



From the Editor

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Every day, we all make choices. In reviewing “Multiple Uses of Chemicals—IUPAC and OPCW Working Together Toward Responsible Science” (feature p. 9), we are presented with a web-site resource that explores the beneficial uses, misuses, and abuses of multi-use chemicals, both historically and presently. This educational material considers how to make responsible choices in chemistry and



what it means to practice chemistry responsibly. If the topic intrigues, I recommend that you read these pages, visit the website, and preview the video. Most informative, the video showcases the hands-on workshop held last year during the IUPAC Congress in Istanbul and explores how to use the resource by examining how chemists/students make choices. This project builds on the premise

that education and outreach are key to prevent the abuse of chemical substances. While such a topic might seem far from the concerns of chemical warfare, it is really not a big leap to teach chemists and teachers about the importance of regulatory agencies such as the Chemical Weapons Convention and the creation of codes of conduct. In that context, the “About” section of the website ends with the following statement: “Each of us as scientists and citizens have a responsibility to ensure responsible uses of the chemical substances that are important to every aspect of our everyday lives.”

This CI issue presents other choices and contents to reflect on. One is about the definition of the mole. A task group has set its goal to review the proposed definitions of fundamental chemical quantities and their impact on chemical communities. Various input is called for and you might choose to share your perspective.

Another choice is one that you can make by stepping up more actively in IUPAC committees: the timeline for the next elections cycle and the call for nominations is announced on p. 14. If you are able to commit time and expertise to IUPAC activities and willing to be nominated, you should consider contacting your NAOs and/or the current committee officers of the group that is of most interest to you.

One last choice that you can make, and a personal call, is to return some feedback about CI. IUPAC is interested in learning how you read this newsmagazine and why, what section is of interest, etc. While a survey is being prepared that will be shared via iupac.org, you can also email me, subject line “Why I read CI,” and return your comments.

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