

Conference announcements

16th IUPAC Conference on Chemical Thermodynamics, Halifax, 6–11 August 2000, Nova Scotia, Canada

This conference brings together scientists who participate in thermodynamic research, in order to discuss the most recent research, and to stimulate new lines of research. A special goal of this conference is to include participants who make use of thermodynamic data, in order to guide research in areas where thermodynamic data are required and not presently available. This is especially important because the number of active thermodynamic researchers has decreased dramatically in the last few decades. This is an international problem, and it is hoped that this conference will address this problem, both through research interactions and through the symposium on teaching of thermodynamics. It is expected that the audience will be very international; the 1996 conference attracted participants from 39 countries.

Several subsections are planned; the following are (approximate) titles to date:

- Symposium on Standards (for NIST's 100th anniversary)
- Symposium on Thermodynamics of Materials (batteries, superconductors, etc.)
- Symposium on the Relationship between Theoretical Chemistry and Experimental Chemical Thermodynamics (highlighting areas in which experimental data are needed)
- Symposium on Thermodynamics Education
- Symposium on Biological Thermodynamics.

Novel Porphyrinoids and their Metal Complexes, Berlin, 17 August 1999

'Novel Porphyrinoids and their Metal Complexes', A Micro Symposium, will be held on 17 August 1999, during the 37th IUPAC Congress/27th GDCh General Meeting, 14–19 August 1999, Berlin, Germany. The main theme of the Congress is: 'Frontiers of Chemistry—Molecular Basis of Life Sciences'. The Micro Symposium is being jointly organized by the GDCh and the Biomolecular Chemistry Committee of the IUPAC. It will feature: Chemistry, Photophysical Properties and Biomedical Aspects.

Chairs: U.K. Pandit, Amsterdam, (Netherlands) and E. Vogel, Koeln (Germany). Speakers: R. Guilard, Dijon (France); T.D. Lash, Normal IL (USA); L.Latos-Grazynski, Wroclaw (Poland); J.S. Lindsey, Raleigh NC

(USA); A. Osuka, Kyoto (Japan); J.L. Sessler, Austin TX (USA); E. Vogel, Koeln (Germany); N.G. Vorozhtsov, Moscow (Russia).

Further Information will be available in the Second Circular and the updated webpages <http://www.gdch.de/tagung/1999/iupac_hv/index.htm> in Spring 1999. Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker, IUPAC 99, PO Box 90 04 40, D-60444, Frankfurt am Main, Germany. Tel.: +49 69 7917 358/360/366; Fax: +49 69 7917 475, Email: <tg@gdch.de>, Homepage <<http://www.gdch.de>>.

IFCC–WORLDLAB

17th International and 13th European Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine, Firenze, Italy, 6–11 June 1999

The Programme for this event is given below. The 3rd Announcement can be found on the Internet at <<http://www.worldlab99.it>>.

Opening lecture

Arthur Kornberg—1959 Nobel Laureate in Medicine, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, USA.

- Achievements and Perspectives in Medical Biotechnologies

Plenary lectures

Apoptosis—Prof. Shiegakazu Nagata, Department of Genetics, Osaka University Medical School, Osaka, Japan

The T helper 1 (Th1) and T helper 2 (Th2) Paradigm in Human Diseases—Prof. Sergio Romagnani, Head of the Institute of Internal Medicine and Immunology, University of Firenze, Firenze, Italy.

Proteome Research and its Impact on Laboratory Medicine—Prof. Denis Hochstrasser, Head of the Central Clinical Chemistry Laboratory, Geneva University Hospital, Geneva, Switzerland.

Genetics and Environment—Prof. John Burn, Head of the Department of Human Genetics, University of Newcastle, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK.

From Genome Sequence to Protein Functions—Prof. C. Thomas Caskey, Senior Vice President Merck Research Laboratories West Point, PA, USA.

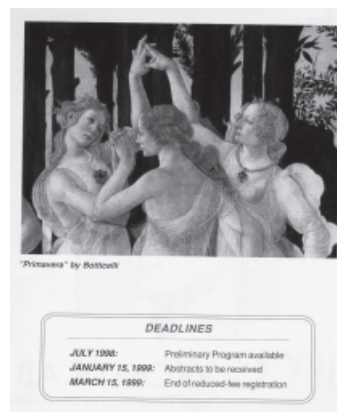
Symposia—tentative programme

Clinical Molecular Biology Symposia

- 1 New Tools in Genetic Analysis: the Emerging Biochip Technologies
- 2 Standardization and Quality Control of Molecular Biological Techniques in Clinical Laboratory (in collaboration with the International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology—IUBMB)
- 3 Diagnostic Molecular Microbiology: Current and Future Trends
- 4 Molecular Markers in Solid Tumors
- 5 Molecular Diagnostic and Prognostic Markers in Haematological Malignancies
- 6 From Genotype to Phenotype
- 7 Genetic Analysis of Common Diseases
- 8 Gene Therapy: Promise and Reality
- 9 Genetic-Based Drug Responses

Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine Symposia

- 10 Robotics, Automation and the Virtual Laboratory
- 11 Biosensors and Non-Invasive Technology
- 12 Advanced Mass Spectrometry as a Diagnostic Tool
- 13 Electrophoresis and High Resolution Separation Techniques
- 14 Animal Models on Human Diseases
- 15 Endothelial Cells—Functional and Diagnostic Aspects
- 16 Receptors and Other Surface Markers
- 17 Novel Aspects of Haemostasis and Thrombosis
- 18 Computer-assisted Decision-making Activated by Clinical Laboratory Findings
- 19 Assessment of Male Fertility and Infertility
- 20 New Trends in Obesity and Diabetes
- 21 Environmental Risks for Human Health
- 22 Standardization and Reference Materials for Immunoassays
- 23 High Sensitivity and Multi-analyte Immunochemical Methods



- 24 Microbial Agents and Cardiovascular Diseases
- 25 Critical Care (AVL Awards Session)
- 26 Ion Channel Diseases
- 27 Assessment of Nutritional Status
- 28 Oxidants and Antioxidants in Clinical Biochemistry
- 29 Ageing and Neurological Diseases
- 30 Role of the Laboratory in Medical-Assisted Fertilization—I (confirmation pending)
- 31 Regulation of Gene Expression in Inflammation: Tool and Target for Therapeutic Applications
- 32 Biochemical and Genetic Markers of Atherosclerosis
- 33 Standardization in Clinical Chemistry
- 34 Therapeutic Drug Monitoring and Clinical Toxicology
- 35 Biochemical and Genetic Tumor Markers

Economics & Management Symposia

- 38 Organizational Structure of Laboratories in Europe
- 39 Accreditation in Clinical Chemistry
- 40 The Laboratory Influencing Clinical Practice—Past, Present and Future
- 41 The Changing Face of Laboratory Medicine
- 42 External Quality Assessment Programmes
- 43 Projects for Quality Improvement in Developing Countries
- 44 The Role of the Laboratory in Evidence-Based Medicine
- 45 PUSH (Public Understanding of Science and Health)

The 30th annual one-week short course, 'Advances in Emulsion Polymerization and Latex Technology', will be offered at Lehigh University during the week of 7–11 June 1999

This course is designed for engineers, chemists, other scientists and managers who are actively involved in emulsion work and for those who wish to develop expertise in the area.

The course is an in-depth study of the synthesis and properties of high polymer latexes. The subject matter includes a balance of theory and applications as well as a balance between chemical and physical problems. Lectures, given by leading academic and industrial workers, begin with introductory material and review, and progress through recent research results. The course fee is \$1000 for the entire week or \$350 per day for any part.

Further information can be obtained from: Dr Mohamed S. El-Aasser, Emulsion Polymers Institute, Lehigh University, 111 Research Drive, Bethlehem, PA 18015, USA. Tel.: (610) 758-3082; Fax: (610) 758-5880; E-mail: <mse0@lehigh.edu>

International Dairy Federation Symposium Laboratory Accreditation & Proficiency Testing, 19 April 1999, Convention Centre, Ottawa, Canada

This symposium will be held during the IDF/ISO/AOAC Analytical Week, which will take place from 18 to 23 April 1999.

Objectives

The symposium will deal with the subject of Laboratory Accreditation and Proficiency Testing. In a relatively short time Laboratory Accreditation has become essential for every laboratory involved in enforcement and an invaluable asset for any laboratory selling its services to other clients. Proficiency Testing is a recognized tool for maintaining accreditation.

The objectives are:

- to harmonize analytical methods & test results,
- to monitor laboratory & analyst performance on an on-going basis,
- to provide users with increased confidence in the test data,
- to ensure mutual acceptance of test results in import & export of products.

Special emphasis will be given to the following items:

- importance of Laboratory Accreditation on a more International basis
- compliance of International standards for Laboratory Accreditation impact of International requirements
- International guidelines for Proficiency testing
- equivalency determination

But Laboratory Accreditation is very time-consuming for laboratory managers. It must be carried out successfully. The object of the seminar is to consider the mechanisms, pitfalls and advantages of Laboratory Accreditation, the documentation available to guide the accreditee and the essential requirements for Proficiency Testing to be useful in Laboratory Accreditation.

31st International Chemistry Olympiad, 4–11 July 1999, Bangkok

Thailand will play host to about 60 nations participating in the 31st International Chemistry Olympiad. Further information can be obtained from the Chairman, Dr Bhinyo Panijpan; E-mail: <icho31@ku.ac.th>; Fax: (662) 942-8715.

AACC Oak Ridge Conference, 23–24 April 1999

Call for abstracts

AACC's highly respected 31st Annual Oak Ridge Conference will take place in San Jose, California, USA, on 23 and 24 April 1999. The title of the conference will be 'On the Road to Non-Invasive Testing: The New Millennium of Minimally Invasive and Non-Invasive Technologies in Clinical Settings'.

The conference committee is inviting abstract submissions on the following topics: immunoassay technologies, DNA/RNA-based technologies, biosensors, minimally and non-invasive testing, and point-of-care testing. Abstracts may be submitted via the AACC website <<http://www.aacc.org> www.aacc.org/meetings/oakridge> or via post.

Contact: AACC Customer Service, 2010 L Street, NW, Suite 202, Washington, DC 30037-1526, USA. Tel.: (202) 857-0717, fax: (202) 833-5093, e-mail: <custserv@aacc.org> for more information. Deadline for submission is Friday, 30 October 1998.

1st Workshop on Global Phase Diagrams, Walberberg near Cologne, Germany, 21–24 March 1999

Global Phase Diagrams, as introduced by van Konynenburg and Scott, are maps providing an overview of the phase behaviour of binary fluid mixtures. The investigation of Global Phase Diagrams is a powerful method for understanding phase equilibrium phenomena of mixtures in general. The objective of the workshop is to report achievements and recent developments in this area and its extension to new fields of application.

Theoretical or experimental papers are invited that deal with the systematic investigation of:

- the influence of interaction parameters on mixing phenomena
- equations of states or lattice models for pure, binary or multicomponent mixtures
- the influence of interaction or geometry parameters on adsorption phenomena or separation factors
- interference of solid and fluid phases in mixtures

- phase phenomena in reacting systems
- classification of phase diagrams

For details and registration see the workshop web page at: <<http://van-der-Waals.pc.uni-koeln.de/1stGPD/register.html>>

Prof. Dr Ulrich K. Deiters and Priv.-Doz. Dr Thomas Kraska Thermodynamics Center, Institute of Physical Chemistry, University at Cologne, Luxemburger Str. 116, D-50939 Köln, Germany.

Dr Leonid Z. Boshkov, State Academy of Refrigeration, Odessa, Ukraine. Tel.: + 49 221470 4543, fax: + 49 221470 4900, e-mail: <deiters@stthd0.pc.uni-koeln.de> or <Kraska@stthd0.pc.uni-koeln.de>

EMRS-99 Spring Conference June 1–4, 1999, Strasbourg, France

First call for papers

Conference Programme:

<<http://www-emrs.c-strasbourg.fr/99prog.htm>>

- Symposium A Photo-Excited Processes & Applications ('3-ICPEPA')
- Symposium B Protective Coatings & Thin Films 99

- Symposium C Progress in Computational Materials Science
- Symposium D Plasma & Ion Surface Engineering
- Symposium E Advances in Silicon Substrates
- Symposium F Process Induced Defects in Semiconductors
- Symposium G Material Physics Issues & Applications of Magnetic Oxides
- Symposium H Strain in Materials: Analysis, Relaxation & Properties
- Symposium I Microcrystalline & Nanocrystalline Semiconductors
- Symposium J Materials for Coherent Optics
- Symposium K Materials, Process and Technology for Optical Interconnect
- Symposium L *Ab-Initio* Approaches to Microelectronics Materials and Process Modelling
- Symposium M Basic Models to Enhance Reliability in Si-Based Devices and Circuits
- Symposium N Molecular Optoelectronics: Materials, Physics and Devices
- Symposium O Chalcogenide Semiconductors for Photovoltaics
- Symposium P Optical Characterization of Semiconductor Layers and Surfaces