

Announcement

The Phytochemical Society of Europe

The Phytochemical Society of Europe (PSE) was founded in 1957. Its aim is to promote the understanding of plant constituents in respect of their chemistry, function, biosynthesis, and effects on the physiology and pathology of living organisms. A further objective is the application of such knowledge in agriculture and industry.

Details of the PSE are given at: <http://www.dmu.ac.uk/ln/pse>



Previous meeting

Chemistry and Biology of Marine Organisms. This International Symposium was held in Crete, Greece, from 21 to 26 September 2003. It attracted more than 160 scientists from all over the world. A varied programme covered all aspects related to natural compounds from marine origins: isolation and structural elucidation of new metabolites, biological and pharmacological activities, structure–activity relationships, ecological roles, their biogenesis and biosynthesis. In addition, new methods concerning the total synthesis of some interesting compounds, and strategies for stereo-chemical determination were presented.

One important message emerging from the Symposium was that no one approach is going to solve the remaining or future problems concerning the chemistry and biology of marine organisms. Rather, this will only be achieved by the combined efforts of chemists, biochemists, biologists, molecular biologists, and ecologists. By bringing together scientists from these diverse backgrounds, this conference should have helped in this objective.

The PSE Committee and Chairman thank most warmly Professor Vassilios Roussis and his team for their efforts in organising this excellent meeting.

Virginia Lanzotti and Richard Robins

Forthcoming meetings

8–10 September 2004: *Phytochemistry and Application of Plant Saponins* (Pulawy, Poland). This conference aims to bring together chemists and researchers from all disciplines who have a common interest in saponin chemistry and biochemistry. Topics will focus on their industrial, food and pharmaceutical significance, their biological activity, analytical methods, and saponins in genetic research.

Contact: Dr. D. Dietrych-Szostak: saponins@iung.pulawy.pl <http://www.saponins.iung.pulawy.pl>

27–30 September 2004: *Plant Anti-Herbivore Defense:*

Recent Advances in Biochemistry, Ecology, Molecular Biology and Phytochemistry (Jena, Germany). The meeting will focus on how plants protect themselves against insects and other herbivorous animals by employing constitutive and induced chemical defenses. We invite contributions from a wide range of disciplines.

Contacts: Dr. Wilhelm Boland or Dr. Jonathan Gershenson aschneider@ice.mpg.de; winnefeld@ice.mpg.de

The Phytochemical Society of Europe

In order to advance phytochemical research, the PSE undertakes a number of activities.

- Organisation of several scientific meetings each year.
- Publication of the proceedings.
- Annual award of the PSE–Pierre-Fabre Prize to an outstanding young scientist.
- Award of Travel Bursaries for young scientists to present their research at PSE meetings.

Benefits of PSE membership

Membership of the PSE is worldwide and open to anyone with an interest in the chemistry, biochemistry and genetics of plant metabolism. Members benefit from:

- Reduced registration fees for PSE meetings
- Regular mailing of information
- Up-to-date information on the PSE website
- Reduced subscription rates for some journals and books

Membership

For details of membership, consult the PSE homepage or send an e-mail to the Membership Secretary at simon.gibbons@ulsop.ac.uk