



Welcome to Voice, the occasional newsletter of the Institute. Your 2016 ICI Diary is enclosed with this mailing, and I am taking this opportunity to fill you in on our main activities during the past year.

Irish Chemical News is now only available in electronic format. It can be downloaded from our web site and we will send it to you if you provide or have provided an email address for this and other communications.

You can subscribe to our e-mail list by sending an e-mail to:- info@instituteofchemistry.org

To keep up to date with our activities, please visit our website: www.chemistryireland.org

It was with great sadness that we learned of the untimely death of our former President and Registrar, Paraic James, on Dec. 4th. Our thoughts are with his family at this sad time and we extend our condolences to his DCU colleagues.

Institute of Chemistry of Ireland Congress 2015

This year's congress was held at UCD on April 30th, with the theme 'Modern Approaches to Asymmetric Synthesis'. There was a brief report on it in the June issue of VOICE, which was circulated in electronic format only.

If you are not on our e-mail list, you can still download the June issue of VOICE from this link:

<http://www.chemistryireland.org/docs/news/Voice-Irish-Chemical-Newsletter-June-2015.pdf>

Institute of Chemistry of Ireland Boyle Higgins Award 2015

The 2015 Boyle-Higgins Gold Medal was awarded to Professor Dermot Diamond of DCU. His lecture, entitled "Chemical sensing with Autonomous Devices in Remote Locations: Why is it so difficult and how do we deliver revolutionary improvements in Performance?" was given on April 16th at DCU, on the day of the AGM. This event was also reported in the June issue VOICE, which can be found via the link given above.

The 67th Irish Universities Chemistry Research Colloquium, Maynooth University.

This is the longest-running event with which the Institute has been associated and it was hosted by NUIM at the end of June. We were happy to be numbered among the sponsors again this year. It provides a forum where we can learn about the amazing variety of research that is going on in our third level institutions on this island and we get it straight from the people who are getting down and dirty in the laboratories, the postgraduates themselves. The overall winner of The Institute of Chemistry of Ireland's award for the best oral presentation, sponsored by Chemglass, was Susan Dick of QUB. Her research presentation was entitled "Targeted β -phase formation in poly(fluorene)–ureasil grafted organic-inorganic ligands". The book of abstracts can be downloaded here: <http://www.chemistryireland.org/docs/events/2015-Colloquium-Abstracts.pdf>

Institute of Chemistry of Ireland Annual Lecture Award 2015 (Eva Philbin Lecture Series).



Professor Zaworotko at UCD

This award, now in its 10th year, recognises the significant contribution to chemistry of an individual of international repute, who also has excellent skills in science communication. The 2015 recipient is Professor Michael Zaworotko, who holds the Bernal Chair of Crystal Engineering at the University of Limerick. He gave the first of his lectures at UL during Science Week and the second at a joint awards seminar at UCD on November 26th. His lecture was entitled "Crystal Engineering of Task- Specific Materials" and began by giving a brief history of crystallography, before dealing with the generation of novel materials for various tasks, such as as multicomponent pharmaceutical materials, or porous materials for carbon capture and storage. The third lecture in the series will be given at a provincial venue early in the new year, so if you were not able to get to Dublin or Sligo, there will be a chance to hear it in 2016, at a venue to be confirmed later.

This issue of VOICE compiled and edited by Margaret Franklin

This was a first for the Institute and is intended as a high-level award for a chemist working in Ireland, in recognition of a substantial contribution to Ireland's Chemical/Pharmaceutical Industry. Henkel Ireland sponsored the €1000 award. The winner of this inaugural award is Donal Coveney of TopChem.



Donal gave an inspiring talk entitled “Jumping through hoops and chasing our tails – Challenges in securing market approval of Pharmaceutical Products” during Science Week at Sligo Institute of Technology. He repeated the lecture at the joint awards seminar at UCD on November 26th and he will also give the presentation at the premises of the sponsors, Henkel Ireland, in the near future. The picture shows Donal receiving his award from Patricia Cullen, who represented Henkel.

EuCheMS GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2015



This year's EuCheMS General Assembly was held in Vienna at the end of September.



The meeting provides networking opportunities for delegates from the various affiliated member societies. EuCheMS has over 40 member societies which together represent more than 150,000 chemists in industry, academia and the public service. The delegates were welcomed by Hubert Culi, chairman of the Association of Chemical Industries in Austria and Herbert Ipser, President of the Austrian Chemical Society. David Cole-Hamilton, EuCheMS President, gave an overview of the activities of the organisation over the past year. There were reports from the various divisions and working parties, as well as business matters to attend to, including finances and elections. On the evening of the first day, we enjoyed an excellent dinner at a restaurant in the old city centre, hosted by the Austrian Chemical Society.

Next year's General Assembly will be held in Seville, Spain, in conjunction with the 6th EuCheMS Chemistry Congress. For more information on EuCheMS, please visit the website: <http://www.euchems.eu/>

The 2015 ISTA SENIOR SCIENCE QUIZ

The National Finals of the annual ISTA Senior Science Quiz was held in Trinity College, Dublin, on Nov. 21st. 48 teams of Leaving Certificate science students and their teachers, from all over the country, attended the event. ICI sponsored a spot prize of a €15 book token at each of the Regional Venues and a €20 book token at the National Final.

Congratulations to all who participated, having won the regional heats and special congratulations to the overall winning team from Presentation Brothers College, The Mardyke, Cork.

The team members, John Fehilly, Alex O'Carroll and Jimmy Costello, are pictured here with their teacher Ms Claire Lynch and event coordinator Mary Mullaghy, receiving their prizes from Dr. Aoibhinn Ní Shuilleabhain, who was quizmaster for the event.



We Thank Waters Chromatography Ireland Ltd. – and in particular Davnet Donnelly (National Sales Manager) for their support of the ICI Diaries

We wish all our members a very Happy Christmas and New Year!