



The Royal
Australian
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NSW

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Weekly E News – NSW

Feb 6th 2009

Olle' Prize

The NSW Branch invites nominations for the **Archibald D Ollé Prize**.

Archibald Ollé was very active in the chemical and scientific life of NSW in the first 40 years of the twentieth century, and his wife, who outlived him, left a bequest to the RACI NSW Branch to his name with an annual prize. It is awarded to a member of the Institute who submits the “best treatise, writing or paper” on any subject relevant to the Institute’s interests. Examples of previous winners include books and book chapters on key areas of chemistry, as well as critical scientific and technical reviews.

The NSW Branch Committee controls the Prize and has established the following conditions:

1. Nominations are invited from candidates themselves or from persons knowing suitable candidates and must be members of the RACI.
2. Each nominee shall submit a single scientific work published during the period 1st January 2008 until December 2008.
3. Nominations must be in writing, setting out the name, address, academic qualifications and present position of the nominee and be signed by the nominee and nominator.
4. Where the work involves more than one author, the nominator should arrange for **all** the other authors to send an indication of the contribution of the nominee. Though submission of multi-authored works is not discouraged, authors should be aware that in the past the adjudicators have found it very difficult to establish the relative merits of single and multi-authored works in terms of making an award to an individual.
5. Nominations should be addressed to:

The President
The Royal Australian Chemical Institute Inc. NSW Branch
School of Chemistry
UNSW
Sydney 2052

And must be lodged on or before Friday 27th March 2009

6. In all matters relating to this Prize, the decision of the NSW Branch Committee shall be final, and the Committee may not make an award if, in the opinion of the assessors, the submissions are not of a sufficiently high standard.

The result will be communicated to all entrants and will be published in “Chemistry in Australia”

Final Report of the Pharmaceuticals Industry Strategy Group

(Thanks to John Zavras who supplied the information)

Senator the Hon Kim Carr announced the release of the Final Report of the Pharmaceuticals Industry Strategy Group (the PISG) on Friday 30 January 2009. The Government is considering its recommendations.

Download the Final Report as a **PDF**

<http://www.innovation.gov.au/Industry/Pharmaceuticals/Documents/PISG_Final_Report.pdf> (3,697 KB)

or an **RTF**

<http://www.innovation.gov.au/Industry/Pharmaceuticals/Documents/PISG_rtf_FINAL.rtf> (1.17 MB).

The Executive Summary is available as a **PDF**

<http://www.innovation.gov.au/Industry/Pharmaceuticals/Documents/PISG_Executive_Summary.pdf> (912 KB).

<http://www.innovation.gov.au/Industry/Pharmaceuticals/Pages/PharmaceuticalsIndustryStrategyGroup.aspx>

RACI MEMBERSHIP RESTRUCTURE

In the February issue of "Chemistry in Australia" there will be a position paper describing the proposed changes to membership. Members are encouraged to send their comments to the President, Bob Watts, email rowatts@bigpond.net.au,

Wiley Book Offer



Did you know that being a RACI member entitles you to discounts on Wiley Books when you order the books through the NSW RACI Branch Office? The offer applies to Wiley's range of Professional Books. To enquire contact Edwina racinsw@chem.unsw.edu.au

NSW Annual Report 2007/2008

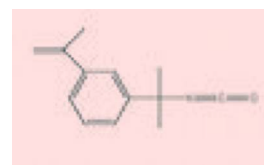
Copies of last years annual report are now on online:

<http://www.chem.unsw.edu.au/RACI/>

The report is not as lengthy as in previous years as not all groups and sections submitted reports. Hard Copies are available upon request. Please contact the NSW Office.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Phosgene-Free Process for Aliphatic Isocyanates - A multi-billion dollar chemicals manufacturer invites proposals for technologies and partners to develop phosgene-free process for the production of aliphatic isocyanates. More info john@anotec.com.au



RACI Focus Groups

Attention all RACI Members

The Editorial committee of the *Chem in Aus* is currently making plans to do some research about reading of and attitudes towards Chemistry in Australia.

To find out more about members and potential members across Australia, it is hoped that some focus groups can be organised.

Is anyone holding an RACI group meeting between now and April who'd be willing to conduct a focus group? Groups willing, would be supplied with some questions and guidelines for the focus groups. It is hoped to capture ideas from people of a range of ages and interests, but particularly the ideas of young members. It's very important that the focus group outcomes reflect attitudes nationally, so it is hoped various groups will provide some assistance.

If interested people, groups and sections can contact the NSW office and arrangements with the CIA staff will be made.

Website of the Week



Chemists without Borders
<http://www.chemistswithoutborders.org>

Chemists Without Borders is a public benefit, non-profit, international humanitarian organization designed to alleviate human suffering through the use of proven chemical technologies and related skills.

Our primary goals include, but are not limited to, providing affordable medicines and vaccines to those who need them most, supplying clean water in developing countries, facilitating sustainable energy technologies, supporting chemistry education, and providing emergency disaster relief.

Chemists Without Borders alleviates human suffering in developing countries by:

- **Mobilizing** global resources and expertise, knowledge and creativity
- **Developing** self-reliance operating models
- **Organizing** around sharable processes and activities
- **Partnering** through social entrepreneurs and humanitarian organizations

Thanks to John Zavras who suggested the site.

Upcoming RACI Meetings

Feb 16th

NSW ChemEd Group Meeting 5pm for a 5.30pm start. Location to be confirmed

Feb 20th

NSW RACI Branch Meeting 5.30pm start. Prior to the Presidents Dinner. (If any member has concerns ideas for the Branch to Discuss – please forward your ideas etc to the Branch (racinsw@chem.unsw.edu.au)).

Nominations for RACI Awards are now open

Like last year we will feature a detailed description of one award each week during the nominations period. This week we feature *Biota Award for Medicinal Chemistry*

Biota Award for Medicinal Chemistry

Rules:

* Biota Holdings Ltd will fund the award of an annual medal and prize for Medicinal Chemistry to encourage the design and development by younger chemists (with less than 12 years of professional experience since completing their most recent relevant qualification of BSc, BSc (Hons), MSc or PhD) of small molecules as potential therapeutic agents.

* The value of the prize shall be \$5,000. The prize may be used in any way to assist the professional development of the recipient e.g. to assist the recipient to travel to international meetings and to spend time visiting overseas laboratories.

*Only financial members of the RACI will be eligible to apply for the Biota Medal for Medicinal Chemistry.

*Applications will be called for each year at an appropriate time in "Chemistry in Australia" and would be treated as commercial-in-confidence.

*The Medal will awarded to the chemist judged to be responsible for the best drug design and development paper published, patent taken out, or commercial-in-confidence report in the previous calendar year concerning small molecules (less than 1,000 Da) as potential therapeutic agents.

*The award would be administered by the RACI who would appoint a panel of three judges, at least one of whom would be from the RACI Biomolecular Chemistry Division of Medicinal and Agricultural Chemistry. The judges would be required to sign appropriate secrecy agreements in order to preserve the intellectual property rights of the applicants.

*The award may be shared if the judges agree that more than one applicant is equally worthy of the award.

*The award shall be subject to the approval of the RACI Board.

*The recipient shall deliver a lecture on the topic of the award at a suitable national meeting of the RACI or one of its Divisions.

Nominations must be forwarded to the RACI National Office, 1/21 Vale Street, North Melbourne, Victoria 3051. Applications (4 copies) close 5 pm Eastern Standard Time on 30th April each year. Receipt by National Office of each nomination will be acknowledged.

Important Dates in Chemistry's History Feb 6-12

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b. 1860 **Nikolai D. Zelinsky**, researcher on catalysis of disproportionation reactions of hydrocarbons & bromination of fatty acids (Heil-Volhard-Zelinsky reaction).

b. 1892 **William P. Murphy**, researcher on diabetes & diseases of the blood, especially pernicious anemia; Nobel Prize in Medicine (1934) with George R. Minot & George H. Whipple for their discoveries concerning liver therapy in cases of anaemia. .

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b. 1834 **Dimitri I. Mendeleev** discovered Periodic Law (Table) at same time as Lothar Meyer, who published later.

b. 1850 **John B. F. Herreshoff** developed method for manufacturing sulfuric acid.

b. 1905 **Ulf von Euler**, Nobel Prize in Medicine or Physiology with J. Axelrod and B. Katz for discoveries concerning humoral transmitters in the nerve terminals and the mechanism for their storage, release and inactivation.

➤ John A. R. Newlands published his first paper on his law of octaves showing that in order of increasing atomic weights, properties repeated with every 8th element, 1864.

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b. 1777 **Bernard Courtois** discovered iodine (I, 53) in the liquor from the lixiviation of kelp in 1811.

b. 1795 **Friedlieb F. Runge** discovered carbolic acid (phenol) & aniline, 1834, in coal tar; investigated dry distillation & composition of matter.

b. 1848 **Francis R. Japp**, researcher on benzil, benzoin, & phenanthraquinone.

b. 1866 **Moses Gomberg**, researcher on triphenylmethyl (first stable free radical) & tautomerism.

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b. 1871 **Edward C. C. Baly** showed sugar & other organic compounds formed from water, carbon dioxide, & ammonia under the influence of light.

b. 1918 **Lloyd N. Ferguson**, chemical educator; author.

➤ Californium (Cf, 98) discovered by ion exchange chromatography at the University of California, Berkeley, 1950.

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b. 1840 **Per Teodor Cleve**, discovered holmium and thulium (1879). Concluded that didymium was two elements later named neodymium and praseodymium (1874); Lecoq de Boisbaudran found dysprosium in it (1886).

b. 1846 **Ira Remsen**, founder of *American Chemical Journal*, researcher in organic chemistry; cosynthesizer of saccharin.

b. 1897 **John F. Enders** proved poliovirus not neurotropic; Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine (1954) with T. H. Weller & F. C. Robbins, for their discovery that poliovirus can grow in various types of tissue.

➤ Birth of the polarograph, 1922.

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b. 1839 **Josiah Willard Gibbs**, researcher in thermodynamics & phase rule (Gibbs Phase Rule). Free energy ($G = H - TS$) is named for him as Gibbs free energy.

b. 1847 **Thomas A. Edison**, inventor; incandescent lamp, mimeograph.

b. 1894 **Izaac M. Kolthoff**, researcher in analytical chemistry; research in polarography, voltammetry; amperometric titrations, & synthetic rubber chemistry.

➤ Alwin Mittasch & Christian Schneider filed application resulting in US patent 1,201,850, describing catalytic production of methanol from carbon monoxide & hydrogen, 1914.

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b. 1785 **Pierre L. DuLong** discovered nitrogen trichloride, 1813; researcher on refractive indices & specific heats of gases; Law of constancy of atomic heat (DuLong & Petit), 1819; suggested that acids were compounds of hydrogen, 1815; devised formula for heat value of fuels (DuLong Formula).

b. 1826 **Moritz Traube**, researcher in semipermeable membranes, sugars, respiration, fermentation, oxidation, protoplasm, & muscle.

Ref: Monthly Historical Events In Chemistry by Leopold May, The Catholic University of America

<http://faculty.cua.edu/may/Chemistrycalendar.htm>