

SET for EUROPE – Torino 2004



News Release

A big success in Europe for British Chemistry – UK research student wins top European Award

David Gamblin, a second year EPSRC-supported research student in Chemistry at Oxford University and originally from Taunton in Somerset, has won the prestigious 2004 Europa Medal and a €1,000 Prize for younger European chemists. The occasion was the fourth annual younger European Chemists' Conference held in Turin, Italy from the 24th to 29th August organised by British scientist Dr Eric Wharton of SET for EUROPE, and in association with Professor Salvatore Coluccia and Turin University. Competition for this major European award was intense – over 180 Posters were entered for the competition. David, who works on novel protein glycosylation techniques in association with Dr Antony Fairbanks and Dr Ben Davis, said that the award was totally unexpected and he was thrilled to receive it. He is also currently the Leathersellers' Scholar at St Catherine's College, Oxford and a College Lecturer at St Edmund Hall, Oxford. Eric Wharton said that a whole range of Chemistry research and R&D including chemical engineering was presented at the Conference which had attracted participants from many European countries including some from the countries of the former Soviet Union and from the Balkans, for the first time. It was a bumper attendance. This was the first time that a younger British scientist had won this pan-European Prize, previous winners being from the Czech Republic (2003), the Netherlands (2002) and Italy (2001). Professor Alwyn Davies FRS, Chairman of the international Judging Panel, said that the view of the judging Panel was unanimous and David's research was outstanding and of considerable potential.

British chemistry was well represented at the 2004 Conference, assisted by Bursaries from the EPSRC Chemistry Programme. Runner-Ups were Dr Emilio Palomares (Spanish – Imperial College, UK and ICMol Valencia University, Spain – the Roscoe Medal and Turin University Prize of €500), Dr Alexander Kalsin (Russian – A N Nesmeyanov Institute of Organoelement Compounds, Moscow – a special 350€ Prize). Commendation Awards of €150 each were won by Christian Adlhart (Austrian – Oslo University, Norway), Dr Marco Garavelli (Italian – Bologna University, Italy), Marcus Long (British - Oxford University, UK) and Ana _anti_ (Croatian, Ru_er Bo_kovi_ Institute, Zagreb, Croatia).

UK Supporters of the 2004 Conference included the UK EPSRC Chemistry Programme, the RSC and GSK, JohnsonMatthey and Syngenta.

Plans are well advanced for the 2005 Conference which will be held in association with the Czech Chemical Society and Masaryk University in Brno in the Czech Republic over 30 August to 4 September 2005.

See <http://www.setforeurope.org>