

July/August 2006
The ACS International E-Newsletter
ACS Office of International Activities

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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 conference, 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.

C O N T E N T S

International Currents

International Collaboration: Sustaining the Future of Global Scientific Excellence

The upcoming ACS National Meeting in San Francisco will include an exciting presidential symposium on international scientific collaboration. Scheduled for Monday, September 11th, the symposium will include experts in international collaboration and exchange, representatives from academia and industry, and will focus on student study abroad opportunities, professional-to-professional collaborations, equipment exchange, and multinational education collaborative efforts. Get more information on the upcoming meeting at:

<http://acswebcontent.acs.org/nationalmeeting/sf06/home.html>

ACS Careers Book Club

The ACS Department of Career Management & Development offers an online book club that will give ACS members an opportunity to enlarge their knowledge base in important new approaches in their career development. Each month, this book program will help you learn about skills such as: building trust, identifying your key talents for making good job choices and the growing importance of positive feedback for its role in job satisfaction and motivation. To become part of the club, simply read the book and join into the discussion which will be hosted on the book club site:

<http://acsbookclub.wordpress.com/>

A Special Report on Pharma's Problems and Prospects

Once basking in the glow of almost universal public respect and admiration, the pharmaceutical industry is struggling with a tarnished image and an uncertain future. Headlines and sound bites describe approved drugs that are unsafe, companies depending more on marketing than science, sticker-shock prices for new drugs, and companies striking deals to bar marketing of more-affordable generic versions of brand-name drugs. Where does the pharmaceutical industry go from here? Chemical & Engineering News tackles the question:

<http://pubs.acs.org/cen/pharma/index.html>

Regional News and Resources

Africa and the Middle East

Malaria Control: Resurging use of the banned pesticide DDT to prevent malaria poses dilemma for health, environment

Late last year, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), after a long hiatus, announced that it would fund DDT spraying on the inside walls of houses to prevent malaria. For many years, USAID had supported the DDT spraying, but after the pesticide was banned in developed countries, USAID stopped funding its use. Learn more at:

<http://pubs.acs.org/cen/government/84/8430gov1.html>

Ministerial Euro-African Conference on Migration and Development

A recent meeting in Morocco convened representatives of 60 African and European countries, as well as regional and international organizations to discuss possible solutions to the challenges posed by migration. One goal of the conference was to increase the development of partnerships between scientific and technical institutions in the two continents and other subjects included incentives to encourage African scientists to return home after studying in Europe. Find the conference program at:

<http://www.maec.gov.ma/migration/En/default.htm>

World Bank \$30 million loan to support scientific development in Uganda

The World Bank has announced a loan to Uganda with the goal of increasing the number and quality of scientists produced by universities and research centers, and boosting the country's scientific and technological productivity in industrial, agricultural and other sectors. Learn more at:

<http://www.msi-sig.org/news.html>

Asia

China's Petrochemical Technologies

After the establishment of the People's Republic of China, the country's petrochemical industry started from scratch but developed fast. Due to dramatic growth, particularly in the two decades since opening to the outside world, China has become one of the major petrochemical producers. Find the full text of the Chemistry International article at:

http://www.iupac.org/publications/ci/2006/2803/1_wang.html

Changing Course: While Indian custom manufacturers push into the West, Degussa stakes out territory in Asia

As Indian companies move West in pursuit of leading positions in pharmaceutical chemical manufacturing, a number of major Western players, pressured by costs, are throwing in the towel. German chemical giant Degussa is sticking it out but recognizes that, to survive, it needs to rethink its strategy. The company is heading east; shifting portions of its manufacturing from North America and Europe to China, in a move that it believes will lower its cost base and enhance its competitiveness.

<http://pubs.acs.org/cen/business/84/8427bus1.html>

U.S. Chemistry Olympiad Students Win Four Medals in Gyeongsan, Republic of Korea

The U.S. Chemistry Olympiad team won a total of three silver medals and one bronze in the 38th annual International Chemistry Olympiad in Gyeongsan, Republic of Korea, July 2 – 11, 2006. The US was among the few countries who earned four medals – among them China, won four gold medals, New Zealand, Great Britain, Canada, Russia, Taiwan, and Denmark. Learn more at:

<http://acswebapplications.acs.org/applications/ccs/application/index.cfm?PressReleaseID=2681&categoryid=2>

Latin America and the Caribbean

ACS Hosts Green Chemistry Summer School

Fifty graduate and post-doctoral students studying in the Americas participated in the 4th Annual Summer School on Green Chemistry, hosted by the ACS at its headquarters in Washington, DC from June 22-26. Students who participated in the 2006 Summer School are pursuing graduate and post-doctoral work in Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Uruguay, and the United States. Learn more about the summer school at:

http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/feature_tea.html?id=c373e90c47d3703e8f6a17245d830100

ACS Activity-Based Chemistry Education Workshop in Panama

To support and reinforce chemistry teachers who want to incorporate activity-based learning and more student engagement in their classrooms, the American Chemical Society produced a Spanish language general chemistry textbook, *Química*. ACS staff have traveled to Central America to carry out teacher training workshops using this text in the classroom. Find coverage of the most recent workshop, in Panama at:

<http://www.prensa.com/hoy/panorama/672457.html>

You can also view a sample of the *Química* text at:

<http://www.reverte.com/reverte/upload/8429170014/ACS%20Paginas%20de%20Muestra.pdf>

Safety in Academic Chemistry Laboratories

The ACS publication *Safety in Academic Chemistry Laboratories* is now available in Spanish.

View the Spanish language version at:

http://www.chemistry.org/portal/resources/ACS/ACSContent/international/quimica/spanish_safety_bk_6_19.pdf

Europe

Cyberinfrastructure in Chemistry, Information and Education: New Emerging Technologies

The 232nd ACS National Meeting in San Francisco will include a CIC-CINF symposium titled "Cyberinfrastructure in Chemistry, Information and Education: New Emerging Technologies". To see the full program for Sunday, September 10, 2006 go to:

http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/acdisplay.html?DOC=international\int_europe.html

Introducing EuCheMS - The European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences

The chemists and chemical scientists of the Federation of European Chemical Sciences (FECS) have decided to take the lead in redefining Europe's central science. Recently, FECS changed its name to the European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences (EuCheMS) to signal its transformation from an old club of committed scientists into a professional organization representing chemistry throughout Europe. Read an introduction of EuCheMS by Chemistry International at:

http://www.iupac.org/publications/ci/2006/2803/2_naray-szabo.html

European Chemistry Thematic Network

The newsletter of the European Chemistry Thematic Network is now available online. Check it out at:

http://www.cpe.fr/ectn-assoc/news/letter/2006/073_200606.htm

New Links

ACS News Service Weblog

The ACS News Service recently launched a weblog for journalists who cover science, medicine, energy, environment, food, and other chemistry-related topics. The weblog recently covered the 10th Annual Green Chemistry and Engineering Conference. Check out the weblog at:

http://acsnewsservice.typepad.com/acs_news_service_weblog/

Funding Opportunities

Postgraduate Training Fellowships for Women Scientists in Sub-Saharan Africa or Least Developed Countries (LDC) at Centres of Excellence in the South

This fellowship program is for female students in Sub-Saharan Africa or Least Developed Countries (LDCs) who wish to pursue postgraduate training leading to a doctorate degree at a center of excellence in the South outside their own country. The application deadline has been extended to 31 July 2006.

<http://www.ictp.trieste.it/~twows/postgrad.html>

Scientific Research and Innovation in Technology in the Arab World, managed by the Arab Science & Technology Foundation

The Arab Science & Technology Foundation announced the generous and greatly appreciated initiative of Abdul Latif Jameel (ALJ) Company, which will provide \$1 million per year to advance civil R&D activities inside the Arab region with outputs that contribute to sustained social and economic development. The grant is dedicated to research in the medical, engineering, applied sciences, as well as other sciences of approaches relevant to sustainable development. Learn more at:

<http://www.astf.net/site/zone/zone.asp?ogzid=10195>

Iraq Research and Development Initiative

The Iraq Research and Development Initiative was established by the Arab Science & Technology Foundation in collaboration with Sandia National Laboratories and the U.S. Civilian Research and Development foundation, to engage Iraqi scientists and engineers in research activities that have the potential to contribute to the reconstruction of their country. Proposals are being requested by ASTF in the following priority areas of technical importance to this objective: energy, environment, materials, water, public health, agriculture, radiation safety.

<http://www.astf.net/Uploads/10206/ResearchProposalGuidelinesDoc1.doc>

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. You can find out more about ACS international programs at <http://chemistry.org/international>.

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