

RSCnews

RSC fosters Asian links

Over the summer, the RSC continued its aim to foster collaboration with the chemical sciences in Asia by working with both the Chinese and Korean chemical societies.

The 40th General Assembly and Congress of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) was held in Beijing, China, in August. The RSC took the opportunity to develop the links it had initiated earlier in the year when a team of RSC staff visited dozens of the top Chinese institutions and instigated collaborative projects.

The RSC organised a joint symposium with the Chinese Chemical Society on the theme of 'Diversity in Chemistry' at which both Chinese and UK scientists spoke.

To encourage more interest among the younger science community of IUPAC's activities, the RSC sponsored a group of six Young Observers to attend IUPAC meetings held in Beijing. Dr Richard Layfield, one of the six, found the experience rewarding, saying: "It gave me a unique insight into the international governance of chemical science."

Following the meetings they attended, they have now been asked to report back on their experiences and, in particular, to offer suggestions on how IUPAC can change in order to attract input from young chemists.

2005 marks the year of UK-China Partners in Science, an initiative that seeks to enhance the two countries existing scientific collaborations and build on each others strengths.

One of the events arranged by the British Council to mark the year was a special Café Scientifique meeting at a café in Beijing. Over snacks and drinks with around 150 students, Professor Peter Atkins, leader of the UK Delegation for IUPAC, talked briefly about his book *Galileo's Finger*, before holding discussions on the merits of being a scientist rather than a philosopher.

The RSC also attended the 11th Asian Chemical Congress in Seoul, Korea. A joint one day symposium on 'Chemistry in Electronics' was hosted by the RSC and the Korean Chemical Society (KCS), and included presentations from UK and Asian scientists.

The conference was followed by visits by RSC Publishing to four universities in the country, including the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology.

In a letter to RSC President Simon Campbell, Professor Kook Joe Shin, President of the KCS expressed his wishes for further collaborations. He wrote: "Thank you again for your pioneering efforts in successful RSC-KCS cooperation and I sincerely hope that we should continue this kind of friendly and productive cooperation in the future. The first joint symposium with KCS on Chemistry in Electronics was a great success and I wish we could continue this type of joint symposium in other areas of mutual interest as well, to be held alternatively at RSC and KCS meetings."



KCS President Kook Joe Shin (2nd from left) and RSC President Simon Campbell (3rd from left) relaxing with fellow attendees of the Asian Chemical Congress

INSIDE...

IUPAC 2009

RSC wins bid to run IUPAC 2009
see page 3



More new member benefits

Including travel club discounts
see page 16



RSC Awards

Nominations for the next round of RSC awards
see page 14

NEWS	2
EVENTS	12
AWARDS	14
DIARY	18
MEMBER NEWS	23
AND FINALLY	24