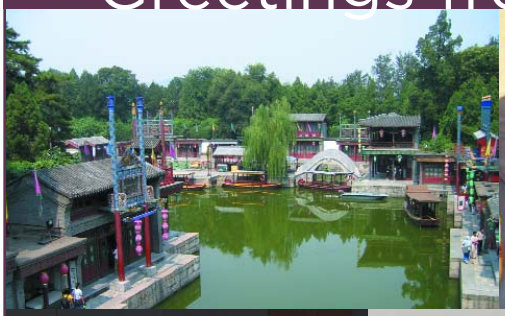
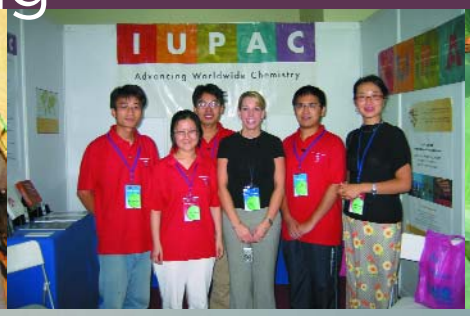
Greetings from Beijing





2005 GA Beijing, China

Gallium

A newsletter published for IUPAC's 2005 General Assembly
13-21 August 2005, Beijing, China

Metrological Traceability

Can ambiguous terminology create a barrier to trade? The Analytical Chemistry Division's interdivisional Working Group on Metrological Quality Assurance will explore this important question in a workshop on Metrological Traceability of Measurement Results in Chemistry: Working towards a Common Vocabulary.

The project team—Paul De Bièvre, Rene Dybkaer, Alex Fajgelj, and David Hibbert—will meet on **Sunday 14 August** at **16:00** in hall 10 (BICC level 3) for the presentation of a first-draft report on this timely topic. The meeting will be followed by a discussion session.

See related preprint by Paul De Bièvre on page 6.

Why Gallium?

Here and I are boring as much fun as we can. We are the International Chemistry Olympiad. We decided to treat ourselves with a special newsletter just in time for the 36th ICO in Bucharest. Why Gallium? Because it is a little, it is soft, but for gallium is its ... and its stands for General Assembly.

continued on page 13

President's Address

Saturday 13 August at 19:00, Hall 2 (BICC level2)

An important part of every IUPAC General Assembly is the State of the Union Address in which the president reports on the overall health of the organization. This year, President Leo K. Yeung, a professor of chemistry at Hanyang University, will deliver his first talk in a more conversational manner and to all IUPAC Members on **Saturday 13 August at 19:00**. Then, one week later, on Saturday 20 August, he will deliver the more formal statutory report to the Council assembly.

In his address, the president will highlight how the Union has to be sensitive and responsive to the following:

- formal requests and expectations from its members
- professional expectations from the scientific community
- adequate requests and questions from practicing chemists
- regulations and legal aspects in societies at different levels of development
- curious as well as biased questions from lay people and the general public

continued on page 2

Introducing the Young Observers

This year, Young Observers will again participate in sessions of the General Assembly. Following the same model used in 2003, IUPAC and the Canadian, USA, and UK National Adhering Organizations have selected 24 chemists, with varied backgrounds and interests, from 8 countries: Brazil, Canada, Chile, India, France, Russia, Spain, and Turkey. This new participation is likely to add vitality and a valuable perspective to the committee work in which they will participate. In the past, several younger chemists have become directly involved in IUPAC. Please welcome them and let's show them what IUPAC is all about. For a brief review and presentation of these Young Observers, see page 4.

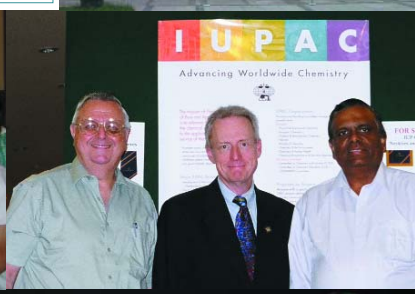
The Project Place

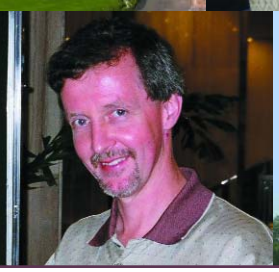
The International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry exists to advance worldwide chemistry. Just what does this mean? A snapshot of IUPAC activity at various times in the past would indeed reveal quite different—but entirely legitimate—interpretations of this mission. Some people think of nomenclature, the chemistry students' necessary evil; some think of the naming of new elements; a light and bright minority of people in the Union think of the ratification of units and accuracy of measurements, all essential for efficient chemical progress; some think of research conferences, the

continued on page 12

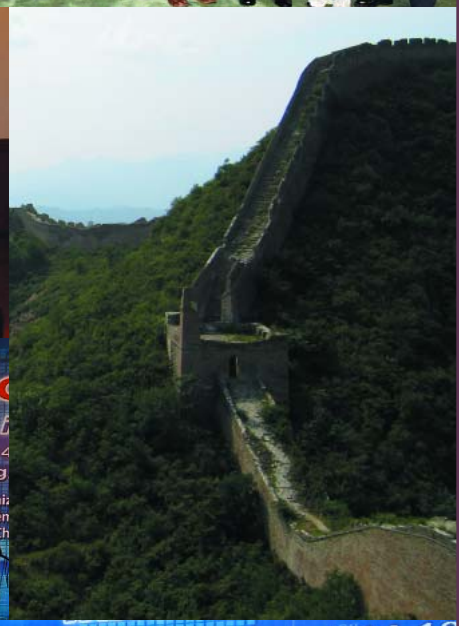
Inside

Safety Training Program	2
Chemistry in Asia	
—eWLUN Discussion	2
Chemistry Learning	10
Congress Lookup	12
GA Schedule	14
Miscellaneous	16





Chinese Chemical Society
Institute of Chemistry, CAS



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