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Report on the EUROVARIETY conference 2021

Members of the Commission for chemical education and other commissions in the Slovenia chemical society organised the 9th Eurovariety conference in Ljubljana, University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Education from 7 - 9 July 2021 (http://www.eurovariety2021.si/).

European Chemical Society, Division of Chemical Education, Slovenian Chemical Society, University of Ljubljana, faculty of Education, Department of biology, chemistry and home economics, Chair of chemistry and chemical education and Centre KemikUm organized the 9th European Variety in University Chemistry Education Conference from July 7-9 2021. Prof. dr. Iztok Devetak, professor of chemical education at the Faculty of Education, University of Ljubljana chaired the conference and the local organizing committee, with the extensive support by prof. dr. Vesna Ferk Savec.

The organizing committee, European Chemical Society, Division of Chemical Education and Slovenian Chemical Society has gone to great lengths to plan a memorable event and to ensure the presentations and content meet a high standard.

All information were available to the participants at http://www.eurovariety2021.si.

This conference includes a forum of researchers and university teachers in chemistry and chemical education. Altogether 111 participants attended the conference. Participants shared information, ideas and insights and above they all learn from each other, how to teach chemistry effectively at the university level. The program and the book of abstracts are available online.

Taking into account the global COVID-19 pandemic, this was exclusively a virtual conference. We had been quite optimistic until a few months ago and hoped it could have been organized at least as a hybrid one. The COVID-19 situation in Slovenia has recently been improving but the decision made by the Division was, that it is safer to organize the conference online only. Let us hope that in two years' time, we will be able to meet face-to-face at our next Eurovariety conference.

The conference also includes the competition for the best poster. The selection Board assessed the posters and the best one entitles "" by was awarded a voucher for free books at the Royal Society of Chemistry books: Advances in Chemistry Education.

Also each conference attendee received a discount code for 35% discount for the Royal Society of Chemistry books. A sponsor JMP sponsored the conference with 500 euros and they had different opportunity to give information about their work to the participants of the conference (presentation, email information, information in the book of abstracts...).

Dean of Faculty of Education Dr. Janez Vogrinc welcome the participants at the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Education.

Secretary-General of European Chemical Society Dr. Nineta Hrastelj Secretary-General of European Chemical Society said a few words in the name of EuChemS.

President the Division of Chemical Education at EuChemS Dr. Rachel Mamlok-Naaman introduced the importance of the conference to the audience.

President of Slovenian Chemical Society Dr. Peter Venturini introduced Slovenian Chemical Society as a co-organizer of the conference.

During three days, participants were able to listen to 3 inspiring and thought-provoking plenary lectures, 7 stimulating and gripping workshops, two of them were dedicated how to publish in relevant academic journals (EuChemS DivChemEd journal: Chemistry Teacher International and Royal Society of Chemistry journal: Chemistry Education Research and Practice), 33 oral presentations in 7 parallel sessions, one of them being specifically for Slovenian chemistry teachers in primary and secondary education. We were also inspired by the research findings presented in 15 posters.

Conference participants has also the opportunity to write and publish a chapter of their work presented at the conference in the monograph that will be published at the University of Ljubljana. This book is in its final editing.

We would like to express our deep sense of gratitude to everybody who helped to organise this event. First of all, the members of the International Scientific Committee, the members of the Local Organising Committee from the University of Ljubljana and the University of Maribor, which was led by prof. dr. Iztok Devetak. Special thanks go to the reviewers for their efforts in improving the proposals. Thank you, Sanja Jandrinović, for preparing the conference webpage and organising zoom sessions. Last, but not least important, I would like to thank Nina Zupanc, Aljaž Debelak, Katarina Mlinarec, Špela Hrast, Luka Vinko and Miha Slapničar for their organizational and technical support during the online sessions.

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