

May/June 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](mailto:intlacts@acs.org).

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## C O N T E N T S

### International Currents

#### **India Looks to vault itself onto the World's Science and Technology Stage**

President George W. Bush traveled to India with an ambitious agenda, including expanding U.S.-Indian scientific cooperation. Bush and Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh announced the establishment of a new \$30 million science and technology commission that will fund joint research in promising areas such as biotechnology. Learn more at:  
<http://pubs.acs.org/cen/coverstory/84/8412India.html>

#### **Iraqi Online Tool Is Launched: Virtual Science Library gives Iraq's scientists and students access to articles**

U.S. government officials and representatives from the scientific community launched the Iraqi Virtual Science Library (IVSL) during a packed ceremony on May 3rd at the National Academies in Washington, D.C. The American Chemical Society was the first of more than 20 scientific publishers and other organizations to agree to offer deeply discounted electronic access to 17,500 full-text scientific journal articles to Iraqi chemists, engineers and students. Access the IVSL and read more about the program at:  
<https://ivsl.org/> and <http://pubs.acs.org/cen/news/84/i19/8419notw7.html>

#### **Coming to the USA: advice from the ACS regarding the US visa application process**

The ACS Office of International Activities has developed new advice on the visa application process for scientists coming to the USA. View the report at:  
<http://www.chemistry.org/portal/resources/ACS/ACSContent/international/ComingtotheUSA.pdf>

### Regional News and Resources

#### Africa and the Middle East

#### **Archives for Africa: Royal Society of Chemistry offers free online access to its scientific journal archive**

The London-based Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) is making its archive of scientific journals available online free of charge to scientists in educational and research institutions in more than 50 developing countries, mainly in Africa. The aim is to help strengthen the science base in some of the poorest countries in the world. Learn more at:

<http://pubs.acs.org/cen/science/84/8420sci1.html>

### **A Science, Technology and Innovation Policy for Lebanon**

The Science, Technology and Innovation Policy for Lebanon was launched in Beirut this April by the Director-General of UNESCO, Koïchiro Matsuura, and the Prime Minister of Lebanon, Fouad Sanioura, in the presence of all government ministers, UN agency representatives and the Lebanese scientific and academic communities. Read an executive summary of the report (in Arabic, English and French) at:

<http://www.unesco.org/science/>

## **Asia**

### **More Propylene Oxide Is Planned - South Korean firm will build plant using Degussa's novel technology**

Degussa is taking several steps to commercialize its hydrogen peroxide-based route to propylene oxide (PO). The company is licensing its PO technology, which it developed with German engineering company Uhde, to SKC Chemicals. The South Korean firm is planning to build a 100,000-metric-ton-per-year propylene oxide plant in Ulsan, South Korea, by the beginning of 2008. Learn more at:

<http://pubs.acs.org/cen/news/84/i20/8420degussa.html>

### **38th International Chemistry Olympiad in South Korea**

Final registration for the 2006 International Chemistry Olympiad will close on May 30, 2006. The Olympiad will be held from July 2 – 11, 2006 in Gyeongsan, South Korea. Get information about the Olympiad at:

<http://icho2006.kcsnet.or.kr/>

### **Chinese Academy of Sciences Constitution and Research Plan Announced**

The Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) published its first constitution since it was set up as China's premier scientific research center 50 years ago along with a 15-year research plan.

Learn more about the Academy at:

<http://english.cas.cn/Eng2003/page/home.asp>

## **Latin America and the Caribbean**

### **ACS-PITTCON Latin American Delegation**

For more than a decade, an international delegation to the Pittsburgh Conference on Analytical Chemistry and Applied Spectroscopy (PITTCON) has been coordinated by the American Chemical Society, PITTCON, the Society for Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh (SACP), and the Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh (SSP). Learn about the 2006 delegation from Latin America at:

[http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/feature\\_tea.html?id=c373e90a306da80b8f6a17245d830100](http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/feature_tea.html?id=c373e90a306da80b8f6a17245d830100)

### **Brazil Launches Agricultural Nanotechnology Lab**

The Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (Embrapa) announced that it would be building a US\$1.9 million laboratory dedicated to the field of agricultural nanotechnology. The National Nanotechnology Laboratory for Agribusiness will be housed at Embrapa's agricultural instrumentation unit in São Paulo while purpose built facilities are set up in the city later this year. Learn more at:

[http://www.embrapa.br/English/index\\_html/mostra\\_documento](http://www.embrapa.br/English/index_html/mostra_documento)

### **Chile's Millennium Science Initiative (MSI)**

The MSI is a collaboration between Chile and the World Bank. It was launched in 1999, creating three cutting-edge research institutes and five smaller centers. On April 19<sup>th</sup> a progress assessment of the initiative was released. View the report at:  
[http://www.mideplan.cl/milenio/noticia\\_68.htm](http://www.mideplan.cl/milenio/noticia_68.htm)

## **Europe**

### **U.S., EU Agree on Fluorinated Greenhouse Gas Leaks**

At least one aspect of the Kyoto Protocol on Climate Change is spurring international action. Global standards being developed for auto air conditioning systems should restrict leakages of the fluorinated greenhouse gas HFC-134a to 40 grams per year from cars sold after 2008. These requirements mirror an EU directive set in January. Read the full story at:  
[http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/feature\\_pol.html?id=c373e90b036211b88f6a17245d830100](http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/feature_pol.html?id=c373e90b036211b88f6a17245d830100)

### **Chemistry Teaching and Chemistry Teacher Education in Europe – An ECTN survey**

The European Chemistry Thematic Network (ECTN) conducted a survey on education systems and chemistry education in throughout Europe. The survey focused on the amount of chemistry or science teaching in primary and secondary education and about the qualifications required to become a chemistry or science teacher. Read the ECTN report at:  
[http://www.cpe.fr/ectn-assoc/archives/lib/2006/N02/200602\\_LinksSchool\\_ScTeachEduEUSurvey.pdf](http://www.cpe.fr/ectn-assoc/archives/lib/2006/N02/200602_LinksSchool_ScTeachEduEUSurvey.pdf)

### **Kompendium terminologii chemicznej - Compendium of Chemical Terminology**

A Polish version of the Compendium of Chemical Terminology has been published by ZamKor. Get information on the Compendium at:  
<http://www.zamkor.pl/zamkor.pl?id=204>

## **New Links**

### **Sigma Xi International Resources Site**

Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society, has developed a list of links of interest to scientists and engineers around the world pertaining to research and education. Unless noted, all Web sites listed are free access and in English. View the list at:  
<http://sigmaxi.org/programs/international/resource.shtml>

## **Funding Opportunities**

### **IUPAC-UNESCO-UNIDO Safety Training Program**

Making the world a bit safer, safety experts from developing countries have an opportunity to visit and work in plants of IUPAC Company Associates in the industrialized world for a training period of one to three weeks. Learn more at:  
<http://www.iupac.org/news/archives/2006/STP-fellowships.html>

### **Doctorado en Química**

The University of Chile offers a doctoral degree in Chemistry. Learn more about the program at:  
[http://www.uchile.cl/uchile.portal?\\_nfpb=true&\\_pageLabel=conUrl&url=6359](http://www.uchile.cl/uchile.portal?_nfpb=true&_pageLabel=conUrl&url=6359)

## **International Foundation for Science research grants**

Applications for IFS Research Grants are welcome from young scientists in developing countries to do research on the sustainable management, use or conservation of biological or water resources. This broad statement covers natural science and social science research on agriculture, soils, animal production, food science, forestry, agroforestry, aquatic resources, natural products, water resources, etc. Learn about the program at:  
<http://www.ifs.se/>

**Fulbright Scholar Program**

The Fulbright Scholar Program offers 800 research, lecturing, or combined lecturing/research awards in 150 countries and all regions of the world every year. Awards are in 45 disciplines and many interdisciplinary fields, including scientific and technological fields. Learn more at:  
<http://www.cies.org/>

**The African Fellows Program**

The aim of the African Fellows Program is to support sustainable agriculture in sub-Saharan Africa by catalyzing innovative solutions needed to achieve food security. Projects should aim to develop lasting partnerships and strategic alliances that will help in developing local scientific capacity relevant to sustainable agricultural production. Learn more at:  
<http://www.rothamsted-international.org/>