

## IUPAC in Glasgow, Scotland

### Committee on Chemistry and Industry (COCI)

by Mike Booth, former committee secretary

The turnout at the Committee on Chemistry and Industry (COCI) annual meeting from 2-3 August 2009 exceeded all previous records, with 11 COCI members, 4 Safety Training Program Fellows, the president and vice president of IUPAC, 3 divisional representatives, and 10 observers and invited participants in attendance. The meeting focused on the committee's role and strategic priorities, organizational structure, programs, accomplishments, and plans. Prior to the meeting, members of the committee took the opportunity to interact with members of the divisions at their respective meetings to foster and continue the collaborations started at the General Assembly in Torino in 2007.

COCI is actively involved in the International Year of Chemistry through the participation of COCI Chair Mark Cesa, Colin Humphris, and Michael Droescher on the IYC Management Committee and its subcommittees. COCI hopes to be an active participant in raising funds from industry for events organized by IUPAC around the world and in contributing to cornerstone events.

COCI has been instrumental in obtaining NGO status for IUPAC in the Strategic Approach to International Chemical Management (SAICM). The IUPAC delegation at the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM2) in Geneva in May 2009 included IUPAC Vice President Nicole Moreau, CHEMRAWN Chair Leiv Sydnes, Paul LeClair of the IUPAC Secretariat, Safety Training Program Fellow Fabián Benzo, John Duffus from Division VII, and Mark Cesa. IUPAC presented information on its capabilities, sponsored a booth at the exhibition, and offered to hold a science event in conjunction with the IYC and in advance of ICCM3 (see feature on page 8). It was clear that additional effort will make IUPAC more familiar to SAICM participants. However, there appear to be opportunities for our involvement as a science body in the SAICM "QuickStart" program and in discussions on the role of science in SAICM. Due to the work of Colin Humphris, IUPAC continues to enjoy the benefits of our association with the International Council of Chemical Associations.



Mike Booth addresses the Safety Training Program Workshop.

Through the efforts of Bernard West, a case study on the "Responsible Handling of Chemicals" has been submitted for publication as part of the project on the safe handling of chemicals (see project 2006-047-1-022; [www.iupac.org/web/ins/2006-047-1-022](http://www.iupac.org/web/ins/2006-047-1-022)). West also participated in the Congress Symposium on Ethics coordinated by Chemrawn, vide supra, p. 12.

The Safety Training Program arranged training for an Indian chemist in Denmark in 2008. There is no shortage of trainees wishing to participate in the program, and host companies continue to be sought. A Workshop on the STP, in which six trainees presented their experiences on how they had used their training in their home countries, formed part of the Glasgow Congress. An Internet-based safety training course started in Uruguay by Fabián Benzo, has reached the point that the course will be distributed in South America in 2010 to promote better safety at universities.

During the COCI East Asia Regional Workshop earlier in 2009 in Tokyo, new projects were proposed based on deliberations with representatives of companies and national chemistry societies from China, Taiwan, Korea, and Japan. Internships with Company Associates, life-cycle analysis, and success stories with technology transfer were discussed for future development. At the COCI meeting in Glasgow, David Evans also reported on the proposal to hold a CHEMRAWN on Biofuels in 2011.

A number of longstanding members, Alan Smith, Akira Ishitani and Secretary/Treasurer Mike Booth, will be leaving COCI at the end of 2009. Their contributions to the committee over many years were recognized with certificates of appreciation. The attendees welcomed the new leadership of COCI for 2010-2011: Michael Droescher as chair and Colin Humphris as secretary.

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### Committee on Printed and Electronic Publication (CPEP)

by Bohumir Valter, former committee secretary

The Committee on Printed and Electronic Publications (CPEP) has responsibility for the publications of IUPAC, including its journal *Pure and Applied Chemistry* (PAC), the online *Compendium of Chemical Terminology*



## Division Roundups, Part III

(the Gold Book <<http://goldbook.iupac.org>>), and the IUPAC website and printed books.

PAC has grown in impact in recent years with its emphasis on publishing conference material and also because a full archive of the journal from its inception in 1960 was made freely available online <[www.iupac.org/publications/pac](http://www.iupac.org/publications/pac)>. Many Nobel Prize winners in Chemistry have published in PAC <[www.iupac.org/publications/pac/nobelists](http://www.iupac.org/publications/pac/nobelists)>. An under-recognized feature of PAC content is its citation stamina with high and growing citation levels for some of the older volumes in this survey. Perhaps this is an early augury of the salutary effects of a comprehensive website archive and adherence to open access practice. Much credit for the continued strength of PAC must go to its scientific editor, James Bull.

Important developments on the website (apart from the improved access to PAC noted above) include an upgrade to the Gold Book, with important interactive features, and a general improvement to appearance and access. These changes are the responsibility of CPEP titular members from the Czech Republic (Bohumír Valter and Miloslav Nič) and their colleagues (principally Bedřich Košata). Further improvements and developments are anticipated, including the inclusion of other Color Books online. Many enhanced capabilities of the website are due to it being moved to a server at FIZ-Chemie, Berlin, generously provided through the auspices of René Deplanque.

The Royal Society of Chemistry published the third edition of the Green Book (*Quantities, Units and Symbols in Physical Chemistry*) in 2007. The committee plans to produce this in XML format for web publication.

## Division III: Organic and Biomolecular Chemistry

by Pietro Tundo, division past president

The Organic and Biomolecular Chemistry Division meeting, held 1-3 August 2009, was attended by 15 members and 5 observers.

The division elected new officers for the 2010-2011 biennium: Gerrit-Jan Koomen will be president, Pietro Tundo will become immediate past-president, Krishna Garnesh will be vice president, and Mary Garson will be secretary. The committee also welcomed a number of new titular and associate members and national representatives.

Division III is characterized by a large number of subcommittees, which are very active in six specific sectors. They organize international conferences and workshops, promote and manage projects, and publish the results in special issues of *Pure and Applied Chemistry*. The subcommittees met in Glasgow and each provided ideas for new projects for the next biennium. The ideas will be formulated into draft project proposals.

The committee currently has about 15 projects in progress, including projects led by other IUPAC divisions to which Division III is contributing. At the Glasgow meeting, the division allocated its remaining project funds for the biennium to three new projects:

- Translation into Greek and dissemination of a monograph for secondary schools on Global Climate Change.
- Evaluation of measurement methods and QA/QC for PCDD/F, PCB and PAHs in environmental matrices (air quality, soil, sediments and wastes) used in estimation of global pollution.
- Green Chemistry: Sustainable Education and Environmental Development in Latin America.

Division III administers two important prizes. The first, the CHEMRAWN VII prize for Atmospheric and Green Chemistry (USD 5000) will be awarded every two years to a young investigator from a developing country. Its inaugural presentation will be at the 3rd Green Chemistry Conference to be held in Ottawa, Canada, from 15-19 August 2010. The second prize, sponsored jointly by Georg Thieme Verlag and IUPAC, is the Thieme-IUPAC Prize in Synthetic Organic Chemistry. The prize is presented every two years and will next be awarded at the International Conference on Organic Synthesis, which will take place in Bergen, Norway, from 1-6 August 2010. 🏆

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