



EuChemS

European Chemical Society

— Working Party on the History —
of Chemistry

Annual Reports of Activities 2017

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BELGIUM

Société Royale de Chimie, Division d'Histoire de la Chimie Mémosciences asbl

The non-profit Mémosciences cooperates with the Division for the History of Chemistry from the Société Royale de Chimie since the creation of that Division in 1999. The main activity is the organization of conferences “Elément d’Histoire de la Chimie” usually on a Wednesday afternoon, except for the case of one day meetings. Chemists, historians but also science teachers are welcome to attend these conferences, which are offered for free, except in the case of one day events (for instance the Conference Lemery).

In 2009 the Division was merged with the Division d’Enseignement, however both groups have continued their own activities.

The Division collaborates from time to time with the Groupe d’Histoire de la Chimie from the Société chimique de France as well as other history of science, medicine and pharmacy organizations.

For 2016 and 2017, the following conferences were organized:

- *La chimie au secours de l’art*

Mercredi 17 février 2016, Institut Royal du Patrimoine artistique, Bruxelles,

- Le quotidien d’un idéal : *L’Agneau mystique* catalyseur de l’interdisciplinarité, Dr Marie-Christine Claes (IRPA)

- Visit of the restauration laboratories

- *Les laboratoires méconnus de la Révolution chimique : officines et volcans*

Mercredi 20 avril 2016, 14h Musée Couvreur, UCL, Woluwé

- La réponse à la chimie de Lavoisier en France, 1770-1790: nouvelles perspectives sur la révolution chimique, Prof. John Perkins (Oxford Brookes Univ., UK)

- Comment les matériaux volcaniques ont façonné les études chimiques dans le Royaume de Naples, Dr Corinna Guerra (Centre Alexandre Koyré, F)

- *La découverte de la chiralité moléculaire : Louis Pasteur, chimiste*

Mercredi 4 mai 2016, 14h, Musée Couvreur, UCL, Bruxelles

- Préambules physiques à la chimie de Pasteur, Prof. Bernard Mahieu (UCL)

- Louis Pasteur et la découverte de la chiralité moléculaire, Prof. Joe Gal (Univ. Colorado, Aurora, USA)

- *Nicolas Lémery, une révolution en chimie et en pharmacie ? Genèse et postérité d’une œuvre*

Samedi 28 mai 2016, 9h-18h, Hôpital Notre-Dame à la Rose, Lessines

In collaboration with the Centre d'histoire de la pharmacie et du médicament (UCL, Louvain-en-Woluwe) and the Musée de Notre-Dame à la Rose in Lessines.

(see full program in annex)

- *Histoires de couleurs*

Mercredi 23 novembre 2016, 14h00, Musée Couvreur, UCL, Bruxelles

- De la nature des couleurs sur les traces de Newton et de Goethe , Dr Benoît Bellet

- Physique, chimie et biologie de la vision : Pourquoi et comment voyons-nous les couleurs ?, Professeur Bernard Mahieu (UCL, Mémosciences)

- *Des machines qui content : l'histoire de l'informatique*

Mercredi 15 mars 2017, 14h00, NAM-IP, Namur

- Bref exposé introductif à l'histoire de l'informatique, Marie Gevers d'Udekem (FUNDP)

Followed by a visit of the Museum of Computing, in Namur (NAM-IP) with demonstration of mecanographic machines

- *Louis Pasteur, chimiste*

Mercredi 19 avril 2017 – 14h00 – UCL, Salle Couvreur

- Louis Pasteur, chimiste, Prof. Joseph Gal (Univ. Colorado, Aurora, USA)

- "Aujourd'hui Pasteur" (1996)

Viewing of the movie by J. Leyder, script A.-M. Frisque-Hesbain et P. Depovere (UCL)

- *Genèse de la science des structures cristallines*

Mercredi 3 mai 2017 – 14h00 – UMONS, Campus Champ de la Plaine, Vésale 030

- Jean Demeste, médecin liégeois, et les débuts de la cristallographie, Dr. Brigitte Van Tiggelen (Mémosciences et Chemical Heritage Foundation, USA)

- Une histoire de la construction de la théorie des structures cristallines, Prof. Bernard Maitte (UFR de Physique, Université de Lille 1)

- *Mémoires radiologiques de la Grande Guerre*

Mercredi 14 mars 2018 – 14h00 – Musée belge de la Radiologie, 1120 Bruxelles

- Marie et Irène Curie & la brave petite Belgique, Roseline Debaillie, guide touristique à Furnes - - La radiologie monte au front, Med. Col René Van Tiggelen (Musée de la Radiologie)

And visit of the new room of the Belgian Museum of radiology,

ANNEX : program of the international meeting

Nicolas Lémery, une révolution en chimie et en pharmacie ? Genèse et postérité d'une œuvre

Hôpital Notre-Dame à la Rose, Lessines, 28 mai 2016

L'historiographie se plaît en général à marquer les étapes de l'évolution des sciences selon des moments clefs, désignés parfois comme révolutionnaires, tant ils semblent renouveler les théories et les pratiques scientifiques. Dans l'histoire conjointe de la chimie et de la pharmacie, l'œuvre de Nicolas Lémery (1645-1715), apothicaire et chimiste, académicien et auteur de nombreux traités, constitue l'un des exemples de moment révolutionnaire, et cette mythologie de rupture apparaît dès 1715 lorsque Bernard Le Bouyer de Fontenelle, secrétaire de l'Académie royale des sciences de Paris, présente l'œuvre du confrère décédé comme la première occurrence d'une chimie débarrassée de l'occulte et rendue accessible par un discours mécaniste qui semble inspiré de la physique, c'est à dire en utilisant des explications corpusculaires pour rendre compte des réactions et phénomènes chimiques.

Il est vrai que plusieurs des traités de Lémery embrassent et exposent distinctement tous les éléments connus d'une discipline, décrivant avec précision les opérations et faisant montre en plusieurs instances d'esprit critique ou d'expériences personnelles. C'est le cas pour la Pharmacopée Universelle, publiée pour la première fois 1697, et le Traité des Drogues simples, datant de 1698, mais plus encore pour le Cours de Chymie que Lémery avait publié dès 1675 à compte d'auteur. Ce Cours, bien davantage encore que les deux autres, connut un immense succès, puisqu'il fut réédité, traduit et piraté, longtemps encore après le décès de Lémery, au point que l'on put dire que l'Europe apprit la chimie des ouvrages de Nicolas Lémery.

A l'occasion du tricentenaire de son décès, le présent colloque entend interroger cette perception en tirant profit des recherches récentes, qu'il s'agisse de la personne et de l'activité de Lémery lui-même ou du contexte dans lequel il évolua. L'initiative émane de trois instances, le Centre d'histoire de la pharmacie et du médicament (UCL, Louvain-en-Woluwe), Mémosciences, et le Musée de Notre-Dame à la Rose de Lessines.

Une reconstruction de la fameuse démonstration du « Volcan de Lémery » a été entamée dans le cadre de ce colloque et une vidéo avec les résultats préliminaires sera dévoilée durant la journée. La réunion se clôturera par une conclusion générale qui complètera les discussions courtes faisant suite aux exposés. Une visite guidée de l'exposition sur l'histoire de la pharmacopée à travers les collections du Musée Couvreur, organisée à Lessines par le CEHPM et l'Hôpital Notre-Dame à la Rose (février-septembre 2016), est prévue après la réception finale.

PROGRAMME

09:00 Accueil

09:45 Ouverture de la journée de colloque (R. Debruyne, B. Van den Abeele et Br. Van Tiggelen)

La formation d'un maître

10.00 *Nicolas Lémery : une carrière au service de la chimie et de la pharmacie*

Professeur Olivier LAFONT, Université de Rouen, Président de la Société d'Histoire de la Pharmacie

10.30 *A propos de la pérennité du réseau protestant européen de Nicolas Lémery*

Docteur Jean TROUCHAUD, Université Paris-Sorbonne, CELLF 16-18

10.50 *La pratique hospitalière à Lessines au temps de Lémery : La médicalisation progressive de l'Hôpital Notre-Dame à la Rose aux XVIIe- XVIIIe siècles*

Camille HOLVOET, historienne, attachée au Musée de l'Hôpital Notre-Dame à la Rose, Lessines

11.20 Pause café

11.40 *Nicolas Lémery, entre mécanisme et alchimie*

Professeur Bernard JOLY, UMR 8163 "Savoirs, textes, langage", CNRS, Université de Lille

12.00 Moyse Charas, un maître apothicaire et docteur en médecine emblématique de son époque (1619-1698). Son rôle en matière de pharmacopées, Pharmacien Bruno BONNEMAIN, Secrétaire Général de la Société d'Histoire de la Pharmacie

12.40 Discussions

Le « Volcan de Lémery », premiers résultats d'une reconstruction (vidéo)

Professeur Didier Villers et Geoffrey Verbauwhède (UMons), et Dr Brigitte Van Tiggelen (Mémosciences)

Postérité d'une œuvre

14.00 Le cours de Chimie de Nicolas Lémery : naissance d'une science, Docteur Jean-Dominique BOURZAT, chercheur indépendant

14.30 *L'héritage de Nicolas Lémery au dix-huitième siècle*

Docteur Jonathan SIMON (Univ. Claude Bernard Lyon 1, F)

15.00 Discussions

15.15 Pause Café

15.30 *Les drogues animales du « Traité universel des drogues simples » de Nicolas Lémery et leur devenir*

Docteur Elisabeth MOTTE-FLORAC (Université de Montpellier)

16.00 *L'expérimentation des drogues exotiques sur les pauvres au XVIIe siècle*

Docteur Samir BOUMEDIENE (CNRS, ENS Lyon)

16.30 Discussions

16.45 Conclusions

17.00 Visite de l'exposition «Albarelli, chevrettes & Co », Musée de l'Hôpital Notre-Dame à la Rose

CZECH REPUBLIC

Report on activities of the Czech Chemical Society

In September 4 – 7, 2016 the Czech Chemical Society organized 68th Congress of the Czech and Slovak Chemical Societies in Prague, with a section Chemical Education and History of Chemistry.

This year a book *Beginnings of the Structural Theory and Graphical Representation of Chemical Compounds in the 19th Century* (author M.N.) was published in the UCT Press, Prague.

DENMARK

Report on activities in The Danish Society for the History of Chemistry

2016

In April the society had a movie night in the cinema of the upper secondary school Hvidovre Gymnasium. We saw some short old movie clips with Niels Bohr and J. N. Brønsted. We also watched and discussed a box of approximately 80 - 90 years old slides showing production of fertilizers at Fredericia, Oppau and Merseburg. The evening ended with the full length movie "Madame Curie" from 1943.

At the annual meeting in June The Danish Chemical Society the Historical Society hosted three well-attended lectures:

Børge Riis Larsen (ex Slagelse Gymnasium): Historical view on redox processes.

Peder Olesen Larsen (too many high level position to mention!): 140 years of The Carlsberg Laboratories.

Helge Kragh (Niels Bohr Institute): The chemistry of the Sun: a Historical perspective, ca. 1860 - 1920.

The annual field trip in September went to Niels Bohr Institute. In this well-attended trip Helge Kragh showed laboratories, library, auditoria, memorial rooms etc.

The General Assembly in November was held at Hvidovre Gymnasium. The chair of the Society, Asbjørn Petersen, and a colleague, Karen Wrist Poulsen, used the facilities here for practical demonstration of a line of historical chemical experiments.

During the year Asbjørn Petersen worked with the manuscript for the "Søren Jensen publication" (mentioned in the reports for 2015 and 2017).

The low-intensity work with two manuscripts handed to the Historical Society by Lars Hofmann Barfod - the last manufacturer of fireworks in Denmark - was halted this year for lack of time.

Report on activities in The Danish Society for the History of Chemistry

2017

The Historical Society hosted a "main-meeting" for the Danish Chemical Society. The title of this full day - 10 lectures - symposium in March was "Molecular Spectroscopy - a Piece of Danish Chemical history".

At the annual meeting of The Danish Chemical Society in June the Historical Society did not present any lectures this year.

The chair of the society, Asbjørn Petersen, attended in August a two-day international meeting in Copenhagen on the ethics of chemistry.

The chair of the Society, Asbjørn Petersen, attended 11ICHC in Norway and gave a paper on The Early Danish Plastic Industry.

The annual field trip was planned to be a historical city-walk in Copenhagen with focus on chemically interesting places. However the time coincided with a large historical event in the city "Golden Days" with a lot of city-walks. So we spared our idea for next year.

Before the annual general assembly, 2th of November, we will have a field trip to The School of Conservation. The Head of Institute, Mikkel Scharff, will give a introduction and show the facilities.

The 22nd publication by the society: "Søren Jensen: Mine erindringer fra miljøkemiens begyndelse" ("Søren Jensen : My memoirs from the start of the environmental chemistry") was finished.

The 23rd publication by the society: "Molekylspektroskopi - et stykke dansk kemihistorie ("Molecular Spectroscopy - a Piece of Danish Chemical History") was finished. It contains a written version of the lectures from the symposium in March and some additional chapters covering subjects not presented at the symposium.

The low-intensity work with two manuscripts handed to the Historical Society by Lars Hofmann Barfod - the last manufacturer of fireworks in Denmark - was halted this year for lack of time. It might be the next book projects for the Society.

The major problems for the Society is the lack of influx of younger members and slightly less serious is the low number of attendees at some of our arrangement.

FRANCE

Groupe d'Histoire de la Chimie (France) 2017 Activity report

The Club d'histoire de la chimie (CHC) was founded in 1991, and renamed as Groupe d'histoire de la chimie (GHC) in January 2017. It is a thematic group of the Société Chimique de France (SCF), but also an independent association, able to accept extra members.

See : http://www.societechimiquedefrance.fr/spip.php?page=news-entite&id_rubrique=147

A. *Parisian activities*

As every year, we organize several meetings, often in collaboration with other groups whose topics are connected with ours.

A.1. 12 January. Symposium co-organized with the Centre Alexandre Koyré (CNRS). Second day on “[The laboratory \(end of 18th-beginning 19th\): Theory, practice and production](#)” with papers by D. Fauque (*Lavoisier*), Ch. Lehmann (*Macquer*) and P. Bret (*Egypt expedition*). The first meeting was held in January 2016. Some papers given during these two meetings will be published in the *Revue d'histoire des sciences* in 2019.

See: <http://www.societechimiquedefrance.fr/IMG/pdf/12janvier2017.pdf>. The abstracts will be published in the next e-booklet, available in January 2017.

A.2. 18 January. Workshop for Secondary School Teachers. “[Training on history and philosophy of chemistry](#)”. Organized by Xavier Bataille and Vangelis Antzoulatos. The papers were published in *L'Actualité chimique*, 421, September 2017, pp. 40-59). See <http://www.lactualitechimique.org/numero/421>

Videos and other documents are available on <http://www.societechimiquedefrance.fr/Archives-JT.html#ArchiveJTE012017>

This meeting was supported by the Ministry of Education, the Division of Education and training (DEF) of the SCF, and the GHC.

A.3. 18 October. *Varia* on the theme: “[Chemistry and Chemists, 19th-20th centuries](#)”, with V. Antzoulatos (Berthelot), Jean-Michel Chezeau (Emile Kopp), Jean Trouchaud (Marguerite Perey), followed by a round table on *Chemistry and Education in the 19th century*. See: http://www.societechimiquedefrance.fr/IMG/pdf/ghc.2017.se_ance_du_18_octobre.programme.pdf

A.4. 15 November. Meeting with the Société d'histoire de la pharmacie (SHP – Society for the History of Pharmacy) on “[From the workshop \(officine\) to the pharmaceutical laboratory: the transformation of the family business into the industrial company in the 20th century](#)” with papers by C. Raynal, A. Frogerais, P. Laszlo, Th. Lefebvre and J.-P. Poirier. See:

http://www.societechimiquedefrance.fr/IMG/pdf/ghc.shp.2017.se_ance_15_novembre.programme.v3.pdf

B. National meeting

The Congress of the Société française d'histoire des sciences et des techniques (SFHST) [French Society for the History of Science and Technology], held in Strasbourg in April 2017. We participated to a symposium on “[French scientists in international organizations](#)” coorganized by D. Fauque, D. Berdah and M. Cotte. D. Fauque gave a paper on “*French chemists in the IUPAC after WWII*”.

C. International meetings

C.1. Brazil, Rio-de-Janeiro. Congress of the IUHPST/DHST.

As delegate of the GHC, and member of the GHC Council, P. Laszlo participated to the symposium of the CHMC, “[Re-centring modern chemistry since the 1960s – tension between the local and the global](#)”, organized by B. van Tiggelen. He spoke on “*Changes in modern chemistry*”.

P. Bret (GHC chair) coorganized a symposium (061): “[Chemistry, Pharmacy and Medicine: between the local and the global](#)”. He spoke on “*Colonial laboratories under Napoleon during the French occupation in Egypt (1798-1801)*”.

C.2. Brazil, Sao Paulo, 31 July-1st August. International symposium, “[Aspects of the relationship between chemistry, pharmacy and medicine](#)”, organized by the Centro Simão Mathias de Estudos em Historia da Ciência (CESIMA). P. Bret spoke on the same subject as in Rio.

C.3. Trondheim, 29 August-3 September.

D. Fauque and B. van Tiggelen organized the symposium, “[Chemists and the IUPAC: Taking responsibility and taking actions](#)”. Symposium that is part of the research on history of IUPAC for the next International Congress of chemistry in Paris in 2019. B. van Tiggelen was the commentator, and D. Fauque gave a paper, “*French chemists in IUPAC after the WWII: a strong engagement*”. This last one completed the one given in French in April.

D. French delegation to international organisms

D.1. EUCHEMS Working Party on History of Chemistry.

The SCF is also a member of EUCHEMS, and consequently sent a delegate to Trondheim to attend the general assembly of the Working Party (D. Fauque is the delegate of the SCF).

D.2. HC Europe

The SCF is also a member of the HC Europe (chair: B. van Tiggelen), and participates to its meetings. SCF is represented by the GHC, i.e. by D. Fauque and/or Patrice Bret. This year, the meetings were held in Valencia (Spain) in March, and in Oxford (UK.)

In France, the GHC is encouraging the chemical community to conserve and protect its archives, and some actions are particularly driven during the European Year of Culture in 2018(ex: P. Sabatier, Toulouse; P. Duhem, Bordeaux; and also in Burgundy and in Lyon).

E. Publications

E.1. Chemical Heritage

A special issue of the journal of the CILAC (www.cilac.com & <http://www.cilac.com/#tabs3157>), ***Patrimoine industriel***, was devoted to the industrial heritage of chemistry in France. See n° 69, December 2016, published in Spring 2017: “***Le Patrimoine Industriel de la Chimie***”. This issue was edited under the auspices of GHC by P. Bret (president), G. Emptoz (vice-president), J. Breysse (past vice-president). It has a great success and quickly out of print. So a second printing was done in September 2017. It is now available for 25 euros +postal fees, directly on the CILAC website, see above).

E.2. *L'Actualité chimique* published the proceedings of the January workshop for teachers in September 2017. See above and <http://www.lactualitechimique.org/numero/421>

E.3. Proceedings of the Lyon symposium (2014).

In 2014, the Club d'histoire de la chimie, now, Groupe d'histoire de la chimie (GHC), organized a symposium on “***French Chemistry between the two world wars***”, in the context of the previous congress of the SFHST (see above, Strasbourg). The proceedings will be published, in open access, at the beginning of the next year (2018) under the title: ***Entre reconstructions et mutations: les industries de la chimie entre les deux guerres*** (*Between rebuilding and mutation: Industries of chemistry in the interwar*) e-book, open access, published by EDP Sciences, Les Ulis, France, 400 p., index.

Danielle Fauque (GHC)

PS: Our 2016 Report is available on: <http://www.societechimiquedefrance.fr/IMG/pdf/chc.2016.livret-2.pdf>

GERMANY

GDCh and GDCh-Fachgruppe 'Geschichte der Chemie' (German Chemical Society: History of Chemistry Division) Report 2017

The German Chemical Society (GDCh) has a History Division ([Fachgruppe 'Geschichte der Chemie'](#)) (about 400 members including a high proportion of students and young chemists) which meets biannually. A subdivision [Industriekreis](#) deals with the history of 20th-century chemical industries and corporations, and in particular from the actor's perspectives. The GDCh is represented in the EuCheMS Working Party by two delegates: Gisela Boeck, Universität Rostock, Chemistry Department, gisela.boeck@uni-rostock.de, and Christoph Meinel, Universität Regensburg, History of Science, christoph.meinel@ur.de.

This year, the Fachgruppe met as part of the [GDCh Wissenschaftsforum](#) in Berlin in September 2017, particularly dedicated to celebrate its 150th anniversary as the successor to the Deutsche Chemische Gesellschaft, founded in Berlin in 1867 by August Wilhelm Hofmann. The highlight of the anniversary year was marked by the opening ceremony in Berlin's prestigious Konzerthaus. In October 2017, the Royal Society of Chemistry and the GDCh organised a [joint symposium](#) in Burlington House, London, commemorating the close ties that have linked British and German chemists from the very beginning. Since 1988, the Fachgruppe publishes a journal [Mitteilungen](#), devoted to all aspects of the history of chemistry and chemical industry. Recently, all back issues have been digitised and are now on open access. Future issues will appear in print and online simultaneously. – Furthermore, the Industriekreis of the Fachgruppe publishes a series of conference proceedings [Zeitzeugenberichte: Chemische Industrie](#), the last volume of which came out in 2017. – In addition, there is an annual calendar of historically memorable dates, compiled on behalf of the Fachgruppe by Horst Remane, in every January issue of the GDCh membership journal [Nachrichten aus der Chemie](#).

The Fachgruppe also gives a special biannual price for younger historians of chemistry, the [Bettina Haupt Förderpreis](#). And EuCheMS WP members need not be reminded that the present head of the Fachgruppe administers [CHEM-HIST](#), the only mailing list for historians of chemistry worldwide. Every historian of chemistry or chemist with an interest in the history of the discipline is welcome to join the list and to share news with the international history of chemistry community.

Finally, the popular GDCh program [Historische Stätten der Chemie](#) (historical sites of chemistry) deserves particular mention. In 2016 Johann Wolfgang Döbereiner's laboratory and home in Jena was honoured with a commemorative symposium, a plaque and a brochure. In 2017 we marked the site where the Deutsche Chemische Gesellschaft was founded in Berlin 150 years ago, and in 2018 there will be a similar celebration at the entrance tower of Merck AG in Darmstadt.

ITALY

GRUPPO NAZIONALE DI FONDAMENTI E STORIA DELLA CHIMICA (ITALY)

2016

- The 30th anniversary of the foundation of “Gruppo Nazionale di Fondamenti e Storia della Chimica” has been celebrated on November 16 , in Rome, at the National Academy of Sciences. The current President (Prof. Marco Taddia) has set the main guidelines for future activity in the field of the history of chemistry. A paper published by CnS-La Chimica nella Scuola, n. 2 (2017), reports part of his speech that concern the Association’s development. The whole program is on the website <http://www.gnfsc.it/page19/page19.html>
- The 250th anniversary of John Dalton birth’s has been celebrated in Bologna on April 26. Public lecture: *An unusual perspective: the atomism in the opera booklets* (Giulia Vannoni PhD)
The program is on the website <http://www.gnfsc.it/page19/page19.html>

2017

- Membership campaign for the 2017-2018 biennium: 42 members.
- April, 26 - Public lecture in Bologna: *Isaac Newton and the alchemy* (Prof. Vincenzo Schettino)
- October 10-12, Rome - XVII Convegno di Storia e Fondamenti della Chimica
See website <https://eventi.unibo.it/storiachimica2017>

LITHUANIA

To the President of the Working Party (WP) on History of Chemistry of the European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences (EuCheMS) Lithuanian Chemical Society for the history of chemistry, 2017.

B. Railienė. Vilnius, 2017-12-30

- Lithuanian Chemical Society (LChS, President prof. Rimantas Vaitkus) in 2018 has discussed a structural change in a statute of LChS, introducing a section for history of chemistry.
- A monograph about famous geochemist Ingacy Domeyko was published and introduced to local and international scientific community:

Ingacy Domeyko: *Ignotas Domeika – geologas, mineralogas, kalnų inžinierius = Ignacy Domeyko – geologist, mineralogist, mining engineer*. Mokslinis redaktorius Algimantas Grigelis. Vilnius: Vilniaus universiteto leidykla, 2017. 725 p. ISBN 9786094598524.

- International conference “There is no future without the past” was dedicated to commemorate a 215 anniversary of famous geochemist Ingacy Domeyko. Vilnius, July 28–30. More: http://www.chgf.vu.lt/files/doc/2017-02-13_ii_circular.pdf
- Members of the LChS participated in organising a conference *Lectiones Andreae Sniadecki* (Vilnius, November 30, 2017), dedicated to the academic heritage of a professor of chemistry Andrew Sniadecki (1768-1838), also initiated a memory plate for A. Sniadecki, to be opened in 2018.
- Together with colleagues of Vilnius University B. Railienė participated in an international conference in Belarus, where activities of A. Sniadecki were presented on November 25, 2017.
- B. Railienė participated at the 11th *International Conference on History of Chemistry*, and also at the assembly of the *Working Party (WP) on History of Chemistry of the European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences (EuCheMS)* in Trondheim, Norway on 29 August - 2 September, 2017.

Here B. Railienė discussed an initiative of the *Lithuanian Chemical Society Division on History of Chemistry* and the *Commission on Bibliography and Documentation (CBD)* of the *IUHPS/DHST: Bibliographical request to represent the history of chemistry in a country for IsisCB* with the President of *Working Party (WP) on History of Chemistry* Brigitte Van Tiggelen and secretary Ignacio Suay Matallana. The initiative was discussed later on emails, it was considered as acceptable and B. Railienė was encouraged to disseminate the bibliographical request to national Chemical societies on behalf of CBD. The follow up letter of the President of *Working Party (WP) on History of Chemistry* was offered to be sent to the addresses of Chemical societies, also keeping the *Commission for the History of Chemistry and Molecular Sciences (CHCMS)* informed.

Text of the request:

Bibliographical request to represent the history of chemistry in your country
The *IsisCB Explore* (<https://data.isiscb.org/>), a research tool for history of science on international scale, also known as an endorsed project of the *CBD of the IUHPS/DHST* (<http://cbd-histsci.org/>)

has an intention to expand a national and regional scholarship input. The idea is to initiate a "Bibliographical request to represent the history of science" for national professional societies. Such source in *IsisCB Explore* will start with a history of chemistry.

We kindly ask your society to provide a bibliographical list (up to 5 entries) of the most relevant items representing a history of chemistry in your country. The records should include an annotation or abstract, if possible - an URL.

We shall be glad to present the results of the request on the website of the *Working Party (WP) on History of Chemistry of the European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences (EuCheMS)*

The bibliographical list of records in one document (or Zotero list) is welcome to the address:

To: b.railiene@gmail.com

Subject: History of chemistry in [a name of a country]: bibliography

Sincerely,

Birutė Railienė

Representative of Lithuania of the *Working Party (WP) on History of Chemistry of the EuCheMS*

THE NETHERLANDS

Chemie Historische Groep (CHG) is the historical group of the Koninklijke Nederlandse Chemische Vereniging (KNCV), the Royal Dutch Chemical Society.

Number of members 73

To open the group to students and teachers of chemistry, the board has expanded to welcome representative of these target groups.

Website: www.kncv.nl/chg

Aim: To promote history of chemistry among chemists of The Netherlands (see website)

Activities in 2016

1. Symposium “Op bezoek bij Martinus van Marum” (Paying a visit to Martinus Van Marum), 15 April, Teylers Museum, Haarlem.

Speakers: (i) Jan Stobbe (Teylers), *Het begin van de mineralogie en de collectie van het Teylers Museum*, (ii) Marieke Hendriksen (U Utrecht), *De rol van mineralen in de achttiende-eeuwse ‘chemische’ geneeskunde*, and (iii) Ad Maas (M. Boerhaave), *Elektriciteit en nattigheid: Het Gezelschap der Hollandsche Scheikundigen en de Chemische Revolutie*.

Afternoon was concluded with a our organized by Trienke van der Spek, hoofdconservator Wetenschappelijke Collecties Teylers.

2. Symposium “250 jaar chemie onder de Martinitoren”(250 years of chemistry under the Martinitower), Friday 3 June 2016, Universiteitsmuseum (Wijnberg-zaal), Groningen.

Speakers: (i) Ruben Verwaal (promovendus RUG), *Boerhaave in Groningen: sporen van studenten en scheikunde in Stad en Ommeland, 1770-1775*, (ii) Ulco Kooystra (o.a. promovendus RUG), *Sibrandus Stratingh’s chemische strijd tegen stank en ziektekiemen*, (iii) Klaas van Berkel (RUG), *Het Chemisch Laboratorium van F.M. Jaeger (1912): Amerikaanse inspiratie voor een Gronings Paleis?*, and (iv) Ton van Helvoort (zelfstandig wetenschapshistoricus, en bestuurslid CHG), *Het illustere duo Wijnberg – Kommandeur: Amerikanisering van de universitaire chemie avant la lettre*.

On top of the papers, there were two additional activities on the program: (a) Exhibit on a few remarkable items from the recently renovated University Library and (b) a tour through het Hinckaertshuis, one of the oldest house in Groningen, parts of which go back to the met 13th century.

3. Excursion to Tata Steel – “Geschiedenis van de Procesttechnologie” (History of process technology), – Friday 28 October, Velsen-Noord (with the NPT the society of Process engineers)

Morning session: Tour of the site, and visits to some parts of the plant

Afternoon session: (i) Mark Denys (Directeur Technical Tata Steel), *Introductie Tata Steel*, (ii) Johan van Boggelen (Operations Manager Tata Steel), *Over het HISarna-smeltcycloonproces, met drastische*

reductie van de CO₂-uitstoot, and (iii) Joost Dankers (U Utrecht), *Honderd jaar ijzer en staal aan zee. Een geschiedenis in vogelvlucht*.

4. Symposium “Zilver & Goud – Een glansrijke historie van edelmetalen” (Silver and Gold – a resplendant history of precious metals) , dinsdag 29 november, Nederlands Zilvermuseum, Schoonhoven (with the historical section of the KVCV, Flemisch Chemical Society).

Speakers: (i) Marcel Teheux (museumdirecteur), *Welkomswoord/Introductie*, (ii) Annelies van Gijsen (Antwerpen), *Isaac “Hollandus” en de Steen der Wijzen*, (iii) Andreas Weber (U Twente, en bestuurslid CHG), *Over zilver essays en sjoemelende muntmeesters in Nederland en de voormalige koloniën*, (iv) Ulco Kooystra (o.a. promovendus RUG), *Van goud tot gouden idee* (culminerend in het wagentje van Stratingh), (v) René Kappers (Schoonhovense Goud- en Zilversmidsgilde St Eloy), *De historie van goud en zilver in de Zilverstad Schoonhoven*, (vi) Patrick Storme (U Antwerpen), *Afwerkingen van zilveren oppervlakken vanuit historische context naar conservatie toe*, (vii) Tonny Beentjes (U Amsterdam), *Conservering en restauratie van gouden en zilveren voorwerpen*, en (viii) Gino de Rycke (ex-Agfa), *Ook dit is zilver: fysico-chemie van zilver en zijn verbindingen en hun gebruik, vroeger en nu*.

During the lunch, attendees could witness a demonstration of gold- and silver-smith by two professionals and visit the museum.

5. Website

In 2016, the KNCV has completely reworked its website, which impacted the CHG website as several links etc. had to be verified and recreated.

6. Digitization of de Chemisch Weekblad (CW)

The wish for having the whole collection of CW digitized, years 1906-1999, had been expressed for years, and thanks to a generous support from the KNCV added to other financial help, this will become a fact by the beginning of 2017 through a link on the website that provides access to a dropbox.

NORWAY

Report from the history group of the Norwegian Chemical Society

The history group of the Norwegian Chemical Society normally meets once per year for a half-day seminar. The annual meeting for 2017 took place in November at the University of Oslo. The main speaker was professor emeritus Arvid Mostad, who lectured on calcium and the human body, past and present.

The most important activity in 2017 was to host the 11th International Conference on History of Chemistry in Trondheim in August-September. The secretary of the history group, Annette Lykknes, chaired the local organizing committee and was member of the international programme committee.

Some of the board members of the history group write historical articles for the Norwegian chemistry journal, *Kjemi* at regular intervals. The chair regularly contributes historical articles for the main Norwegian encyclopedia, Store Norske Leksikon (snl.no). Some also publish international articles on the history of chemistry.

POLAND

Information submitted by Prof. dr hab. Halina Lichočka, Polish Academy of Sciences, Institute for the History of Science, Nowy Swiat 72, 00-330 Warsaw, Poland.

1. In 2016 it was 200 years since the founding of the University of Warsaw. On this occasion was published the history of this university (several volumes). I wrote a monograph on the history of chemistry at the Warsaw University.
Lichočka Halina: *Chemia [w:] Nauki ścisłe i przyrodnicze na Uniwersytecie Warszawskim. UW 200 Dwa stulecia. Dobry początek. Monumenta Universitatis Varsoviensis 1816-2016.* Warszawa 2016, s. 198-310.

In addition, I wrote 10 biographical essays devoted to professors of chemistry and an article about Polish chemist Ignacy Moscicki:

Lichočka Halina: *Adam Maksymilian Kitajewski 1789-1837 [w:] Portrety uczonych. Profesorowie Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego 1816-1915. UW 200 Dwa stulecia. Dobry początek. Monumenta Universitatis Varsoviensis 1816-2016.* Warszawa 2016, s. 268-277.

Lichočka Halina: *Jegor Jegorowicz Wagner 1849-1903 [w:] Portrety uczonych. Profesorowie Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego 1816-1915. UW 200 Dwa stulecia. Dobry początek. Monumenta Universitatis Varsoviensis 1816-2016.* Warszawa 2016, s. 464-471.

Lichočka Halina: *Stanisław Ludwik Filip Bądryński 1862-1929 [w:] Portrety uczonych. Profesorowie Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego 1915-1945. UW 200 Dwa stulecia. Dobry początek. Monumenta Universitatis Varsoviensis 1816-2016.* Warszawa 2016, s. 94-103.

Lichočka Halina: *Mieczysław Centnerszwer 1874-1944 [w:] Portrety uczonych. Profesorowie Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego 1915-1945. UW 200 Dwa stulecia. Dobry początek. Monumenta Universitatis Varsoviensis 1816-2016.* Warszawa 2016, s. 162-171.

Lichočka Halina: *Kazimierz Jabłczyński 1869-1944 [w:] Portrety uczonych. Profesorowie Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego 1915-1945. UW 200 Dwa stulecia. Dobry początek. Monumenta Universitatis Varsoviensis 1816-2016.* Warszawa 2016, s. 294-305.

Lichočka Halina: *Stanisław Jan Ignacy Przylęcki 1891-1944 [w:] Portrety uczonych. Profesorowie Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego 1915-1945. UW 200 Dwa stulecia. Dobry początek. Monumenta Universitatis Varsoviensis 1816-2016.* Warszawa 2016, s. 148-156.

Lichočka Halina: *Osman Achmatowicz 1899-1988 [w:] Portrety uczonych. Profesorowie Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego po 1945. UW 200 Dwa stulecia. Dobry początek. Monumenta Universitatis Varsoviensis 1816-2016.* Warszawa 2016, s. 16-24.

Lichočka Halina: *Irena Chmielewska 1905-1987 [w:] Portrety uczonych. Profesorowie Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego po 1945. UW 200 Dwa stulecia. Dobry początek. Monumenta Universitatis Varsoviensis 1816-2016.* Warszawa 2016, s. 194-201.

Lichočka Halina: *Wiktor Lampe 1875-1962 [w:] Portrety uczonych. Profesorowie Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego po 1945. UW 200 Dwa stulecia. Dobry początek. Monumenta Universitatis Varsoviensis 1816-2016.* Warszawa 2016, s. 18-26.

Lichocka Halina: *Włodzimierz Niemierko 1897-1986* [w:] *Portrety uczonych. Profesorowie Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego po 1945. UW 200 Dwa stulecia. Dobry początek. Monumenta Universitatis Varsoviensis 1816-2016*. Warszawa 2016, s. 328-335.

Lichocka Halina: *Ignacy Mościcki w Szwajcarii* [w:] *Z Mazowsza na obczyznę* (red. Gmitruk J., Judycki Z., Skoczek T.). Warszawa 2016, s. 229-237.

2.

In cooperation with the Polish Pharmaceutical Society, I organize a review of the Master's thesis on the History of Pharmacy. In 2016, the tenth Review was held.

3.

Currently I finish writing a monograph on the history of chemistry at the University of Vilnius (now Lithuania). The monograph covers the period 1919-1939.

Besides, I am the editor-in-chief of the magazine; *Analecta. Studies and Materials for the History of Science* (in Polish, abstracts in English). In this magazine are also published articles on the history of chemistry.

Information submitted by Prof. dr hab. Halina Lichocka - Instytut Historii Nauki PAN

The description concerns the Faculty of Chemistry, University of Wrocław, History of Chemistry Group

-new publications :

1/ Polish translation of "Letters sur la Sicilie et sur l'Isle Malthe" , M. J. Borch, Turyn 1782. Translation was made by prof. Szastuńska-Siemion and prof. Ignacy Siemion. The translation was issued by the Institute of History of Science of Polish Academy of Science and the Faculty of Chemistry, University of Wrocław. The translation is a part of the series: *Fontes Rerum ad Historiam Scientiae Spectantium*, vol. XXII, series recentior IV.

2/ *Historia nitrum aeris* (History of nitrum aeris), by Ignacy Z. Siemion and Alicja Szastyńska-Siemion published in a series of *Wiadomości Chemiczne* (in Polish)

-conferences, seminars organized by your society

Annual congress of the Polish Chemical Society, organized in Wrocław in September 2017. In course of the congress it was organized the session devoted to history of chemistry and didactics

-other relevant comments or issues

Lecture "Historia Chemii" (History of Chemistry) , by K. Orzechowski. This year about 100 students.

PORTUGAL

Report from the Portuguese Group on the History of Chemistry |2017

During 2017, the group joined the organization of the 2º Encontro de História para a Ciência no Ensino (2EHCE)/ 2nd History Meeting for Science in Teaching that was held at the Chemistry Department, University of Coimbra from 26 to 27 May. Around 130 participants attended the conference among which some members of the History Group.

The 11th International Conference on the History of Chemistry was held in Trondheim, Norway 29 August - 2 September | Commemoration of the Forty Years EuChemS of the Working Party on the History of Chemistry. It was attended by seven Portuguese/or working in Portugal colleagues. The Portuguese representative also attended the Business Meeting of the Working Party on September 1.

Three books on chemical biographies were published this year by Raquel Gonçalves-Maia, retired professor from the Chemistry and Biochemistry Department of the Faculty of Sciences of the University of Lisbon.

- 1 - Gilbert Lewis - O Átomo e a Molécula
- 2 - Linus Pauling - A Natureza da Ligação Química
- 3 - Desmond Bernal - Ciência na História

The presentation was held in the FCT-NOVA Auditorium, on October 17, and on November 30, at the Bookstore Auditorium of the University of Aveiro. Here it was preceded by a lecture by the author entitled "Building Bridges", and followed by the presentation of the books. Prof. Maria Clara Magalhães and the researcher Betina Lopes, from the University of Aveiro were in charge of their presentation.

The books are part of the new collection | From Atoms and Molecules, which is also being marketed in Brazil having already published there five volumes.

Some seminars on history of chemistry subjects were delivered at the PhD Doctoral Programme on History of Science and Scientific Education that is presently running at the University of Coimbra.

Aveiro, December 23, 2017

Isabel Malaquias

Portuguese Representative at the WP-HC.

SERBIA



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Serbian Chemical Society



Abstract:

The activities of the SCS Working Party on History of Chemistry during the period from June 2015 to September 2017 have been associated with:

- (i) organization of the scientific meetings;
- (ii) publication of the *Chemical Review* and the *Journal of the Serbian Chemical Society*.

1. Organization of the scientific meetings which contain section for the history of Chemistry

The April days about chemistry teaching - the 281 h national meeting of chemistry teachers and the 181 Conference of chemistry didactics, (University of Belgrade – Faculty of Chemistry, April 27-28, 2017)

The April days about chemistry teaching has been organized by the University of Belgrade - Faculty of Chemistry and the Serbian Chemical Society. This conference has been attended by 57 chemistry teachers from primary and secondary schools in Serbia and 21 participants from three universities where chemistry teachers are educated. One of the conference topics was History of chemistry in chemistry teaching.

7th EuroVariety - European Variety in University Chemistry Education (University of Belgrade-Faculty of Chemistry, June 28-30, 2017)

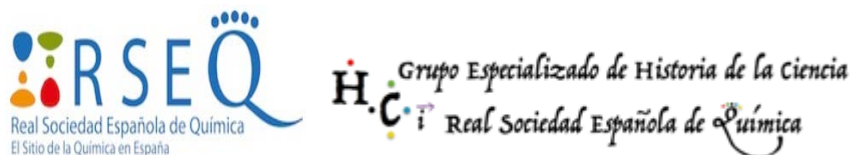
The conference entitled 7th EuroVariety has been organized by the University of Belgrade - Faculty of Chemistry, the Serbian Chemical Society and the EuChemS Division of Chemical Education. 7th EuroVariety conference has been attended by 73 participants from 29 countries. One of the conference topics was The role of history of chemistry and philosophy of science in university education. Two oral and four poster presentations were dedicated to this topic.

2. Publications

The Serbian Chemical Society publishes six issues of the journal *Chemical Review* per year. Every year, the cover page of this journal is dedicated to one person from the national or international history of chemistry or to some important historical events related to chemistry. The cover page of *Chemical Review* in 2017 has been dedicated to the 120th anniversary of Serbian Chemical Society (SCS has been founded in 1897). The Serbian Chemical Society publishes twelve issues of the *Journal of the Serbian Chemical Society* per year. This journal contains a section dedicated to the History of chemistry and chemistry education. The impact Factor of this journal was 0.970 in 2015 and 0.822 in 2016.

Belgrade, November 21, 2017

Vesna Milanovic M.Sc.
University of Belgrade
Faculty of Chemistry
Delegate from the Serbian Chemical Society



Spanish Royal Society of Chemistry (RSEQ) - History of Science Division

Annual Report of to the EuCheMS Working Party on History of Chemistry for 2016-2017

The specialised division on History of Science (GEHCI) of the Spanish Royal Society of Chemistry (RSEQ) currently has 101 members, and it is directed by Inés Pellón-González (professor of the University of the Basque Country, UPV). In the period 2016-2017, the GEHCI has been involved – either participating or funding- in the following activities:

-Organisation of the 6th Summer School on History of Chemistry “VI Escuela de Verano sobre Historia de la Química (VI EVHQ)” jointly with the University of La Rioja from the 6th to the 8th of July of 2016 in Logroño. The conference topic was “La consolidación de la Ciencia Química. De la Teoría atómica a la idea de enlace químico” (*The consolidation of chemistry as a science: from Atomic Theory to the Chemical Bound Theory*). Web page: http://fundacion.unirioja.es/formacion_cursos/view/322

-The 6th summer school was sponsored by the GEHCI with 4.101,56 € and some students were also granted by the GEHCI to attend the school.

-The GEHCI has collaborated in the organisation of the fifth edition of the popularisation course titled “Los Avances de la Química y su Impacto en la Sociedad: curso de divulgación” (the advancement of chemistry and their social impact) organised by the GEHCI member Bernardo Herradón (CSIC) in Madrid. This course includes 17 conferences, and 2 round tables on chemistry education, and the relationship between chemistry science, art, and literature. This activity was also sponsored by the GEHCI with 520,70 € Web page: <http://www.losavancesdelaquimica.com/cursos/v-curso-de-divulgacion-los-avances-de-la-quimica-y-su-impacto-en-la-sociedad/>

-Members of GEHCI have participated in the round table “Temas actuales de Didáctica e Historia de la Física y la Química” organised by the Spanish Royal Societies of Chemistry and Physics in Madrid (11 Nov 2016).

-Members of GEHCI have participated in the history of science conference "XIII Congreso de la Sociedad Española de Historia de las Ciencias y de las Técnicas (SEHCYT)” celebrated in June 2017 in Alcalá de Henares (Madrid) with the session “La Química en la Universidad y fuera de ella (1517-2017)” Web page: <http://bit.ly/2fJxvmM>

-Members of GEHCI have participated in the XXXVI Biennial Meeting of the RSEQ celebrated in Sitges (Barcelona) in June of 2017 with some individual presentations, and the organisation of a panel on teaching, history and popularisation of chemistry “S22. Enseñanza, Historia y Divulgación de la Química”. Web page: <http://bit.ly/2fJHrwA>

-Members of GEHCI have co-organised the 11th International Conference on the History of Chemistry (Trondheim, Norway, 28 August – 2 September 2017). They have also presented some papers, and organised the session “Panel: Toxic Products in the Public Sphere: Narratives, Spaces and Controversies”. Web page: <http://www.ntnu.edu/11ichc>

-Members of the GEHCI have created a new webpage titled “La ciencia en las aulas (1800-2000): Historia y enseñanza de las ciencias” with a number of materials on the teaching of history of chemistry in Spain, biographies of former professors and teachers of chemistry, as well as many other information, links, and documents on science teaching. Moreover, they have recently organised some activities around such project like the second edition of a course on the teaching and popularisation of chemistry. Web page: <https://hisencien.com/2017/05/08/iii-matinal-de-historia-de-la-ciencia-del-ihmc-la-ciencia-en-accion/>

-Members of GEHCI organized a new online Open Course MOOC on history of science (Spanish). The course is organised around 10 chapters with 5 sections for each period (introduction, protagonists, sites, material culture, conclusions). It includes several chapters on alchemy, early-modern chemistry and chemical revolution, periodic system, etc.: Web page: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sEr5n5tT8gE&list=PLIPJN1xCP1tKuI42O8kgvWeQFYHHYP75>

-Members of GEHCI organize every year a master and doctoral online program on History of Science and Communication, including several lectures on history of chemistry. Web page: <http://www.historia-ciencia-comunicacion.org>.

- Members of GEHCI have published the following paper based on a survey recently conducted to map the state of the teaching of history of chemistry in Europe: Suay-Matallana, I; Bertomeu-Sánchez, J.R., (2016), Mapping the Teaching of History of Chemistry in Europe, *Journal of Chemical Education* 94 (2), 133–136, (DOI: 10.1021/acs.jchemed.6b00401, ISSN: 0021-9584); <http://pubs.acs.org/doi/full/10.1021/acs.jchemed.6b00401>

-Other members of GEHCI have also presented papers in numerous conferences and seminars, and are part of the board of the EuChemS Working Party on History of Chemistry.

-The GEHCI has an active communication activity, by sending updates and relevant news by email to all its members. It has also created a Facebook group titled “Historia de la Ciencia (GE de la RSEQ)” to inform the general public about the group’s activity. Web page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/HistoriaCiencia/>



Catalan Society of Chemistry

Annual Report to the EuCheMS Working Party on the History of Chemistry (2016-2017)

The Catalan Society of Chemistry is an association that brings together chemists from the Catalan Countries. It is an open, dynamic society mainly focussed on educational and scientific activities relating to chemistry. The Society is a meeting point for all chemists from the Catalan Countries, which endeavours to enhance the role of chemistry in society in general. The goals of the Society are:

- To bring together and represent chemists from the Catalan Countries within European scientific societies and organisations.
- To promote chemistry among young people.
- To enhance the image of chemistry and its contribution to science and social welfare.
- To foster interdisciplinary knowledge of ideas and innovations making it possible to advance the understanding of chemistry and its applications.
- To encourage the dissemination of chemistry in all social spheres.
- To involve Catalan public institutions and enterprises in the enhancement of scientific education among society.

For further information on the history of the Society visit:

<http://blogs.iec.cat/scq/en/the-society/history/>

The following report covers the period between from September 2016 to October 2017.

On 7-10 September 2016 the Catalan Society of Chemistry (Societat Catalana de Química) organized in Barcelona the 13th European Conference on Research in Chemical Education (ECRICE) with the collaboration of the EuCheMS Division of Education. A session of this conference was partially devoted to addressing the relations between history of chemistry and education with the contribution of these three presentations:

- John Oversby (United Kingdom): “Drama for inclusion in science: Recognising the role of artisan input”
- Pere Grapí (Spain): “Sneaking the history of science through its images in science teacher education. The case of the pneumatic trough”
- Vesna Milanovic (Serbia): “History of chemistry and nature of science: What do these mean to chemistry teachers”

The Society held in 9 November 2016 its yearly seminar on the teaching of physics and chemistry. This edition wanted to contribute to the centenary of the publication of Lewis' milestone paper *The atom and the molecule*. The program of this seminar included two presentations to deal with the historical context of the chemical bond:

-Luis Moreno Martínez (Universitat de València; Univesidad Autónoma de Madrid): “Bonding Didactics and History of Science: Classifications and Models of the Chemical Bond in Secondary Education Chemistry Textbooks (2007-2016)”

-Pere Grapí (CEHIC - Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona): “A Foray into the Historical Background of the Ideas of Chemical Valence, Bond and Structure”^[1]_{SEP}

These two presentations were also published in article format in the monographic issue No. 21, devoted to the chemical bond and structure, of the journal *Educació Química: EduQu*.

-Bernadette Bensaude-Vincent (Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne) also contributed to this issue with her article: “Philosophical Perspective on Structure, Properties and Functions »

This journal aims to be a means of disseminating and exchanging proposals for the teaching of chemistry in all stages, with special emphasis on the secondary education.

At the time of writing this report, a new issue (No. 9) of the collection of Classics in Chemistry, Stanislao Cannizzaro's Sketch of a Course of Chemical Philosophy, is in press. The aim of this collection is to inform the Catalan-speaking chemists of selected landmark texts of the history of chemistry, which transformed the world of chemistry and that are still essential for the understanding of the subject.

Pere Grapí

Delegate of the Catalan Society of Chemistry in the Working Party of History of Chemistry

SWEDEN

Activities in history of chemistry within Sweden 2017

Sweden has a long and glorious history of chemistry, which obliges at a time where new technologies are knocking at the door and taking lot of energy and attention. We are trying to stimulate studies in history of chemistry and the joy of learning from our former chemists. However there are no formal university courses devoted to history of chemistry. The main activities in Sweden 2017 could be summarized as follows:

- An exhibition called "Drömmen om det exakta – Aspiring to precision" at Gustavianum, Uppsala, 2017.
- The working party for the history of chemistry within the Swedish Chemical Society is acting by e.g. writing in each number of the journal "Kemivärlden" a page devoted to history of chemistry. The Berzelius Society, literature list, lectures etc, see <http://kemisamfundet.se/om-oss/utskott/kemihistoriska-namnden/>
- Professor Ulf Ellervik has published a serie of successful books in Swedish, namely
 1. Glass – för kemister och andra livsnjutare 2017. "Icecream – for chemists and other hedonists".
 2. Ursprung: berättelser om livets början, och dess framtid, 2016. "Origin – tales of the origin and future life".
 3. Livet, kärleken och döden. En bruksanvisning, 2016. "Life, love and death – an instruction manual".
 4. Den svåra konsten att leva, 2015. "The complicated art of living"; the book describes the development of pharmaceuticals and the limitations of life.
 5. Njutning, 2013. "Pleasure"; the book describes various aspects of the chemistry of pleasure.
 6. Ond kemi, 2011. "Evil chemistry"; the book describes various aspects of "evil" chemistry i.e. poisons, fires, explosives, pain and drugs.
- Reconstructing early modern pharmacy: Global trade networks, substances and practices. The project unlocks and re-evaluates early modern pharmacy as a field of knowledge of reconstructing lost pharmaceutical skills concerning trade, handling, and composition of medicines. Where did substances come from? How could they be identified, stored, handled and mized? What could they be used for, and what did they signify for those who came into contact with them (Hjalmar Fors and Nils-Otto Ahnfelt, Uppsala).
- Ongoing activities in recollection of the place Ytterby in the Stockholm archipelago, a place where so many elements (ytterbium, yttrium, erbium, terbium, gadolinium etc) were found in such a variety of minerals.
- Hjalmar Fors et al. "From the Library to the Laboratory and Back Again: Experiment as a Tool for Historians of Science", *Ambix* 63(2), 85-97 (2016).
http://kemisamfundet.se/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/Historia_A.pdf

- Publication of Anders Lundgren's "Kunskap och kemisk industri i 1800-talets Sverige" (2017, 398 pages, in Swedish).
- Publication of Lars Öhrström's "The last Alchemist in Paris" (2015, 272 pages, in English).
- Publication of Hjalmar Fors's "The Limits of Matter: Chemistry, Mining and Enlightenment" (2015, 241 pages).
- Publication of Olle Matsson's "En dos stryknin", Atlantis, (2012, 360 pages, in Swedish)
- Presentation of the discovery of selenium at the international congress "Se2017 – 200 years of selenium research", about 400 delegates from 41 countries. The book "Jac. Berzelius – the discovery of cerium, selenium, silicon, zirconium and thorium" (by Jan Trofast, published in English 2016, 133 pages) was presented. Visit to the place of discovery.
- Project "Jac. Berzelius – Clarity and Truth - The man behind the scientific successes" (Jan Trofast, Lund).
- The Swedish Chemical Society plans to participate in the celebration of the periodic table in 2019.

Lund in September 2017

Jan Trofast

UNITED KINGDOM



Member Networks Annual Report Form 2016

To enable us to better support our networks and their activities all member networks (Local Sections, Interest Groups and Analytical Division Regions) are asked to complete this form and return it to networks@rsc.org. The information is shared with the members of your networks, staff and governance Boards and Committees (inc. Division Councils).

Or by post to; Networks Team, Royal Society of Chemistry, Thomas Graham House, Science Park, Milton Road, Cambridge, CB4 0WF.

This report form will be uploaded to the appropriate web page (signature deleted) unless requested otherwise.

GROUP NAME	Historical Group
Submitted by	Professor John Nicholson
Signed (may be signed electronically)	
Date	18.01.2017

Please list below the dates of your planned AGM and Committee Meetings (where applicable).

Annual General Meeting (if being held)

Date:	17.10.2017
Venue:	Burlington House

Proposed Committee Meetings Dates

Date	Venue
14.03.2017	Burlington House

17.10.2017	Burlington House
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Financial Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2016

Deadline for receipt of Financial Accounts by RSC Finance Team: **14th February 2017**

Deadline for receipt of Annual Report by Networks Team: **24th February 2017.**

EVENTS

Please report below on activities undertaken in the past year. If you have more detailed information about any particularly successful events, or advice to share please use a separate sheet. For more events continue as necessary.

EVENT KEY:

- Education Event
- Public Lecture
- Retired Members Event
- Scientific Conference - 1 day
- Scientific Conference - multi day
- Social Event
- Training/workshop
- Award Lecture

Event Name	The atom and the molecule: Celebrating G.N. Lewis
Event Type (key)	Scientific Conference - 1 day
Comments	Held on 23.03.2016 Attended by 63 delegates plus 6 students from the London campus of New York University

Event Name	The life of Henry Moseley
Event Type (key)	Scientific Conference - 1 day

Comments	Held on 19.10.2016 Attended by 55 delegates plus 20 students from the London campus of New York University
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AWARDS AND BURSARIES

Please list any awards or bursaries presented by your committee in 2015 and indicate any which will be open for nomination/application in 2016.

I am assuming these dates are incorrect and should refer to 2016 and 2017 respectively, and this is reflected in my response.

The Group awards the Wheeler Lectureship from time to time, and publishes the lecture formally as an Occasional Paper. The most recent Wheeler Lecture was given by Professor Frank James (Royal Institution) at a 1-day conference of the Group in October 2015, and his lecture was published during 2016.

A Wheeler Lectureship has been awarded to Dr Jeff Seeman (formerly of Philip Morris USA), who will present it at the 1-day conference of the Group in April 2017.

Other information/comments:

Members of the Group are frequently called upon to give outreach lectures at schools, and on historical topics at universities. A register of these is maintained by the Secretary. During 2016, a total of 14 such lectures were given, including four to university chemical societies, and three to local clubs and community groups.

The Group also supports the RSC Chemical Landmark programme, and members gave talks at the unveiling of plaques to Sir Edward Frankland and Sir John Cornforth during 2016.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

Please report below on activities proposed. For more events continue as necessary.

Event Name	The Life and Work of Robert Woodward
Comments	One-day scientific conference. To be held at Burlington House on 5.04.2017

Event	The history of anaesthesia
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Name	
Comments	One-day scientific conference. To be held at Burlington House on 18.18.2017

Event Name	Rutherford's chemists
Comments	One-day scientific conference in association with the Institute of Physics History Group. To be held at Glasgow University, dated to be confirmed.

COMMITTEE

(this information will be used to update our membership database and your web page where appropriate)

Position	Name	Dates on committee (20xx – 20xx)
Chair	Dr John Hudson	
Secretary	Professor John Nicholson	
Treasurer	Dr Peter Morris	
Ordinary Members	Professor Bill Griffith Dr Anna Simmons Dr Gerry Moss Dr Noel Coley Dr Chris Cooksey Professor Alan Dronsfield Dr Michael Jewess Dr David Leaback Professor Andrea Sella	

Benevolent Fund Representative (if relevant)	N/A	
Co-opted members and their affiliation	Professor Frank James (British Society for the History of Science and Royal Institution) Professor Henry Rzepa (Imperial College. Co-opted in order to organise the 2017 Wheeler Lecture, having previously organised the 1-day scientific conference on G.N. Lewis, 23.03.2016)	

Diversity & Inclusion

Our trustees are aiming to embed diversity and inclusion in all of our activities and networks. Our [online network handbook](#) contains more information to support our networks in achieving this.

Please comment on how your group is showing that it has embraced Diversity and Inclusion within its practices.

The committee does not regularly consider Diversity and Inclusion as agenda items, because it considers the topics covered at our conferences to be of wide appeal and not inherently excluding for any group.

Communications: All information on the Group's 1-day scientific meetings is distributed via the RSC website and mailing services, so we consider that any concerns about readability are covered. Hearing loops are provided at all events held at Burlington House (the venue of the overwhelming majority of Group events).

Timing: Not considered an issue for day-time events.

Accessibility: This is controlled by the facilities of Burlington House, but this venue is accessible for wheelchair users and those who walk with the aid of sticks. In particular, there is a lift to the first floor, where the events take place.

Speakers: These are chosen first and foremost for their expertise and experience in the topics under consideration. Ethnicity and gender are not considered explicitly, though meetings typically involve a varied cross-section of the chemical community.

Audience: The topics covered are of wide interest to chemists, and there is no inadvertent exclusion of anyone from the overall demographic of RSC members. The involvement of students has ensured an even wider range of participants.

Inclusion: This has partly been addressed above, but it should be noted in addition that the Group is supporting a 2017 project, aimed at schools and run by Dr Jess Wade of Imperial College, to encourage the provision of Wikipedia entries for women chemists