Group.

It is generously sponsored by JRD Fluorochemicals Ltd.

The award is not restricted to members of the RSC.

Nominations are invited on behalf of applicants who must be under the age of 40.

Closing date for nominations is 1 December 2010.

See the website for more information.

www.rsc.org/FluorineChemistryAwards

PERSONAL NEWS

Peter Day CChem FRSC FRS recently gave the annual Josef Stefan Lecture at the Josef Stefan Institute in Ljubljana, Slovenia, and the Coochbehar Lecture at the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, Kolkata. He was also appointed a Fellow by the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC), recognising his work to establish materials chemistry as a distinct member in the IUPAC family.

Mastership in Chemical Analysis (MChemA)

The MChemA, awarded by the RSC, is the statutory qualification for appointment to the position of Public Analyst.

Two candidates were successful in the final part of the examination in 2010 and have been awarded the MChemA:

Susanne Brookes MChemA MRSC

(Minton, Treharne and Davies, Lanelli)

Rachael New MChemA CSci CChem MRSC

(Hampshire Scientific Services)

Deaths

Dr Ghulam Sobhani Ahmed CChem FRSC Retired tutor training, New Employ Ltd. Died 9 September 2010, aged 73

Professor Abdul Aziz Kadhim Al-Mahdi CChem FRSC Retired ministry of higher education and scientific research, Foundation of Scientific Research, Iraq. Died 4 November 2009, aged 84

Mr Alexander McLennan Anderson CChem MRSC

Retired operations director, Fine Organics Ltd. Died 19 August 2010, aged 73

Dr Noel George Anderson CChem FRSC Retired freelance technical translator. Died 31 August 2010, aged 81

Mr Philip Hervey Daniels CChem FRSC Retired company secretary, Shell Research Ltd. Died 29 July 2010, aged 95

Mr Vernon Warner David MRSC

Retired. Died 10 August 2010, aged 89

Mr Ronald Dyson MRSC Retired manager, safety engineering, British Gas plc. Died 26 April 2009, aged 75

Dr James Douglas Easton CChem FRSC

Retired manager, chemical formulations, Eastman Kodak Company, USA. Died 19 August 2010, aged 82

Dr Henryk Eisenberg MRSC

Formerly Emeritus professor Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel. Date of death not supplied.

Dr Maurice Ernest Foss CChem FRSC

Retired deputy director, Coventry (Lanchester) Polytechnic. Died 16 July 2010, aged 88

Professor Dr Gerhard G K Habermehl CChem FRSC Retired head of department of chemistry, School of Veterinary Medicine, Germany. Died 30 August 2010, aged 79

Dr Alan David Holding CChem MRSC Formerly student, University of Leeds. Date of death not supplied.

Mr David John Austin Lee CChem MRSC Formerly self-employed technical consultant. Date of death not supplied.

Mr Frank Raymond Maskew MRSC Retired, Donald Macpherson & Co. Died 28 August 2010, aged 81

Mr Bhakthi Vilasathil Sadasiv Menon CChem MRSC

Retired engineer, Central Construction Laboratory, India. Date of death not supplied.

Mr Cedric Duncan Moore CChem FRSC Retired, Glovers Chemicals Ltd. Died 21 August 2010, aged 93

Mr Michael Whitmore Preuveneers CChem FRSC Retired self-employed consultant. Died 15 August 2010, aged 74

Mr David Reid CChem MRSC Retired paint chemist, Crown Paints. Died 10 August 2010, aged 66

Mr Alan Geoffrey Simpson CChem MRSC Retired independent consultant. Died 29 August 2010, aged 67

Mr Henry Berkeley Simpson CChem FRSC

Retired senior lecturer, inorganic chemistry, Mid-Kent College. Died 20 August 2010, aged 82

Dr Domenico Giovanni Sonanini MRSC

Retired pharmacist-analyst, Swiss Federal Office of Public Health, Switzerland. Died 5 August 2010, aged 79

Mr Anthony Campbell South MRSC Retired lecturer in chemistry, North Lincolnshire College. Died 7 July 2010.

Mr John Vincent Turner MChemA CChem FRSC

Retired chief examiner, European Patent Office, Germany. Died 7 September 2010, aged 84

Mr Thomas Alan Whitworth CChem FRSC

Retired principal lecturer in chemistry, Chesterfield College of Technology and Arts. Died 26 July 2010, aged 86

Prizes and Awards

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Closing date for
nominations is
31 January 2011