

THIRD "BALTICUM ORGANICUM SYNTHETICUM" CONFERENCE IN RIGA

E. Lukevics

The first Baltic International Conference on organic synthesis "Balticum Organicum Syntheticum" (BOS-2000) was held in Vilnius (Lithuania) in June, 2000 [1, 2]. In the view of its main organizer V. Snieckus (Queen's University, Canada) the conference would acquaint the chemists of the West with the achievements of Baltic chemists, create conditions for discussion, and strengthen scientific links between them. All this was realized magnificently and formed the basis for the organization of the next conference BOS-2002, which was held in Vilnius in June, 2002 [3, 4].

Now, two years later, the BOS-2004 conference is being held in Riga (Latvia) from June 27 to July 1, 2004. This is the beginning of a new tradition of regular Baltic international conferences on organic synthesis.

The third conference has been organized on the basis of the principles that proved so successful at previous conferences.

First, there is the distinguished reputation of the invited participants.

Plenary and invited speakers are professors from universities and research centers of six nations. They include D. Evans, M. F. Lipton, D. W. C. MacMillan, K. C. Nicolaou, E. Reichmanis, G. Stork, and R. Waltermire representing the USA, R. W. Friesen from Canada, D. Enders and P. Knochel from Germany, J. Cossy from France, S. V. Ley from Great Britain, and T. Fukuyama from Japan.

Second, there is the blend of academic science and the interests of the chemical and pharmaceutical industry. The speakers represent not only universities (Harvard, Columbia, Aachen, Cambridge, Tokyo, and a series of others) but also the world's leading pharmaceutical companies, such as Pfizer, Merck, and Bristol-Myers Squibb.

Third, there is extensive participation from students and young scientists.

To each of the Balticum Organicum Syntheticum conferences the publisher of "Chemistry of Heterocyclic Compounds" has devoted special issues containing papers on researches into the chemistry of heterocyclic compounds by chemists in the nations of the Baltic Coast [5, 6].

We are also marking the third conference with the publication of special issues (Nos. 6 and 7) containing papers by scientists from Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, and St. Petersburg.

The papers in the present issue present the results of researches into heterocalixarenes and also on the development of methods for the synthesis of new derivatives of azetidinone, pyrrolidinones, pyridinones, 3-acylpyridines, pyrimidinediones, imidazopyrimidine, triazolodiazepine, oxazolidine, and oxadiazole, study of the hydroxylation of heteroaromatic aldimines, the transesterification of 2-aziridinecarboxylic esters, the electrochemical oxidation of dihydropyridines, and the transformations of pyrimidinylacetyl azide, determination of the relationships governing screening in the ^{14}N NMR spectra, and determination of the cytotoxicity of derivatives of pyranone, di(3-indolyl) selenide, and the complexes of 8-quinolineselenol with metals.

In addition, simultaneously with the conference we mark the seventieth anniversaries of outstanding Latvian chemists – G. Duburs, Professor of organic chemistry and medicinal chemistry of the A. Strakov Riga Technical University (papers about them and their work will be published in No. 7 of the journal) and habilitation Dr. L. Leite [7], specialist on catalysis, one of whose papers is published in this issue.

In the seventh issue of the journal there will also be an article about the anniversary of Prof. O. N. Chupakhin (Russia), Full Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences, who has long collaborated with Latvian chemists.

The Editorial Board of "Chemistry of Heteroorganic Compounds" wishes success to the participants of the BOS-2004 conference and thanks all the authors who have sent articles for these special issues.

REFERENCES

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