Previous Awardees: Professor Volker Hessel (TU/e – Eindhoven University of Technology) received the award in 2016, for his outstanding contributions to the methodology of organic syntheses, including homogeneous catalysis, photochemistry, plasma catalysis, and multiphase flow, setting new standards for flow chemistry.

The recipient of the 2014 Prize was Professor Steven V. Ley (University of Cambridge, UK) for his outstanding contribution and creative work in methodologies for organic synthesis, especially in multi-step synthesis in continuous flow chemistry reactor systems.

In 2012 the first IUPAC-ThalesNano Prize in Flow Chemistry was awarded to Professor Klavs F. Jensen (MIT, USA) for his outstanding contribution to the field of flow chemistry both in academia and industry. He is considered one of the pioneers of flow chemistry.

https://iupac.org/c-oliver-kappe-is-awarded-the-2018-iupac-thalesnano-prize-for-flow-chemistry/

OPCW to Further Enhance Contributions to United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals

During the 3rd edition of the OPCW Forum on the Peaceful Uses of Chemistry, held at the OPCW Headquarters in The Hague on 23 October, Professor Pietro Tundo, Chair of IUPAC's Interdivisional Committee on Green Chemistry for Sustainable Development, provided insights into the approaches of supporting sustainable development through peaceful uses of chemistry. With that Forum, and in a bid to strengthen international security through development, the Member States of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) identified activities to help achieve the United Nation's (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Forum convened over 30 professionals including chemists, chemical engineers, academics, as well as government and industry officials from the following OPCW Member States: Algeria, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, China, Colombia, Ecuador, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, Kenya, Malaysia, Morocco, Myanmar, Pakistan, Panama, the Philippines, Poland, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Switzerland, and the United States of America. The attendees participated in panel discussions on a range of topics including: an overview of the SDGs; peaceful application of chemistry; chemical safety, security and sustainability; gender mainstreaming; and building institutional synergies to promote international cooperation on SDGs.

https://iupac.org/opcw-to-further-enhance-contributions-to-united-nations-sustainable-development-goals/

1001 Inventions: Journeys from Alchemy to Chemistry

UNESCO and 1001 Inventions will launch a new educational initiative celebrating the 8th century polymath Jabir ibn Hayyan as part of the 2019 International Year of the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements. The new multimedia initiative, titled "1001 Inventions: Journeys from Alchemy to Chemistry", focuses on contributions to the foundations of modern chemistry by ancient cultures and civilizations, in particular the remarkable work of the pioneering polymath Jabir ibn Hayyan, also known as Geber, in the 8th century.

Jabir ibn Hayyan spent most of his life in Kufa, Iraq, where he devised and perfected sublimation, liquefaction, crystallization, distillation, purification, amalgamation, oxidation, evaporation, and filtration. He developed precise measuring equipment, and discovered sulfuric, nitric, and nitromuriatic acids, all now vitally important in the chemical industry. His research and publications, including the *Great Book of Chemical Properties, The Weights and Measures, The Chemical Combination,* and *The Dyes*, opened the way for modern chemistry and guided scientists during the following centuries.

Through a series of international events, combining experiments, live shows, digital content, and teaching resources, this new initiative will promote basic sciences education to all, including youth, teachers and families to inspire inquisitiveness and curiosity. It will be launched during the opening ceremony of the International Year of the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements on 29 January 2019 at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France.

"*The International Year of Periodic Table of Chemical Elements is a great opportunity to reflect upon many aspects of the periodic table, including its evolution, the role of women in research, global trends and perspectives on basic science for sustainable societies*" explained Martiale

Zebaze Kana, Executive Secretary of UNESCO's International Basic Sciences Programme (IBSP). "*UNESCO is delighted to collaborate with 1001 Inventions to further promote innovative ways in teaching basic sciences with special emphasis in hands-on approach*."

"*1001 Inventions is delighted to continue to partner with UNESCO and support IYPT2019 public engagement efforts*" said Ahmed Salim, 1001 Inventions Co-Founder and Managing Director. "*We are very excited to launch a new global educational initiative presenting fascinating journeys of discovery in Chemistry. Through exciting learning experiences, we aim to help inspire a new generation to learn more about basic sciences and its importance for sustainable development while recognising humanity's shared scientific heritage.*"

The launch will include an event organized for schools and youth, and the initiative will be rolled out around the world in partnership with science centres, science festivals, museums, educational institutions, digital and social media platforms.

About 1001 Inventions - 1001 Inventions is an award-winning, British based organization that creates international educational campaigns and engaging transmedia productions aiming to raise awareness of the contributions to science, technology and culture from the Golden Age of Muslim Civilization. 1001 Inventions has engaged with over 350 million people across the globe working with a network of international partners, including UNESCO, National Geographic and leading academics to produce interactive exhibits, short films, live shows, books and classroom learning materials that are being used by hundreds of thousands of educators around the world. <http://www.1001inventions.com/>

https://www.iypt2019.org/2018/10/29/unesco-and-1001-inventions-join-forces-for-iypt2019

Stamps International

See also www.iupac.org/publications/ci/indexes/stamps.html

Olympic Gold

The International Chemistry Olympiad (IChO) is an annual worldwide competition for high school students in which their chemical knowledge and skills are tested through a series of theoretical and practical problems. The first IChO was held in Prague in 1968 with three teams of six students representing Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and Poland. Humble beginnings perhaps, but interest in the IChO rose quickly and, by 1980, a total of 52 competitors from 13 countries attended the 12th IChO, held for the first time outside Eastern Europe, in Linz, Austria. Participation expanded steadily in the ensuing years and 186 students from 47 countries were present at the 30th IChO in Melbourne, Australia, in 1998.

The postage stamp illustrated in this note, the first ever issued to honor a Chemistry Olympiad, was released on 15 June 2018 to commemorate the 50th IChO, which was jointly hosted for the first time by two countries, Slovakia and the Czech Republic. It took place on 19-29 July 2018, organized by Comenius University in Bratislava and the University of Chemistry and Technology in Prague, institutions that shared the management of both technical sessions and social events. Significantly, the 50th IChO had a record attendance of 300 students from 76 countries, a fitting milestone for the golden anniversary of the International Chemistry Olympiads.

The 51st IChO will take place in Paris on 21-30 July 2019, just a few days after the IUPAC World Congress and General Assembly, yet another reason to celebrate chemistry during the International Year of the Periodic Table. Dmitri Mendeleev, 150 years after introducing the first version of the modern periodic table, would be so proud of the students competing at the IChO!

Written by Daniel Rabinovich <drabinov@uncc.edu>.