



Serbian Chemical Society

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Serbian Chemical Society (SCS) Annual Report to the EuCheMS Division of Chemical Education for 2014-2015

1. Abstract

The activities of the SCS Division of Chemical Education during the period from July 2014 to June 2015 are associated with: (i) organization of the scientific meetings; (ii) organization of the in-service chemistry teachers training; (iii) organization of the chemistry competitions for primary and secondary school students at the regional and the republic levels; (iv) publication of the *Chemical Review* and the launch of a new section in the SCS scientific journal (the *Journal of the Serbian Chemical Society*); (v) promotion of chemistry through different manifestations.

2. National educational policy

(a) The project "Support Human Capital Development and Research – General Education and Human Capital Development" ends in 2015. The project was financed by the European Union and realised under the guidance of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia. The *National Curriculum Framework* and the establishment of practice schools for the school practice in pre-service teachers education are the main products of this project.

(b) It should be noted that there is tendency to reduce the chemistry education in secondary vocational schools.

3. Events in chemical education

In the period from July 2014 to June 2015 the Serbian Chemical Society organized several meetings:

(a) **The April days - the 26th national meeting of chemistry teachers in Serbia** (the Faculty of Chemistry University of Belgrade, April 14-15, 2015). It was attended by 114 participants. The programme of the April days traditionally comprised the themes in domains of chemistry, chemistry didactics, pedagogy and psychology. This year, four workshops were involved in the programme of this chemistry teachers meeting. One of them was realised with cooperation with students from 15. Belgrade grammar school.

(b) **Chemistry Teaching Section** - the monthly meetings of chemistry teachers throughout a school year. During the 2014/2015 school year chemistry teachers and teachers of

others school subjects exchanged many examples of their innovative approaches to the elaboration of the curricula themes.

- (c) **The primary and secondary school students' competitions in chemistry at the regional and the republic level.** During the spring of 2015 the Serbian Chemical Society, with support of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia, organised and realised several levels of the chemistry competitions for primary and secondary school students. There were two modes of competition: (i) Test and Experimental Exercise and (ii) Test and Research. Also, the 2nd Serbian Chemistry Olympiad for primary and secondary school students were realised (the University of Belgrade - Faculty of Chemistry, May 30-31, 2015). The Chemistry Olympiad for secondary school students enabled the selection of the team of four students to represent the Serbia in the International Chemistry Olympiad (Baku, Azerbaijan). Last year the Serbian Chemical Society supported the participation of the team in the International Chemistry Olympiad in Hanoi – Vietnam. In this Olympiad the Serbian students received one silver and three bronze medals. The Serbian Chemistry Olympiad for primary school students enabled them to test their skills to solve problems that have been defined in a variety of real life contexts. In this way they start to prepare for the future participation in the national and the international chemistry Olympiads.
- (d) **The 52nd Meeting of the Serbian Chemical Society** (the University of Novi Sad, Novi Sad, May 29-30, 2015). Annual meetings of chemists also included the topics related to chemical education.

4. Activities of the Serbian Chemical Society

During the previous period the Serbian Chemical Society had activities related to the promotion of chemistry among the primary and secondary school students.

5. Publications

In 2014 the Serbian Chemical Society published six issues of the journal *Chemical Review*. The aim of this journal is to help all chemistry teachers to refresh their teaching and make it more interesting.

The novelty in 2014 is that the *Journal of the Serbian Chemical Society* launched a new section dedicated to the history of chemistry and chemistry education. The Impact Factor of this journal in 2014 was 0.871.

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