

IACS NewsLetter n° 4, May 2004

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IACS Newsletter n° 4, April 2004

1) President's Message

Dear Colleagues,

Fourth in the series, this Newsletter is very important, because the final success of the 13ICC largely depends on it and on your active co-operation.

13ICC Road Map. There are several parameters to measure the success of a scientific meeting, mainly

- the quality of the scientific programme,
- the number of participants,
- the way with which they interact during the scientific discussions and the social events.

Concerning the *first parameter*, many of you, as Members of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the 13ICC, participated in the selection of the oral/poster contributions. I wish to thank them for having contributed to the quality of the scientific programme. I am confident that these contributions together with the plenary, IACS Award and keynote lectures (see below) will satisfy the participants of the 13ICC.

As Members of the IACS Council, you are now solicited to help increase the number of participants. This *second parameter* is often taken to coin an ICC as satisfactory, excellent or exceptional. The attached document entitled "13ICC Roadmap" indicates that the success of the 13ICC can be considered already as satisfactory, since 1 439 persons from 54 countries had already registered by May 26. The deadline for registration has been extended to May 3 at the request of many colleagues awaiting financial decisions for special funding to participate to the 13ICC. The organising Committee followed their request in order to avoid the 100 Euros penalty for registration after April 15. I wish to thank Colloquium, the professional Congress Organiser, to have kindly agreed to extend the deadline.

A few words now about the "13ICC Roadmap" (attached file: *13ICC Roadmap.pdf*):

- it gives the number of participants/country (line) for the important congresses of catalysis recently organised in Europe (column).
- the IACS country members are indicated by the * sign.
- the congress and the corresponding organising country(ies) have been given the same colour (note that EuropaCat VI was organised jointly by Austria, Germany and Switzerland)
- for each country (except those in colour), the target in the last column refers to the most important attendance
- for Austria, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Spain, and Switzerland which organised a catalysis meeting in Europe, the figure is calculated from the average of the two best attendances, on the basis that the most important attendance can only be reached in the organising country and that an ICC should attract more people than an EuropaCat meeting.
- for China and Korea, the figure quoted takes into account the number of abstracts submitted to the 13ICC and the fact that they will present a bid for hosting the 14ICC.
- finally, for France, the figure (350) refers to the most important attendance, *i.e.*, that at EuropaCat I in Montpellier in 1993.

Your cooperation is now solicited to help catalyse the number of participants, essentially from your own country. In this respect, the last three columns of the 13ICC Roadmap (comparison of the 13ICC registrations (April 22) *versus* the 13ICC target or 13ICC **Abstracts accepted**) may help you evaluate what can still be possible. May I thus ask you, upon receipt of this Newsletter, to forward it to the affiliated Members of your Catalysis organisation so as to inform them of the state of the registrations and to warmly encourage them to register, **especially those who had their abstracts accepted**. An important note: because we want to have as many of them as possible, there is **no deadline for students**.

At a moment where catalysis has been honoured several times (2001 Wolf Prize to Kagan, Noyori and Sharpless and 2001 Nobel Prize to Knowles, Noyori and Sharpless both Prizes for the development of catalytic asymmetric synthesis and 2004 Japan Prize to Honda and Fujishima for photochemical catalysis and its application for the environment) a success (excellent? exceptional?) would be not only a strong sign to the outside world but also a strong encouragement for the young generation to select catalysis and join our community. I am convinced that the success of the 13ICC can only be based on the combined efforts of all of us.

Concerning the *third parameter*, *i.e.*, the way participants interact during the scientific discussions and the social events, the next Newsletter # 5 will give you more information, namely on the organisation of the scientific discussion, Award session with the list of the recipients of the Young Scientists Prizes, technical exhibition of equipment and scientific materials, specific social events, etc.

International Catalysis Award. In order to select the recipient, a special international committee of seven members, plus the IACS past-President acting as co-ordinator, was appointed by the IACS Executive Committee. The committee included the last International Catalysis Award recipient, three members selected for the excellence of their research, and three members selected amongst IACS Council Members. After examination of the applications, this committee selected Prof. Can Li, State Key Laboratory of Catalysis, Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Dalian, China. Prof. Can Li will receive an official document and a check. He will deliver the Award Conference at the Award session organised during the 13ICC in Paris.

Young Scientists Prizes. The scientific committee of the 13ICC selected the recipients of the Young Scientists Prizes who will receive a certificate during the Award session. The list of the recipients will be given in the next Newsletter.

Catalysis Federation, Association or Society focussed on the Asia Pacific region. As announced in Newsletter N°1, the formation of such an entity, suggested by your President was discussed at Toccat-4 (Tokyo, July 2002). It has been discussed further at APCAT 3 in Dalian in October 2003. Three officers of the IACS Executive Committee were invited (Profs Bell, Iwamoto and myself). A brief report is given below (§5.3) and the next meeting, dealing with the constitution and first operation of the organisation associated with APCAT 4 (2006), will take place in Paris at the occasion of the 13ICC.

IACS Council meetings. The next IACS Council meeting will take place at the occasion of the 13ICC in Paris. The IACS Council members are cordially invited to have lunch at 12:00 at the Palais des Congrès. The IACS Council meeting will then start at 13:00 and end at 18:30. The agenda is given below (§ 2). Any comment/addition on/to the agenda is welcome and should be sent to our secretary I. Tkatchenko (tkatchen@u-bourgogne.fr).

Archives. This is item N° 7 in our agenda. This always has been a current problem. Let me first give you the chronological order of ICCs: 1-Philadelphia, 1956; 2-Paris, 1960; 3-Amsterdam, 1964; 4-Moscow, 1968; 5-Palm Beach, 1972; 6-London, 1976; 7-Tokyo, 1980; 8-Berlin, 1984; 9-Calgary, 1988; 10-Budapest, 1992; 11-Baltimore, 1996; 12-Grenada, 2000; 13-Paris, 2004. By archives, we mean any possible recorded form available: circulars, final programme, poster advertising the ICC, preprints, proceedings, CD, photographs, etc...

At the IACS meeting in Limerick on September 4, 2001 (see minutes sent as attached document to Newsletter N°1), Profs. V.N. Parmon, F. Solymosi and S. Bernal Márquez agreed to gather archives respectively for Russia (ICC 4, 1968), Hungary (ICC10, 1992) and Spain (ICC12, 2000). I would like to invite the delegates of countries where an ICC took place to do the same, although. I understand that this might be difficult for the early ICCs.

I would like to thank you very warmly for your co-operation and hope to meet all the IACS Council Members at 12:00 in Paris on Sunday, July 11 for the 13ICC.

With best wishes,
Sincerely Yours,

Michel Che

2) IACS Agenda

- Minutes of the informal meeting in Innsbruck, Sept. 1, 2003: see attached document: MinutIACSInnsbruck'030901.pdf).
- Agenda of the IACS Council meeting, July 11, 2004 (13:00-18:30, Palais des Congrès):
 1. Opening of the meeting and additions/modifications to/of the Agenda (M. Che),
 2. Minutes of the Granada meeting to be adopted (all delegates are invited for making corrections in advance to the attached document: MinutIACSGranada'000712.pdf),
 3. Report of the Secretary (I. Tkatchenko),
 4. Report of the Treasurer (G. Hutchings),
 5. Report on the 13th International Congress on Catalysis (M. Breysse),
 6. Report on the International Catalysis Award and Young Scientists Prizes (M. Che),
 7. Report on Congress Archives (M. Che and delegates of the countries which hosted an ICC),
 8. Age Limit for International Catalysis Award (A.T. Bell),
 9. Alterations of Constitution (Executive Committee):
#2: (broadening of the scope of IACS); #3c: terms of Council delegates between consecutive ICCs; #4 (replacement of a delegate elected Officer); #5: composition of Executive Committee/IUPAC representative; #9a: possibility to hold intermediate meetings,
in addition: discussion on membership and composition of the Council (#3),
 10. Elections of Officers for the period 2004 – 2008 (all delegates),
 11. Venue for the 14th ICC, 2008 (delegates of candidate countries),
 12. Any other matters (all delegates).

3) ICC13

Michèle Breysse, Chair Person of the Organizing Committee, sums up below the work carried out by the Organising and Scientific Committees of ICC 13.

3.1) Abstracts submitted to the Organising Committee of 13 ICC

More than 2 100 electronic submissions were received. Some of the abstracts were declared unreadable and eliminated after contacting the authors. 2 088 abstracts from 65 countries were considered at this stage and distributed within the 6 topical sessions, with an average of 60 % of demands for oral presentation:

Topical Session	Title of the Session	Abstracts submitted	Demands for oral presentation	% oral demands
1	Catalyst preparation and characterization	758	431	57
2	Catalytic reaction mechanism	357	257	72
3	Catalytic reaction engineering: multi-scale approach	179	119	66
4	Fuels and energy for the future	291	178	61
5	Synthesis of chemicals and polymers: towards cleaner processes and atom economy	232	125	54
6	Pollution, prevention and remediation	271	146	54
	Total	2088	1256	60

Due to the pressure for oral presentations and the high standard of most of the abstracts submitted, it was decided to increase the number of parallel oral sessions to 5 (instead of 4), keeping the time to 30 min (20 min presentation + 10 min discussion). Each abstract was reviewed by 3 referees, one from the organising and scientific committee (39 referees), one from the French catalysis community (271 referees) and one international referee (386 referees). The total number of referees was 696. Thus, 170 oral communications were accepted, which represents only 13.5% of the submissions for oral presentation. Similarly, the total number of posters has been increased up to 1 350 in order to reach a reasonable proportion of accepted to submitted presentations (*ca.* 70 %). They will be organised in 3 one day sessions (3 x 450 posters).

3.2) Plenary and keynote lectures

As already announced in the Second Circular, each topical session will be introduced by one plenary lecturer and one or two keynote lecturers.

Six plenary lectures

- Prof. Robbie Burch, Queen's University, Belfast, UK (session 6)
- Prof. Avelino Corma, Institute of Chemical Technology, Valencia, Spain (session 1)
- Dr. Frits Dautzenberg, ABB Lummus, Bloomfield, NJ, USA (session 3)
- Prof. Enrique Iglesia, University of California, Berkeley, CA, USA (session 2)
- Prof. Ryoji Noyori, Nagoya University, Japan (session 5)
- Dr. Jens Rostrup-Nielsen, Haldor Topse A/S, Lyngby, Denmark (session 4)

International Catalysis Award lecturer

Prof. Can Li, Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics, Dalian, China

10 keynote lectures

- Prof. Gabriele Centi, University of Messina, Italy (session 6)
- Prof. Krijn de Jong, Utrecht University, The Netherlands (session 1)

Dr. Eduardo Falabella Sousa-Aguiar, Petrobras SA, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (session 4)
Dr. Volker Hessel, Institut für Mikrotechnik, Mainz, Germany (session 3)
Prof. Irina Ivanova, Moscow State University, Russia (session 2)
Dr. H  l  ne Olivier-Bourbigou, Institut Fran  ais du P  trole, Lyon, France (session 3)
Dr. Abbas Razavi, Atofina, F  luy, Belgium (session 5)
Prof. Manfred T. Reetz, MPI f  r Kohlenforschung, M  lheim an der Ruhr, Germany (session 5)
Dr. Philippe Sautet, Ecole Normale Sup  rieure de Lyon, France (session 2)
Dr. Blanka Wichterlova, J. Heyrovsky Institute of Physical Chemistry, Prague, Czech Republic (session 1).

3.4) Programme

The Plenary lectures and the lecture of the recipient of the International Catalysis Award will be delivered in the main amphitheatre (1800 seats). The 5 parallel sessions will take place in 2 amphitheatres and 3 lectures rooms at the same level (total capacity *ca.* 2000 people).

The scientific programme will begin on Monday, July 12 with the Opening Ceremony and the plenary lecture delivered by Prof Ryoji Noyori. It will finish on Friday, July 16 at 5 pm by the closing ceremony. Wednesday, July 14 morning will be free to allow the participants to enjoy Paris on the Bastille Day (Military Parade on Champs Elys  es and free entrance to all Museums). The awards ceremony (International Catalysis Award, Young Scientists Prizes for young researchers) will take place in the main amphitheatre of the Palais des Congr  s on Friday, July 16 morning.

3.5) Registration

All the information is available on the web site (<http://www.13ICC.jussieu.fr/>). Already 1 439 delegates have registered. Students and retired colleagues benefit from a reduced rate, *i.e.*, 250 euros with any deadline.

3.6) Accommodation

Hotel rooms in the Palais des Congr  s area can be booked in the registration page of the web site. A list of hotels selected from reliable tourist guides is also given in the page "Facilities – Paris" of the website. Two other types of accommodation are available: serviced flats in residences or students accommodation.

3.7) Social programme

All participants and accompanying persons are warmly invited to join the Welcome Reception on Sunday, July 11 evening (19:00-22:00), at the Palais des Congr  s.

The Congress Gala Dinner will take place on Wednesday, July 14... on the River Seine, with the Bateaux Parisiens! During the cruise, you will discover Paris from the river at close of day and at night. The boats will finally bring you near the Eiffel Tower for the traditional Bastille Day fireworks. Due to the space available on the boats, the cruise is limited to 700 persons.

Thanks are due to all the members of the team you can see below after (hard) work at SFC headquarters in Paris (please note the bottle of catalyst on the left side!).



From left to right, first row: H  l  ne Crucifix, Fabienne Mouret, Guyl  ne Costentin, Andr   Mortreux, Christine Travers, Marc Ledoux, Mich  le Breysse, Sandrine Fraisse; second row: Eric Marceau, Thierry des Couri  res, Patrick Bourges, Michel Che, Daniel Duprez, Jean-Pierre Gilson, Jacques V  drine, Pierre Gallezot, Fran  ois Fajula, Igor Tkatchenko

4) Introducing a Catalysis Society: Catalysis activities in Australia (S. Adesina, *Catalysis Surveys from Asia*, **2003**, 7, 189-190, with permission from Kluwer Academic/Plenum Publishers, <http://www.wkap.nl/journalhome.htm/1384-6574>).

Catalysis research in Australia is carried out mostly in the universities and government agencies such as the CSIRO. Many of these research centres enjoy considerable industrial support and the activities are generally spread along the eastern and western coasts of the country. The Catalysis Society of Australia has regular meetings that bring all personnel together.

David Trimm leads a strongly funded research program on gas-to-liquid technology at CSIRO in Melbourne as part of a national drive to convert remote natural gas reserves to liquid fuels. Particular attention is paid to process adaptation for small footprint equipment and to novel processes that require less infrastructure. Aspects of the Fischer–Tropsch process, of short contact time partial oxidation, of steam reforming and the water–gas shift reaction and of carbon dioxide separation are under study. A project focused on catalytic pyrolysis is also planned. Work is also continuing on the on-board conversion of liquid fuels to hydrogen for fuel cell applications. The conversion of methanol, methane, propane, butane, LPG and gasoline has been studied.

Noel Cant, although retired, is actively involved in research on the control of nitrogen oxides. Recent studies have included the reactions of nitrocompounds over SCR systems, the relationship between isocyanic acid and ammonia on three-way catalysts, the reaction between nitrous oxide and alkanes on platinum group metals and the uptake/release characteristics of NO_x storage systems. He has also undertaken the development of a system for the on-road monitoring of vehicle emissions as a function of load with *Dennys Angove* and *Peter Nelson* in the CSIRO Division of Energy Technology. He is participating in *David Trimm*'s expanding program on natural gas conversion and has recently renewed cooperative work with *Mark Wainwright* on copper-based catalysts for the reactions of alcohols.

Mark Wainwright (UNSW) has an established program on Raney-type skeletal copper catalysts. The research is aimed at preparing improved copper catalysts through surface modification using metal oxides in order to mitigate fouling. Reactions studied include methanol synthesis, water–gas shift, methanol steam reforming, methanol dehydrogenation, ester hydrogenolysis, alcohol dehydrogenation and hydrolysis of nitriles. The studies include catalyst preparation methods, catalyst characterization and reaction kinetics and mechanisms.

Trevor Brown at the University of New England, Armidale, has two principal aims, firstly, to accurately measure rate constants for the initial steps in heterogeneous catalytic reactions and, secondly, to understand the catalytic properties of antimony oxide compounds. A novel system incorporating a low-pressure Knudsen reaction cell, which is directly connected to a quadrupole mass spectrometer to monitor gas-phase reactants and products has been developed to measure rate constants. This system has been tested for cracking, dehydrogenation, oxidative dehydrogenation and reduction over various catalysts including zeolites. It has been shown that antimony (III) trioxide when combined with HZSM-5 shows high activity for the oxidative dehydrogenation of isobutane and the reduction of nitrous oxide. Various catalyst preparation methods for maximizing this activity are currently being studied.

Kerry Pratt's group at Swinburne University in Melbourne is primarily interested in various aspects of catalysis, from homogeneous catalysis of synthetic rubber by polymerization of butadiene to the more complex studies on the catalytic cracking of crude oil on basic catalysts, via the development of kinetic models for ethoxylation reactions. Research projects in materials science and synthetic inorganic chemistry entails the use of a variety of materials to develop novel and highly specialized catalyst systems: zeolites, clays and layered double hydroxides. Current interests in environmental chemistry deals mostly with the development of processes for controlling the concentration of organic pollutants in industrial waste waters and the development of alternative energies (e.g., fuel cells). These activities are well funded by the industry.

Max Lu at the University of Queensland, Brisbane, directs a large program on nanomaterials synthesis, characterization and applications. Examples of catalytic reactions studied include methane reforming, methanol synthesis, water–gas shift reaction, catalytic VOC oxidation and photocatalytic water purification. The Nanomaterials Centre has also developed a series of nanoporous metal oxides with tailorable nanoparticle size, porosity and high thermal and hydrothermal stability.

Soji Adesina at UNSW addresses the development of new catalysts and reactor systems for optimal hydrocarbon conversion and environmental applications. Combinatorial techniques are used in the systematic design of catalysts in order to relate preparation conditions to intrinsic properties and ultimately reaction indices (activity, selectivity and mortality). These catalysts are employed in multifunctional reactors. Current reactions include Fischer–Tropsch synthesis, photocatalytic oxidation–reduction, steam reforming, tertiary butyl alcohol synthesis and oxidative dehydrogenation of alkanes.

Suresh Bhargava (RMIT University, Melbourne) focuses on catalyst preparation and characterization using FTIR, XPS and EXAFS to investigate site structure and physicochemical properties. There is a significant emphasis on nanomaterials synthesis and applications. The group is presently studying catalytic oxidation of organics, olefin epoxidation, fine chemicals synthesis and elevated pressure reactions and also has expertise in multiphase reactor operation.

Dong-ke Zhang has a rich program on catalysis for energy and environmental applications at Curtin University in Perth. Activities in the Centre for Fuels and Energy include multimetal oxides for hydrocarbon processing, catalytic combustion, NO decomposition, catalyzed coal gasification, direct methane to methanol and natural gas reforming.

George Koutsantonis (University of Western Australia, Perth) deals with the problem of selective catalysis using rational synthesis of bimetallic metal aggregates of varying nuclearities. The fundamental chemistry involved in the transformation of small molecules (e.g., Fischer–Tropsch synthesis and other gas-to-liquid reactions) on these tailored metal aggregates, particularly those containing Co, Fe and other platinum group metals, is presently under investigation.

Roy Jackson at Monash University conducts homogeneous catalysis research on the development of new for the preparation of key intermediates in the fine chemical/agrochemical/pharmaceutical industries. In collaboration with *Andrea Robinson*, new catalytic routes to heterocycles and enantioselective synthesis of novel cyclic and beta-amino acids are being sought. In partnership with *Alan Bond*, the use of polyoxometalates as catalysts for the oxidation of organic

compounds is also being studied. A new project aimed at developing a phosgene-free route to isocyanates involving the use of heterogeneous catalysts whereby the active metal is attached to mesoporous silica or zeolite is also being developed.

Eric Kennedy and *Bogdan (Bodzio) Dlugogorski* at the University of Newcastle have a number of projects in the catalysis area. Their major interest is in the catalytic treatment of ozone-depleting substances (primarily halons and CFCs). They have found that halon and CFCs decompose quite readily under reducing conditions (using hydrogen, methane or propane as reductant) and have been able to control the products produced during hydrodehalogenation reactions. They collaborate with Russell Howe (University of Aberdeen) on their zeolite work and with S. Sakata (Okayama University) for their work with supported metals. Other projects include the catalyzed production of dioxin and furan during combustion and the development of nitrosation catalysts for use in emulsion explosives.

Karl Foger at Ceramic Fuel Cells in Melbourne is interested in the application of hydrocarbon reforming to solid oxide fuel cells. Activities are focused on the development of anode materials as steam-reforming catalysts, catalytic pre-reforming reactors, reaction-rate studies on commercial pre-reforming and desulfurization catalysts, sulfur removal adsorbents and design of catalytic afterburners for fuel cell exhaust stream.

5) News from Catalysis

5.1) New appointments at IACS Council

- Prof. Kevin Smith (University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada) has been appointed by the Division of Catalysis, CIC, in replacement of Prof. John B. Moffat (see: <http://faculty.chml.ubc.ca/kjs/catalysis/index.html>).

- Prof. Ing. Dr. Jens Weitkamp (University of Stuttgart, Germany) has been appointed by the German Catalysis Society in replacement of Prof. Dr. Robert Schlögl.

- Prof. Sang-Heup Moon and Prof. Seong-Ihl Woo have been appointed by the Catalysis Division of the Korean Institute of Chemical Engineers in replacement of Profs. Hakze Chun and Young Gul Kim.

- Prof. Kazunari Domen has been appointed by the Catalysis Society of Japan in replacement of Prof. Eiichi Kikuchi.

5.2) Modifications of the IACS Directory:

- the address of Prof. P. A. Jacobs has changed to:

Katholieke Universiteit Leuven
Departement Interfasechemie - COK
Kasteelpark Arenberg 23
B-3001 Leuven, Belgium
pierre.jacobs@agr.kuleuven.ac.be
Fax: +32 16 32 19 98

- the e-mail address of Prof. N. W. Cant should read as follows: noel.cant@mq.edu.au

- the e-mail address of Prof. L. A. Petrov should read as follows: petrov@ic.bas.bg.

- address of Prof. Kevin Smith:

Department of Chemistry
The University of British Columbia
2036 Main Mall
Vancouver, B.C., Canada
kjs@interchange.ubc.ca

- address of Prof. Jens Weitkamp:

Institut für Technische Chemie
Universität Stuttgart
D-7050 Stuttgart, Germany
jens.weitkamp@po.uni-stuttgart.de
Fax: +49 (0)711 685 4065

- address of Prof. Kazunari Domen:

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- address of Prof. Sang-Heup Moon:

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shmoon@surf.snu.ac.kr

- address of Prof. Seong-Ihl Woo:

Korea Advanced Institute of Science & Technology

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siwoo@mail.kaist.ac.kr

5.3) A Federation of Catalysis Societies in Asia – Pacific area (from the minutes of the Dalian meeting at APCAT 4 by David Trimm and Can Li)

Initially, the catalyst society would be based on a federation of the catalyst societies of different countries. The aims of the organisation would be:

- To promote and encourage scientific and industrial progress in catalysis
- To provide an opportunity for scientists and engineers across the region to discuss and exchange information in the field of catalysis
- To emphasise education in the broad field of catalysis
- To strengthen collaboration across academia and industry across the region in the field of catalysis.
- To act as a representative body for this region in dealing with other international catalysis associations (IACS, EFCATS, NACS, etc).

Initially, the new association would not be associated with major funding initiatives. There would be no fees for association with the new body, but some finance would be raised by a levy of 10% on the operations of APCAT, to be built into the registration fee.

The new body will organize the APCAT meeting as one of its major responsibilities as well as to help to organise the already existing catalysis conferences in this region. The objective is to make the APCAT meeting an equal conference to the North American Catalysis Meeting and European Congress on Catalysis.

There would be more than one type of membership of the body, with an affiliation of some organizations being a possibility. The organisation should represent on an international scale, those countries that have not been represented at this level previously.

Representatives of individual catalyst societies should enter into discussion on the structure and formation of the body, with the object of an intermediate meeting in Paris in 2004, and the constitution and first operation of the organisation associated with APCAT 4 in 2006.

5.4) Awards

- **Giuseppe Bellussi**, EniTecnologie SpA (Italy) has been awarded the Syntex-Johnson Matthey Award for Innovative Catalysis 2003 for his remarkable research activities at the interface between industrial and academic research in Catalysis (from: <http://www.efcats.org/pages/news.html#syntex>).

- **Donna G. Blackmond** (Imperial College of Science and Technology, London) is the recipient of the 2003 Paul N. Rylander Award for her kinetic analysis and modeling of catalytic and asymmetric catalytic reactions (more details: http://www.orcs.org/html/call_for_awards.html).

- **Michel Che**, (Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris) is the 2004 recipient of the François Gault lectureship sponsored by EFCATS. The François Gault Lecturer, who is elected by the EFCATS council upon nomination by the national delegates, presents about 10 lectures all over Europe. The lectures are delivered in the year between the biennial EUROPACAT meetings. The François Gault Lectureship is the most prestigious distinction that a catalysis scientist can receive from an European organisation (more details: <http://www.efcats.org/pages/news.html#gault>).

- **Kenichi Honda** (Tokyo Polytechnic University, Tokyo) and **Akira Fujishima** (University of Tokyo and Kanagawa Academy of Science and Technology) are the laureates of the 2004 Japan Prize (20th Anniversary) for Chemical Technology for the Environment (Japan) for their pioneering work on photochemical catalysis and its application for the environment (more details: http://www.japanprize.jp/e_2004_e1.htm)

- **Harry B. Gray** is the 2004 recipient of the Wolf Foundation Prize in Chemistry for his pioneering work in bio-inorganic chemistry, unravelling novel principles of structure and long-range electron transfer in proteins (more details: <http://www.aquanet.co.il/wolf/>).

- **Richard C. Larock** (Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa) is the recipient of the 2004 Paul N. Rylander Award for his pioneering use of palladium in organic synthesis, including the discovery of a range of new methodologies involving aryl, allylic, and vinylic palladium intermediates used to synthesise a broad range of organic compounds (more details: http://www.orcs.org/html/call_for_awards.html).

- **Jean Lessard** (University of Sherbrooke, Québec, Canada) is the recipient of the 2004 Murray Raney Award to for his pioneering efforts in electrocatalytic electrodes, especially for a more durable and structurally stable Raney-type electrode (more details: http://www.orcs.org/html/call_for_awards.html).

5.5) Call for Nominations

- **The 2005 Benjamin Franklin Medals and Bower Awards**. Nominations are now being accepted for the 2005 Benjamin Franklin Medals and Bower Award and Prize for Achievement in Science.

The Benjamin Franklin Medals are awarded annually in seven disciplines of science: chemistry, computer and cognitive science, earth and environmental sciences, electrical engineering, life sciences, mechanical engineering, and physics.

The Bower Awards have a predetermined field of interest chosen each year. The 2005 field of interest for the Bower Award for Achievement in Science and the Bower Award for Business Leadership is in the field of chemistry, and more specifically, catalysis.

Nomination are welcome and should be directed to Dr. Philip W. Hammer, Vice President, The Franklin Institute, at the number and/or addresses listed in the nomination section. The deadline for postmarking 2005 nominations and supporting materials is no later than May 31, 2004. Additional information: <http://sln.fi.edu/tfi/exhibits/bower/04/05nominate.html>.

- **2005 Paul H. Emmett Award in Fundamental Catalysis.** The purpose of the Award is to recognize and encourage individual contributions in the field of catalysis with emphasis on discovery and understanding of catalytic phenomena, proposal of catalytic reaction mechanisms and identification of and description of catalytic sites and species.

Additional information: <http://www.nacatsoc.org/news.asp?NewsID=64>. All nomination packages should be addressed to: John Armor, President, North American Catalysis Society; 1608 Barkwood Dr, Orefield, PA 18069 USA.

- **Eleventh Frank H. Spedding Award.** Nominations are now being accepted for the 11th Frank H. Spedding Award, to be conferred at the 24rd Rare Earth Research Conference, June 26-30, 2005 in Key Stone, Colorado. This award is given in recognition of excellence and achievement in research centred on the science and technology of rare earths. The nomination packages are to be sent to: Susan Kauzlarich, Chemistry Department, University of California – Davis, One Shields Ave, Davis, CA 95616 (smkauzlarich@ucdavis.edu), not later than July 7, 2004.

5.6) People

- **Dr. Marc J. Ledoux** (Université Louis Pasteur, Strasbourg, France) has been appointed Chairman of CNRS Chemical Sciences Department (<http://www2.cnrs.fr/presse/communiqu/401.htm?&theme=5> – in French).

- **Prof. Jens Weitkamp** is the new President of the German Catalysis Society (DECHEMA – Fachsektion Katalyse: http://www.dechema.de/f-dechema.htm?fach-for/deutsch/i_4.htm – in German).

6) Relevant Events, 2004 – 2005

June 06 – 08, 2004, Oulu, Finland

11th Nordic Symposium on Catalysis

Additional information: <http://cc.oulu.fi/~polamwww/nordic.symp2004.pdf>

June 06 – 09, 2004, Chicago, Illinois, USA

ISCRE 18

18th International Symposium on Chemical Reaction Engineering

Additional information: www.iscre.org/iscre18

June 06 – 09, 2004, Dalian, China

NGCS-7

7th Natural Gas Conversion Symposium

Additional information: <http://www.ngcs7.org/>

June 06 – 10, 2004, Lerici, Italy

XIV Congresso Nazionale di Catalisi

Additional information: <http://sci-list.ing.unitn.it/GIC2004.pdf>

June 10-12, 2004, AREA Science Park, Trieste, Italy

Renewable Resources and Renewable Energy: A Global Challenge

Additional information: <http://www.ics.trieste.it/conference/>

June 14 – 17, 2004, Moscow, Russia

HOCS 2004

Highly organized catalytic systems

Additional information: hocs@kinet.chem.msu.ru

June 20 – 24, 2004 Wiesbaden, Germany

NANO 2004

7th International Conference on Nanostructured Materials

Additional information: <http://www.nano2004.org/>

June 20 juin – 25, 2004, Tropea, Italy

X ICTAC

Xth International conference on theoretical aspects of catalysis

Additional information: wpcc@qcc.ru

June 27 – July 1, 2004, Sheffield, UK

ISBOC-7

7th International Symposium of Biomolecular Chemistry

Additional information: <http://www.rsc.org/lap/confs/isboc7.htm>

July 05 – 09, 2004, Munich, Germany

ISHC-14

14th International Symposium on Homogeneous Catalysis

Additional information: <http://www.ishc-munich.de>

July 06 – 09, 2004, Lyon, France

CTEC 2004

Symposium on "Calorimetry and Thermal Effects in Catalysis"

Additional information: <http://www.catalyse.cnrs.fr/CTEC/>

July 07 – 09, 2004, Lahnstein, Germany

ICCMR-6

6th International Conference on Catalysis in Membrane Reactors

Additional information: <http://www.dechema.de>

July 07 – 09, 2004, Poitiers, France

ISOTOPCAT

Isotopes in Catalytic Studies

Call for papers and additional information: <http://labo.univ-poitiers.fr/umr6503/isotopcat>

July 11 – 16, 2004, Paris, France

ICC-13

13th International Congress on Catalysis

Additional information: <http://www.13icc.jussieu.fr>

July 11-16, 2004, New Orleans LA, USA

ICPP-3

Third International Conference on Porphyrins and Phthalocyanines

Additional information: <http://www.icpp.uh.edu/>

July 18 – 20, 2004, Lausanne, Switzerland

CarboCat 2004

International Symposium on Carbon for Catalysis

Additional information: <http://isp.epfl.ch/Carbocat>

July 18 – 21, 2004, Caen, France

Post conference 13th ICC - Summer school

In situ and operando spectroscopy for catalysis

Additional information: <http://www-lcs.ismra.fr/>

July 18 – 23, Vancouver, Canada

ICOMC 21

21st International Conference on Organometallic Chemistry

Additional information: http://www.conferences.ubc.ca/xxi_icomc/

August 22-26, 2004, Prague, Czech Republic

CHISA 2004

16th International Congress on Chemical and Process Engineering

Additional information: www.chisa.cz/2004

September 05 – 08, 2004, Belfast, Ireland

3rd International H S Taylor Conference

Additional information: A.O.Taylor@Salford.ac.uk

September 05 – 09, 2004, Prague, Czech Republic

ICSS&T 2004 Congress

Additional information: www.csch.cz/icss/icss2004.htm

September 05– 11, 2004, Merida (Yucatan), Mexico

XIX SICAT

XIX Symposium Ibero-Americano de Catalise

Additional information: jmdoming@www.imp.mx

September 05 – 11, 2004, Venice, Italy

Summer School on Green Chemistry

Additional information: <http://www.unive.it/inca>

September 08 – 12, 2004, Dipartimento di Scienze Chimiche, Camerino, Italy

III EUACHEM Conference on "Nitrogen Ligands in Organometallic Chemistry and Homogeneous Catalysis"

Additional information: <http://web.unicam.it/discichi/nligands2004/index.htm>

September 15 – 17, 2004, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, UK,

5th International Symposium on Transition Metals in Organic Synthesis

Additional information: <http://www.rsc.org/lap/confs/tmos5.htm>

August 29 – September 01, 2004, University of Bordeaux, France

9th FECS International Conference on Chemistry and the Environment

Additional information: <http://www.lptc.u-bordeaux.fr>

October 3 – 6, 2004, Bruchsal, Germany

Green Solvents for Synthesis

Additional information: <http://www.dechema.de/veranstaltung/gsf2004/englisch/index.htm>