

### FASC Newsletter 4, April 2022

The FASC website is up and operational (<a href="https://www.faschem.org/">https://www.faschem.org/</a>). This will transform our ability to communicate with the Chemistry community in Africa. I have added a section below on this issue. Also – plans for the ABCChem meeting (and FASC General Meeting) are now well underway. To be a voting Society it is important that the Society applies for membership BEFORE the GM (see below). It is also important that all African Chemistry Societies who will have their members attend the event make sure that their Societies register with the conference to become OPOs (for FREE. This will mean lower registration costs for their Society delegates (see below).

And finally: there are travel bursaries available for young researchers to attend the upcoming 26th IUPAC International Conference on Chemistry Education (see below).

Neil Coville

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- iii) The 2<sup>nd</sup> African Traditional and Natural Product Medicine Conference
- iv) ABCChem. Marrakech,
- v) Kenya Chemical Society
- vi) CATSA 2022
- vii) NanoAfrica 2022
- viii) Post-graduate Summer School on Green Chemistry
- ix) 26th IUPAC International Conference on Chemistry Education
- x) African Materials Research Society (AMRS) Dakar, Senegal.

#### **DETAILED CONFERENCE INFORMATION**

See FASC website: <a href="https://www.faschem.org/">https://www.faschem.org/</a>

#### ABOUT FASC

#### **FASC** website

The FASC website is now up and functioning. Over the past month information on the FASC history/the updated FASC constitution/old copies of the newsletter/copies of the African J of Chemistry etc., etc. has been loaded to the site.

In future conference brochures will be uploaded to the site after a first appearance in the newsletter. This will cut down on the size of the newsletter.

Going forwards!

What we wish to now do is to have this website link to

- 1) All Chemical Societies in Africa. This has commenced
- 2) Link all African Journals to the site
- 3) Use the site to advertise chemical sciences news in African countries
- 4) Use this site as a forum for interchange of people/information between member countries

SO. Please send information on your chemical society history etc. for uploading.

# **Update on FASC 2022 – membership and invoices**

#### Payment of fees

Payment of fees has proven to be an issue for many Societies. Transfer of monies to the FASC account has not been simple for some.

To circumvent this problem it has been suggested that payment can be made at the ABCChem meeting in December. It is suggested that this could be done in US dollars at the FASC GM. This could be paid for the two years (2022/2023).







Importantly payment will be required to VOTE (be a voting member) at the GM.

To make the payment at the GM it is important that Societies apply for membership BEFORE the GM.

Please apply online: <a href="http://www.faschem.org/contact/membership\_application">http://www.faschem.org/contact/membership\_application</a>

# FASC (Federation of African Societies in Africa) 2022 fees

As you may be aware, FASC has had difficulties with their bank account in Ethiopia. Government regulations there made it impossible to move monies in/out of the country. Further, covid-19 has had a disruptive influence on chemistry in Africa and as lockdown restrictions are lifted FASC can now continue with its objectives/work.

As of December 2021 the FASC executive, after consultation with the RSC, have opened a bank account in South Africa. The account will be administered, with help, using the SACI facilities. This will allow for accounts to be audited and for easy money transfers.

FASC is thus at last in a position to restart collecting annual fees. This letter is thus the request to Societies to pay their 2022 annual fees. These have been set at \$100 for Societies. We have also changed the Constitution to allow for individual membership of FASC (\$10).

As the Presidents/Chairs of Societies rotate, it is difficult to establish the appropriate person to contact within a Society. Could you pass on this invoice to the appropriate person in your Society? Payments can be made to the account listed on the invoice. Payment will mean that the Society can vote at the General Assembly in December 2022. This will be a mixed event (face-to-face and virtual) so that all member countries can participate.

Payments can be made to the account listed on the invoice you will receive after registration.

Yours sincerely *Prof Neil Coville*,

FASC Past President

### Important points

- 1) Invoices to Chemical Societies went out in February. Cost for 2022 will be US\$100 per Society. (A charge of \$50 will be levied for 'Associate Member countries')
- 2) Individual membership will be available at US\$10 pa.
- 3) A new category 'Young affiliate member' will allow for post-graduate membership (at US\$5 pa).
- 4) To be a voting member at the GA, Society dues must be paid for that year

# What does FASC do?

FASC has now been in existence for 15 years and encourages African Chemical Societies to join FASC. What does it do?







- 1) FASC currently produces the African Journal of Chemical Education (Editor: Dr Engida, Ethiopia; temechegne@faschem.org)
- 2) FASC is coordinating the Atlantic Basin Conference (ABC) on Chemistry in Morocco (December 2022; Chair: Prof Mamia el Rhazi, FASC President)
- 3) FASC has a General Assembly every two years that rotates around the African continent. The next one in December 2022 will be held in collaboration with the ABC event (Organisers: Tunisia)
- 4) FASC has a web site (currently being updated) to inform all of FASC activities
- 5) FASC is a member of IUPAC
- 6) FASC produces a monthly newsletter
- 7) FASC, with the financial support of the RSC, supports young African chemists to attend conferences
- 8) FASC members work closely with PACN
- 9) FASC works with the RSC, ACS and IUPAC seeking support for African chemists
- 10) FASC will produce: FRONTIERS IN CHEMISTRY SPECIAL VOLUME ON AFRICA in 2022

#### The future

- 1) To become financially independent
- 2) To grow the number of member countries
- 3) To coordinate workshops/seminars within member countries

# Information for the newsletter

Please send all information to Laila Smith (<u>fasc@wits.ac.za</u>), Emmanuel C. Ohaekenyem (ec.ohaekenyem@unizik.edu.ng) or to me (neil.coville@wits.ac.za)

Beth has placed all earlier newsletters on the FASC website (http://www.faschem.org/).

# Advertising in the FASC newsletter

The newsletter will provide a means of getting messages to our member countries. This newsletter thus provides a means of advertising employment opportunities, conferences and workshops, and even for companies/Universities to promote themselves. We encourage member countries to use the Newsletter for advertising purposes. All conferences and events will be advertised for free; if not a FASC country, there could be a small charge. For advertising costs, contact the FASC office in South Africa: laila.smith@saci.cac.za

#### **CHEMISTRY NEWS**

#### FRONTIERS IN CHEMISTRY – SPECIAL VOLUME ON AFRICA

#### Frontiers in Chemistry (https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/chemistry)

This volume is now being finalised. It will be published later in the year, prior to the ABC Chem meeting. Its theme reflects chemistry directions in Africa. Frontiers in Chemistry (special edition: 15 years of the Federation of African Societies of Chemistry (FASC)). About 10 manuscripts have been accepted so far.







# **African Chemical Societies News**

## i) South Africa: Global Women's Breakfast

The Global Women's Breakfast (GWB) is an annual event organised by the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC). This is a yearly event that coincides with the UN's Day of Women and Girls in Science. Across the globe women and men from all types of science organisations come together to share breakfast either virtually or in person. The purpose is to celebrate Women in Science and to inspire the younger generation to pursue careers in science. The overarching theme for these events is "Empowering Diversity in Science". The GWB events facilitate the formation of communities on a local, regional and international scale to effectively share ideas and strategies for progress.

The GWB event in South Africa (GWB2022, SA Edition) was held on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2022, 10h00-12h00. The event exploded into a wonderfully collaborative effort with organisers from across the country - Wits, UKZN, CPUT, Univen, Rhodes, UJ, representing the various sections of the South African Chemical Institute (SACI). GWB2022 (SA Edition) was generously sponsored by Pearson and Elsevier who donated several prizes for the event. It was inspiring to have over 200 registered delegates from across the world join GWB2022 (SA Edition)! We have delegates from India, Finland and Turkey. From Africa, we welcomed delegates from Nigeria, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Morocco, Egypt and Lesotho. We were also joined by industry reps such as Sasol, Microsep, Separations and others. But we were most excited by some very special NPC audience guests: Play Africa and SANGO who are each doing amazing STEM promotion in the country.

Our 2022 opening message was from SACI President Prof. van Otterlo and our invited guest speaker was the esteemed Prof. <u>Catherine Ngila</u> (Acting Executive Director: African Academy of Sciences). Her talk focused on the gender gap within STEM and particularly on the number of women in academic positions. This opened up for a fruitful discussion between those in attendance, which was followed by a panel discussion facilitated by Prof Rosa Klein, HOD Chemistry at Rhodes University. The panel consisted of Prof Kriveshini Pillay (UJ), Dr Roseanne Diab (GenderInSite), and Ms Dorothy Ngila (NRF).





Dr Sadhna Mathura and Bianca Davids







# ii) South Africa. Play Africa

Play Africa is an NPC that promotes STEM. They were part of the local IUPAC Global Women's Breakfast event held in Feb. Part of their STEM promotion involves having women academics talk about their work and demonstrate a short experiment to get children interested. A few of those women academics came from Wits University. I think it is a lovely initiative and I've asked their project manager Rachel to provide a blurb and link. If you think this is appropriate for the FASC newsletter, please feel free to include:

Play Africa, an innovative children's museum at Constitution Hill in Johannesburg, has launched a new early childhood curriculum called STEM Seeds. The curriculum empowers teachers to incorporate playful STEM learning in their classrooms using everyday recycled materials. You can download the free curriculum from Play Africa's website <a href="https://www.playafrica.org.za">www.playafrica.org.za</a>.

Focusing on the playful classroom and the playful educator, STEM Seeds helps educators to teach and discuss STEM and climate change in age-appropriate ways. It's packed with ready-to-use techniques and activities, including *Daily Techniques to Encourage STEM Skills and Daily Techniques to Increase Playful Learning*. No special equipment is required to implement the STEM Seeds curriculum. It's also been designed to work alongside South Africa's National Curriculum Framework for Children from Birth to Four Years (NCF) and the Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statement (CAPS). STEM Seeds supports the development of key skills from both documents.

The research is clear: meaningful, interactive play is the best way for children to become ready for school. Play Africa helps every teacher begin child-led inquiry through play, without focusing on academics and memorisation before they are ready. Kick off a future of lifelong learning with STEM Seeds!

Some of our videos: https://playafrica.org.za/women-in-stem/

Dr Sadhna Mathura

iii) Nigeria. Workshop.

A workshop in being held in Nigeria entitled "Enhancing the technical expertise. Details are given below.











#### iv) FASC - ABCChem - fees

#### **Registration data**

Registration will open in June 2022

Registration Fees: All In-Person Attendance

Attendee Type	1 June – 31 August 2022	1 September – 16 December 2022
<b>Society Member</b>	450 USD	500 USD
Non-Member	600 USD	650 USD
Student	200 USD	250 USD
Guest	100 USD	100 USD

## **Society Member**

Member fees are available to members of the <u>Sponsoring and Participating Societies and Official Participating Organizations</u>. During registration attendees will be required to enter their society member ID number. Note that for the American Chemical Society the Society Member Fee is for people with the <u>Premium Membership Package</u>.

#### **Non-Member**

Non-Member fees are for any participant who is not a member of a member society or official participant organization and is not a student.

#### **Students**

Student registration fees are available to full-time students enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate degree program. Post-doctoral fellows are not students.

### **Guest (Accompanying Person)**

Guests are spouses or other family members who wish to attend the Welcome Reception, Closing Banquet, and enter the Exhibits. Guests who plan to attend the technical sessions must purchase a full (member, non-member, or student) registration. Children who are 16 yrs and younger do not need to register if accompanied by a **conference-registered adult.** 

#### Virtual Attendance







As of March 2022 the planning committee has designed to the conference to be fully in-person (not virtual presentations or attendance). However, if virtual attendance becomes an option the details will be announced in the fall of 2022.

# v) Plenary speakers at the ABC Chem event: Prof Kelly Chibale

A number of African speakers will deliver Plenary lectures at the event. Prof Chibale will give the Plenary lecture in the area: Chemistry, Biology, Health.



University of Cape Town South Africa

Kelly Chibale is a full Professor of Organic Chemistry at the University of Cape Town (UCT) where he holds the Neville Isdell Chair in African-centric Drug Discovery & Development. He is also a Tier 1 South Africa Research Chair in Drug Discovery, founding Director of the extramural South African Medical Research Council Drug Discovery & Development Research Unit at UCT, Founder and Director of the <u>UCT Drug Discovery and Development Centre</u>, <u>H3D</u> and a Full Member of the UCT Institute of Infectious Disease & Molecular Medicine.

Kelly obtained his PhD in Synthetic Organic Chemistry from the University of Cambridge in the UK (1989-1992) with Stuart Warren. This was followed by postdoctoral stints at the University of Liverpool in the UK (1992-94) with Nick Greeves and at the Scripps Research Institute in the USA (1994-96) with KC Nicolaou. He was a Sandler Sabbatical Fellow at the University of California San Francisco (2002), a US Fulbright Senior Research Scholar at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine (2008) and a Visiting Professor at Pfizer in the UK (2008).

In 2018 Kelly was recognized by *Fortune* magazine as one of the top 50 World's Greatest Leaders and in 2019 he was named as one of the 100 Most Influential Africans by *New African* magazine. In 2020 he was named as one of the world's top 60 most inspirational leaders in the pharmaceutical industry (one of the world's top 20 inspirational medicine makers in the field of small

molecules) on *The Medicine Maker*'s 2020 Power List. Kelly also serves on Editorial Advisory Boards of the American Chemical Society (ACS)'s *Accounts of Chemical Research*, *ACS Infectious Diseases* and *Journal of Medicinal Chemistry*. Amongst other awards, he is a recipient of the Gold Medal of the South African Chemical Institute for 2018 and held a University of Leeds (UK) Cheney Visiting Fellowship (2017-2018).







# **Commonwealth Chemistry**

The African continent is well represented in this association of chemical societies.

There are representatives from Ghana/SA/Botswana on the Executive. At the recent elections some new members were elected

# **Commonwealth Chemistry Elections 2022 – Final results**

The final results have determined that our next President-Elect will be:

- Neil Coville, South Africa Our two new Elected Executive Board Members will be:
- Naumih Noah, Kenya
- Ting Kueh Soon, Malaysia All three will begin their terms of office as members of the Executive Board at the Commonwealth Chemistry Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 19 May 2022.

# **Younger Chemists' News**

#### i) **26th IUPAC International Conference on Chemistry Education**

We are very excited to be hosting the prestigious 26th IUPAC International Conference on Chemistry Education (18-22 July 2022, Cape Town).

We were able to secure limited funding to sponsor the attendance of **postgraduate students and** emerging researchers from Africa. It will allow delegates from Africa to attend an international conference focusing on chemistry education at a more affordable rate.

Chemistry educators on the continent are encouraged to apply for these bursaries. Details about the application process can be found at <a href="https://icce2022.org.za/travel-bursaries/">https://icce2022.org.za/travel-bursaries/</a>. Scholarships are competitive and must be applied toward the cost of attending the ICCE 2022 Conference.

Prof Bette Davidowitz, Chair, Local Organising Committee, ICCE 2022

# **26th IUPAC International Conference** on Chemistry Education

18 - 22 July 2022

# ANNOUNCEMENT!

LIMITED SCHOLARSHIP OPPPORTUNITIES FOR EMERGING RESEARCHERS AND STUDENTS FROM AFRICA



APPLICANTS MUST SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:

- An Abstract
  A motivation of how they and the community of chemistry education in their country would benefit from attendance at the conference.
  An up-to-date CV of 2 pages
  A letter of recommendation from their supervisor, Head of Department or line manager

Please note that Application Submissions will close on 11 May 2022

ICCE 2022 CONTACT INFORMATION: Tel:+27 (0) 21 910 1913 Email: icce2022@allevents.co.za For more information: www.icce2022.org.za













# ii) Post-graduate Summer School on Green Chemistry

We are pleased to inform you that the Green Sciences for Sustainable Development Foundation (www.gssd-foundation.org), in collaboration with the IUPAC Interdivisional Committee on Green Chemistry for Sustainable Development ICGCSD (https://iupac.org/body/041), and the Ca' Foscari University of Venice (www.unive.it), will organize the 14<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Post-graduate Summer School on Green Chemistry that will be held in-person and online from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> of July 2022 in Venice, Italy.

The Organizing Committee

E-mail:green.chemistry@unive.it

Web: <a href="https://www.greenchemistry.school/">https://www.greenchemistry.school/</a>

# iii) African Young Chemists Network (AYCN)

The African Younger Chemists Network (AYCN) seeks to display the unique talents of young researchers on the continent and to provide a platform for constructive career development and engagements across the globe.

Contact email: aycn.chemists@gmail.com; Contact people: Ms Bianca Davids, Dr Sadhna Mathura

#### iv) International Young Chemists Network (IYCN)

*Professional Development Skills*: The International Younger Chemists Network (IYCN; <a href="https://www.iycnglobal.com/">https://www.iycnglobal.com/</a>), affiliated organization of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) is organizing a series of FREE live workshops devoted to support and empower early-career chemists with professional development skills to advance their careers.

Stephen O Aderinto: soaderinto1@sheffield.ac.uk

# **Royal Society of Chemistry News**



i) GSK/RSC Hands-On GC-MS & LC-MS Training Courses

New dates for 2022 – extended for 1 year

Through our partnership with GSK we are delighted to announce that we are able to run the following Hands-On GC-MS (Gas Chromatography with Mass Spectrometry) and LC-MS (Liquid Chromatography with Mass Spectrometry) training courses in 2022.

Please see the timetable below for forthcoming courses for which we are still open to applications. Please carefully note the deadlines to complete them. We hope to reschedule our GC-MS 2021 training course for Ethiopia this year. Applicants who originally applied and were successful will







be given priority to attend. Full details will be provided on <a href="www.rsc.org/events/africa">www.rsc.org/events/africa</a>. Please email Africa@rsc.org with any enquiries.

<b>Course Type</b>	Location	<b>2021 Dates</b>
GC-MS	Kenya	13-17th June 2022
LC-MS	Kenya	4-8th July 2022
LC-MS	Kenya	22-26th Aug 2022
GC-MS	Ethiopia	TBC – rescheduled from 2021

### ii) Funding opportunities from the Royal Society of Chemistry

The Royal Society of Chemistry's Researcher Development Grants are open to PhD students and postdoctoral researchers wishing to undertake an activity that supports their research career. You can apply for a grant of up to £500 towards any virtual or in-person activity that develops your skills and experience as a researcher. Examples include, but are not limited to, presenting work at conferences, developing new skills by attending training courses or developing networks by organising a scientific meeting.

- > To apply you must meet the following criteria:
- You are an RSC member (of any level)
- You are a PhD student or postdoctoral researcher
- Your activity must start on or after the 28th of the month following your application.

See the webpage for more information <a href="https://www.rsc.org/prizes-funding/funding/researcher-development-grant/">https://www.rsc.org/prizes-funding/funding/researcher-development-grant/</a>

Applications for up to £5,000 can be made to the Royal Society of Chemistry's Inclusion and Diversity Fund. Applications must focus on inclusion and diversity and can relate to a range of audiences, including different age groups, career stages, geographical regions and sectors. This grant scheme is open to everyone (individuals and organisations) including members of the Royal Society of Chemistry, member-led groups, researchers in academia or industry, museums, community groups, not-for-profit organisations, arts groups and libraries.

Previous recipients of this funding have included projects related to gender, disability, socio-economic background, language, race and ethnicity, the LGBT+ community and more. These have been delivered via initiatives such as data collection and analysis, workshops, conferences and hackathons. The closing date is Monday 25 April and more information is available here <a href="https://www.rsc.org/prizes-funding/funding/inclusion-diversity-fund/">https://www.rsc.org/prizes-funding/funding/inclusion-diversity-fund/</a>

# iii) Pan Africa Chemistry Network

The Pan Africa Chemistry Network (PACN) has a LinkedIn group where members share information related to PACN activities and news and events from across Africa. You can apply to join this group here <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/groups/1900756/">https://www.linkedin.com/groups/1900756/</a>

#### AFRICAN JOURNALS OF CHEMISTRY

Journals in Africa (Chemistry)







See the FASC web site for listing The FASC Journal:

#### **African Journal of Chemical Education**

Below are listed the contents in the first issue of AJCE 2022. The online version is to be found on the FASC website (<a href="www.faschem.org">www.faschem.org</a>, under Journal) and the AJOL website (<a href="www.ajol.info">www.ajol.info</a>). The table of contents is listed below:

Enquiries and manuscripts should be addressed to the Editor-in-Chief: email <u>eic@faschem.org</u>, PO Box 2305, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Dr. Temechegn Engida e-mail: temechegne@faschem.org

#### CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS

# **Upcoming events**

- i) 45<sup>th</sup> Annual International conference of the Chemical Society of Nigeria. Yola, Nigeria, 18-23 September 2022. conferencehelpdesk22@chemsociety.org.ng
- ii) 44th SACI Convention 2023. Stellenbosch, SA, 9-13 January 2023
- iii) The 2<sup>nd</sup> African Traditional and Natural Product Medicine Conference, Ranch Hotel, Limpopo, SA, 19-21 October 2022
- iv) ABCChem. Marrakech, Morocco, 13-16 Dec 2022,
- v) Kenya Chemical Society, Kisumu City, Kenya. 23-24 June 2022, www.kenyachemicalsociety.org (see FASC website)
- vi) CATSA 2022. Drakensberg South Africa 13-16 Nov 2022 <u>www.catsa.org</u> (see FASC website)
- vii) NanoAfrica 2022. 23-29 October 2022, Cape Town. <u>info@nanoafrica2022.co.za</u> (see FASC website)
- **viii) Post-graduate Summer School on Green Chemistry**. Green Sciences for Sustainable Development Foundation 3<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> of July 2022, Venice. <a href="https://gssd-foundation.org/ss2022/">https://gssd-foundation.org/ss2022/</a> (see FASC website)
- ix) **26th IUPAC International Conference on Chemistry Education.** 18-22 July 2022, Cape Town (see FASC website)
- x) African Materials Research Society (AMRS 2021). 12-15 Dec 2022, Dakar, Senegal www.africanmrs.net (see FASC website)

# **Detailed conference information**

i) 45th Annual International conference of the Chemical Society of Nigeria









#### 44th SACI Convention 2023 ii)





SACI-44 will cover all aspects of Chemistry through plenary addresses, invited, keynote and contributed presentations and posters. Abstract submission and registration will open in June 2022.



We are pleased to announce that the 44th South African Chemical Institute National Convention will be held in person in Stellenbosch, 9 - 13 January 2023.

We look forward to welcoming you to Stellenbosch in 2023!

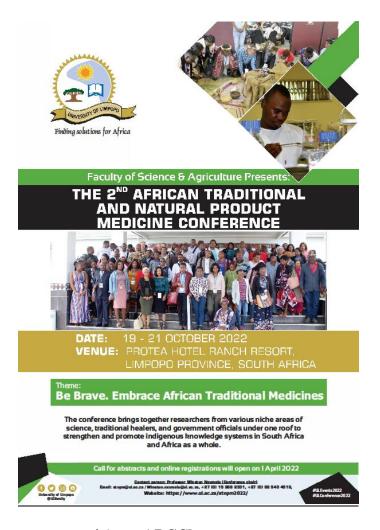








# iii) The 2<sup>nd</sup> African Traditional and Natural Product Medicine Conference



# iv) ABCChem







