

**The European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences (EuCheMS)**  
**Division of Chemistry and the Environment (DCE)**

**Divisional Committee Meeting in Turin, Italy, 20<sup>th</sup> September 2008**

John Holder reports on the current activities of the EuCheMS Division of which he is Secretary.

The Committee of the Division met in Turin on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> of September 2008 at the invitation of the Organising Secretariat of the 2<sup>nd</sup> EuCheMS Chemistry Congress. Eighteen members were present at the meeting together with Professor Alvin Young, Editor-in-Chief of Environmental Science and Pollution Research, official journal of the Division.

**Change in the Divisional Constitution**

Members voted by a substantial majority to change the Divisional Constitution to permit the appointment of a Vice-Chair. The Vice-Chair will have direct responsibility for co-ordinating the activities of sub-committees within the Division and will deputise for the Chair in his/her other duties when required. The Vice-Chair will be nominated by the Chair but the appointment will be subject to the approval of the Committee. The Vice-Chair will not succeed to the Chair automatically at the end of the Chair's term but may stand for election to the position at that time. The Division's Procedures and Practices will be amended to reflect this change.

**Election of the Chair**

At the end of 2008, Philippe Garrigues will have completed a maximum two terms of three years as Chair of the Division. Members congratulated him on the substantial progress made and successes achieved during the previous six years. An election for his successor was held in accordance with Divisional procedures, Alvin Young acting as independent teller and adjudicator. The result was as follows: Walter Giger (Switzerland) 8, Sirpa Herve (Finland) 7, Abstentions 3. Walter Giger was duly elected to serve as Chair of the Division for an initial period of three years commencing on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009.

**Nomination of the Vice-Chair**

Walter Giger nominated Åke Bergman (Sweden) as Vice-Chair and the nomination was approved unanimously. Åke Bergman will serve as Vice-Chair of the Division for three years commencing on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009.

**13<sup>th</sup> EuCheMS DCE International Conference on Chemistry and the Environment 2011**

Three bids to hold the Division's 13<sup>th</sup> international conference in 2011 were received. Presentations were made of the proposals as follows: Akos Redey for Veszprém, Hungary, Ivan Holoubek for Brno, Czech Republic and Walter Giger for Zurich, Switzerland. An election was held, Alvin Young again acting as independent teller and adjudicator. The result was as follows: Veszprém 3, Brno 7, Zurich 8. The 13<sup>th</sup> conference will therefore be held in September 2011 in Zurich, Switzerland.

**12<sup>th</sup> EuCheMS DCE International Conference on Chemistry and the Environment, Stockholm 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> June 2009 –**

Åke Bergman updated members on arrangements for the Stockholm conference. The goal was to attract 500 delegates and members were asked to assist in publicising the event. Posters, flyers and a detailed programme were distributed. Prominent politicians and academics had been lined up to speak at the opening ceremony and open fora for the general public were planned for the evenings. Arrangements were in hand for preparation of the proceedings and selected papers from the conference will be published in ESPR. The dinner will be held in the Vasa museum to highlight the growing importance of conservation chemistry. Details may be seen at the conference website: <http://www.chemsoc.se/sidor/KK/icce2009.htm>

**3<sup>rd</sup> EuCheMS European Chemistry Congress, Nuremberg 2010**

Philippe expressed disappointment that the Division's suggestions for the Nuremberg Congress had not been taken into account by the Organising Secretariat. Convenors for sessions had been appointed from outside the Scientific Committee. He had raised the issue with Chairs of other Divisions and representations would be made.

He reported that the Congress would be divided into seven symposia. Symposium 2, 'Resources and Environment' was the one of principal interest to the Division.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Congress will be held in Prague.

### **Collaboration with 'Environmental Science and Pollution Research'**

Alvin Young gave members a frank and detailed description of the current position at ESPR, the arrangements with the new publisher, Springer and the problems experienced with the electronic submission system. He set out his plans to rectify these but noted that, being based in the USA, he was not able to be on hand personally to oversee everything. He said that if members could recommend to Springer a suitable, European based Editor-in-Chief for the journal, he would be prepared to stand down although he would continue his association with the journal and would provide support for the new management.

There was good news too with subscriptions worldwide increasing significantly and the journal's impact factor jumping to almost 4. Members noted with pleasure that the Division's logo now appeared on the journal's front page.

Members supported the proposed measures and reaffirmed that the Division wished the relationship with the journal to continue. Walter Giger would meet the Springer staff responsible to agree details.

The journal supports the Division's website at <http://www.scientificjournals.com/sj/espr/EuCheMS>.

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