

**FECS (The Federation of European Chemical Societies)
Division for Chemistry and the Environment (FECS Div. C&E)**

Committee Meeting in Bordeaux on October 30th 1999

The Committee met in Bordeaux on Saturday 30th October 1999 following the 17th International Symposium on Polycyclic Aromatic Compounds which had been attended by 280 delegates from 35 countries world-wide.

A major theme of the meeting was **Green Chemistry**. Professor Pietro Tundo, Director of the Italian Interuniversity Consortium, Chemistry for the Environment (INCA) made a presentation.

Founded in 1993, the Consortium now had 30 participating universities, and made annual Green Chemistry Awards. Much research was promoted and laboratories had been established in Venice and Catania with further laboratories in Palermo, Naples and Turin planned. Two summer schools in Green Chemistry had been organised. This year's had been in September with 60 postgraduate students and 15 teachers from around the world participating. INCA co-operates with OECD Sustainable Chemistry Committee and with IUPAC. In July 2001 a conference is planned for Colorado, USA. Further information on the laboratories, the consortium, the summer schools on green chemistry and the OECD Sustainable Chemistry workshop proceedings are accessible through the consortium website in English at <http://www.unive.it/inca>.

Mike Lancaster made a presentation on the UK Green Chemistry Network.

Funded by the Royal Society of Chemistry and based in York University, it focuses on developing chemicals and processes which do not cause harm to the environment rather than an 'end of the pipe' remediation. He drew attention to the Green Chemistry Conference to be held 3-6 April 2001 in Swansea. He also informed members about the Green Chemistry Journal and the UK Green Chemistry awards to be made to industry and to young academics in the UK in 2000. The website is: www.chemsoc.org/networks/gcn.

Wolfram Koch was to have given a talk on Sustainable Chemistry in Germany ('Green Chemistry' is an unacceptable term to German industry and the chemical community because of possible associations in the mind of the public with the Green Party) but was unfortunately unable to attend.

Alan Astrup Jensen, the Division Chairman, updated members on progress with the European Green and Sustainable Chemistry Awards. The planning group has met three times. Funding is anticipated from DG11 and the European Environment Agency and a meeting is to be held with the Commission in Brussels in November-December 1999. It is hoped to make the first awards at the '7th FECS International Conference on Chemistry in the Environment' to be held in Porto August 27-30th 2000.

The FECS Green and Sustainable Chemistry Committee should be responsible for the evaluation of the proposals. Pietro Tundo

and Mike Lancaster were invited to be members and accepted. Present members are Allan Astrup Jensen, Denmark (Chair); Sirpa Herve, Finland; Maria Teresa Vasconcelos, Portugal; Ramon Mestres, Spain; Philippe Garrigues, France; Wilhelm Höfflinger, Austria; Wolfkram Koch, Germany and members from the industry will also be invited to join.

An editorial, 'The Greening of Chemistry – Is it Sustainable?' by Otto Hutzinger appeared in *Environmental Science and Pollution Research (ESPR)* **6** (3) 123 (1999). Members agreed that 'Greening' gave a better impression of an ongoing process than 'Green' and this term was also thought to be acceptable to Germany. A further editorial on the subject with contributions from members of the Committee was planned.

The Second Announcement and Call for Papers for the Porto Conference subtitled 'Metal Speciation in the Aquatic Environment' was approved. Further information may be obtained on <http://www.geocities.com/capecanaveral/lab/8007/feecs2000.htm> or by emailing: feecs-conf@fc.up.pt.

The Eighth FECS International Conference will be a broad based environmental conference held in Athens in early September 2002. Details will appear in due course on the Division website. Extended abstracts for the 7th conference will also be published here. A bulletin board has been established for rapid information exchange on forthcoming conferences, etc. Almut Heinrich, Managing Editor told members that ecomed, publisher of the *ESPR* journal and host of the website have introduced a new electronic only journal 'Environmental and Health Science' and 'Online-First' a service to allow immediate publication of accepted articles.

The Division has established sub-groups on Education (Chair – Uri Zoller, Israel) and Atmospheric Chemistry and Air Pollution (Chair – Hartmut Frank, Germany).

Membership of the Division Committee has now increased to thirty-two members from twenty-nine countries (Spain, Switzerland and Germany having two members each representing separate chemical societies). Allan Astrup Jensen was re-elected unanimously to serve for a second three year term as Chairman.

The next meeting of the Committee will take place in Burlington House, London on **4th March 2000**. Members will be invited to attend the Environmental Chemistry Group Distinguished Guest Lecture on 1st March.

Copies of the full minutes are available on request from j.v.holder@uclan.ac.uk.

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