



The 6th International Conference on the History of Chemistry

**NEIGHBOURS AND TERRITORIES
THE EVOLVING IDENTITY OF CHEMISTRY**

28 August -1 September 2007

Leuven (Belgium)

The Working Party (WP) on the History of Chemistry of the European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences (EuCheMS) will hold its biennial History of Chemistry Conference in Leuven between 28 August and 1 September 2007. The conference will mainly focus on the disciplinary identity of chemistry and the changing relationships with other fields. A major aim of the conferences organised by the WP is to facilitate communication between historically interested chemists and historians of chemistry from all over Europe. Previous conferences of the WP were held in Budapest in September 2003 ("Communication in chemistry in Europe") and Lisbon in September 2005 ("Chemistry, Technology and Society").

"NEIGHBOURS AND TERRITORIES: THE EVOLVING IDENTITY OF CHEMISTRY"

Throughout its history, chemistry has been shifting ground between different territories. From its roots in artisan technology, pharmaceutical workshops and alchemical philosophy, it developed into the archetypical laboratory science of the eighteenth and nineteenth century, claiming full academic status. Chemists invaded many new fields, from agriculture and industry, to medicine, public hygiene and pharmacology. In the twentieth century, chemistry related to major developments in molecular biology, quantum mechanics, environmental science and nanotechnology. But it also gained a key position in the oil industry, the production of plastics and pharmaceutical research. This broad and continuous adaptation of the discipline to various fields of expertise has brought chemistry in close contact with neighbouring disciplines and social pressures. Time and again, chemists have needed to carve out their territory, to negotiate with other specialists, and to claim particular expertise in widely diverging fields. The conference aims at a better understanding of the territories claimed by chemistry and its shifting boundaries with other disciplines.

More details on the programme can be found on the conference's website: <http://www.6ichc.be>

Scientific Committee

Marco BERETTA, Università di Bologna, Italy.

José Ramón BERTOMEU-SÁNCHEZ, Universitat de València, Spain (chair).

Ana CARNEIRO, Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal.

Ursula KLEIN, Max Planck Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte, Berlin, Germany.

Laurence LESTEL, Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers, Paris, France.

Anders LUNDGREN, Uppsala Universitet, Sweden.

Peter MORRIS, Science Museum, London.

Carsten REINHARDT, Universität Regensburg, Germany.

Sona ŠTRBÁNOVÁ, Ústav pro soudobé dejiny, Akademie ved České republiky, Prague, Czech Republic.

Robrecht VAN HEE, Universiteit Antwerpen, Belgium

Geert VANPAEMEL, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium

Brigitte Van TIGGELEN, Université catholique de Louvain, Mémosciences asbl, Belgium.

Local Committee

Kenneth BERTRAMS, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium.

Hendrik DEELSTRA, Universiteit Antwerpen, Belgium (honorary chairman).

Ernst HOMBURG, Universiteit Maastricht, Netherlands.

Bernard MAHIEU, Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium.

Adriaan MINDERHOUD, Chemiehistorische Groep KNCV, Netherlands

Geert VANPAEMEL, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium

Brigitte Van TIGGELEN, Université catholique de Louvain, Mémosciences asbl, Belgium (chairwoman).

Time and Location

Registration and the opening session on Tuesday night will take place at the Erasmushuis, the building of the Faculty of Humanities, Blijde Inkomststraat 21 marked A on the Leuven map you can download on the website at <http://www.6ichc.be/leuven.jpg>. The key-note lecture will be followed by a Welcome buffet at the same place.

The conference and poster sessions will take place in the College De Valk, Tiensestraat 41, marked B on the same map.

The conference dinner will take place in Salons Georges, Hogeschoolplein, 15 marked D on the map.

Language

English will be the conference language. No interpretation will be provided.

General Schedule of the Conference

	Tuesday 28.08.07	Wednesday 29.08.07	Thursday 30.08.07	Friday 31.08.07	Saturday 01.09.07
9h00		Opening	Session 5 / Session 6	Lawrence Principe	9h00 Bus leaves Leuven
9h30		Ana Simoes		coffee	10h30 Arrival in Ghent
10h00		Coffee	coffee	Session 11/ Symposium C Early mod.chemistry	Museum for the History of Science
10h30		Session 1 / Symposium A Physics-and-chemistry	Session 7 / Session 8		Boat tour of Ghent
11h00		lunch		lunch	General meeting WP
11h30			Session 2 / Session 3		
12h00		coffee	coffee	Session 14 / Symposium D Chemistry courses	Museum of Industrial Archaeology and Textile
12h30		Poster session	Session 9 / Session 10		Poster session
13h00		Session 4 / Symposium B Macromolec. chemistry	Ernst Homburg	Closing party	18h30 Arrival in Leuven
13h30					Registration
14h00					
14h30					
15h00					
15h30					
16h00	Registration				
16h30					
17h00					
17h30					
18h00	B. Bensaude- Vincent				
18h30					
19h00	Welcome Buffet				
19h30					
20h00					

opening/closing ceremony/general meeting
key-note lectures
paper sessions = parallel sessions
poster sessions
breaks (coffee and lunch)
social events

Check the website of the conference for updates (programme, abstracts, ...) : <http://www.6ichc.be>

Registration

Please note that the **deadline for registration** is 15 August 2007

Final registration deadline	15 August 2007
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In order to **register**, make your *Registration Online* at the home page of the conference: http://www.6ichc.be/index_files/Page295.htm. In order to encourage participation from local historians and chemists, there is a possibility of single-day attendance. Please see below

Conference fees - Participant (28-31 August 2007)*	EUR 170
Conference fees – Accompanying Person (28-31 August 2007) **	EUR 150
Conference Dinner (30 August 2007)	EUR 50

* *Conference fees include: registration and conference documents, coffee breaks, lunches, welcome buffet, closing party and guided tour of the city of Leuven*

** *Fees for accompanying person include: lunches, welcome buffet, closing party and guided tour of the city of Leuven*

The conference fees must be paid immediately after the registration, using one of the ways of payment indicated below.

Through Bank transfer

Bank name K.B.C.-Bank
Account number 734-0066603-70 (for domestic transfers)
Account number BE60 7340 0666 0370 (for transfers from abroad)
Swift code KREDBEBB
Account owner Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Oude Markt 13, 3000 Leuven (Belgium)

Please add the following code to your order: 400/0000/619

THIS IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY!!

By credit card

Please go to <http://www.6ichc.be/payment.htm> and follow instructions.
Do not forget to add a reference (e.g. your name) to identify your payment

For local historians and chemists, members of SRC, KVCV, KNCV and SFC, there is a possibility to register for a single day. Before registering on the webpage as stated above, please contact Brigitte Van Tiggelen vantiggelen@memosciences.be.

Conference fees for a single day (Participants or Accomp. Person)	EUR 70
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Also note that the payment should be made on a different account for single day registration.

Payment should be made by bank transfer to the following account

Bank name Fortis Banque
Account number 271-0317880-43 (for domestic transfers)
Account number BE66 2710 3178 8043 (for transfers from abroad)
Swift code GEBABEBB
Account owner Mémosciences, Voie du Vieux Quartier 18, 1348 Louvain-la-neuve (Belgium)

Please mention your name if you are not paying from your own account

Note for contributors

The abstracts of papers and posters will be placed on the **conference website**. Please consult this website frequently for up-dates <http://www.6ichc.be>.

In order to stimulate fruitful discussions during the conference, as well as more detailed comments on papers, the Local Committee opens the opportunity that papers which are received **before 20 August** will be 'precirculated' by placing them on the website of the conference. The text of the 20 minutes presentation –

with a maximum length of 10 pages, including notes and references, using Times New Roman, point 12, lines spacing 1.5, margins 2.5 cm (top-bottom, left-right) – should be sent the Local Committee (geert.vanpaemel@wet.kuleuven.be) **before 20 August 2007**. Also those who will present a poster at the conference, have the opportunity to send an extended version of their poster, with the same maximum of 10 pages, to the Local Committee.

An overhead projector as well as a beamer for Powerpoint presentation with laptop will be available during the **paper sessions**. Members from the student staff will help you to upload your presentation; presentations should be uploaded and tested well before the session. Would your presentation require any other media, please tell us well in advance so that we can be sure we have all what is needed in time.

Concerning the **posters**, the dimensions of each poster should not exceed 120 cm high and 90 cm wide.

Saturday Excursion in Ghent

The Saturday excursion will provide opportunity to visit the charming medieval city of Ghent, enjoy a boat tour on the centre city canals and a Belgian specialty lunch. Two guided tours related to the history of science and technology are programmed: one at the Museum for the History of science, with a special exhibit on Bakelite, the other at the Museum for Industrial Archæology and Textile, where a temporary exhibit is devoted to the story of the local match factory.

<i>Final registration deadline for the excursion</i>

<i>15 August 2007</i>

Ghent is the fourth largest city of Belgium with about 250.000 inhabitants. It is not as big as Antwerp but bigger than Bruges. It is also less famous among tourists than the often praised Bruges. However, for some people Ghent is the real diamond of Flanders and Belgium. In a unique way, Ghent has managed to preserve its medieval power while keeping up with the times. The city combines an impressive past with a vivid present. The historic heart of the city offers a lot of places of interest. From St Michael's bridge there is a wonderful view on the skyline of Ghent with the three impressive towers of St Nicholas' Church, the Belfry with its bell tower and St Bavo's cathedral with the world famous painting "The Adoration of the Mystic Lamb" by Jan van Eyck. Traces of the Middle Ages were preserved at a lot of places. The old port with its guild halls on the Graslei and Korenlei is merely one example of the beautiful views this town has to offer. Not far from the Graslei arises the Castle of the Counts, once the medieval fortress of the Count of Flanders. Nowadays it is a major tourist attraction. Ghent also has several museums, abbeys, beguinages, dozens of churches and historical buildings.

The **Museum for the History of sciences** is a site of scientific research in the field of history of science and, in particular, of the history of the scientific instrument. The core of the Museum collection is the collection of the instruments used in education and research in different scientific disciplines (physics, chemistry, mathematics, biology etc) at Ghent University since its foundation (1817) and until the end of the 20th century. In this way the patrimony of old instruments of the university is preserved and made accessible to researchers and interested visitors. The Museum also keeps instruments reminiscent of particular persons. One such example is provided by Kekulé's Laboratory table and blackboard : Kekulé was indeed professor of chemistry in Ghent between 1858 and 1867, before being appointed in Bonn and he suggested the benzene ring structure while in Belgium (1865). Another well-known countryman is Leo Baekeland who studied chemistry at Ghent University and emigrated after his PhD in the US where he invented a new kind of photographic paper and afterwards the first true synthetic plastic. The temporary exhibit "and then there was ... Bakelite 1907-2007" is devoted to the saga of this new material.

The **MIAT (Museum of Industrial Archaeology and Textile)** is a unique museum that focuses mainly on the fundamental technological changes in our society during the last 250 years. In this old cotton mill situated in the centre of Gent, the visitor is submerged in a story of textiles and socio-cultural (r)evolutions... Tinctorial plants are grown in the inner garden. The Museum is also known for offering one of the most spectacular view on the historical centre.

A temporary exhibit is devoted to the story of the local matches factory.

The building was erected on the plan of the Manchester cotton mills and on 3500 sq.m takes you back 250 years, into the 18th century, to the decades of the first industrial revolution, to the technological triumph of the machine, but also to the harsh existence of factory workers and children in those days, and teaches some interesting and snappy details about those times. An authentic mustard mill, an art nouveau style café and a reconstruction of a film theatre from the interbellum period take you to the early years of the turbulent twentieth century. You learn how the technological revolutions affected everyday life, and you can even visit

a genuine printing business and case-room. Touch the fibres, test by experience how strong, light and elastic textile can be. All this is possible within the framework of 'Katoenkabaal'. A fascinating experience for the eye as well as the ear! A demonstration of cotton carding, spool mills and looms gives you a good impression of life in a spinning and weaving mill.

Saturday Excursion Fee (1 September 2007 *)	EUR 55
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* Saturday Excursion fees include: coach to and from Ghent, boat tour on the canals in the medieval city centre, lunch and guided tours to the Museum for the History of Science and the Museum of Industrial Archaeology and Textile.

Payment should be made by bank transfer to the following account

Bank name	Fortis Banque
Account number	271-0317880-43 (for domestic transfers)
Account number	BE66 2710 3178 8043 (for transfers from abroad)
Swift code	GEBABEBB
Account owner	Mémosciences, Voie du Vieux Quartier 18, 1348 Louvain-la-neuve (Belgium)

Please mention your name if you are not paying from your own account

For any questions on the excursion, please contact Dr. Brigitte Van Tiggelen vantiggelen@memosciences.be

Transport to Leuven

There is a direct train connection from Brussels Airport to Leuven, which takes approximately 25 minutes. There are two trains every hour. You can check the time schedule at <http://www.b-rail.be/main/E/index.php>. At the train station in Leuven there are taxis, but many hotels and the conference venues are within walking distance of the station. See Leuven map downloadable from the website: <http://www.6ichc.be/leuven.jpg>.

Accommodation

Leuven offers a number of hotels in different price categories. It is possible to find single rooms for less than €100.00. Actual prices range from €35.00 to €200.00 depending on the number of stars and level of comfort. August and beginning of September are high season months, so hotel rooms have to be booked well ahead. You can download a file with a list of accommodations and prices on the conference website http://www.6ichc.be/index_files/Page393.htm. The location of these accommodations is given in the Leuven map you can download at <http://www.6ichc.be/leuven.jpg>

Contacts

(a) For questions concerning the programme:

Dr. José Ramón Bertomeu-Sánchez, Chair of the Programme Committee: Jose.R.Bertomeu@uv.es

(b) For question concerning the local arrangements:

Dr. Brigitte Van Tiggelen Chair of the Local Committee: vantiggelen@memosciences.be

Prof. Dr. Geert Vanpaemel: geert.vanpaemel@wet.kuleuven.be

All correspondence with respect to organisational matters should be addressed to:

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