

March/April 2007  
The ACS International E-Newsletter  
ACS Office of International Activities

The ACS International E-Newsletter

American Chemical Society Office of International Activities publishes bimonthly and in electronic form the ACS International E-Newsletter. It is designed to provide information on activities, networks, resources, products and services related to international aspects of chemical sciences, technology, engineering and innovation. For information on international meetings and conferences, we invite you to visit <http://chemistry.org/meetings> to search and view opportunities. Please share this email with your colleagues, and we also hope you will consider contributing content for future editions. Send your ideas and suggestions to [intlacts@acs.org](mailto:intlacts@acs.org).

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## C O N T E N T S

### International Currents

#### **The ACS Welcomes International Attendees**

The ACS is excited to welcome attendees from across the globe to the 233rd ACS National Meeting and Exposition that will be held in Chicago from March 25-29. Listen to ACS President Katie Hunt's welcome address in German, Japanese, and Spanish. Listen to the podcasts at: <http://acswebcontent.acs.org/nationalmeeting/chicago2007/home.html>

#### **Green Chemistry for Fine Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals – Short Course Announcement**

The American Chemical Society in partnership with the Institute of Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences and the Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry is pleased to present the one-day short course, Green Chemistry for Fine Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals. The course will be held in Shanghai on May 18, 2007 and in Beijing on May 20, 2007. For more information go to: <http://www.mcichina.com.cn/acs/course.html> (Information in Chinese)  
[http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/acsdisplay.html?DOC=international\int\\_asi.html](http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/acsdisplay.html?DOC=international\int_asi.html)  
(Information in English)

#### **"Tell Us Your Story" at the ACS National Meeting in Chicago**

At the ACS National Meeting in Chicago, the ACS is undertaking a videotaping of chemists and their stories including why they became chemists, the mentors or special persons who helped them, and other influences on their career paths. Do you have a story that you would like to share? The taping will take place in Room E-234 Lakeside Center, McCormick Place on Monday, March 26 and Tuesday, March 27, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Interviews will take approximately minutes.

### Regional News and Resources

#### **Africa and the Middle East**

##### **The Chemistry of the Holy Land**

Chemical research is thriving in Israel — a tiny country far away from major scientific centers and surrounded by hostile neighbors. The country ranks third in the world in research papers published per million population. That's just one characteristic detailed in the profile of science in the Holy Land based on visits to 30 research groups by Chemical & Engineering News, ACS' weekly newsmagazine. Learn more at: <http://pubs.acs.org/cen/coverstory/85/8510cover.html>

### **The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has created a research and extension portal**

The Portal provides a gateway to sound information on research, technology, extension and their linkages in order to enable decision-makers, research institutes, extension services and regulatory bodies, to make informed decisions. The site will soon be available in all FAO official languages. Explore this resource at:

<http://www.fao.org/sd/sdrr/portal/>

### **Improving Impacts of Research Partnerships**

The Commission for research Partnerships with Developing Countries (KFPE) has published the second edition of *Improving Impacts of Research Partnership*. This publication is based on case study analysis encompassing a wide variety of research partnerships between the North and the South, workshop discussions, and the conclusions derived. The book focuses on potential impacts of such research partnerships – impacts beyond the scientific advance, namely 'attitudinal changes', impacts on capacity strengthening, and impacts on society or on decision-makers. View the book at:

[http://www.kfpe.ch/key\\_activities/impact\\_study/index.php](http://www.kfpe.ch/key_activities/impact_study/index.php)

## **Asia**

### **China Strides Toward Global Pharma Role**

For a country that fancies itself an emerging world power backed by thousands of years of history, China has a poor record in the pharmaceutical realm. Yet, China's pharmaceutical industry is undergoing a major upgrade. Chinese who have spent decades living abroad are returning in large numbers to inject world-class practices into the country's pharmaceutical business. Learn more at:

<http://pubs.acs.org/cen/coverstory/85/8511cover.html>

### **New drugs awaiting discovery in Chinese herbs?**

The first large-scale computer screenings of Chinese herbs — commonly used in traditional Chinese medicine — has revealed a wide variety of compounds with potential for use in treating HIV/AIDS, cancer, Alzheimer's Disease, arthritis and other diseases, according to scientists in London. Read two papers on this exciting topic:

<http://pubs.acs.org/cgi-bin/sample.cgi/jcisd8/asap/html/ci600289v.html>

<http://pubs.acs.org/cgi-bin/sample.cgi/jcisd8/asap/html/ci600288m.html>

### **Red pepper: Hot stuff for fighting fat?**

Food scientists in Taiwan are reporting new evidence from laboratory experiments that capsaicin — the natural compound that gives red pepper that spicy hot kick — can reduce the growth of fat cells. In the report, Gow-Chin Yen and Chin-Lin Hsu cite previous research suggesting that obesity can be reduced by preventing immature fat cells (adipocytes) from developing into mature cells. Read the article at:

<http://pubs.acs.org/cgi-bin/sample.cgi/jafcau/2007/55/i05/html/jf062912b.html>

## **Latin America and the Caribbean**

### **Practical Studies for Medicinal Chemistry: An integrating approach for developing countries**

A series of laboratory exercises from the field of Medicinal Chemistry are available for free from IUPAC. All are easy to reproduce and in many cases interdisciplinary. Some of them take natural products as the work material and none of them present any difficulties with regard to their realization or to safety consideration. The exercises have been provided by university researchers from 10 countries. All have been written in English and most are also in Spanish or Portuguese. View the exercises at:

[http://www.iupac.org/publications/cd/medicinal\\_chemistry/index.html](http://www.iupac.org/publications/cd/medicinal_chemistry/index.html)

### **Química-a WIKI on Chemically Related Activity in Latin America**

Are you a scientist with interests in Latin America? Want to learn about the petrochemical products of Argentina, Brazil's R&D expenditures, or U.S. chemical product sales to Mexico? If so, an exciting new source of information on these and other topics is now available from ACS.

Learn more about this resource at:

[http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/feature\\_pro.html?id=c373e9103440de288f6a17245d830100](http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/feature_pro.html?id=c373e9103440de288f6a17245d830100)

### **Chemists Celebrate Earth Day Video Contest "Recycling—Chemistry Can!"**

The contest encourages college/university students in the U.S.A. and Puerto Rico to produce a video best illustrating the theme, "Recycling—Chemistry Can!" Videos will be judged on originality, creativity, composition, and relevance to and incorporation of the theme. First place winner will receive \$500. Learn how to enter at:

[http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/acsdisplay.html?DOC=oca%5cearthday%5c07\\_cced\\_vide\\_ocontest.html](http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/acsdisplay.html?DOC=oca%5cearthday%5c07_cced_vide_ocontest.html)

## **Europe**

### **ACS hosts delegation of Balkan scientists at PITTCON 2007.**

With generous funding from PITTCON, one of the world's largest meetings on laboratory science and instrumentation, the ACS Office of International Activities (OIA) brought a delegation of 10 scientists from Serbia, Croatia, and Montenegro. All analytical chemists, the researchers were nominated by colleagues and selected by the OIA. At PITTCON they attended scientific talks, explored the Exhibitors Hall, and talked with OIA about their experiences doing chemistry research in their countries. Many of them also participated in a PITTCON roundtable discussion on "Instrumentation Challenges for Developing Countries," which the OIA moderated. Read more at:

[http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/acsdisplay.html?DOC=international/int\\_europe.html](http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/acsdisplay.html?DOC=international/int_europe.html)

### **Green chemistry tools and resources from ACS GCI (Green Chemistry Institute)**

The Green Chemistry Resource Exchange is a new, web-based, dynamic database that links researchers with green chemistry information, examples, tools and resources. Search and Browse the resource exchange with a keyword or select from our list of over 60 search categories at:

[www.GreenChemEx.org](http://www.GreenChemEx.org)

### **Coffee: Aroma, taste and dietary fiber**

Already recognized as a source of healthful anti-inflammatory and antioxidant compounds, coffee also contains significantly higher levels of soluble dietary fiber than other commonly consumed beverages, scientists in Spain report. Fulgencio Saura-Calixto and M. Elena Diaz-Rubio point out that coffee is a complex chemical mixture that reportedly contains more than 1,000 different compounds, some of which have been linked to good and bad effects on human health. Read the full article at:

<http://pubs.acs.org/cgi-bin/sample.cgi/jafcau/2007/55/i05/html/jf062839p.html>

## **New Links**

### **ACS President Website and Presidential Program**

Catherine T. ("Katie") Hunt, ACS President 2007, will be cosponsoring a full week of exciting presidential events and sessions at the upcoming ACS National Meeting in Chicago. In her desire to work collaboratively to address substantive societal issues, she has selected Sustainability of Energy, Food, and Water as the presidential theme for the Chicago meeting in March. Get more information on the program at President Hunt's website:

<http://www.acspresident.org/>

## **Funding Opportunities**

### **The Trieste Science Prize: Chemical Sciences and Agricultural Sciences**

The Third World Academy of Science (TWAS) and Illycaffè s.p.a. have instituted high-level prizes to honor distinguished scientists from developing countries. The Trieste Town Council and the Trieste International Foundation for Scientific Progress and Freedom are collaborating in this effort. This year's prize will be awarded to a developing country national working in the chemical or agricultural sciences.

<http://www.twas.org/> (Activities -> Awards and Prizes -> Trieste Science Prize)

## **SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION**

The ACS International E-Newsletter is sent out every other month by email. Should you have questions, comments or suggestions for content, please contact the ACS Office of International Activities at [intlacts@acs.org](mailto:intlacts@acs.org). You can find out more about ACS international programs at <http://chemistry.org/international>.

### **HOW TO SUBSCRIBE**

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