



Universität
Rostock



Traditio et Innovatio



First Circular

8th International Conference on the History of Chemistry

www.gdch.de/ichc2011

PATHWAYS OF KNOWLEDGE

14 - 16 September 2011

Introduction

The Working Party (WP) on History of Chemistry of the European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences (EuChemS) will hold its bi-annual International Conference on the History of Chemistry (8th ICHC) in Rostock, Germany, from 14 to 16 September 2011.

From 12 to 14 September 2011 the National Conference of the Working division on History of Chemistry of the German Chemical Society will be held in Rostock, too. At this conference historians of science and technology and chemists will meet around several themes in history of chemistry. Everybody has the useful option of visiting both events in Rostock.

The 8th ICHC will focus on the theme "Pathways of Knowledge". This theme is in direct connection to the general aim of the conferences organised by the WP, namely to facilitate communication between historically interested chemists and historians of chemistry from all over Europe. Previous conferences organised by the WP were held in Lisbon 2005 (Chemistry, Technology and Society), Leuven 2007 (Neighbours and Territories: The Evolving Identity of Chemistry) and Sopron 2009 (Consumers and Experts: The Uses of Chemistry (and Alchemy)).



Main Topic

A former member of the Hanseatic League, Rostock is a major seaport in the Baltic and it has seen the movement of people, goods and ideas over the centuries.

Reflecting the spirit of its location, the theme of the conference is 'Pathways of Knowledge', how chemistry has travelled north to Scandinavia and south into central Europe, east to Russia and west to the Atlantic nations and the Americas. And of course, the reverse movements, and the transfer of chemistry further afield. There is also the specific issue of the European periphery, the transfer of new chemical ideas to the edges of Europe. How did this movement take place? It encompasses the movement of chemists between countries both in terms of travelling to visit other chemists, chemistry students travelling to other countries for a better education, and both voluntary and 'forced' emigration (to escape oppressive regimes or expulsion). It involves the transfer of ideas through letters, lectures, monographs, papers and textbooks. In more recent times, it includes electronic transfers of ideas via email and the internet. It embraces technology transfer in the chemical and pharmaceutical industries including the role of patents in both promoting and hindering transfer. It considers the movement of chemicals, chemical instrumentation and processes between countries. It covers international conferences, exchanges between national organisations (scientific academies and chemical societies) and the development of international organisations. Then there is the role of language—were languages a barrier to these movements, were some languages particularly associated with chemistry, did the act of translation change the meaning? While the delineation of the processes whereby these exchanges of people and ideas took place is of considerable interest, the conference will focus on how these transfers changed chemistry and assisted its development.



Call for papers

The Programme Committee welcomes proposals for individual papers of twenty minutes duration or sessions (chair and 3 or 4 papers) from historians and chemists, graduate students and independent researchers. Each participant can submit only one proposal. Both paper and poster sessions are planned. The proposals submitted will be considered by the committee for both types of sessions as appropriate. Proposals for individual papers must include a one-page summary (maximum 500 words) outlining both the content and the argument of the proposed paper, and a one-page CV, including current postal and e-mail addresses. Proposals for complete sessions must include a description of the session that explains how individual papers contribute to an overall theme (maximum 400 words), the names and paper titles of the presenters. Each presenter in the session also has to submit a one-page summary (maximum 500 words) outlining both the content and the argument of the proposed paper, and the chair and each presenter a one-page CV, with postal and e-mail addresses.

All proposals should be submitted via the online registration system of the conference. All information is available from the website:

www.gdch.de/ichc2011.

All proposals must be single-spaced, left-aligned (including the title) and in Times New Roman, font size 12 points. The margins of the A4 page should be 30 mm (1.2 inches) all round. The title should be all caps and in bold, followed by a blank line by the speakers' names and their affiliation, and their email addresses in round brackets, and after another blank line by the summary. Paragraphs should not be indented but separated by blank lines. Pictures must not be used. Equations and graphics should be avoided but if used should be inserted into the main text. References should be avoided, but if used should be in 11 point font in Chicago Manual style (see, for example, the *Ambix* webpage for details: <http://maney.co.uk/index.php/journals/amb/>).

Programme Committee

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Local Commitee

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The Place

Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania is a federal state in the north-east of Germany; Mecklenburg is the western and Western Pomerania (Vorpommern) the eastern part. The capital Schwerin is surrounded by picturesque lakes. The landmark of the city is the Schwerin Castle, located on an island in the Schweriner See. For centuries it was the residence of the Dukes of Mecklenburg and today it is the house of parliament of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania (Landtag). This federal state is among the least densely populated and least industrialized ones in Germany, being the 6th largest in size, but only 14th in population. The beautiful Baltic Sea coastline, its famous islands (e.g. Rügen or Hiddensee), the



historical cities (e.g. Rostock, Schwerin, Greifswald or Stralsund) as well as the Mecklenburg Lake District are very popular touristic sites, making the state Germany's number one as a tourist region.

Rostock is the largest city in the state of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania with up to 200,000 citizens and the second biggest harbour town at the Baltic Sea. Rostock is located on the riverside of the Warnow for along 20 kilometres. At the estuary of the Warnow a famous part of the town is situated, the seaside resort Warnemünde. Rostock was first mentioned as Slavic settlement in 1161 (Slavonic: roztoc = diffluence of a river) by a Danish chronicler. Today's significance of Rostock can be attributed to the long standing membership in the Hanseatic League (a northern Europe trading alliance between the 13th and 17th century) and the central position in the Baltic Sea, which stimulated dock-yard and ferry port industries. Indeed, these facts are also true for modern times. Furthermore, Rostock covers the industrial spectrum from biotechnology to food, IT- and aerospace companies. Rostock has a well developed infrastructure within the town (buses, trams & interurban trains).

The University of Rostock (founded in 1419) is the third oldest university in Germany, which still exists, and the oldest in northern Europe. The university has a long tradition in natural sciences. At present, the university has 10 faculties and 14 000 students from all over the world.

In the history of science, the University of Rostock is known for Joachim Jungius (1587-1657) or Franz Maria Aepinus (1724-1802). In the history of chemistry in particular known names are August Michaelis (1847-1916) and Paul Walden (1863-1957).

As part of the European restructuring after the end of the Cold War, Rostock became one of the key players in the newly emerging Baltic Region.

The Venue

The Institute of Chemistry at Rostock University hosts the conference. There are two lecture halls and three seminar rooms. In the lecture halls and in the small rooms are beamers and computers. WLAN is available.



The building is located beside the main building of the institute; it is in the southern part of the town: 15 min to the station, 20 min to the city. The address is Albert-Einstein-Str. 3a, 18059 Rostock.

Dates

National conference: Monday 12/09/11 – Wednesday 14/09/11
International conference (8th ICHC): Wednesday 14/09/11 – Friday 16/09/11

Language

English will be the language of the 8th ICHC. No interpretation will be provided.

Fee for the International Conference (8th ICHC)

	Before May 15, 2011	After May 15, 2011
Conference fee	160 €	190 €
Accompanying person	20 €	30 €
Conference fee for students	60 €	90 €
Conference Dinner	50 €	50 €

Conference fee includes:

- registration and conference documents
- coffee breaks
- welcome party
- guided tour through the city of Rostock

Fees for accompanying person include:

- welcome party
- guided tour through/ the city of Rostock

Conference fee for both the International AND the National Conference

The joined fee will be provided in the next circular.



Lunch

The costs of the lunch are not included. Participants can use the University cafeteria (5 minutes) and choose their meal themselves (prices range from 4 to 7 €).

Excursion

Information on Saturday excursion and other cultural events will be provided in the next circular (place and price).

Bursaries

The Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry (the publishers of the journal *Ambix*) is offering five bursaries of up to £100 each to PhD students or early career researchers (who will be within three years of completing their PhD's at the date of the conference) who are attending and presenting papers at the 8th ICHC Conference in Rostock. Anyone who wishes to apply for these bursaries should contact Georgette Taylor (g.taylor@ucl.ac.uk) for an application form, making it clear that they are applying for funds to attend the ICHC Conference. Application forms can be requested from November 1, 2010 and the closing date for applications will be May 31, 2011.

GDCh is planning to offer scholarships to a limited number of students, candidates for doctor's, diploma's, bachelor's or master's degrees making a presentation at the conference (main author of an oral paper or poster). Please send your application by **May 31, 2011** at the latest. The application form can be found at the website www.gdch.de/ichc2011

Accommodation

Rostock offers a number of hotels at different price categories. It is possible to find single rooms for less than 100 €. Actual prices range from 35 € to 200 € depending on the number of stars and level of comfort. There are some special hostels for backpackers too.

A special contingent of rooms was arranged at Intercity-Hotel and at Hotel Sonne under the conditions below.



	Code contact to hotels	single room	double bed room	Offers valid until
Intercity -Hotel*	"8. Internationale Konferenz zur Geschichte der Chemie" (www.intercityhotel.com ; rostock@intercityhotel.de)	66 €	78.50 €	11/07/2011
Hotel Sonne* *	"Konferenz zur Geschichte der Chemie" (www.rostock.steigenberger.de ; rostock@steigenberger.de)	81 €	98 €	30/07/2011
* the price includes breakfast and the ticket for the traffic ** the price includes breakfast and the use of sauna and fitness room				

Website

www.gdch.de/ichc2011

Contact

(a) For questions concerning the conference programme:

Peter Morris, the Chairman of the International Programme Committee, at peter.morris@NMSI.ac.uk

(b) For questions concerning the local arrangements:

Caroline Kilb, Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker e.V., at c.kilb@gdch.de
Gisela Boeck, Institut für Chemie, Universität Rostock at gisela.boeck@uni-rostock.de

Deadline

Scholars who want to present a 20 minutes paper at the conference are invited to submit with the help of the online-registration system a one-page abstract before **February 4, 2011**. The instructions to authors will be available at: www.gdch.de/ichc2011

The members of the International Programme Committee will referee all the abstracts, and authors will be informed about acceptance or rejection before **April 15, 2011**.

