



EuCheMS

February 2013

NEWS LETTER



General Assembly 2012 in Dublin

Representatives of EuCheMS member societies, EuCheMS Divisions and Working Parties, the European Young Chemists Network, EuCheMS associated organisations, members of the EuCheMS Executive Board, invited guests and the local organisers contributed to the success of the EuCheMS General Assembly 2012. This year, the Institute of Chemistry of Ireland kindly hosted about seventy participants on the 11 and 12 October in Dublin, Ireland at the historic premises of the Royal Irish Academy.

Ulrich Schubert, EuCheMS President, who chaired the EuCheMS General Assembly, opened the meeting by informing the participants about recent updates concerning the EuCheMS strategic objectives. Livia Simon Sarkadi, Nineta Majcen and Cristina Todasca complemented his presentation with updates on activities in the scientific area covered by the EuCheMS Divisions and Working Parties, policy development activities and activities of the European Young Chemists Network (EYCN).

The invited guests Kazuyuki Tatsumi, President of the International Union of Pure and

Applied Chemistry (IUPAC), Marinda Wu, President Elect of the American Chemical Society, Evangelia Varela, President of the European Chemistry Thematic Network Association, Luisa Cifarelli, President of the European Physical Society and Gernot Klotz, Executive Director for Research and Innovation at the European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC) all kindly made an introduction before the two following panel discussions (see right). Presentations given at the General Assembly are available at www.euchems.eu/about/general-assembly/2012-dublin-ireland/presentations-ga-2012.html.

In addition, it was a privilege to have the opportunity to also attend the public talk of Lesley Yellowlees, RSC President, at Trinity College Dublin (www.chemistryireland.org/html/annual-chemistry-lecture-october-2012.html).

EuCheMS President Ulrich Schubert thanked the local organisers and sponsors for kindly hosting the EuCheMS General Assembly and associated events in Dublin.

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Panel discussions in Dublin

On the EuCheMS General Assembly (see left) two panel discussions took place. The panel “What are the European needs of member societies?” (chaired by Ulrich Schubert) showed that mainly non-monetary services for the member societies would be appreciated, e.g.:

- helping especially the smaller countries to promote contacts,
- making electronic courses available and distributing them through the EuCheMS website,
- developing means to help chemical societies to keep in contact with chemists that work in areas outside the usual chemical areas,
- making EuCheMS proceedings of conferences available online,
- helping to recruit individuals or involve them with the member societies,
- increasing the visibility of EuCheMS to individuals, especially to younger chemists,
- further implementation of internal communication.

The participants of the panel “Combining forces for Horizon2020” (chaired by Nineta Majcen) pointed to the following key aspects:

- importance of education and excellence in education and the definition of excellence in research,
- importance of interdisciplinary cooperation, e.g. bottom-up approach and collaboration between industry and academia for funding,
- problems concerning bureaucracy and lack of individual responsibility (difference between the EU and the USA research funding),
- relevance of the structural and other EU funds (Horizon2020 is not the only way to fund research),
- mobility and involvement of chemists at an early stage: chemists have to get involved more in the decision-making process,
- insufficient budget for Horizon2020: the EU should increase incentives for the SMEs to get involved in research,
- need of better balance between Marie Curie Actions and other kinds of EU research funding.

Ulrich Schubert

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About seventy participants attended the General Assembly in Dublin.



The European Association
for Chemical and Molecular
Sciences

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Chemistry for better health

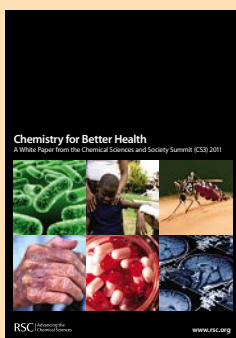
Investing in chemical science research is absolutely vital to ensure that the development of healthcare keeps pace with the increasing health challenges our society faces. That is the key message of the international white paper "Chemistry for Better Health".

The white paper, which was published in September 2012, summarises the outcomes of the third annual Chemical Sciences and Society Summit (CS3), which focused on the advances in chemistry for modern medicine. Thirty top chemical scientists from the UK, the USA, Germany, China and Japan met in Beijing in 2011 to identify the scientific research that is required to address modern healthcare challenges and to provide specific recommendations for policymakers. The CS3 series is a collaboration between the chemical societies of the participating nations (RSC, ACS, GDCh, CCS and CSI) and their relevant research funders.

The white paper presents an international view on how chemistry can contribute positively to human health by underpinning breakthroughs that allow us to tackle health challenges and by contributing to improved understanding of disease pathways and advances in diagnosis and treatment.

To address the healthcare challenges society faces, research that underpins the development of better diagnostic methods and therapy is essential, but it is not the only factor. It is also crucial to establish an effective collaboration between the pharmaceutical industry and publically-funded academia in order to implement effective means of data sharing and to invest in the establishment of core drug discovery facilities and chemistry education and training.

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<http://rsc.li/health-report-2012>



Perfect skills in measurement science: Euromaster MSC

On 15 November 2012, more than 30 students were awarded their diploma supplement for the Euromaster programme "Measurement Science in Chemistry (MSC)". The ceremony took place at the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) in Geel, Belgium.

A survey of the programme's alumni showed that over 90 percent of them went on to find a job. Employers confirmed that the Euromaster programme provides the job applicants with exactly the right skills that they seek in the area of quality assurance of analytical measurements.

The Euromaster MSC programme is offered by a consortium of nine European universities. The JRC's Institute of Reference Materials and Measurements acts as its mentor. It provides advanced training to students pursuing a career in analytical sciences. The Deputy Director General of the JRC, Vladimir Šucha, stressed the importance of suitable eco-systems of learning and explained that the JRC, in partnership with the universities of the consortium, has been successful in creating exactly this. The Euromaster MSC also improved skills in entrepreneurship and man-



More than 30 students were awarded their diploma supplement for the Euromaster.

agement, language skills and skills to interact in a multi-national and multi-cultural environment.

The content of the Euromaster MSC was developed from the JRC's own training programme, TrainMiC, which aims at a harmonised interpretation of the measurement requirements of ISO/IEC 17025 – the main standard for chemical and bioanalytical testing laboratories.

As an additional networking activity, the European Young Chemists Network of EuChemS ran a career day for the newly graduated (see below).

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Career Day for the newly graduated Euromasters MSC

During the EuChemS Chemistry Congress in Prague, representatives of the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) attended the European Young Chemists Network (EYCN) and invited us to host a tailored half-day Career Day programme at the graduation ceremony of the Euromaster Measurement Science in Chemistry (MSC) on 15 November at the JRC's Institute for Reference Materials and Measurements in Geel, Belgium.

The programme consisted of three talks: "The art of writing" by Santiago Gomez Ruiz, "Communicating chemistry" by Cristina Todasca and "Putting your degree to work" by Sarah Hobbs. The day finished with a CV Clinic, coordinated by Aurora Walshe and Frédérique Backaert, with stands for writing cover letters,

perfecting interview skills, using social media effectively and providing CV checks.

With over 90 percent of the alumni of the Euromaster programme in full-time employment most of our work was to develop the soft skills of the graduates with an emphasis on communication. The CV Clinic was aimed at career development: maintaining an effective CV, learning how to sell particular skills in a cover letter or an interview and understanding the potential effects of an online profile on a career.

Based on the feedback of the participants and the completed surveys, EYCN's first independent Career Day event was a success, and one that we hope to expand upon again in the future.

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EuCheMS Award for Service to Hans-Joachim Freund

Hans-Joachim Freund, Professor of Physical Chemistry at the Fritz-Haber-Institute (Max-Planck Society, Berlin), has been awarded the EuCheMS Award for Service. The Award acknowledges outstanding commitment with regard to fostering chemistry and molecular sciences in Europe and the goals of EuCheMS.

Freund, one of the most renowned physical chemists in Germany, is one of the founding members of the Scientific Council of the European Research Council (ERC) and the only chemistry representative among the 22 members of the Scientific Council. Freund's term began in 2005 and ended in 2012.

Hans-Joachim Freund has been an outspoken supporter of chemistry in the Scientific Council. In addition, he is a strong and consequent proponent of the "excellence only" criterion for the selection of the ERC grant awardees and of fair but strict reviewing processes of the proposals. As a member of the Scientific Council he was in-

involved in the selection of the members of the ERC evaluation panels, particularly relevant for chemistry: panel PE4 (physical and analytical chemical sciences) and PE5 (synthetic chemistry and materials).

His role in the Scientific Council was decisive for the success of the ERC, which is probably one of the most encouraging and successful developments in the European Research Area.



In November, EuCheMS President Ulrich Schubert (right) presented the EuCheMS Award for Service to Hans-Joachim Freund.

Division of Analytical Chemistry: Tribute to Yuri Zolotov

Yuri Zolotov was awarded the Tribute of the Division of Analytical Chemistry (DAC) at the DAC Annual Meeting on 26 August 2012 at the EuCheMS Chemistry Congress in Prague.

Yuri Zolotov is president of the Russian Scientific Council on Analytical Chemistry which is a member society of EuCheMS. He was the delegate of the Mendeleev Russian Chemical Society to DAC for many years. During his service as a delegate, he participated in ten Euroanalysis conferences, being either a plenary lecturer, a member of the scientific board or of the judging committee on Fresenius awards from Merck. In 1990, at Euroanalysis VII in Vienna, he received the F. Emich Award from the Austrian Society for Analytical Chemistry.

Zolotov was also a titular member of the Analytical Chemistry Division of IUPAC from 1971 until 1987 and member of the international advisory board of *Fresenius Zeitschrift für*

Analytische Chemie/Journal of Analytical Chemistry and many other international journals. He received an award from the journal *Talanta* in 1987, and has published more than 20 monographs in Russian, English, German, Japanese and Romanian.

For his achievements in analytical chemistry, Zolotov was elected a foreign member of the Swedish Royal Society for Science and Art and an honour member of the Japanese Society for Analytical Chemistry.

Yuri Zolotov has always been a strong supporter of the international Euroanalysis conferences (www.euroanalysis2013.pl) which unite analytical chemists from across Europe and further afield and covers all aspects of the subject.

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Ilan Marek elected as chair of EuCheMS Organic Division

The Organic Division of EuCheMS has elected Ilan Marek to succeed Jay Siegel as president of the division, and set the agenda for the next phase of growth. According to Marek, future work of the Organic Division will require closer cooperation with industrial partners. He plans to build on the early programmes and structures formulated during the founding period. Expansion of the number of member society representatives and increasing the number of professional activities are key goals for his term of office.

Ilan Marek, a Haifa native, was educated in France before returning to Haifa and the Technion where he holds the Sir Michael and Lady Sobell Academic Chair. His research group is primarily concerned with the design and development of new and efficient stereo- and enantioselective strategies for the synthesis of important complex molecular structures. Marek heads the Mallat Family Laboratory of Organic Chemistry and is Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry since 2011. He has received several major international awards including the 2012 Janssen Award for creativity in organic synthesis, the 2011 Royal Society Chemistry Organometallic Award and the 2005 Bessel Award of the Humboldt Foundation, among others. He serves on the advisory board of numerous international leading journals such as *Chemical Communications* and *Organic and Biomolecular Chemistry*, *European Journal of Organic Chemistry* as well as *Chemical Records*. Marek also serves as associate editor of the *Beilstein Journal of Organic Chemistry*, the *Patai Series* and the *Israel Journal of Chemistry*. He is member (and past chairman) of the International Scientific Committee of the European Symposium on Organic Chemistry (ESOC).

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Artificial leafs move closer to reality

“Once upon a time there were green leaves growing in nature that were converting CO₂ to O₂ and fuel with the help of sunlight.” Can you imagine a fairy tale with such a beginning in a not too distant future, adding that nowadays everybody carries one’s own artificial leaf in his pocket?

Having an artificial leaf is undoubtedly a vision that is becoming true, and EuCheMS and CEFIC contribute to it. Two meetings have been organised so far by EuCheMS and CEFIC on this topic, to which researchers and experts from academia and industry from all around Europe have been invited to contribute with their knowledge, experience and ideas. Scientific, technological, economical, societal and political aspects of the vision have been thoroughly discussed and analyzed, and a way forward is currently being paved. A roadmap is expected in 2013. In case you are interested in contributing please do not hesitate to contact us. We will keep you updated on the progress of this initiative.

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Coordination chemistry in Smolenice

Recent developments in coordination, bioinorganic and applied inorganic chemistry are to be discussed on 2 to 7 June 2013 in Smolenice, Slovakia. The International Conferences on Coordination and Bioinorganic Chemistry organised by the Slovak Chemical Society, Slovak Technical University and Comenius University in Bratislava are held biannually at the beginning of June in Smolenice Castle.

The conference has never been specialized on particular fields or techniques, nevertheless, each of the four working days of the conference is devoted to a main topic.

www.iccbic.stuba.sk

EuCheMS in social media

To keep up with EuCheMS activities, please follow EuCheMS on Twitter @EuCheMS and like EuCheMS on Facebook. Links to both can be found on the EuCheMS homepage.

www.euchems.org

Events 2013

24 – 27 March 2013, Porto, Portugal

XVIII Meeting of the Portuguese Electrochemical Society, www.fc.up.pt/18spe

9 – 11 May 2013, Karlsruhe, Germany

112th Bunsentagung, Annual German Conference on Physical Chemistry
www.bunsen.de/bunsentagung2013

10 – 12 June 2013, Barcelona, Spain

5th European Conference on Chemistry for Life Sciences, <http://5ecclsbarcelona.com>

16 – 19 June 2013, Budapest, Hungary

1st EuCheMS Congress on Green and Sustainable Chemistry, www.1eugsc.mke.org.hu

25 – 28 June 2013, Barcelona, Spain

EuCheMS International Conference on Chemistry and the Environment, www.icce2013.org

30 June – 4 July 2013, St Andrews, Scotland

20th EuCheMS Conference on Organometallic Chemistry, www.eucomcxx.com

3 – 5 July 2013, Limerick, Ireland

5th Eurovariety in Chemistry Education Conference
www.eurovariety2013.ul.ie

7 – 12 July 2013, Marseille, France

18th European Symposium on Organic Chemistry (ESOC 2013), www.esoc2013.eu

11 – 16 August 2013, Istanbul, Turkey

IUPAC 44th World Chemistry Congress
www.iupac2013.org

25 – 29 August 2013, Warsaw, Poland

Euroanalysis, www.euroanalysis2013.pl

1 – 4 September 2013, Darmstadt, Germany

Wissenschaftsforum Chemie
www.gdch.de/wissenschaftsforum2013

1 – 5 September 2013, Sopron, Hungary

9th European Conference of Computational Chemistry, www.euco-cc9.mke.org.hu

11 – 13 September 2013, Leipzig, Germany

EuCheMS conference Flavors & Fragrances 2013
www.gdch.de/flavorsfragrances2013

Events 2014

31 August – 4 September 2014, Istanbul, Turkey

5th EuCheMS Chemistry Congress
www.euchems-istanbul2014.org

ICCE 2013: Environmental scientists meet in Barcelona

From 25 to 28 June 2013, Barcelona will host the EuCheMS International Conference on Chemistry and the Environment (ICCE 2013), jointly organised by the Real Sociedad Española de Química (Spanish Royal Society of Chemistry, RSEQ) and the Societat Catalana de Química (Catalan Chemical Society, SCQ) under EuCheMS sponsorship. This is the leading event of the EuCheMS Division of Chemistry and the Environment and, being held bian-

nually, represents a unique discussion platform for environmental scientists with emphasis on chemistry. More than 450 experts attend these series of conferences regularly. For the first time, ICCE will involve not only the participation of the EuCheMS Division of Chemistry and the Environment but also the participation of the corresponding division of the American Chemical Society.

www.icce2013.org

EuCheMS Newsletter



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