

Information

General meeting of the Division of Chemistry and Materials Sciences of the Russian Academy of Sciences

The General meeting of the Division of Chemistry and Materials Sciences of the Russian Academy of Sciences was held on December 18, 2007, at the N. D. Zelinsky Institute of Organic Chemistry of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

The General meeting listened to the scientific reports of Academician *A. L. Buchachenko* “New Isotropy in Chemistry and Biochemistry”, Corresponding Member of the RAS *M. F. Churbanov* “Monoisotopic Single Crystalline High-Purity Silicon-28”, Doctor of Science (Physics and Mathematics) *S. N. Dmitriev* “Synthesis and Chemical Properties of Super-heavy Elements of the D. I. Mendeleev Periodic Table.”

Academician *E. N. Kablov* spoke about the program “Nanomaterials” as a part of the all-Academy program in nano-

technology formed by the Commission for Nanotechnologies of the RAS.

This was followed by election of acting Deputy Academician Secretary of the Division and acting members of the Bureau of the Division. Academician *E. M. Dianov* and Academician *A. R. Khokhlov* were elected acting Deputy Academician Secretaries. Academician *K. A. Solntsev* and Academician *A. Yu. Tsivadze* were elected acting members of the Bureau of the Division of Chemistry and Materials Sciences of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

The *honoris causa* degree of the RAS was awarded to Professor *Yu. Estrin*, Monash University, Melbourne (Australia).

General meeting of the Russian Academy of Sciences

The General meeting of the Russian Academy of Sciences was held on December 19, 2007, in the Great Hall of the RAS in Moscow.

At the morning session, President of the RAS Academician *Yu. S. Osipov* came out with the opening speech. He spoke about participation of the Academy in the Year of the Russian Language, informed the participants of the General Meeting about the recent events in the Academy. An important event is the approval of a new Charter (RF Government Regulation No. 785 of November 19, 2007), which confirmed the legal status of the Academy and extended its capabilities, independence, and area of responsibility. One more important achievement is the start of the second phase of the pilot project on increasing the salary of researchers of

the Academy. Yet another important event is the Session of the Council at the Russian Federation President for Science, Technology, and Education devoted to the program of fundamental scientific research for 2008–2012, which took place within the walls of the Academy for the first time.

At the evening session, Vice-President of the RAS Academician *Zh. I. Alferov* spoke about the program of the Russian Academy of Sciences for Nanotechnologies. He told that the prepared variant of the program is based on the proposals of institutes of the Academy, which were discussed and approved at the sessions of the Commission Sections. *Zh. I. Alferov* presented the subprograms prepared by six Sections of the Academic Commission dealing with the physics of nanostructures, nanoelectronics, nanomaterials, nano-

biotechnology, nanodiagnostics, and education. *Zh. I. Alferov* emphasized that without appropriate financing it is impossible to implement the Academic program. *Yu. S. Osipov* noted that the program of fundamental research was prepared with participation of state scientific centers, universities, and industry-oriented research institutes. They decided that the presented program should be finalized and passed according to the established procedure.

For enhancing and coordination of nanotechnology research, Presidium of the RAS proposed transforming of the Division of Information Technologies and Computation systems in the Division of Nanotechnologies and Information Technologies. The General Meeting voted for making the appropriate changes in the Charter of the RAS and authorized the Presidium to apply to the Government for approval of these amendments. In addition, to intensify the works

dealing with nanomaterials and nanotechnologies, the Academy intends to address the Government with application for 10 positions of Academicians and 20 positions of Corresponding Members.

Information concerning the Charter of the Russian Academy of Sciences was delivered by Academician *Yu. A. Osip'yan*. According to the approved Charter, the Academy continues to function as a self-governing scientific organization whose activity is largely state-financed.

To conclude the session, President of the RAS *Yu. S. Osipov* stated that the approval of the new Charter provides the possibility to organize the Session of the General Meeting of the RAS where new members of the RAS and President and Presidium of the RAS will be elected.

G.N. Konnova