

Antonio Monge-Vega	Spain
Julio de Paula	USA/Brazil
Judith Poë	Canada
Kip Powell	New Zealand
Leiv Sydnes	Norway
Natalia Tarasova	Russia
Fabienne Meyers	IUPAC Secretariat

This committee held its first meeting on 20–21 February 2000.

Chemical Nomenclature

Dr. Edwin D. Becker (Secretary General) was given responsibility for initiating a study of IUPAC's programs in the nomenclature of chemicals—organic, inorganic, macromolecular, and biochemical—and developing recommendations for future activities. He decided (with the concurrence of the other IUPAC officers) that the first step should be a broad-based meeting to explore the wide ramifications of the subject. He recruited Dr. Alan McNaught (member of IDCNS and CPEP) to lead this effort. A roundtable discussion on "Representations of Molecular Structure: Nomenclature and its Alternatives" has been organized for Washington, DC on 10–11 March 2000 to bring together nomenclature experts with representatives of various groups that are current or potential users of IUPAC chemical nomenclature (e.g., editors, publishers, database providers, patent and international trade authorities) and individuals from major commercial nomenclature services. This group of about 35 participants from 12 countries is to help define long-range needs and to provide recommendations for future directions for IUPAC work in the field.

Comments and suggestions in these three areas are, of course, welcome. The Executive Committee will monitor progress, and reports will be presented in due course to the Bureau.

Report on IOCD/IUPAC Workshop on Environmental Analytical Chemistry for Regulatory Chemists and Laboratory Managers, Prague, Czech Republic, 16–18 June 1999

Dr. Walter R. Benson (Benson and Associates, 6209 Crathie Lane, Bethesda, MD 20816-1003, USA; E-mail: Wbenson270@aol.com), Chairman of the IUPAC Chemistry and the Environment Division's Joint Working Party with IOCD on Environmental Analytical Chemistry in Developing Countries, has submitted the following report:

The Joint IOCD/IUPAC Working Party on Environmental Analytical Chemistry (JWP) was formed by the

International Organization for Chemical Sciences in Development (IOCD) and IUPAC in 1993 out of a realization that developing countries need scientists and technical personnel with internationally acceptable expertise and laboratories to perform environmental monitoring. These countries struggle with global trade restrictions, standards, and environmental laws on monitoring of pollutants in air, food, water, and solid wastes, but face a severe lack of trained personnel to manage these tasks.

The JWP held this workshop in Prague with the aim of providing updated information on environmental analytical chemistry to analytical chemists and laboratory managers in the Central European countries that participate in official environmental monitoring. In organizing the workshop, the JWP cooperated with the Czech Chemical Society, Deputy Minister Karel Blaha of the Department of Environmental Affairs of the Czech Republic, and Charles University. A local organizing committee consisted of Dr. Pavel Draser, Vice President of the Czech Chemical Society; Profs. Jiri Barek and Karel Stulik of Charles University; and Dr. Frantiska Pavlikova of Merck & Co. of Prague. This committee shared with the JWP the responsibility for inviting participants and speakers from Central Europe. The committee made contact with various chemical societies in Central Europe, while IOCD and IUPAC placed announcements about the workshop on their respective web sites.

Working together, Dr. Draser and Prof. Barek greatly facilitated the success of the workshop by selecting participants; choosing the workshop site at Pruhonice in the midst of a group of hotels and a park; arranging for various workshop services, including use of ten computer workstations and audiovisual equipment; and selecting the caterer and meal menus. They also scheduled a concert by a Czech musical ensemble as a special treat for the workshop attendees.

The JWP was responsible for selecting the topics and appropriate lecturers for presentation of the workshop. Topics selected fell within the following areas:

- sampling procedures used in air, water, food, and soil
- sample preparation procedures
- international methods of analysis used to regulate air, water, food, and soil
- managing a chemical laboratory and proficiency testing of chemists
- using computer networks to locate necessary chemical information and experts

The workshop lecturers, 15 scientists in all, came from the Czech Republic (4); Slovakia (1); Belgium (1); and the United States (9). A total of 36 participants came from the Czech Republic, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, Ukraine, and the United States; 12 of