

Hungarian Rhapsody

1st European Chemistry Congress: This special issue of *Chemistry—A European Journal* marks the 1st European Chemistry Congress, which takes place in Budapest between August 27–31, 2006. This conference, which focuses on frontiers in chemical and molecular sciences, is organized by the European Association of Chemical and Molecular Sciences (EuCheMS)—an organization comprising 50 member societies and representing some 150 000 individual chemists in academia, industry, and government in over 35 countries across Europe. The 14 Chemical Societies that have banded together as the Editorial Union of Chemical Societies (EUChem-Soc) for their publishing activities, the flagship journal of which is *Chemistry—A European Journal*, are all members of EuCheMS.

The choice of Budapest to host such an event is rather fitting given the rich history of the city and challenges faced in building a permanent bridge over the river Danube, which ultimately led to the unification in 1873 of Buda, Pest, and Óbuda into one city—Budapest. The Chain Bridge is the most recognizable symbol of the city. The challenges faced in providing European chemistry with a strong platform to promote its combined strengths and its aims have been taken up by the member societies of EuCheMS. The logo for the Congress is based on a sculpture by Béla Vizi, Veszprém Univer-



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sity, Hungary, called “the flavor of rose”, which was inspired by the molecular structure of phenylethyl alcohol, a constituent of rose oil. The 1st European Chemistry Congress in Budapest is a first step towards establishing a truly European counterpart to the highly successful American Chemical Society Meetings that are held every year in the spring and autumn. The scientific organizing committee, which is chaired by



Jean-Marie Lehn, the former Chairman of the Editorial Board of *Chemistry—A European Journal*, and co-chaired by E. Peter Kündig, have put together an impressive line up of speakers. The Congress will feature Plenary Lectures from five Nobel Laureates, namely, Paul J. Crutzen, George A. Olah, Jean-Marie Lehn, Kurt Wüthrich, and Ahmed Zewail, and Keynote Lectures by Annette Beck-Sickinger, David C. Clary, François Diederich, Malcolm L. H. Green, Walter Leitner, Steven V. Ley, Klaus Müllen, Jan Reedijk, and Manfred Reetz. Dieter Seebach will hold the first EuCheMS Lecture and receive the EuCheMS Medal, which is awarded for extraordinary achievements in chemistry. In addition, the newly founded European Young Chemists Award, supported by the Italian Chemical Society, will be bestowed on chemists under the age of 34 from different European countries who have made excellent contributions to chemistry. The recipients will be announced at the Congress.

The diversity of chemistry that will be presented at the Congress is illustrated by the 17 one- and two-day symposia on topics ranging from “New Frontiers in Organic Synthesis” to “Materials and Nano-Materials for Devices” and “Green

Table 1. Symposia at the 1st European Chemistry Congress.

Symposium	Topic
A	New Developments in Theoretical and Computational Chemistry
B	Cutting Edge Spectroscopy
C	New Concepts and Methods in Catalysis
D	Frontiers in Supramolecular Chemistry
E	New Frontiers in Medicinal Chemistry
F	3D Chemical Imaging in Analysis
G	Materials and Nano-Materials for Devices
H	Environmental Chemistry
I	Chemistry, Food and Health
J	Chemistry Meets Biomolecules
K	Teaching Chemistry—Past, Present, and Future
L	Green and Sustainable Chemistry and Processes
M	Polymer Architecture—From Structure to Functional Control
N	New Frontiers in Organic Synthesis
O	Novel Multifunctional Ligands in Coordination Chemistry
P	Structure and Function of Biomolecules
Q	Hot Topics in Nuclear- and Radiochemistry

and Sustainable Chemistry and Processes” (see Table 1). In addition to the Plenary Lectures and the Keynote Lectures, each of the symposia has a number of invited lectures and short oral communications, and poster sessions.

To celebrate this momentous event in European chemistry, *Chemistry—A European Journal* invited various speakers at the Congress to contribute either a Concept Article or a Full Paper to the journal. The result is this special Congress Issue, in which all the papers underwent our normal rigorous peer-review process. We are delighted that the response from the participants was so positive. Several other speakers we invited did not have a paper in the pipeline that they felt would be suitable for *Chemistry—A European Journal*. We would like to applaud those authors for being selective in what work they think is appropriate for our general readership. It is certainly beneficial to all of us involved in the journal when authors are self-critical about where best to submit their research to reach their desired target audience.

This issue contains 11 Concept Articles and 13 Full Papers from speakers at the Congress, including a Concept Article from the Plenary speaker Jean-Marie Lehn (p. 5910), and five papers from Keynote speakers, namely, Manfred Reetz (p. 6031) from the symposium New Concepts and Methods in Catalysis, François Diederich (p. 6062) from the symposium Frontiers in Supramolecular Chemistry, Walter Leitner (p. 6110) from the symposium Green and Sustainable Chemistry and Processes, Klaus Müllen (p. 6117) from the symposium Polymer Architecture—From Structure to Functional Control, and Jan Reedijk (p. 6138) from the symposium Novel Multifunctional Ligands in Coordination Chemistry.

In addition there are papers from the invited speakers in the following sections: New Concepts and Methods in Catal-

ysis (Karl-Anker Jørgensen (p. 6039), Jan-Erling Bäckvall (p. 6053), Antonio Echavarren (p. 5916)), Frontiers in Supramolecular Chemistry (Thomas Carell (p. 6081), Roeland J. M. Nolte (p. 6071), Julius Rebek, Jr., (p. 5924)), Materials and Nano-Materials for Devices (Maria Vallet-Regi (p. 5934), Kenneth R. Poeppelmeier (p. 5944)), Chemistry Meets Biomolecules (Herbert Waldmann (p. 6095)), Green and Sustainable Chemistry and Processes (Shu Kobayashi (p. 5954)), Polymer Architecture—From Structure to Functional Control (Shiro Kobayashi (p. 5962), E. W. Meijer (p. 6129)), New Frontiers in Organic Synthesis (Andreas Kirschning (p. 5972), Johann Mulzer (p. 5992), Samir Z. Zard (p. 6002)), and Novel Multifunctional Ligands in Coordination Chemistry (Bernard Meunier (p. 6018), Peter Sadler (p. 6151), Peter Tasker (p. 6166)).

Prior to his Keynote Lecture, François Diederich, a member of the Editorial Board of *Chemistry—A European Journal*, will receive the prestigious August-Wilhelm-von-Hoffmann Denkmünze (commemorative gold coin) from the German Chemical Society for his contributions to organic chemistry.

The above provides an overview of the diversity of the chemistry on show both in Budapest at the 1st European Chemistry Congress and on a regular basis within the covers of *Chemistry—A European Journal*.

EuCheMS has not only been active in organizing the 1st European Chemistry Congress, but it has also been busy establishing a series of ethical guidelines for publication of chemical research in society-based chemistry journals published by the main scientific publishers, including Wiley-VCH.

Ethical Issues: Chemists in all countries are under increasing pressure to obtain and publish results in top class journals such as *Chemistry—A European Journal*. Some countries and institutions even offer direct financial incentives to scientists to publish their papers in certain journals. Unfortunately, cases in which either exactly the same content or very closely related content is submitted simultaneously to another journal are becoming more frequent. This, coupled with unnecessary fragmentation of results, does little to help either the researcher or the peer-review system in general. With this in mind, EuCheMS has issued a document entitled Ethical Guidelines for Publication in Journals and Reviews, which can be considered as the European counterpart to the Ethical Guidelines for Chemical Research from the American Chemical Society. This code of conduct outlines the desired behavior and obligations of editors, authors, and reviewers to each other and to the scientific community in general. It is considered as binding by *Chemistry—A European Journal* as well as by the other society-based chemistry journals published by Wiley-VCH. A PDF file containing the complete Ethical Guidelines for Publication in Journals and Reviews issued by EuCheMS can be found on the Eu-



CheMS (www.euchems.org) or *Chemistry—A European Journal* (www.chemeurj.org) homepages.

If acts of scientific misconduct such as fraud, duplicate submission, duplicate publication, inadequate citing, plagiarism, or self-plagiarism are revealed, editors of the journals may impose sanctions upon authors. Such sanctions could range from immediate rejection of the paper in question, a severe warning to the author as regards his/her future conduct, up to a ban from submitting manuscripts for a certain period. The editors may alert editors of similar journals—also by other publishers—and communicate the type of ethical violation, the names of the authors, and the sanctions applied.

More Content, More Quality, More Often: In 2006, *Chemistry—A European Journal* increased the frequency of publication from 24 to 36 issues per year to meet the demands of the community. The popularity of the journal and the continued improvement in the quality of the papers published is clearly evident from the rise in the number of submissions from around the world (up by 23%), the increase in the number of full-text downloads (up by 21%), and the latest Impact Factor.

The New Impact Factor for *Chemistry—A European Journal* was released in June. We are delighted to announce that the Impact Factor has risen for the fourth consecutive year from 4.517 to 4.907. In addition the Immediacy Index, which is the average number of times an article is cited in the year it is published, has risen from 0.931 to 1.111. Of our major competitors, the Impact Factor for the *Journal of the American Chemical Society* published by the American Chemical Society rose to 7.419, whereas that for the *New Journal of Chemistry*, published by the Royal Society of Chemistry, dropped from 2.735 to 2.574.

Impressively, the Impact Factors of all the other members of the European family of EUChemSoc journals increased: the *European Journal of Organic Chemistry* to 2.548, the *European Journal of Inorganic Chemistry* to 2.514, *ChemBioChem* to 3.940, and *ChemPhysChem* to 3.607. This illustrates the growing strength of the partnership between Wiley-VCH and EUChemSoc to enhance both European chemistry and Europe as a platform for publishing top quality research. These trends bode well for the newest member of the family, *ChemMedChem*, which was successfully launched in January 2006.

The Impact Factor of the parent journal of several of these products, *Angewandte Chemie*, the flagship journal of the German Chemical Society, also rose considerably from 9.161 to 9.596.

Much is made throughout science about Impact Factors and their changes; however, it is important that the results are not taken out of context, and that journals covering different fields are not compared directly. For example, cur-

rently the Impact Factors for journals that focus on the recent developments in nanoscience and technology have undergone rapid growth owing to the extreme interest and competitiveness in this area.

A Sister Is Born: The commitment of Wiley-VCH as a publisher of Society journals is further illustrated by the launch of our sister journal, *Chemistry—An Asian Journal*, in July 2006. *Chemistry—An Asian Journal* has been established to provide a top platform for Asian chemistry, and will also publish contributions from America, Europe, and the rest of the world. This model has been successfully developed by *Chemistry—A European Journal*, which has established itself not only as a top platform for European chemistry, but publishes top research from America, Asia, and the rest of the world.



Like its European counterpart, *Chemistry—A European Journal*, which is jointly owned by 14 Chemical Societies (EUChemSoc), *Chemistry—An Asian Journal* also has strong backing from the regional international chemical societies, namely, the Chinese Chemical Society, the Chemical Research Society of India, the Chemical Society of Japan, the Korean Chemical Society, the Singapore National Institute of Chemistry, and the Chemical Society located in Taipei, China, who have together formed the Asian Chemical Editorial Society (ACES). The Owner Societies of *Chemistry—A European Journal* have agreed that this venture is very important. There will be mutual moral support between the Owner Societies of the two journals to ensure the successful development of both products.





The cover and layout of *Chemistry—A European Journal* have been slightly modified in light of the launch of the sister journal *Chemistry—An Asian Journal*. The inaugural new cover picture design features work by J. Rebek, Jr., and M. P. Schramm (p. 5924).

Further improvements are ongoing in our efforts to provide the best possible service for our

authors, reviewers, and readers. Among the most important is:

Manuscript Submission Templates: To help authors prepare an electronic version of Concept Articles and Full Papers for submission, *Chemistry—A European Journal* now provides MS Word (Win/Mac) templates on the journal homepage. Easy to use, the templates provide the author with a document that not only is ready to upload on the manuscriptXpress system, but also resembles the actual layout of articles published in the journal, thus aiding the authors in adjusting the sizes of the figures, schemes, and tables. In addition, the manuscript is then in a reader-friendly format for the referees.

Thank You: I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our Editorial Board Members, reviewers, authors, and readers for making *Chemistry—A European Journal* such a

stimulating environment in which to work. I would also like to thank the members of the Editorial Staff of the journal for ensuring that the transition from 24 to 36 issues has gone smoothly, and to congratulate Sarah Iannelli, Carolyn Schmoll, and Claire Barrie on their promotion to Associate Editor. In addition, I would like to welcome Denis Ott to our Production Team. The two Deputy Editors, Anne Devesson and Elizabeth von Roedern, will both be representing *Chemistry—A European Journal* at the Congress in Budapest. If you have any suggestions on how we can further improve the service we provide, you can either speak with them directly or contact us at the Editorial Office.

To close, I would like to thank all those speakers who have contributed to this special issue for the 1st European Chemistry Congress in Budapest, and I would like to wish the organizers of the Congress every success for the event. I am sure that it will serve, in a similar way to *Chemistry—A European Journal*, to further unite the chemical sciences within Europe.

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Editor