



CATALYZER

Journal of the 35th International Chemistry Olympiad

6 July 2003

Athens – Hellas

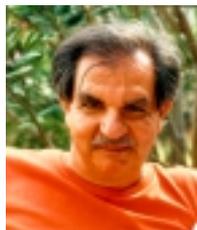
Issue No. 2

Editorial

This year, the International Chemistry Olympiad is being held in our city, Athens, the cradle of civilization. It had been in this setting that Demokritos and Leukipos tested their chemical hypotheses and where the concept of the atom was first debated. These concepts were developed alongside with the ideals of the Olympic Spirit and the Olympic Truce. This is the same setting, in which, two and a half thousand years after their introduction, these ideals will come together once again, under the shrine of the Acropolis.

We, the editorial team of “Catalyzer”, would like to wish to all of you a pleasant stay in our city and would like also to extend our wishes to the student participants for every success in this competition, as well as in any other future competition in their lives.

The Catalyzer team



President of the 35th IChO
Assoc. Prof. Andreas Tsatsas
Department of Chemistry
NKUA



**General Co-ordinator
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Ass. Prof. Spyros Koinis
Department of Chemistry
NKUA



**Chairman of the Scientific
Committee of the 35th IChO**
Prof. Aristides Mavridis
Department of Chemistry
NKUA

Greetings from Minister of Education and Religious Affairs



It is my very great pleasure to welcome the 35th International Chemistry Olympiad, the largest and most prestigious international competition that our country has the honor to host in 2003.

This Competition is a rare opportunity to honor talented students in the Physical Sciences and to stress the contribution of Chemistry in the solving of important contemporary problems in the sectors of

health, the Environment and Energy as well as the expansion of scientific knowledge. It is a competition that seeks to establish friendship and understanding among the youngsters from many different countries and the exchanging of ideas among the students and their international scientific communities.

I warmly congratulate all those involved in the organization of this venture and the competing students. May their love and interest in Chemistry act as a springboard for significant discoveries and accomplishments in the future.

Petros Efthymiou

Greetings from the Rector of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens



The Olympic Games originated in this country, Hellas. It is, therefore, of great importance that a contest of knowledge in the vital science of Chemistry is

to be organized for the first time in Greece. It is to be held in a country where intellectual competition flourished parallel to and together with athletic competition and the harmony of the mind and the beauty of the body became combined in the ideal of the “καλού καθαού”. It is to be noted that the etymology of the word **Chemistry** (fr. Chimie, eng. Chemistry, ger. Chemie) passes through the Greek language, which either from “χημεία” (from the egyptian kmt, meaning “black” or “fertile”) or “χυμεία” (from the Greek, χυμός, juice, to mix fluids) became the source for the European words which refer to this Science.

The University of Athens, with its strong Department of Chemistry, that honors our university, is co-organizer of the 35th International Chemistry Olympiad. It is our hope that, through this intellectual competition for students, the ranks of future Chemists will grow significantly and that Public Opinion will be suitably sensitized regarding the pivotal role of Chemistry in the life of contemporary man.

Georgios Bampiniotis

Greetings from the Chairman of the Department of Chemistry N.K.U.A.



It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that our department has accepted the proposal of the Association of Greek Chemists to co-organize the 35th

International Chemistry Olympiad (IChO) by acting as the host Institution and preparing the scientific part of the competition.

During the past year we have redirected our time and efforts to make this venture a great success for all those involved especially the participating students.

We consider that the successful organization of the IChO is not only a significant event for our Country, but also a rare opportunity to exhibit the wonders of Chemistry to our youth.

The IChO occupies a special place among the International Science Olympiads because Chemistry is the Central Science that supplies basic knowledge to many of the other Sciences.

It is my heartfelt wish that this Olympiad would act as a strong incentive for the youth of this planet to be attracted by and to serve the Science of Chemistry. Progress in Chemistry entails progress in the other Sciences, all for the betterment of humanity.

Nikos Hadjichristidis

Greetings from the President of the Association of Greek Chemists



The International Chemistry Olympiad (IChO) is an educational competition that initiates students in secondary education to the ways of scientific knowledge, mutual respect, friendship and noble competition.

The Association of Greek Chemists and the Department of Chemistry of the University of Athens are co-organizing the 35th IChO in Athens from the 5th to the 14th July 2003. The event is under the aegis of the Ministry of Education.

It is a great honor for Greek Chemists and especially for our colleagues who are teachers in the Secondary Education system and those in Universities and Institutes of higher education, that this important international Chemistry competition is to take place in the beautiful setting of Attica.

Michael Kazanis

In a single verse the poetic definition of Chemistry

*Κορώνα των Επιστημών, θαυματουργή Χημεία,
που μέσα από τα σκύβαλα στολίδια βγάζεις και πετράδια,
μπορείς τα τίμια να τα πλάσεις από την ατιμία,
να βρεις ερωτικούς παλμούς και στην καρδιά την άδεια;*

Κωστής Παλαμάς

Crown of all sciences, wonders-working Chemistry,
with your ability to extract gems and jewels from chaff,
can you mould infamy into honesty,
can you find erotic thrills even in the empty heart?

Kostis Palamas

K. Palamas (1859–1943) Legendary Greek poet. He studied at the University of Athens of which he later was secretary for many years. Except in his early work, he wrote in demotic or vernacular Greek and translated into this idiom the New Testament and the works of various European writers. His own verse is considered more intellectual than lyric, although his lament *Taphos* (1898) is an exception. A versatile writer, he produced epics, lyrics, plays, short stories, and criticism. Many of his 30 volumes have been translated into English, among them a lyric drama *Trisevyene* (1903, tr. *Royal Blossom*, 1923) and a volume of poetry, *Life Unshakeable* (1904, partial tr. 1919, 1921).

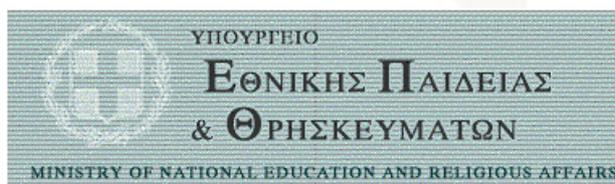
Program of the day

7:30-9:30	Breakfast at Hotel
10:00	Departure for Opening Ceremony
11:00-13:00	Opening Ceremony
13:00-15:00	Buffet
15:00-16:00	Transportation to SC
20:00	Dinner at SC

Program of the Opening Ceremony

10:15-10:45	Arrival of guests
11:00	Piano music
11:10	Welcome by Dr. A. T. Tsatsas President of the 35th IChO
11:15	Singing Program by soprano Nantia Diamantidou
11:25	Presentation of the participating delegations
12:00	Official Opening of the 35th International Chemistry Olympiad
12:10	Hellenic songs performed by the chorus of NTUA <i>Chorus master: Vassilis Makridis</i>





NATIONAL AND KAPODISTRIAN
UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS



ASSOCIATION OF GREEK CHEMISTS



GENERAL CHEMICAL
STATE LABORATORY



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Paints-Inks-
Varnishes
Division



Municipality of
Loutraki-Perahora



Ministry of Culture



Company of
Thermal Buses

ZEBRA



Attiko Metro



EPOM
Groupe Pernod Ricard



Music Department
of NTUA

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