

International Society of Heterocyclic Chemistry

2020 Newsletter
December 2020



Message from the President

As we near the end of a tumultuous 2020, I write to you as ISHC president to wish all of you a safe and happy holiday season, with hope for a return to relative normalcy in 2021. I thank the executive and advisory committees for keeping things in the society running smoothly. I also take this opportunity to ask that you renew your membership at the appropriate time, and that you suggest to your colleagues working in heterocyclic chemistry, broadly defined, that they, too, become ISHC members.

Heterocyclic Chemistry at its best: The ISHC Bulletin

Thanks to the ISHC secretary David Williams and to Stacy Felton, you can enjoy monthly abstracts of the latest published research results from IHSC members. Please contribute by sending abstracts of published, peer reviewed papers (no ASAPs or *in press*) that have appeared in the last four months to drwishc@indiana.edu. If you are a member and are not receiving the bulletin, please drop them a note, too.

Progress in Heterocyclic Chemistry Updates

Volume 32 of Progress in Heterocyclic Chemistry covering the literature from 2019 is in press, and will be available in short order. After serving as Joint Editor (with Gordon Gribble) since Volume 17 (2005), John Joule will be passing the editorial torch to Alan Aitken, starting with Volume 34. We should all thank John for his stewardship of PHC over these many years, and welcome Alan on board, who has been a major contributing author to the series since its inception. Of course, we thank Gordon for his continued dedication to PHC.

The 28th ISHC Congress has been postponed to 2022

As you are all hopefully already aware, the 28th ISHC Congress, originally planned for late summer 2021 in Portland, Oregon, USA, has been postponed to late summer 2022 because of the uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. We still anticipate holding the event in Portland; however, more work needs to be done, and updates will be forthcoming.

ISHC Awards Postponed

As the ISHC Awards (E. C. Taylor Senior Award, A. R. Katritzky Junior Award, and ISHC Industrial Award) are tied to award lectures at the (normally) biennial congress, the nomination and selection processes will be delayed by a year. Information about the nomination process will be

released near the end of 2021 for the 2022 set of awards; the award lectures will then be held at the 28th Congress.

Current Committees

Executive:

President: Chris Vanderwal

Past President: Masayuki Inoue

Secretary: David Williams

Treasurer: Frederick Luzzio

Publicist: Alan Aitken

Advisory: Adrian Dobbs, Till Opatz, Simon Blakey, Christian Melander, Antonio Burtoloso, Hidetoshi Tokuyama, Jason Smith, Jeffrey Kuethe, Peter Meier

Obituaries

During 2020 we were sad to lose several major figures in heterocyclic chemistry, who had been important contributors to the ISHC:

Sir John Cadogan, Plenary Lecturer at the 6th Congress in Tehran in 1977, died in Swansea on 9th February at the age of 89.

Rolf Huisgen, Plenary Lecturer at the first congress in 1967 and ISHC Senior Award winner in 1987, died in Munich on 26th March at the age of 99.

Victor Snieckus, ISHC Senior Awardee in 2001, Plenary Lecturer in 1999 and 1983, and Chair of the 1985 Waterloo Congress, died in Kingston, Ontario on 18th December at the age of 83.

James D. White, Chair of the 1991 Corvallis Congress, died in Albany, Oregon on 10th February at the age of 84.

Robert M. Williams, Plenary Lecturer in 2009 and Chair of the 2003 Fort Collins Congress, died in Fort Collins on 13th May at the age of 67.

Closing Remarks

This Newsletter ends my first year as ISHC President, a year in which all that I really accomplished was postponing the next ISHC Congress. In the upcoming year, as we hopefully emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic, I look forward to planning the Congress with the help of my Co-Chair, David Stuart (Portland State University) and members of the Executive and Advisory Committees. I wish you all a happy holiday season, and hope that you and your loved ones remain healthy.

Chris Vanderwal
President, ISHC