

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE WORKING PARTY
ON THE HISTORY OF CHEMISTRY (FECS)
2001**

During 2001 all efforts were focussed on the problem of the survival of the W.P.

A conference of the W.P. (FECS) was organized by the W.P. delegate of Greece (Corinth, 18-23 May 2001). At this conference the new Chairman was supposed to be elected during the biennial meeting. The conference was planned with the financial support of EURESCO. However, just one month before the conference this aid was withdrawn by Euresco and the conference was cancelled.

A semi-official meeting of the W.P. was organized during the annual meeting of the German W.P. (Würzburg, 23-25 September 2001). This meeting lead to two important decisions. First the candidacy of Dr. E. Homburg as Chairman-elect was supported unanimously. A written procedure confirmed this candidacy. Dr. E. Homburg (University of Maastricht), delegate of the Royal Netherland Chemical Society, will become the fourth chairman of the W.P. An invitation of the Hungarian W.P. to organize in 2003 the International Conference on History of Chemistry in Hungary was accepted. Dr. E. Vamos (Chairman) will set up a local organizing committee. A scientific committee was established:

Chairman: **Prof. Em. Dr. C. Russell**, *UK*
Members: **Dr. M. Blondel-Migrelis**, *France*
Dr. H. Deelstra, *Belgium*
Dr. E. Homburg, *The Netherlands*
Dr. L. Niinistö, *Finland*
Dr. C. Reinhardt, *Germany*,
Dr. Strobanova, *Czech. Rep.*
Dr. E. Vamos, *Hungary*

Summarizing: 2001 was for the W.P. a difficult transition year ending with a hopeful future.

N.B. It is the sad duty of the W.P. to communicate that Mr. Wilhelm Lewicki - the Maecenas of the W.P. -passed away on 10.10.2001 in Ludwigshafen (Germany).

Wilrijk, 26.11.2001

Prof. Dr. H. Deelstra
Chairman a.i.