

President's letter

Dear EuCheMS member,

I have just taken over as President of EuCheMS from Ulrich Schubert who did a great job in expanding the secretariat, moving it to a fine location nearer the premises of the European institutions, designing a new constitution, which has just been signed into law and developing strong links with the European Parliament and Commission through Nineta H. Majcen, EuCheMS Secretary General.

Ulrich will surely be a very hard act to follow, but I am determined to continue to build the influence of EuCheMS as *the* independent voice for chemistry in Europe. I also want to work closely with the EuCheMS divisions and working parties to build a strong network that can act proactively and respond nimbly and authoritatively to requests from the Parliament and Commission, and that will continue to strengthen their excellent conferences and other activities.

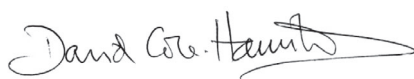
The European Chemistry Congresses have got off to a very good start, but I plan to make them a must for all chemists in Europe and a reference to the world of chemistry. The next ones are in Seville, 2016, and Liverpool, 2018. I very much look forward to welcoming you at these congresses.

I hope that EuCheMS will be able to celebrate chemistry in Europe with a series of prestigious European prizes both across the EuCheMS divisions and working parties and from EuCheMS as a whole. The European Sustainable Chemistry Award has already become a beacon for environmental-friendly European chemistry research.

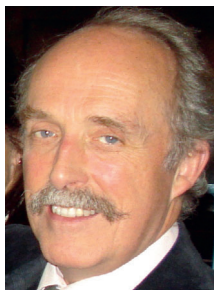
With the help of every one of you, I am certain that we can make EuCheMS the voice to be heard for all matters to do with chemistry in Europe. Please see the call on the right to see what EuCheMS does for you and what you can do for EuCheMS.

Please join me on this very exciting journey by e-mailing secretariat@euchems.eu to express your interest.

With all good wishes,



David Cole-Hamilton
EuCheMS President



David Cole-Hamilton

EuCheMS Congress 2016 in Seville

The 6th EuCheMS Chemistry Congress organised by EuCheMS and the Asociación Nacional de Químicos de España is scheduled for 11 to 15 September 2016 in Seville, Spain. Under the theme of "Chemistry: Shaping the future" the congress will offer five days of scientific and technical sessions, roundtables and workshops, unparalleled networking opportunities, an exhibition and a unique social programme.

The scientific programme will include eight plenary lectures from world-leading scientists, around 120 keynote and invited

lectures, over 120 oral and poster sessions, specialised symposia and seminars. Five Nobel Laureates have confirmed their participation as well as Avelino Corma, the awardee of Spain's most prestigious award, the Príncipe de Asturias Award on Scientific and Technical Research 2014.

The congress website and pre-registration is available at <http://euchems-seville2016.eu>. We encourage you to pre-register so you can be constantly updated.

Angela Lopez Berrocal
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EuCheMS for you

"Europe should be a chemical-free zone": If you want to change this common unscientific misconception, then EuCheMS is for you!

What EuCheMS does for you:

EuCheMS acts as a single independent voice for chemistry in Europe.

EuCheMS advises the European Parliament and Commission on chemistry topics.

EuCheMS promotes excellence in European research via continuous collaboration with the European Research Council.

EuCheMS ensures that chemistry is well represented in European projects.

EuCheMS responds to a variety of consultations from the European institutions on chemistry topics, such as water, phosphorus or mercury.

EuCheMS runs the biennial European Chemistry Congress and has divisions and working parties which run biennial conferences and summer schools in most areas of chemistry as well as other activities.

EuCheMS has an extremely active and effective Young Chemists Network (EYCN).

EuCheMS awards a range of European prizes and lectureships for chemistry and together with the European Chemistry Thematic Network Association (ECTN) promotes high quality teaching of chemistry in European universities.

What you can do for EuCheMS:

Get involved with a EuCheMS division or working party!

Get involved in the European Young Chemists Network!

Be prepared to offer expert advice when needed, such as for public consultations!

Promote EuCheMS and the role of chemistry whenever appropriate!

Share with us what is relevant for you!

Join us in co-creating *the* voice for chemistry in Europe by e-mailing secretariat@euchems.eu or via online request, which is available at www.euchems.eu, and follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

David Cole-Hamilton, djc@st-andrews.ac.uk



EuCheMS General Assembly

On 23 and 24 October 2014 representatives of EuCheMS member societies, divisions and working parties and invited guests met at the EuCheMS General Assembly in Torun, Poland. “European research in chemistry” and “EuCheMS strategy” were the key topics discussed by the assembly (see article right).

During the internal sessions of the General Assembly, an update on EuCheMS activities was given by Ulrich Schubert, while Nineta H. Majcen and Eckart Rühl gave an overview of EuCheMS policy activities and activities of EuCheMS divisions and working parties. The European Young Chemists Network (EYCN) dynamic activities were presented by Aurora Walshe, EYCN Secretary General.

The General Assembly voted on financial matters and was pleased to welcome two new supporting members, namely the European Nanoporous Materials Institute of Excellence and the European Chemistry Thematic Network Association.

Francesco De Angelis, EuCheMS Treasurer, expressed sincere appreciation for the work of Ulrich Schubert and the progress made during his presidency of EuCheMS, with the new open door constitution being the key achievement. A copy of the constitution (which had passed into law earlier in the week) was presented to a surprised Ulrich Schubert.

EuCheMS warmly thanks the Polish Chemical Society for the excellent organisation of the General Assembly and their great hospitality, which included a wonderful banquet with singing by “Slavic Voices”. The presentations given at the General Assembly meeting are available at www.euchems.eu/about/general-assembly/2014-torun-poland.html. The 2015 EuCheMS General Assembly will take place in Vienna, 25 to 29 September 2015.

Nineta H. Majcen, nineta@euchems.eu



Nineta H. Majcen, Francesco de Angelis, Ulrich Schubert and David Cole-Hamilton (from left).

Key topics at the General Assembly

The main topics at the EuCheMS General Assembly in October 2014 were entitled “European research in chemistry” and “EuCheMS strategy”.

“European research in chemistry” was a high level event, linking research in chemistry with policy related issues. Lena Kolarska-Bobinska (Minister of Science and Higher Education, Poland), Piotr Calbecki (Marshal of the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Region), Michal Zaleski (Mayor of the City of Torun) and Andrzej Tretyn (Rector of the Nicolaus Copernicus University) welcomed the participants, emphasizing the importance of chemistry on daily life. Jerzy Buzek, Member of the European Parliament and Chair of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, addressed in his video speech the importance of research in chemistry and related sciences to policy. Klaus Bock from the European Research Council (ERC) gave an overview of ERC’s role in funding of research. Anne-Katrin Bock from the European Commission’s Directorate General (DG) Joint Research Centre

(JRC) explained the value of foresight studies for policy making, illustrated by the JRC foresight study on food and health. Helge Wessel from the DG Research and Innovation explained the Horizon 2020 programme with a focus on chemistry. Bradley D. Miller from the American Chemical Society (ACS) added the aspect of US-EU collaboration in chemistry and the ACS engagement in this respect. Kathrin Winkler from the ERA-Chemistry network nicely complemented presentations given earlier on.

On the initiative of David Cole-Hamilton, who took over the EuCheMS presidency at the end of the General Assembly, Steve Alexander, Development Group International, moderated the session on EuCheMS strategy. During this very active session, attended by representatives of EuCheMS member societies, divisions and working parties, relevant issues for further development of EuCheMS came up. These should be further discussed and followed up with short, medium and long term perspectives.

Nineta H. Majcen, nineta@euchems.eu

Policy News

Regulatory Policy Committee

The EuCheMS Regulatory Policy Committee met for the first time in Brussels on 11 November 2014 with the main objective of putting forward a set of areas where EuCheMS will have a more proactive role. The committee will be in charge of the following activities in the specified areas: monitoring and responding to public consultations, developing proactive positions and sharing information among experts from member societies.

Public consultations

Recently, EuCheMS responded to public consultations on “Sustainable use of phosphorus”, “Quality of drinking water in the EU” and “Ratification by the EU of the Minamata Convention on Mercury”. More information: www.euchems.eu/publications/policy-positions.

Support of chemistry in Greece

Given the undergoing curricular changes that are hindering the future of chemistry in Greece, EuCheMS unanimously adopted in its General Assembly a resolution strongly supporting the actions of the Association of Greek Chemists against the degradation of the science of chemistry in Greece. More information is available at www.euchems.eu/news/single-news/article/euchems-united-in-support-for-greek-chemistry.

Letters to Schulz and Juncker

In November Rajendra Pachauri from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) presented the results of the IPCC latest Assessment Report at the European Parliament. On the occasion of this report, EuCheMS sent a letter to Martin Schulz, President of the European Parliament, and to

EuCheMS Lecture Award 2014

Christina Moberg and Gérard Férey are the EuCheMS Lecturers 2014. The EuCheMS Lecture Award honours outstanding achievements by European chemists. It also serves to enhance the image of European chemistry and to promote scientific cooperation in Europe. It is delivered at a scientific event outside the lecturer's own country.

Christina Moberg from the Royal Institute of Technology of Stockholm will give the EuCheMS 2014 lecture on recycling in asymmetric



catalysis during the 19th European Symposium on Organic Chemistry which will take place on 19 to 23 July 2015 in Lisbon, Portugal.

Gérard Férey from the University of Versailles will give the EuCheMS 2014 lecture on the multiple facets of hybrid porous materials during the 6th EuCheMS Chemistry Congress which will take place on 11 to 15 September 2016 in Seville, Spain.



kjs

www.euchems.eu/awards

Emerging Technologies Competition goes European

The Royal Society of Chemistry's Emerging Technologies Competition is open to applications from Europe for the first time in 2015. Now in its third year, this annual innovation event accelerates the commercialisation of the best chemistry-based

technologies. The competition forms a major part of our strategy to promote open innovation and support small companies in the chemical sciences.

The winners receive a personalised package of business support from our multi-national partners, a cash prize towards developing the technology and help with media exposure. This year's competition partners include GSK, Croda, GE Healthcare, Lubrizol and Procter & Gamble. "We were very fortunate to be one of the winners of the very first RSC Emerging Technologies Competition," says Jing Zhang of Aqdot, a spin-out company of the University of Cambridge. "In addition to the monetary prize, we have benefited greatly from the mentoring opportunities with companies such as Procter & Gamble, Croda and GSK, which has allowed us to gain an insight into the needs of their industries."

Both individuals and teams in academia or small companies are eligible to take part in the competition. Applications will be open from 12 January until 16 March. Shortlisted participants will be invited to present their final pitches at an event in London on 29 June.

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Jean-Claude Juncker, President of the European Commission, urging the Parliament and the Commission to do all in their power to reduce the emissions of greenhouse effect gases in the EU. "We really need action on climate change now," emphasises Pachauri and EuCheMS is certain that chemistry research will significantly contribute to achieve this goal, not only through analysing the current problems but also in finding sustainable answers.

On a recent letter to Commission President Juncker the EuCheMS President and the Secretary General emphasised their concerns about the abolition of the post of Chief Scientific Adviser.

The letters are available at www.euchems.eu/news/latest-news.

Bruno Vilela, [Nineta H. Majcen](mailto:Nineta.H.Majcen@euchems.eu)
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Isoprenoids in Prague

More than 120 participants from all over the world (almost one third of whom were students) attended the 22nd Conference on Isoprenoids in Prague in September 2014. With 57 oral contributions and 53 posters the conference successfully linked to the series of former "Isoprenoids". The 22nd meeting of isoprenoid experts took place under the auspices of Tomáš Hudecek, Lord Mayor of the capital city of Prague. The range of scientific topics was extended towards biochemistry and biology.

The international impact of the conference was shown by the sponsorship of IUPAC and EuCheMS. The exhibition part of the conference ranged from the publishing houses through speciality chemicals vendors and distributors to the show of highly specialised laboratory equipment. Six prizes were awarded to students by the pharma company Teva Czech Industries and by the Phytochemical Society of Europe.

Plenary lectures were given by leading scientists, namely by Giovanni B. Appendino (Italy), Harro J. Bouwmeester (The Netherlands), Søren B. Christensen (Denmark), Douglas F. Covey (United States), Anthony P. Davis (United Kingdom), Vadim V. Demidchik (Belarus), Minoru Isobe (Japan, Taiwan), Adriaan J. Minnaard (The Netherlands), Antonio Mourinho Mosquera (Spain), Sergey A. Usanov (Belarus) and Ludger Wessjohann (Germany).

In the closing ceremony Douglas F. Covey from Washington University in St. Louis summarised the highlights of the meeting. Covey especially underlined the broad spectrum of topics and of attendee scientific generations. He also emphasised the importance of the fact that the conference has regained its momentum and is moving forward. This fact was underlined by the attendance of over 40 scientists who already attended the previous Conferences on Isoprenoids.

Historically the conference was always a bridging meeting between scientists in a separated world because it surmounted the Iron Curtain. The 23rd Conference on Isoprenoids will take place in Minsk, Republic of Belarus, in September 2016.

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Chemistry congress in France

The 2015 congress of the Société Chimique de France entitled "SCF'15: Chemistry and Energy Transition" will take place in Lille, a city in northern France, on 4 to 9 July 2015. It will comprise a public event during the weekend of 4 to 5 July managed by the Association Chimie & Société, followed by an inaugural session on 6 July, also open to the public, and a three-days scientific meeting (in English) on 7 to 9 July.

Deadline for abstract submission was on 31 December 2014, opening for registration is on 1 February 2015.

Igor Tkatchenko

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A chemist as President of the French Académie des Sciences

Bernard Meunier, acting as Vice-President of the French Académie des Sciences since 2013, started his two-year mandate as President on 6 January 2015. A specialist of bio-inspired chemistry, and especially oxidation catalysis, Meunier is Emeritus Research Director at the CNRS Coordination Chemistry Laboratory in Toulouse. He was a former President of CNRS (2004 to 2006) and currently occupies the Chair of Technological Innovation at Collège de France in Paris.



Igor Tkatchenko

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New EuCheMS logo

EuCheMS has a new logo:



Events 2015

1 – 6 February 2015, Bressanone, Italy

9th European Winter School on Physical Organic Chemistry

www.chimica.unipd.it/wispoc/publica

14 – 16 May 2015, Bochum, Germany

114th General Assembly of the German Bunsen Society for Physical Chemistry

www.bunsen.de/en/bunsentagung2015

20 – 22 May 2015, Karlsruhe, Germany

Energy Science Technology Conference 2015

www.est-conference.com

14 – 18 June 2015, Gargnano, Italy

ISOS, International Summer School on Organic Synthesis „A. Corbella“

www.corbellasummerschool.unimi.it

22 – 24 June 2015, Aveiro, Portugal

CoCooTea 2015 – 3rd International Congress on Cocoa Coffee and Tea, www.cocotea2015.com

5 – 9 July 2015, Bratislava, Slovakia

21st European Conference on Organometallic Chemistry, www.eucomcxxi.eu

11 – 25 July 2015, Pulawy, Poland

Summer School of the Euromaster Measurement Science in Chemistry, www.msc-euromaster.eu

14 – 17 July 2015, Mezzocorona, Italy

In Vino Analytica Scientia 2015

<http://eventi.fmach.it/IVAS2015>

23 – 26 August 2015, Vienna, Austria

15th European Conference on Solid State Chemistry <http://ecssc15.univie.ac.at>

30 August – 2 September 2015, Dresden, Germany

WIFO 2015 – GDCh Chemistry Forum

www.wifo2015.de

6 – 10 September 2015, Bordeaux, France

EuroAnalysis 2015, www.euroanalysis2015.com

6 – 11 September 2015, Catania/Sicily, Italy

1st European Conference on Physical, Theoretical and Computational Chemistry

20 – 24 September 2015, Kalamata, Greece

9th International Conference on „Instrumental Methods of Analysis – Modern Trends and Applications“, www.ima2015.teikal.gr

22 – 25 September 2015, Leipzig, Germany

15th EuCheMS International Conference on Chemistry and the Environment

www.icce2015.org

14 – 16 October 2015, Madrid, Spain

Euro Food Chem XVIII

www.ictan.csic.es/eurofoodchem2015

Erratum

Correction of the article about the 5th EuCheMS Chemistry Congress on page 1, EuCheMS Newsletter November 2014: The prizes for the awards symposium for younger chemists were offered by Società Chimica Italiana (SCI) and Consiglio Nazionale dei Chimici (CNC).



EuCheMS Newsletter



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Layout: Jürgen Bugler, Frankfurt am Main

Production: Nachrichten aus der Chemie

Publisher: Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker on behalf of EuCheMS

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