

Committee on Publications and Cheminformatics Data Standards (CPCDS)

Bonnie Lawlor, Chair
March 30, 2014

Mission

(i) to advise the President, Executive Committee, other Standing Committees, Divisions, and Commissions on all aspects of the design and implementation of printed and electronic publications, including computerized databases of all sorts, and to promote the compatibility of electronic transmission and storage of information; (ii) to make recommendations to the President and the Executive Committee on matters of policy and procedures related to the production and dissemination of printed and electronic publications; (iii) to advise the Secretary General and the Executive Director on hardware and software requirements for the Secretariat and on the development and operation of its computer systems; and (iv) subject to approval by the President and the Executive Committee, to establish Advisory Boards, Subcommittees, and Working Groups as needed to carry out specific functions of the Committee.

IUPAC Goals Supported

The Committee's activities are primarily focused on the following IUPAC Long-Range Goals:

2. IUPAC will facilitate the advancement of research in the chemical sciences through the tools that it provides for international standardization and scientific discussion.
4. IUPAC will foster communication among individual chemists and scientific organizations, with special emphasis on the needs of chemists in developing countries.
5. IUPAC will utilize its global perspective and network to contribute to the enhancement of chemistry education, the career development of young chemical scientists, and the public appreciation of chemistry.

Major Activities

IUPAC Publications

The Committee's major focus for the past year has been monitoring the transition of the editorial processing, printing, and marketing of IUPAC's publications (*Chemistry International* and *Pure and Applied Chemistry*) to the De Gruyter publishing firm. This change was made to provide marketing support that is required to increase the exposure and sales of both publications while minimizing publication costs. The contracts were signed in July 2013 and both parties met in Istanbul during the 44th IUPAC General Assembly to begin developing the transition plan. The January 2014 issues were the first to be launched under the agreement and their production allowed most of the transition wrinkles to be ironed out, although the transition cannot be considered complete. Both parties held a productive meeting on March 18, 2014 during the spring national meeting of the American Chemical Society in Dallas, Texas to review the production problems that were experienced and to resolve the issues that remain (print run size, advertising, open access policies, potential new format for *Chemistry International*, etc.). The 2015 publication business plan will be completed in May. It is expected that the transition will wind down in the coming months.

IUPAC Website

The IUPAC website has been problematic both for the infrequent user as well as for the IUPAC staff for whom it is an essential part of their work flow. The problems have been aggravated by the loss of support from FIZ Chemie Berlin and by the recent resignation of the IUPAC staff person who was primarily responsible for website management. A Web Task Force has been created to drive the development of a vision for the website in the coming months. This vision will be used to determine whether a new site will need to be built or if the existing site can be upgraded. The goal is to have a workable, user-friendly site in place in time for the 2015 General Assembly. The Task Force will hold its first planning session during the Bureau meeting in Portugal.