

## IUPAC Project Progress Report

**Project number:** 2003-056-2-500

**Project Title:** Standard definitions of terms relating to mass spectrometry

**Task Group Leader:** Kermit K. Murray

### Report:

#### 1. Current status of project:

The IUPAC project "Standard definitions of terms relating to mass spectrometry" was publicly introduced at the 2004 American Society for Mass Spectrometry meeting in Nashville, Tennessee, May 23 to 27, 2004. A poster presentation entitled "Updating the List of Terms and Definitions for Mass Spectrometry" was on display all week. A workshop was held on Tuesday, May 25 with presentations by ASMS members Phil Price (Dow Chemical), Kermit Murray (Louisiana State University), David Sparkman (University of the Pacific), and Randy Julian (Eli Lilly). A web version of Kermit Murray's presentation "IUPAC Project 'Standard definitions of terms relating to mass spectrometry'" and the workshop report are online (<http://www.msterms.com/>). After the Workshop, the IUPAC Task group for the project met for the first time to outline the scope of the project and assign initial tasks and responsibilities. Task group members Robert K. Boyd (Canada), Marcos N. Eberlin (Brazil), Liang Li (Canada), Yasuhide Naito (Japan), and Jean-Claude Tabet (France) were present. Tasks were assigned and it was decided to come up with a preliminary list of terms by the end of Summer 2004.

Task group member G. John Langley (United Kingdom) presented a poster "IUPAC Standard Definitions of Terms Relating to Mass Spectrometry" at the British Mass Spectrometry Society Meeting held at the University of Derby held 5-8 September, 2004. The poster contained a draft of the new list of terms.

A website [msterms.com](http://msterms.com) was established. The site is in the user editable "Wiki" format and has information related to the project, news and project updates. The current and revised list of terms is posted on the site and can be freely edited and commented upon.

#### 2. Progress relative to 'milestones':

The first milestone was the creation of the Task Group, which has been accomplished. The second milestone was presentation of the project at the ASMS meeting and the meeting of the task group, which has also taken place. The next milestone is the draft manuscript of terms and definitions scheduled for January 2005.

#### 3. Difficulties encountered (or concerns):

It has been difficult getting participation from about half of the Task Group. Contact has mainly been through e-mail. Suggestions that will improve timely participation will be appreciated.

4. Projected completion date (documents ready for external review):

The external review target date remains at June 2006.

5. Intended outputs and the dissemination plan for this project:

- (a) Provide links to IUPAC article at IUPAC Website
- (b) Website [msterms.com](http://msterms.com) for discussion and announcement
- (c) Letters to the Editors of MS journals
- (d) Poster Presentations at selected conferences
- (e) Website
- (f) Usenet updates
- (g) E-mail status, links, and updates to MS society Presidents
- (h) E-mail status, links, and updates to MS manufacturer representatives

6. Work on this project has identified issues and/or opportunities for related projects:

The Wiki website format seems to be an excellent way to publish glossaries of terms on the web. This approach should be explored and evaluated further.