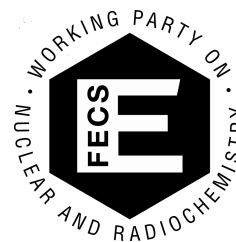


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RADIOCHEMISTRY IN EUROPE NEWSLETTER

Issue 22 – July 2002

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Welcome to the twenty-second Newsletter for Radiochemists in Europe now under the sponsorship of the Federation of European Chemical Societies (FECS). At present the Radiochemical Methods Group of the Analytical Division of the Royal Society of Chemistry (UK) is acting as the secretariat and covering the expenses of me as Secretary/Chairman hence the address at the heading of this newsletter along with the logo for the FECS Working Party.

This newsletter is now firmly established on web page (<http://www.rsc.org/pdf/andiv/europenews.pdf>). The newsletter is also available through the website of The WP on Nuclear and Radiochemistry of FECS, namely <http://www.chemsoc.org/networks/enc/fecs/fecsradiochemistry.htm> This website has other useful connections to "Future Events" called nuclear and radiochemical activities in Europe, and the Homepage of the Radiochemical Methods Group of RSC.

The FECS WP on Nuclear and Radiochemistry, which is discussing training needs in Europe, Has maintained contact with the European Nuclear Engineering Network and the IAEA review on the Application and Training in Radiochemistry. Whilst neither cover the exact area of interest of the WP attempts are being made to share any data collected via the various surveys.

In order to establish the WP in the eyes of the European Commission, the WP has registered an Expression of Interest in FP6. Details can be found below.

Recent e-mail messages have also brought attention to the existence of VirRAD, which is a new project funded by the European Commission aiming to develop a Virtual Learning Community in Radiopharmacy. More about this is given later

Articles, reports on meetings, laboratory profiles, courses, positions vacant, redundant equipment and any other item you feel may be of interest to other radiochemists are still required. Also the early announcement of dates for meetings and conferences is important to avoid the possibility of organising two at the same time on similar topics within Europe. Articles in this newsletter will indicate how others are investing effort and money in improving the education of radiochemists and setting up databases for radioanalytical facilities.

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

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•EUROPEAN RADIOCHEMISTS ASSOCIATION.

Aims and Objectives

The objective of the association is to extend and improve communications between radiochemists in Europe through a newsletter. This will be achieved through aims, which include

1. Establishing a liaison person within each country (or group).
2. Exchanging with each of the other liaison persons details of the activities of their own group during the current and subsequent years,
3. Setting up a diary of relevant International Events to avoid duplication of dates and hence improve attendance
4. Exchanging details of specialist equipment, facilities and methodology.

•FEDERATION OF EUROPEAN CHEMICAL SOCIETIES

FECS Lecture 2002

The FECS Lecture serves to enhance the image of European chemistry and to promote scientific co-operation in Europe. It rotates among FECS member societies and is delivered at a scientific event outside the lecturer's own country. Two Lectureships have been awarded for 2002.

Professor Ivano Bertini, University of Florence, will deliver the first FECS Lecture "A structural genomics approach to metal ion homeostasis, resistance and reduction" on 2nd September during the 8th FECS Conference on Chemistry and the Environment in Athens.

Professor Ed Southern, Director of Oxford Gene Technology, will deliver his FECS Lecture "DNA microarrays: small chemistry, big biology" on 9th September during EUROANALYSIS 12 to be held in Dortmund, Germany.

(Ed. Comment)

It is perhaps time for nuclear and radiochemistry to consider nominating someone for a FECS Lecture. Please let me have your comments and suggestions.

The WP on Nuclear and Radiochemistry

The WP met in Mariánské Lázně at the 14th Radiochemical Conference. The short minutes of the meeting follow.

MINI MINUTES of WP on

Nuclear and Radiochemistry of FECS

April 14th 2002 in Mariánské Lázně.

Those present: - Nominated members were Prof. Mauro Bonardi (Italy), Prof. Jan John (Czech Republic), Ir. Zvonimir I. Kolar (The Netherlands), Dr. Jukka Lehto (Finland), Prof. Jerzy Narbutt (Poland), Prof. Turan Unak (Turkey) and Dr. Anthony Ware (UK, Sec/Chair). Invited member was Prof. Per Hoff (Norway).

Apologies were received from Prof. Alexander Chekmarev (Russia), Dr Isobel Santos (Portugal), Dr. Zoltan Homonnay (Hungary) and Dr. Norbert Trautmann (Germany)

1. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed.
2. Dr. Anthony Ware was confirmed as Sec/Chairman of the WP.
3. Members noted progress on Conferences/Symposium 2000 to 2010 and agreed to provide further details of Conferences/Seminars. Environmental Radiochemical Analysis 2002 in UK had obtained FECS sponsorship

4. The secretary tabled a database of training courses provided by members to date. It was agreed to determine how a project for networking could be financed within the Framework 6 Research Programme of the EU. Members agreed to provide further details of training courses in radiochemistry and nuclear chemistry for undergraduates and postgraduates in their country.
5. The FECS web page for the WP would include details of latest newsletter, future events, mini minutes and links to other useful websites.
6. The IAEA have initiated a Consultants Meeting on "Assessment of the situation in teaching and application of Radiochemistry" to be held in June during the 7th International Conference on Nuclear Analytical Methods in the Life Sciences in Turkey. Jean-Charles Abbe had been selected as the expert for Europe. The WP will co-operate with this survey.
7. The secretary agreed to find out more about the European Nuclear Engineering Network, which appears to be seeking funds from the Framework 5 or 6 programmes to set up a European Masters course in nuclear engineering.
8. The date of the next meeting was not fixed. The WP would communicate by e-mail pending a decision.

Dr. A R Ware, Secretary/Chair

These minutes plus other information on the WP and useful links with other interested groups can be found at the WP Website on <http://www.chemsoc.org/networks/enc/fecs/fecsradioc hemistry.htm> . It is currently linked to the Royal Society of Chemistry webpages for the Newsletter and Future Events.

The WP has established links with the IAEA Technical Officer, Matthias Rossbach

(m.rossbach@iaea.org), for their review of radiochemistry and its application and the European Nuclear Engineering Network. More recently the WP has become aware of a new project for those interested in radioisotopes in medicine, VirRAD. It is funded by the European Commission and aims to develop a Virtual Learning Community in Radiopharmacy. More details given below.

(e-mail: tonyware@compuserve.com)

•EUROPEAN COMMISSION'S 6th FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME FOR RESEARCH

The FECS WP on Nuclear and Radiochemistry have registered an Expression of Interest entitled "Network for Training of Nuclear and Radiochemistry in Europe" with the European Commission. The text reads as follows:

In European Universities an appreciable loss of knowledge is expected in the fields of nuclear and radiochemistry. There is a continuous demand for expertise in these areas from the Nuclear Industry, Environmental Science, the Pharmaceutical Industry, Medical Science and other industries using radiochemicals. There is a need to support existing

and stimulate new University curricula, training facilities, and commercial applications of nuclear and radiochemistry and to encourage students to undertake further training to enable them to perform work relevant to many of the "Priority Thematic Areas of Research" in FP6.

The WP would establish a European Network of laboratories prepared to offer training in nuclear and radiochemistry, to educate and inform the general public and politicians and to expand the existing "Radiochemistry in Europe" Newsletter and webpage.

The WP hopes to have a presence at the Launch of the FP6 in Brussels from 11th to 13th November 2002.

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· CONFERENCE REPORTS

14th RADIOCHEMICAL CONFERENCE

On April 14-19, 2002, in the already traditional four-year period and also traditionally in this time of the year, Mariánské Lázně in Western Bohemia became one of the foremost centres of the world nuclear chemistry. Altogether 209 scientists from 37 countries of five continents attended the 14th Radiochemical Conference of this series. In eight special sections they presented altogether 118 oral lectures and 90 posters. Along with the scientific program two panel discussions were organised before closing the meeting that were orientated to the issues of education and future development of this branch of chemistry and to the problems of the organisation of European nuclear chemists. A system of reduced conference fees and an offer of cheaper accommodation facilities made possible the participation of altogether 31 students in the conference activities. The 14th Radiochemical Conference continued thus in the long tradition of these meetings reaching back to the beginning of sixties.

Under the auspices and support of the Czech Technical University in Prague the Conference was organised by a body of organisers, members of the Nuclear Chemistry Section of the Czech Chemical Society, of the J. M. Marci Czech Spectroscopic Society, and of the Czech Radioecological Society. The organisers enjoyed also a support from the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna. The parallel session of the Working Party for Nuclear and Radiochemistry of the Federation of European Chemical Societies further enhanced the prestige of the Conference.

To launch a discussion on the issues and future of nuclear chemistry worldwide was one of the principle aims of the 14th Radiochemical Conference. The plenary lecture of Prof. Jeroen J. M. de Goeij of the TU Delft, the Netherlands, entitled "Radiochemistry and associated nuclear chemistry in the beginning of the twenty-first century", read during the Monday opening session of the conference, was the main impetus for this discussion. The following informal discussions held during the entire week resulted in the approval of a declaration "General statement on the current position of nuclear- and radiochemistry". In this declaration the Conference participants strove to attract the attention of politicians, information media, and general public to

the contributions of nuclear chemistry to the development of modern civilisation and to the hazards emerging from the present distraction from nuclear sciences. Full text of the declaration can be viewed at <http://www.fjfi.cvut.cz/radchem>, for convenience it is included at the end of this report. These activities culminated in the closing panel discussion on the "Education of radiochemists", moderated by Dr. Matthias Rossbach of IAEA.

In the Conference opening session the plenary lecture "The remarkable metrological history of C14 dating: from ancient Egyptian artefacts to particles of soot and grains of pollen", presented by Prof. Lloyd A. Currie of National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg MD, U. S. A., one of the world most prominent experts in the ionising radiation metrology, had a very favourable acceptance, similarly as the lecture "State of art in experimental studies and theory of superheavy elements" read by Prof. Ivo Zvára of the Joint Institute of Nuclear Research, Dubna (Russia).

In compliance with tradition, the conference sessions on "Nuclear Analytical Methods" and "Radionuclides in the Environment, Radioecology" had the highest attendance. In the former session a series of important papers in the field of neutron activation analysis has been presented. Of these we can mention the communications of Dr. Rolf Zeisler of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD, (U.S.A.), of Prof. Frans A. de Corte of the University in Gent (Belgium), of Dr. Jan Kucera of the Institute of Nuclear Physics of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Prague, or of Prof. Amares Chatt of the Dalhousie University, Halifax (Canada). The plenary lecture of Prof. Heino Nietsche of the University of California, Berkeley (U. S. A.) and the invited lectures of Dr. Rafael Garcia-Tenorio of the University of Sevilla (Spain) and of Dr. Astrid Koban of the Forschungszentrum Rossendorf, Dresden (Germany) contributed enormously to the high quality of presentations in the section of "Radionuclides in the Environment, Radioecology".

Papers presented in the session of the chemistry of actinides and transactinides could unequivocally be rated to the most important scientific presentations at the Conference. In addition to the above mentioned plenary lecture of Prof. Zvára it was, for instance, the

invited lecture of Prof. Heino Nitsche summarising the present state-of-the-art in experiments with the heaviest elements in the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA, that contributed to this success. In the papers presented by the research groups from Paul Scherrer Institute, Switzerland, and JINR, Dubna, Russia, the very first chemical experiments with the elements of the atomic numbers 108 (hassium) and 112, respectively, have been reported.

The participants of the session "Production and Application of Radionuclides" focused their attention to the problems of the radionuclide yields in nuclear reactions (excitation functions) and to the new possibilities of the preparation and application of radionuclides in studies of chemical processes. Extraction, sorption, and formation of complexes were the main topics of the session on "Separation Methods, Speciation". As usual, the session on the "Ionising Radiation in Science, Technology and Preservation of the Cultural Heritage" was the least attended. However, a very interesting lecture with technological orientation was presented in this section by Prof. Dr. Reiner Mehnert of the Institute of Surface Modification, Leipzig (Germany).

The session "Chemistry of the Nuclear Fuel Cycle, Radiochemical Problems in the Nuclear Waste Management" was orientated to three main topics - separation of radionuclides from the nuclear waste, solidification of wastes, and methods of decontamination. The session "Nuclear Methods in Medicine, Radiopharmaceuticals, and Radiodiagnostics", new in the programmes of radiochemical conferences of this series, fully integrated into the Conference program and was

abreast to the other special sessions. Altogether 26 communications from the entire field of the preparation, investigation of properties, and application of the radiopharmaceuticals have been presented.

The ceremony of awarding the J. M. Marci Medals was a very important event during the social dinner. Three such medals were awarded to the Conference participants by Dr. Bohumil Docekal, the Vice-President of the Spectroscopic Society, namely to Prof. Lloyd A. Currie (USA), to Prof. Alexander A. Kist (Uzbekistan), and to Dr. Jan Kucera (Czech Republic) for their significant contributions to the development and application of ionising radiation spectroscopy.

To conclude, it is possible to state that the achievements of this meeting definitely proved that this series of radiochemical conferences, covering the entire broad scope of nuclear chemistry, succeeded to occupy a firm position in the system of world-wide conferences on these topics. Of all participants more than three-quarters (156) were from foreign countries, of these more than a quarter (40) from non-European countries. According to the first favourable responses, the Conference succeeded both professionally and socially. The next, already fifteenth Radiochemical Conference will probably be held in the usual term in the usual location - i.e., in four years time in Mariánské Lázně, Czech Republic.

PS Those interested in the photos from the conference are welcome to visit the conference home page at <http://www.fjfi.cvut.cz/radchem>. The transcript of both the panel discussions will be also presented here soon.

(Author J. John, e-mail: jan.john@fjfi.cvut.cz)

GENERAL STATEMENT ON THE CURRENT POSITION OF NUCLEAR- AND RADIOCHEMISTRY

Nuclear Chemistry and Radiochemistry have greatly contributed to the peace and prosperity of mankind as demonstrated by their applications in human health *e.g. cancer diagnostic and therapy, fighting infectious diseases*, protection of the environment, *e.g. radioecological studies, monitoring of pollutants, understanding local and global climatic changes*, international security, *e.g. reduction and controlling the spreading of nuclear weapons*, or protection of historical and cultural heritage. Moreover, it contributed to a better understanding of the universe we live in.

Regretfully, due to misinformation and the presence of some vocal minority groups who refuse to acknowledge that science is a major contributor to progress and democracy, some sectors of the general public have been led to the erroneous belief that Nuclear Chemistry and Radiochemistry are somewhat responsible for the potential risk of a nuclear war, catastrophic nuclear accidents or the possible threat to the health of people from the uncontrolled presence of invisible and dangerous radiation.

As a result, Nuclear Chemistry and Radiochemistry are now becoming neglected disciplines. Students are choosing other topics and government funds to scientific institutions working in these subjects are drastically cut.

It is foreseeable that if this trend is not reversed, within one generation or less the knowledge and expertise accumulated so far in an entire scientific sector through immense efforts and dedication, will be lost and its restoration in the future, which is inevitable, will be a very expensive endeavour.

We therefore appeal to politicians, citizens and media who still believe that a responsible and human use of science and technology can contribute to democracy and progress, to use all their influence to reverse this trend to the benefit of the present and future generations.

Local Organising Committee and the NAMLS International Committee report a successful conference, scientifically, Socially and culturally. The proceedings will be published in due course in the Journal of Radioanalytical and Nuclear Chemistry. The conference was attended by 170 participants from 39 countries with 56 accompanying persons. There were 71 Oral presentations and 119 Poster presentations. As announced in Antalya, the next conference in this series, NAMLS-8, is expected to be held during the first

half of 2005 in a Latin American country. Details will be announced shortly via NAMLS NEWS and on the website. The NAMLS-7 Group Photo taken during NAMLS-7 may be viewed on the website.

After 13 years as chair of the NAMLS International Committee, Rolf Zeisler (USA) announced his intention to step down. The new chair, elected by acclamation, is Jan Kucera (Czech Republic). Robert Parr (parr@gmx.at) was re-elected as NAMLS International Secretary.

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· IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) CONSULTANTS MEETING

This meeting has taken place and a report will be prepared by Dr Rossbach. He was present at the 14th Radiochemical Conference in Mariánské Lázně and was able to participate in the discussions there led by members of the FECS WP prior to the IAEA Consultants Meeting.

A report on the discussions at Mariánské Lázně will also be reported in the Conference proceedings. In view of their importance agreement will be sought to put both reports on the web as soon as they are available and they will also form part of a future newsletter.

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RADIOISOTOPES IN MEDICINE

For those of you that are interested in radioisotopes in medicine, VirRAD is a new project funded by the European Commission, which aims to develop a Virtual Learning Community in Radiopharmacy. In order to make this project as useful as possible, we need to get feedback from as many people as possible on what they would like to see in such a development. If this interests you, please would you go to <http://www.virrad.com> (where you can find some more information.) details) and download the questionnaire by following the link on the home page. I'd be very grateful if you could fill it in and mail it back to the contact point shown.

With many thanks for your help. Also there is a RADPHARM List. To subscribe to the RADPHARM list, you can go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/radpharm/> and complete the Yahoo registration. This will give you access to the archives of messages that have been posted to the list. Alternatively, you can email the list moderator (Stephen.Mather@cancer.org.uk) and ask him to add you to the list. To gain access to the archives however, you will have to complete the yahoo radpharm registration.
**(Information provided by Jane Sosabowski
j.k.sosabowski@qmul.ac.uk)**

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CONFERENCE DETAILS

6th International Conference on Methods and Application of Radiochemical Analysis

The first Call-for-Papers has just gone out and people should now start to think about attending. The conference is in April 2003 in Kona, Hawai'i. The web site address is <http://www.wsu.edu/~rfileby/marc6.htm>
Name of Conference: Sixth International Conference on Methods and Applications of Radioanalytical Chemistry
Date: April 7-11, 2003
Place: Kailua-Kona, HI, USA
General Chair: B. Stephen Carpenter, NIST, carpenter@nist.gov

Technical Program Contact: Roy Filby, Washington State University, rfileby@wsu.edu
Topics to be Covered are Radioanalytical methods; radiochemistry; non-nuclear methods of radionuclide determination; applications to national security, environmental science, biological problems, etc.

Modern Trends in Activation Analysis

At NAMLS 7 Nicholas Spyrou announced that the next conference on Modern Trends in Activation Analysis (MTAA-11) would be held at the University of Surrey, UK, from 20-26 June 2004.

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•NEWS FROM THE INTERNET

Bertrand Goldschmidt passed away on Tuesday 11th June at the age of 89. Bernard Goldschmidt has been a pioneer in the field of nuclear/radiochemistry. Ex-

Collaborator of Marie Curie, he participated to the nuclear effort in 1942 at the University of Chicago ; he discovered several fission nuclides and was active in

realising a process of solvent extraction of Pu. He persuaded General de Gaulle, together with P. Auger and J. Gueron, to engage France in the preparation of nuclear weapons leading thus to the creation of the CEA (French Atomic Energy Commission), in which he became in charge of the chemistry division, then of the International Relations; finally he became the president of the IAEA in 1980. Nuclear chemistry/ radiochemistry has lost one of his greatest figures.

Job opening: RSO and/or RTC

American Radiolabeled Chemicals, Inc. (ARC) is a manufacturer of a wide variety of Carbon-14 and Tritium labelled chemicals. These chemicals are sold in small amounts to various universities and pharmaceutical industries worldwide. ARC is a small company located in the Midwest of USA. ARC has an immediate opening for a Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) and/or a Radiation Control Technician (RTC). The desired candidate should have hands on experience in monitoring a facility while handling large amounts of Carbon-14 and/or Tritium. ARC is an equal opportunity employer and offers full fringe benefits and a competitive salary. Qualified candidates should send their resumes including salary requirements and availability to the following address by fax or e-mail: American Radiolabeled Chemicals. Fax: (314) 991-4692 or (800) 999-9925 E-mail: arcinc@arc-inc.com

Post-doctoral position, France

Title: Study of the sorption of Ni²⁺ and Eu³⁺ on natural organic-mineral colloids

Place :Laboratoire Subatech -4, rue Alfred Kastler, BP20722, 44307 Nantes, Cédex 03, France

Contact: G. MONTAVON: Tel: 33(0) 251858420; Fax: 33 (0) 251858452; e-mail: montavon@subatech.in2p3.fr

In France, clay geological formations have been selected as potential sites to store the nuclear waste. Organic-mineral colloids present in these formations are potential vectors of migration of the radionuclides; in particular if the organic matter becomes oxidized. The goal of this work is to study the sorption of radionuclides on colloids extracted from sediments coming from the East of France. This project is associated to a program financed by the French National Research Center.

The objectives of the work are

1. To develop a method allowing to extract the colloids from the sediment.
2. To characterize the colloidal fraction either physically (size) or chemically (functional groups – FTIR; electrospray Mass Spectroscopy (ES-MS);

elementary composition - ICPMS, MEB, MET). The goal of the characterization is to understand the association between the organic matter on the mineral surface and the effect of oxidation on the association.

3. To study the sorption properties of oxidized and non-oxidized organic-mineral colloids for Eu (III) and Ni (II). The work will be to measure the isotherms and to study the reversibility of the adsorption.

Financial support is available through a grant for a period of 11 months. The salary is 1850 euros/month (once taxes are removed).

HEVESY MEDAL AWARD 2002

A good friend and strong supporter of NAMLS has been honoured by this year's Hevesy Medal Award. He is Dr. Enrico SABBIONI (Joint Research Centre, European Commission, Ispra, Italy). Dr. Sabbioni has been selected for this year's Hevesy Medal Award in recognition of the excellence of his achievements in developing nuclear analytical methods and applying them to several scientific areas, particularly in the biomedical field, thus contributing in a most successful way to the widespread scientific use of nuclear analytical methods.

The Hevesy Medal Award ceremony took place on the first morning of the NAMLS-7 Conference (2002 June 17) in Antalya, Turkey. The medal was presented by Prof. Tibor Braun, Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Radioanalytical and Nuclear Chemistry (JRNC), who made the presentation on behalf of JRNC and the International Committee on Activation Analysis/Modern Trends in Activation Analysis (ICAA/MTAA), which acts as the adjudicating body for this award.

Further information on the award, and a list of previous medallists, may be found on the NAMLS website. The URL for direct access to this announcement is: <http://members.aon.at/namls/Hevesy2002.html>

ASR2001 Proceedings

The proceedings of the 2nd International Symposium on Advanced Science Research - Advances in Heavy Element Research - (ASR2001) can be found at the JNRS web site <http://www.radiochem.org/eng/j-online3.html>.

The symposium photographs are on the symposium web site <http://asr.tokai.jaeri.go.jp/asr2001/>.

•EUROSCIENCE

I recently received the following e-mail, which I will of course discuss with the FECS WP on Nuclear and Radiochemistry. I would welcome any comments from readers of this newsletter. We continually decry the demise of nuclear and radiochemistry but perhaps this is because we do not participate in general chemical

conferences. Now that we have a WP in FECS we have an opportunity to participate in their activities.

“A major conference organised by Euroscience with one of the topics being 'front line science' necessarily needs to include chemistry. AllChemE and with it FECS

should get involved in the process as early as possible. We should discuss this at our meeting (Ed. Comment. FECS Executive, Meeting of Chemical Society Presidents and General Assembly) in Poland and should have at that time an idea of the framework of the conference such as number of parallel sessions, duration and dates of the event. It may even be useful to invite one of the organisers. The vast pharmaceutical and chemical industry in Europe would fully justify a symposium that highlights frontiers in

chemistry. I would be pleased to be of assistance in organising such an event.

With best wishes,

Peter

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•ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

I reported in the last newsletter on the idea of an electronic conference which through limited support the RCMG decided not to continue with this trial at this time.

I still feel that this or a similar approach would allow radiochemists to discuss matters of immediate interest on a timescale shorter than the existing time between meetings and conferences. I also reported another idea, which is to create a network of radiochemists in order to do something like "VIRTUAL RADIOCHEMIST LABORATORY". It means that each group participating in this network will create in each laboratory a field of common radiochemical practise. For example:

- To create methods written in English in pdf format
- To produce abstract of methods
- To produce uncertainties of measurements
- To produce annual recoveries obtained with each method

- To create discussion groups
 - To preparing standards
 - To compare intercomparison criticised values
- Etc.

I received little or no response to this article. In view of the fact that the FECS WP on Nuclear and Radiochemistry have expressed an interest in the 6th Framework Programme of the European Commission I should like to repeat my questions from the last newsletter.

What are your comments on the proposal for a Training Network in Europe? Does the newsletter provide a sufficient network? Does it provide the information you require? Would you participate in an electronic conference? Would you be prepared to participate in a group of "Virtual Radiochemistry Laboratories?" (Editor: Dr Tony Ware, tonyware@compuserve.com)

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• AND FINALLY Items for inclusion in future issues of the Radiochemistry in Europe Newsletter are welcome and in fact essential to the development of the newsletter.

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

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

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