

## Analytical Division

### Strategy for the period 2007-2010

In May 2005 a workshop attended by all RSC Analytical Division (AD) Honorary Officers was held to consider an investment strategy for the Analytical Chemistry Trust Fund for the next five years and new mechanisms for delivering that strategy. Whilst the AD has a budget which covers primarily its committee meetings, it is the ACTF (an independent Trust Fund but whose Trustees are serving members of AD Council) which covers the developmental activities of the AD.

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

1. Increase our influence in key decision making bodies
2. Broaden our science base
3. Foster the study and teaching of chemical sciences
4. Enhance the benefits of membership
5. Promote professional qualifications and ethical conduct
6. Enhance our publishing activities
7. Improve our channels of communication
8. Pursue activities in partnership with other organisations
9. Improve our governance, structure and financial planning
10. Invest in our staff and support our volunteers.

AD Strategy during the period 2007-2010 supported by financial investment from the ACTF is to enhance the status of analytical science and it will be supporting overall RSC strategy as follows:

#### **Broaden our science base**

- Continue with a scheme for analytical PhD studentships
- Support schemes to engage industry more in studentships (e.g. CASE like awards)
- Facilitate industrial studentships schemes for full time and part time students e.g. 50/50 funding to enhance training experience and knowledge transfer
- Investigate other avenues of dialogue with e.g. BBSRC and NERC

- Facilitate strategic RSC conferences in Analytical Science and support IUPAC Congress 2009

#### **Foster the study and teaching of chemical sciences**

- Explore the possibility of entering into partnership with the “Chemistry for our Future” initiative
- New updated material for improving basic practical analytical skills
- Enhanced activity in secondary and tertiary education (e.g. pre-GCSE analyst competition, Study Tours, Summer studentships)
- Fellowships for teaching projects at the secondary and tertiary levels
- Provide the opportunity for “buy-out” periods of up to 6-12 months to support education and training activities e.g. ACTF Fellowships
- Raise the perception of analytical chemistry amongst undergraduate and prospective undergraduate students
- Publicise the agreed European chemistry syllabus.

#### **Improve our channels of communication**

- Enhanced engagement with AD groups and regions
- To the international community e.g. through EuCheMS
- To government (e.g. via Parliamentary Fellow)
- To the RSC for use in its broader lobbying e.g. Campaign for Chemistry and the Chemical Innovation Network
- To the Public
- Link analytical chemistry with subjects that are topical and readily understandable such as food analysis
- Reconsider an annual “Schools” Lecturer
- Enhance links to local MPs through the RSC Parliamentary Links Scheme
- Ask members and RSC/EPSRC funded students to encourage new ideas

#### **Pursue activities in partnership with other organisations**

- Enhance links and interfaces with external bodies, e.g. EPSRC
- Even unusual links could provide beneficial publicity for analytical chemistry
- Bring key stakeholders together to consider strategic directions for analytical science
- Review the balance of effort and resources within the AD towards different RSC Interest Groups and the possibility of new Groups e.g. Process Analysis.
- Enhance the support for analytical science in developing countries e.g. Fellowships in UK/Ireland

### Key stakeholders

This will be carried out by working with AD members, the AD Group and Region Forum, other parts of the RSC and external bodies as appropriate.

### Key Performance Indicators for 2007-2009

- Developing new Studentship schemes
- Introduction of data on Studentships on placement, completion and publications
- Increase communication with the international community
- Support the Pan Africa Chemistry Network
- Continue support for Chemistry Innovation Knowledge Transfer Network (CIKTN)
- Review AD governance in the light of the implementation of the RSC Governance Review

Revised May 2008