

"BALTICUM ORGANICUM SYNTHETICUM" BECOMES A TRADITION

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The first Baltic international conference on organic synthesis "Balticum Organicum Syntheticum" (BOS 2000) was held in Vilnius (Lithuania) in June 2000. According to its main organizer (V. Snieckus, Queen's University, Canada) the conference should follow several aims: to open a window to the West for the chemists of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania; to create conditions for discussions between the chemists of the Baltic and the West and also for scientific contacts and collaboration at the academic and industrial levels; to provide an original, linguistic, and social program for participants and their associates. All this was achieved magnificently and formed the foundation for the organization of the next conference *BOS 2002*.

The *BOS 2002* conference will be held at Vilnius University from June 23 to 27. (It is proposed to hold future conferences in Estonia and Latvia.) Its subject matter will cover both fundamental and practical aspects of organic synthesis. The conference program is marked by the extremely high standard of the plenary lectures, one of which will, as in 2000, be presented by the winner of the Nobel prize for chemistry. This time the Nobel prize winner of 2001 Prof. K. B. Sharpless (The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, California) will present a paper on the selective oxidation of olefins.

Professors from the universities and research centers of ten countries will present papers. They include J. Bäckvall (Stockholm University Arrhenius Laboratories), E. Carreira (ETH Zürich), R. H. Grubbs (Division of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, California Institute of Technology), H. Kagan (Institut de Chimie Moléculaire d'Orsay, Université Paris-Sud), Shu Kobayashi (The University of Tokyo), I. Kalvins (Latvian Institute of Organic Synthesis, Riga), O. Kulinkovich (Belarussian State University Department of Chemistry, Minsk), U. Mäeorg (University of Tartu, Estonia), M. Makosza (Institute of Organic Chemistry, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw), and M. T. Reetz (Max-Planck-Institut für Kohlenforschung, Mülheim/Ruhr, Germany) and also representatives of large pharmaceutical companies P. N. Confalone (Bristol-Myers Squibb Company Pharmaceutical Research Institute, NJ), R. Duthaler (Novartis Pharma AG, Basel, Switzerland), V. Farina (Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Department of Chemical Development), E. Grabowski (Merck & Company Inc., Rahway, NJ), M. Martinelli (Eli Lilly & Co.), and L. Truesdale (Pfizer Global Research and Development, La Jolla Labs). In addition to the plenary and invited lecturers there will be three poster sessions, which will provide a good school for young chemists from Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania.

The journal "Chemistry of Heterocyclic Compounds" marks the second Balticum Organicum Syntheticum conference, which has become a tradition, by the publication of special issues of the journal (6 and 7) in which papers from Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, and St. Petersburg (Russia) are published.

The papers of this issue review the results of investigations into the molecular structure of derivatives of thiophene S-oxides and thiophene 1,1-dioxides and also the synthesis, reactions, and complexing ability of cavitands. Other articles are devoted to the synthesis and transformations of pyrazoline, pyrazole, indole, carbazole, pyridine, quinoline, imidazole, pyrimidine, isoxazole, and benzodiazepine derivatives.

The editors of Chemistry of Heterocyclic Compounds wish success to the *BOS 2002* conference and hope that they will be able to publish a special issue for the next conference with papers by heterocyclic chemists from all the countries linked by the Baltic Sea.

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