



EUCHEMS TAKES OVER FROM FECS

EuCheMS, the new European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences will take over the role and responsibilities of the former Federation of European Chemical Societies (FECS).

Apprendiamo con grande interesse la notizia dell'evoluzione della precedente Federazione delle Società Chimiche Europee (FECS) in una nuova Associazione (EuCheMS) che prefigura la costituzione di una vera e propria Società Chimica Europea. Le motivazioni che hanno portato a questa scelta sono ben illustrate nel comunicato stampa riportato. Si vuole dar voce alla "chimica" che, mentre da un lato contribuisce in massima parte alla ricchezza dell'Europa, d'altro lato è percepita come causa del deterioramento della qualità dell'ambiente.

Vediamo con compiacimento che nella nuova dizione si faccia esplicito riferimento alla chimica come Scienza Molecolare e, in quanto tale, trasversale a quasi tutte le altre scienze che hanno a che fare con i materiali e con l'uomo.

È anche elemento di grande soddisfazione il fatto che il nostro collega Giovanni Natile, già presidente della Società Chimica Italiana, sia stato eletto presidente della EuCheMS per il triennio 2006-2008. A lui vanno le nostre congratulazioni e l'augurio di buon lavoro. (F.T.)

At the General Assembly meeting hosted by the Romanian Chemical Society and held in the historic Parliament building in Bucharest, the member societies approved an amended constitution and the new name. Following due process in the

coming months, EuCheMS will become an 'Association Internationale Sans But Lucratif' (not-for-profit organisation) in Belgium.

EuCheMS will build on its 30 years of history and will aim to provide a more professional level of support for the needs of its 50 member societies across 36 countries throughout Europe. A funding base will enable EuCheMS to modernise its approach and develop meaningful support for chemical and molecular sciences in the 21st century.

The most vital aspect of the future strategy of EuCheMS is political impact. With the new enlarged EU, it is even more important that EuCheMS provides a focus for discussion on chemical and molecular science issues in order to influence EU government and politicians on the future development of the European Research Area. To do this, EuCheMS needs to obtain financial support.

Under its new constitution, EuCheMS will be more ready to enter into partnership

with other science groups. The chemical and molecular sciences community needs to make some significant advances in order to be operating on equal terms with other science groupings and to be welcomed as a partner in joint initiatives; EuCheMS is ready to take the lead.

To succeed, EuCheMS must be visible to the decision makers, to other science groupings and to its member societies and their members. EuCheMS aims to provide added value to the member societies in order to ensure their involvement in developing the new strategy.

The object of EuCheMS is to promote cooperation in Europe between those non-profit-making scientific and technical societies and professional institutions in the field of chemistry whose membership consists largely of individual qualified chemists/chemical scientists and whose interests include the science and/or practice of chemistry/ chemical sciences. It was founded in 1970 and currently has 50 member societies in 36 countries.

President: Professor Gábor Náray-Szabó (Hungarian Chemical Society), Lorand Eotvos Univ., Pazmany Peter st. 1b, H-1117 Budapest. Tel: +36-1-209-0555/1630, e-mail: naraysza@para.chem.elte.hu

President Elect: Professor Giovanni Natile (Italian Chemical Society), Dipartimento Farmaco-Chimico, Università di Bari, Via E Orabona, Bari 70125. Tel: +39-080-5442774, e-mail: natile@farmchim.uniba.it

Secretariat: Ms Evelyn McEwan, Royal Society of Chemistry, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1J 0BA. Tel: +44-20-7440-3303, Fax: +44-20-7437-8883, e-mail: mcewane@rsc.org

Web: www.euchems.org