

Welcome to Voice, the occasional newsletter of the Institute. Your 2015 ICI Diary is enclosed with this mailing, and I am taking this opportunity to fill you in on some of our activities in a busy 2014.

Irish Chemical News is now only available in electronic format. It's available on our web site and we will send it to you if you provide or have provided an email address for this and other communications. We need your e-mail if you want a copy sent to you. You can do that by an e-mail to:- info@instituteofchemistry.org Don't forget to visit our website and social media.

Institute of Chemistry of Ireland Congress 2014

This year's congress was held at the Limerick Institute of Technology in conjunction with the University of Limerick with a two-strand theme, Crystallography and Biotechnology. This was to mark the 2015 Year of Crystallography, and the setting up of Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, a biopharmaceutical company, on the site of the old Dell plant. We had 8 high-quality lectures and a poster competition for postgraduates. 80 delegates attended. Congress dinner was hosted at UL in Plassey House, locally known as "The White House". The post-dinner talk was given by *Prof. Michael Zaworotko, Bernal Chair of Crystal Science Engineering & Science* Foundation Ireland Research Professor at UL. His talk was titled *"From crystal structures to crystal engineering - 101 years of x-ray diffraction and still going strong"*.

You can watch a YouTube interview with Dr Daragh Naughton of LIT talking about the properties of glass, the topic he presented at Congress, at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZowPWXrwbpM> courtesy of Science SPIN.



The post grad winner was Teresa Tierney from SSPC (Synthesis and Solid State Pharmaceutical Centre) at UL with her poster: *"Dissolution Enhancement by Crystal Size Control"*. A YouTube video can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rRtk56mZ0iY&feature=youtu.be&a> courtesy of Tom Kennedy of Science Spin Magazine.

<< Teresa Tierney receiving her Poster Prize from Patrick Hobbs, President ICI

Congratulations to Fergal Barry and his team at LIT, together with staff at UL, for their great organisational skills in facilitating this successful event.

Institute of Chemistry of Ireland Boyle Higgins Award 2014

The Boyle Higgins Gold Medal was awarded to Professor Pat Guiry UCD in recognition of his outstanding contribution to chemistry. Professor Guiry and his research group develop new catalysts and synthetic methodologies to prepare biologically interesting compounds, particularly those with anti-inflammatory properties. The group, which has graduated 36 PhDs to date, has an international reputation with 123 publications, including 12 book chapters.



Pictured: The Boyle-Higgins Gold Medal was presented by Patrick Hobbs, President of the Institute of Chemistry of Ireland to Professor Pat Guiry, Head of the UCD School of Chemistry and Chemical Biology, and Director of the Centre for Synthesis and Chemical Biology at UCD.

Institute of Chemistry of Ireland Annual Lecture Award 2014



This Award Lecture was run in conjunction with Inorganic Ireland 2014, a lecture series initiated by Professor David Brown of UCD (deceased September 2014) in 1974. The 2014 winner of the Annual Lecture Series Award was Professor Thorfinnur (Thorri) Gunnlaugsson of TCD, and originally from Iceland. His research interests are in the areas of supramolecular organic and inorganic chemistry and bio- and medicinal chemistry, with emphasis on the recognition and targeting of biologically important ions and molecules. He received his award on Thursday 11th December as part of a one-day Inorganic Chemistry symposium hosted by RCSI, and gave his lecture, *“Self-assembly supramolecular structures and material made from novel acyclic ligands”*. The RCSI symposium also included a lecture by Professor Annie Powell (Karlsruhe IT, and E T S Walton Visiting Professor at UCD) in honour of Professor Brown, who received the Institute’s

Boyle-Higgins Gold Medal in 1996.

Thorri is principal investigator of **“The Supramolecular and Medicinal Chemistry Research Group”** based in the School of Chemistry, TCD and is at the cutting edge of research into supramolecular structures, as well as ion sensor development and drug discovery. He was elected a member of the Royal Irish Academy in 2005. He will also give his lecture in Galway (NUIG, 24 April 2015) and Belfast (a joint RSC-ICI Awards Symposium in Queen’s on 1 May 2015).

Institute of Chemistry of Ireland Announces an Industrial Chemistry Award

This is a first for the Institute and is intended as a high-level award for a chemist working in Ireland for a substantial contribution to Ireland’s Chemical/Pharmaceutical Industry. Henkel Ireland is sponsoring this €1000 award. Closing date is 31st December 2014. Get your nominations in. The winner will be presented in early 2015.

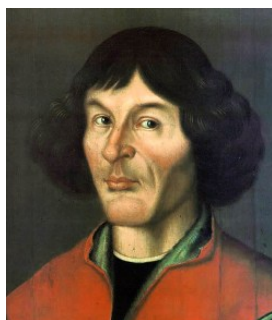
EuCheMS General Assembly 2014



This year’s General Assembly took place in Torun, Poland, home of Copernicus the Astronomer and famous for gingerbread on October 22th-24th. This event continues to be important as delegates meet again, and get to know one another and build relationships. EuCheMS is a not-for-profit organisation founded in 1970. Its object is to promote co-operation in Europe between non-profit-making scientific and technical societies in the field of chemistry and molecular sciences. EuCheMS has 42 member societies which together represent more than 150,000 chemists in



academia, industry, government and professional organisations in 32 countries across Europe. EuCheMS has several Divisions and Working Groups which cover all areas of chemistry and bring together world-class expertise in the underpinning science and development needed for innovation. A new Constitution has officially being signed into Belgian law in October. Working within EuCheMS is of particular value to smaller organisations such as ICI. The next General Assembly will take place in Vienna in September 2015.



Nicolaus Copernicus



Copernicus Toruń



Marie Curie, Warsaw
Polish Chemist



Outgoing President Ulrich Schubert presented with a signed copy of the new EuCheMS Constitution beside incoming president John Cole-Hamilton (right)

Schools Chemistry Newsletter Prize 2014/15. First Prize: €100, two Runners up: €50 each. The closing date is Friday, 10th April, 2015.

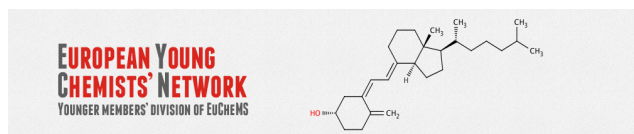
Students should submit a Newsletter on the theme of **“Crystallography”**, suitable for the non-scientist, outlining clearly and accurately any aspects of crystallography in an engaging, informative and easily readable manner.



The National ISTA Senior Science Quiz which took place in 12 venues nationwide on Thursday 13th November during Science Week. There were 1035 Leaving Certificate science students and their teachers attending the event this year. The National Final took place in Trinity College on Saturday 22nd where 48 teams (144 students) took part. The winning team was from St. Andrew's College:-

1st: St. Andrew's College, Blackrock, Dublin with teacher Ms Hilary Rimbi, Aoibhinn Ní Shúilleabháin (quizmaster) and Mary Mullaghy (ISTA).

ICI sponsored a spot prize of a €15 book token at each of the 12 venues and a €20 book token at the National Final.



The European Young Chemist Network (EYCN) is a group of the young members – those under the age of 35 – within the **European Association of Chemical and Molecular Sciences (EuChEMS)**. Its purpose is to support young chemists as they begin their careers, with activities aimed at developing soft skills and broadening career

possibilities. EYCN Lectures covered subjects such as: Writing Scientific Articles, Designing Scientific Presentation, Personal Branding: you and your virtual self, Sustainable Chemistry, Drugs and sports, The Chemistry of Chocolate. Workshops: CV clinic – advice regarding Interview questions, Cover letters, CVs, Online Career representation websites and Leadership. EYCN's Career Days included a 20-minute talk entitled: **“Chemists in Industry: an example of your possible career path”** given by Aideen Beatty (Boston Scientific). Aurora Walshe reported on EYCN activities at the EuChEMS Torun General Assembly.

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We are now publishing Irish Chemical News (ICN) in electronic format only. It's available on our web site <http://www.chemistryireland.org> or by email. The December issue will be available on our web page shortly. I do urge researchers and chemists in industry and institutions to submit articles telling us about your research, or what your company or institution does.

Council Elections took place at the AGM in April. President for 2014-15 is Patrick Hobbs MSc, FICI, MRSC, CChem, CSci and Vice President, Margaret Franklin MSc.

New Members Co-opted onto Council: Mary Mullaghy from the ISTA (also pictured above at ISTA Quiz Finals), and Dr Patricia Cullen from Henkel Ireland.

“Chemistry is All Around Us” Network project reaches conclusion: since late 2012, school teachers and scientific experts from around Ireland have been working with LIT as part of the three-year “Chemistry is All Around Us” Network (<http://chemistrynetwork.pixel-online.org>), which was funded in the framework of the Lifelong Learning Programme – Comenius sub-programme – Networks Action. LIT was one of 13 partners involved in 11 different European countries, which include Ireland, Belgium, Bulgaria, Turkey, Spain, Czech Republic, Poland, Greece, Italy, Slovakia and Portugal.

The project has created a network of teachers, experts and associate partners and schools across all participating countries. The Institute of Chemistry of Ireland is one of the associates in the Irish network. While the project officially ended on 30th November, it is hoped that the project portal will be sustained as it contains a wealth of papers, publications and links to teaching resources for promotion of teaching and learning in Chemistry. You can see the products of the work and the sharing of international experiences through actual and virtual workshops, meetings and conferences on the project portal at www.chemistryisnetwork.eu

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Our Thanks to Waters Chromatography Ireland Ltd. – and in particular to Davnet Donnelly (National Sales Manager) for their continuing support of the ICI Diaries.

Compliments of the Season, and Best Wishes for 2015. Your suggestions for ICI are always welcome. Please do recruit new members, suggest a colleague become a member. There are vacancies on Council, women are underrepresented. Can you make a contribution to Irish professional chemistry?

Patrick Hobbs MSc, FICI President patrickhobbs@outlook.com

We thank our Congress 2014 Sponsors who helped make the day possible:-



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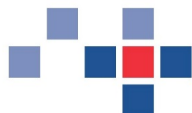
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