



Annual National Report on Chemical Education in Finland 2010-2011

1. Abstract

The Division of the Chemical Education is the national Society for chemistry teachers. The intention of the division is to inform and offer seminars and other appointments for the chemistry teachers at all school levels and to maintain the cooperation between the teachers and the Finnish industry. The division has around 300 members all over Finland.

2. National Education Policy

A high level of education and the availability of high-quality, free education are the cornerstones of our welfare society. The Government will secure equal opportunities for quality education from early childhood to university education. The task of the upper secondary school as a general educational channel preparing students for further studies will be enhanced. Vocational education and training offers solid vocational competence and qualifies students for further study. At all education levels the quality of education will be improved. Now the curriculum renewal at the basic education level has been started.

The Finnish Higher Education Evaluation Council (FINHEEC) is continuing the auditing of higher education institutes. The second audit cycle is just started.

3. Events in Chemical Education

Organizations who organize annually seminars, continuing education etc. for chemistry teachers are

- The Finnish National Board of Education, <http://www.oph.fi/english>
- MAOL, <http://www.maol.fi/> (MAOL is a pedagogical subject organization which works for the advancement of mathematics and natural sciences in Finnish society)
 - o fall and winter days
 - o continuing education
- Natural Science Center (LUMA-center), <http://www.helsinki.fi/luma/english/>
- The Association of Finnish Chemical Societies, <http://www.kemianseura.fi/english.html>
 - o in-service training

University of Jyväskylä will host the ECRICE 2014 conference.

4. Activities

Activities concerning The International Year of Chemistry have been arranged widely in Finland (<http://www.kemia2011.fi>). More about IYC activities in appendix 1.

The chair of the Division of Chemistry Education has been as a vice chair in the board of the Finnish Chemistry Society (2010-2013). She also has been nominated into the board of Association of Finnish Chemical Societies. She is also a Titular Member at IUPAC Committee of Chemistry Education (2012-2013) and coordination of the Finnish team for International Chemistry Olympics. The coaching is done in cooperation with Finnish national board of Education, Ministry of



Education and Culture and MAOL ry. The Finnish team has achieved one silver and three bronze medals year 2011.

5. Liaison with the Chemical Industry

The Federation of Finnish Chemical Industry organized with the Finnish Chemical society the annual Komppa Day on May 2011 at the University of Helsinki and the Chemistry of today – seminar. Luma-center has arranged the third Millenium Youth Camp.

6. International and European Initiatives

Chemistry Education Division has been organising actively the Nordic Chemistry Symposium for Chemistry Teachers which is arranged 28.-29.2011 in Stockholm.

Members of Finnish Chemical Societies and its divisions have participated in numerous international networks, expert committees and projects, among others the SEFI working group for women engineering, FECS and IUPAC as well Grundtvig and HOT-CIS projects. Also various ECTN activities have been participated.

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