

Future of intellectual property



The workshop "Science: How close to open?" took place in Amsterdam on 5 April.

On the occasion of the Open Science Conference organised by the Dutch presidency of the Council of the EU, EuCheMS organised the workshop "Science: How close to open?" which took place in Amsterdam on 5 April.

David Cole-Hamilton, EuCheMS President and Chair of the event, opened the workshop by giving an insightful overview on the history and models of scientific publication which is now reaching a new stage where openness seems to be taking the central place.

Wolfram Koch (Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker, GDCh) presented GDCh's position paper "On the future of scientific publishing", which came out of discussions with academia, chemical industry, publishers, libraries, and funding organisations, as well as GDCh's experience with the gold open access model (where the author or his institution pay to publish) with the publication *ChemistryOpen*. Wolfram Koch mentioned that chemists are sceptical about gold open access and that the green open access model (where an article becomes open after a closed period) would be a preferred option. He also pointed out that there should not be non-scientific criteria in the publication process.

Emma Wilson (Royal Society of Chemistry, RSC) started her presentation with statistics showing that chemistry is one of the disciplines with lower open access publishing,

the green open access being the preferred model for publishing. RSC journals always have gold open access options, and about ten percent of RSC's content is published under this model. Emma Wilson also showed that the landscape around Europe regarding the publication of open access articles is rather variable from country to country.

Other speakers were José Cotta (DG Connect, European Commission), Cristina Todasca (University Politehnica of Bucharest) giving a young researcher's perspective, Eva Wille (Wiley-VCH) and Steffen Pauly (Springer). Speakers' presentations were followed by intensive discussion with the audience that begun by recognising the importance of harmonisation of intellectual property rules across countries and the need for standards for data storage and sharing.

Open peer-review raised the curiosity of the audience and also some concerns that this model might put reviewers under constraints. The discussion also addressed the need to rethink publishing taking into consideration science readers of tomorrow, not only researchers but also interested citizens and artificial intelligence robots. Finally, the question of quantity versus quality was debated, as journals that want to publish open articles while maintaining a high level of quality, will have to reject proportionally more articles. This might result in higher publishing fees for authors, or publishing in journals with lower quality, or even not publishing at all under an open system.

As this workshop made clear, the path to reach an open science is open in itself, with many different possibilities for solutions, but whatever choices are made, they must be beneficial for the progress of science and society. The complete report and presentations can be found at www.euchems.eu/policy-and-communication/policy-workshops/science-close-open

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EuCheMS nominated to Open Science Policy Platform

EuCheMS representative Wolfram Koch has been selected for the High-Level Advisory Group "Open Science Policy Platform" (OSPP). The group was announced on 27 May by the European Commissioner Carlos Moedas at the Competitiveness Council in Brussels. The mandate of this group, composed of 25 stakeholders, is to:

- advise the Commission on how to further develop and implement open science policy in practice, in line with the priority of Commissioner Moedas to radically improve the quality and impact of European science,
- function as a dynamic, stakeholder-driven mechanism for raising and addressing issues of concern for the European science and research community and its representative organisations, following five broad lines for actions which are presented in the draft European Open Science Agenda,
- support policy formulation by helping to identify the issues to be addressed and providing recommendations on the policy actions required,
- support policy implementation, contributing to reviewing best practices, drawing up policy guidelines and encouraging their active uptake by stakeholders,
- provide advice and recommendations on any cross-cutting issue affecting open science.

The nominated members are delegates from universities (5), research organisations (4), academies/learned societies (4), funding organisations (1), citizen science organisations (1), publishers (2), open science platforms/intermediaries (7) and libraries (1).

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/openscience/index.cfm?pg=open-science-policy-platform>



Wolfram Koch represents EuCheMS in the Open Science Policy Platform.
(photo: F. Zbikowski, NCh)

STOA Working Breakfast on antimicrobial resistance

During the STOA Working Breakfast co-organised by the European Parliament's Science and Technology Options Assessment (STOA), EuCheMS, and the European Federation for Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC) on 28 April, researchers and several Members of the European Parliament analysed the global challenge of antimicrobial resistance and weighted the pros and cons of possible solutions.

Antimicrobial resistance is the ability of microorganisms to withstand attack by antimicrobial drugs such as antibiotics, antifungal or antivirals, and is a serious issue that threatens to render ineffective in the future many of the treatments we use today. Antimicrobial resistance, of which antibiotic resistance is a subset, is a current problem in Europe that could become much worse, and it is an even more serious problem in developing countries.

Better use of current antimicrobials is essential and should include better control of usage in agriculture, awareness-raising campaigns so that prescribed dosages are respected by medical practitioners and users, and better diagnostics. Moreover, novel antimicrobials are needed to treat multi-resistant microbes, an effort that pharmaceutical companies will not take alone, due to a predicted negative return on investment

There is thus an urgent need for a consortium to be created involving pharmaceutical companies, philanthropists, the European authorities and national governments to provide leadership and funding to tackle this problem. Among other aspects, this consortium should set up one to three major focused hubs for medicinal chemistry research in fields related to antimicrobial resistance. It should fund innovative ideas, link all researchers in this field and ensure that some of their research is not hampered by patent issues. Such a development would cost in excess of one billion Euro to fund each centre and its associated researchers.

This event's complete report is available at: www.euchems.eu/policy-and-communication/policy-workshops/solving-antibiotic-resistance/

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Nominations for Division of Analytical Chemistry awards

The Robert-Kellner-Lecture, sponsored by Springer Verlag, was established by the Division of Analytical Chemistry of the European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences (DAC-EuCheMS) in 2003 in memory of the efforts and achievements of the late Robert Kellner from Vienna University of Technology towards the consolidation of analytical chemistry in Europe. The awardee shall be a European individual who has made substantial recent contributions (in the last five years) to the advancement of analytical chemistry research or education. The lecture shall be delivered as a prominent plenary lecture at the Euroanalysis conference 2017.

The DAC-EuCheMS Award (also sponsored by Springer Verlag) honours sustained contributions to analytical chemistry in Europe. The awardee shall be a distinguished European individual who has demonstrated significant and sustained achievements in analytical chemistry research or

education throughout his or her career. The awardee is expected to deliver a lecture at the Euroanalysis conference 2017.

Candidates for these awards may be proposed by one of the European Chemical Societies, other scientific bodies or individual scientists (self-nomination excluded). Details can also be found in the DAC Procedures and Practices on the DAC-EuCheMS website (www.euchems.eu/divisions/analytical-chemistry). The nomination must include a justification letter describing the achievements and the candidate's curriculum vitae and address. It must reach the secretary of DAC-EuCheMS (wolfgang.buchberger@jku.at) before 31 October 2016.

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EuCheMS 
European Chemical Sciences
Division of Analytical Chemistry

48th János Irinyi National Chemistry Competition in Hungary

Besides providing a professional public forum related to chemistry, the primary objectives of the Hungarian Chemical Society (HCS) include the promotion of talents in chemistry. The János Irinyi National Chemistry Olympiad is a multi-tiered, annual competition for students. There are different categories for 1st and 2nd year students with regular and advanced chemistry curricula in secondary grammar schools and vocational schools. The first (local) round with 3800 participants nationwide consists of theoretical and calculational exercises in the major fields of chemistry, while in the regional round, there is an additional laboratory practice of titration. The national final was held in Szeged, where 186 contestants competed over two days.

On 22 April, Gábor Szabó, the rector of the University of Szeged, opened the competition. In the final, besides the theoretical

examinations and laboratory exercises, the best four to five participants were asked to give oral presentations in various topics in chemistry. In the closing award ceremony Livia Simon-Sarkadi, the president of the HCS, with László Mucsi, the dean of the Faculty of the Natural Sciences and Informatics of the University of Szeged, gave the medals not only to the winners of the seven categories of the olympiad but also to their chemistry teachers. The best first and second year contestants received a special Irinyi prize.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to István Pálinkó and the organising committee along with the local organisers led by János Wölfling who did a perfect job. So we say: "Same time, next year in Szeged."

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EuCheMS establishes contacts in Chile

Following the invitation of Danel Calleja, Director General for the Environment of the European Commission, EuCheMS (represented by Nicola Armaroli, chair of the EuCheMS Working Party of Chemistry and Energy) participated in the Circular Economy Mission which took place in Santiago (Chile) on 25 and 26 April. The scope of the event was to promote circular economy and sustainable innovation, to help EU green companies to operate in Chile, to foster EU-Chile business partnerships in sectors such as renewable energies, waste recycling, water purification and sustainable use of natural resources. The EU delegation encompassed representatives from the industrial, commercial, research and academic sectors, who had the opportunity to meet Chilean entrepreneurs, high level politicians as well as leaders of industrial and commercial associations.

Chile is a leading South American country in terms of democratic stability, quality of

life, industrial development and per capita income. It owns highly valuable assets such as an outstanding agriculture, vast mineral deposits (particularly copper and lithium) and rich fishery resources. All of these are endangered under a traditional linear economic system, therefore Chile is a natural partner for the EU on the route to a circular economy.

During the mission, the huge know-how of the European chemical community in the area of sustainable production was highlighted among Chilean and EU enterprises and institutions. It was also a great opportunity to strengthen the link between EuCheMS and the European Commission on the circular economy, an area that is poised to acquire even greater strategic relevance through new partnerships being launched by the EC in the near future.

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Bring your own crystals to Zürich

The 7th Zürich School of Crystallography will take place on 11 to 24 June 2017 at the University of Zürich. The school is ideally suited to young researchers in the chemical, molecular and solid-state sciences who are interested in conducting their own small-molecule single-crystal structure determinations but do not have access to in-depth training locally.

You will gain hands-on experience in the science and art of routine crystal structure determination through practical work plus carefully tailored lectures that will deliver the essential background knowledge. You will operate a diffractometer and solve and refine several structures with varying challenges, thereby gaining exposure to instruments, commonly used software and refinement strategies.

Our school offers exceptional personal tuition and guidance. There is one tutor experienced in all aspects of chemical crystallography for every two participants, a ratio unmatched by any other school. Partici-

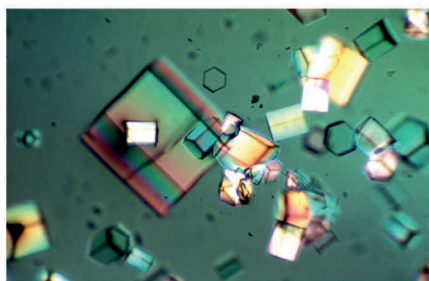


photo: CSIRO

pants will also have the opportunity to determine the structure of their own crystal-line compound that they are currently interested in. One past participant said: "Now I feel much more confident in evaluating my crystal structures."

Successfully completing the school qualifies for three ECTS credit points for European participants, equivalent to 90 contact hours. Excited? Plan your attendance today. Full details can be found at www.chem.uzh.ch/linden/zsc. The closing date for applications is 16 January 2017.

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How to get the EurChem designation

The professional designation "European Chemist" (designator: EurChem, used after surname) is a qualification level acknowledgment currently awarded by the European Chemist Registration Board (ECRB) of EuCheMS (formerly FECS). Based on an agreement between EuCheMS and the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) the designations of Chartered Chemist (CCChem), awarded by RSC, and EurChem are considered equivalent.

The purpose of the European Chemist scheme is to set a common standard for the recognition of professional competence in chemistry across the European countries. Among other skills, EurChem requires knowledge of chemistry, safety and environmental consciousness, a sense of responsibility and ability to communicate. The EurChem designation indicates a high level of competence in chemistry. It will also ensure that chemists working in another member country receive full recognition of their professional competence.

The EurChem title is awarded only to chemists who are members of participating national societies and denotes an academic qualification plus a period of professional experience. The academic qualification must be first agreed by the national assessment board of the national chemical society. As a basic requirement, the candidates must hold an university level qualification (MSc) and have at least three years' approved post-graduation professional experience. If the national chemical society does not participate in the scheme chemists should apply directly to the ECRB secretariat in Prague (Helena Pokorna, csch@csch.cz).

All European Chemists will receive a certificate attesting their inclusion in the ECRB register. Registration is normally valid for five years after which formal reassessment will be made.

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www.euchems.eu/members-3/european-chemist-designation

News from the Food Chemistry Division agenda

The organisation of congresses in chemical and food sciences is a key activity for the Food Chemistry Division (FCD) of EuCheMS. In addition to the participation of the FCD delegation at the 6th EuCheMS Chemistry Congress, supporting a session dedicated to food chemistry under the supervision of Livia Simon Sarkadi, the division has completed the calendar of main forthcoming events planned for 2017.

From 15 to 17 February 2017 the conference Chemical Reactions in Foods (CRF) VIII will be organised in Prague, Czech Republic (circular at www.crf2017.eu), under the chairing of Jana Hajšlová. The CRF VIII congress will be co-organised by the University of Chemistry and Technology, Prague, and the University of Eastern Piedmont Amedeo Avogadro, Novara, Italy.

From 25 to 28 June 2017 the International Congress on Cocoa, Coffee and Tea (CoCoTea IV) will be organised by the University of Turin and the University of Eastern Piedmont Amedeo Avogadro in Turin, Italy.

EuroFoodChem XIX, the official congress of the Food Chemistry Division, will be organised in Budapest, Hungary, in August 2017 under the chairing of Livia Simon Sarkadi (Hungarian Chemical Society and member of the Executive Board of EuCheMS).

Moreover, the Food Chemistry Division of EuCheMS will co-organise a special session on "New perspectives and novel insights on chemical composition of foods" at the 30th EFFoST International Conference which will take place on 28 to 30 November 2016 in Vienna, Austria (www.fffostconference.com). This is a unique opportunity to share pure chemistry and technology-based knowledge, applying both approaches and skills to the food science area, hoping to improve the collaborations between the non-profit societies in Europe in the near future.

The Food Chemistry Division hopes to meet all of you at these events.

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Chair of the

EuCheMS Division of Food Chemistry

Events 2016

4 – 7 September 2016, Stockholm, Sweden
9th Asian-European Symposium on Metal-Mediated Efficient Organic Synthesis, <http://aes2016.se/>

7 – 9 September 2016, Palaiseau, France
JCO 2016 – Journées de Chimie Organique
www.jco2016.com/en

7 – 10 September 2016, Barcelona, Spain
ECRICE – European Conference on Research in Chemical Education, <http://ecrice2016.com/>

11 – 15 September 2016, Seville, Spain
6th EuCheMS Chemistry Congress
<http://euchems-seville2016.eu>

21 – 23 September 2016, Vukovar, Croatia
International conference 16th Ružicka days: "Today science – tomorrow industry"
www.ptfos.unios.hr/ruzicka/2014/

25 – 29 September 2016, Ischia and Naples, Italy
XVII Session of Ischia Advanced School of Organic Chemistry, www.iasoc.it

Events 2017

18 – 22 June 2017, Oslo, Norway
ICCE 2017 – 16th EuCheMS International Conference on Chemistry and the Environment
www.icce2017.org

2 – 5 July 2017, Copenhagen, Denmark
4th EuCheMS Inorganic Chemistry Conference
www.eicc-4.dk

3 – 7 July 2017, Naples, Italy
ISSNP 2017 – International Summer School on Natural Products, www.issnp.org

3 – 6 September 2017, York, United Kingdom
3rd EuCheMS Congress on Green and Sustainable Chemistry, www.york.ac.uk/3EUGSC

EuCheMS launches donation programme

Supporting the chemical sciences is a task that countless people perform every day, from the researcher trying to solve the energy problem to the policy-maker who includes scientific advice in his or her policy decisions, from the secondary school chemistry teacher who awakens the passion for the periodic table in the lay citizen who wants to stay aware about chemistry and subscribes to EuCheMS newsletters.

According to the EuCheMS constitution, however, individuals cannot become direct members of EuCheMS. For those who have the financial means to support the work of EuCheMS in promoting the chemical sciences, we now also offer the chance to become a friend of EuCheMS. With one click you can support our society.

www.euchems.eu/members-3/individual-supporters-and-friends

EuCheMS Newsletter



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