

Study Group / Task Force Name: " Analytical Chemistry in Archaeology and Cultural Heritage "

Study Group / Task Force Members and Affiliations:

Prof. Miltiades (Milt) Karayannis, Prof. Alan Townshend, Prof. Ioannis Stratis

Objectives: 1) To demonstrate the importance of Analytical Chemistry in the collection of information which are valuable to Archaeologist and Art Historians to study and authenticate archaeological objects and works of Fine Art.

2) To endorse the collaboration of Analytical Chemists between the European Countries and other scientific organizations

Activities and Outputs in 2012-2013 (e.g. reports, publications, seminars, meetings):

1 As I was advised by the members of the DAA, during the last year's Annual Meeting, I contacted the leader of the working group Chemistry and Cultural Heritage of the EuCheMS (WG of CCH) Prof. Rocco Mazzeo, in order to announce to him the establishment of our WG «Analytical Chemistry in Archeology and Cultural Heritage» and ask for his opinion and collaboration. Here is his response:

Dear Professor Karayannis,

I'm delighted to know that the Division of analytical science decided to establish a WG in Analytical Chemistry in Archaeometry and Cultural Heritage because, in any case, it represents an important recognition that analytical chemistry is important for cultural heritage and vice versa.

Nevertheless, I think that if we all involved in cultural heritage research want Chemistry being recognised as a discipline playing an important role in Cultural heritage we should, as much as possible, work together and avoid fragmentations of efforts.

Be sure this is not an objection towards the creation of your WG but I think it would be much more productive to have more and more countries represented into the WP on Chemistry for cultural heritage I'm chairing.

Actually, as an example, we do not have any representative from the Greek Chemical Society, a situation we do consider very strange if you think about the great number of Greek scholars actively involved in chemistry for cultural heritage research and teaching.

The same happens with many other countries, this is why one of the first goal I would like to achieve during my chairmanship is to increase the number of active national members of our WP. To this regards your help would very much welcome and appreciated.

It is my firm opinion that if we all want Chemistry (whichever speciality) to be well recognised as a discipline we have to work together for the possible changing of the actual WP into an EuChemS Division on Chemistry for cultural heritage.

I'm sure you can share with me this perspective and hope to have as many as possible of the participants of your WG being actively involved in the activities of our WP.

Kind regards and hope to further discuss this issue with you in the near future

Rocco Mazzeo

2. I was invited, from the organizing committee of the IMA-2013 Conference (15-19 September), to give a plenary lecture with title: *Analytical Chemistry: A Powerful Decoder for Archaeology and History of Fine Arts*.

3. Prof. Alan Townshend, who is receiving this year his second degree, the Bachelor on Archaeology, expressed his wish to join as member the WG.

Prof. Ioannis Stratis of the Chemistry Dept. at the Aristotelian University of Thessaloniki expressed also his wish to join the group.

Activities planned for 2013-2014: Collection of Case Studies and examples to illustrate the use of modern Analytical Techniques applied in the study and authentication of works of fine art.

Report submitted by: Prof. Miltiades I. Karayannis

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