



**ACS**  
Chemistry for Life<sup>®</sup>

**SAICSC-ACS INTERNATIONAL  
CHEMICAL SCIENCES CHAPTER  
2011 ANNUAL REPORT**

**Abdullah M. Al-Ghamdi**

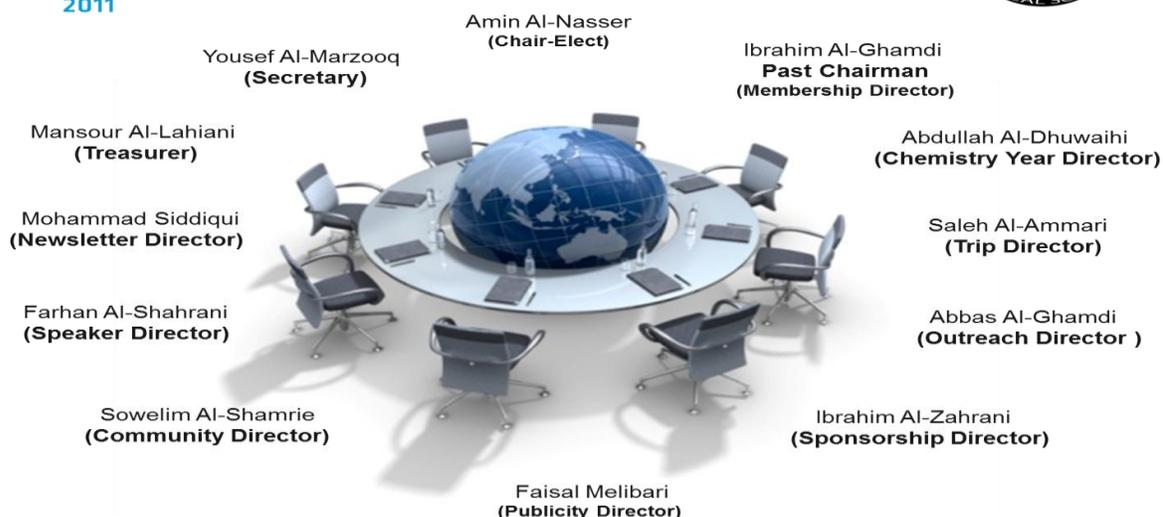
**12/31/2011**

# SAICSC-ACS International Chemical Sciences Chapter 2011 Annual Report

## 2011 BOD Members



### 2011 CHAIRMAN ABDULLAH M. AL-GHAMDI



This year 2011, every Board of Director member plays a significant role in supporting the society to achieve its goals through handling specific and measurable activities related to organizing conferences, conducting monthly dinner meetings, developing outreach program, organizing In-Kingdom and OOK trips for members and their families. The outcome of these activities have great benefits which include providing technical and social forums for local chemical professionals to meet and exchange ideas, promoting awareness among students and the community-at-large of how our daily lives benefit from chemistry, and enhancing member areas of expertise, and finally helping networking with the leading professionals in their fields.

## Monthly Technical Dinner Meetings

The society has managed this year to bring corporate members, renowned national and international experts talking about different topics of members' interests, including the challenge of producing more value chemicals from oil and gas, new technologies, and success stories of research and development in the upstream and downstream fields. This has offered the society's members to interact with experts in different fields that support oil & gas, and petrochemicals.

- **January 23, 2011**

- **Title:** “Energy Technologies for a Carbon Constrained World”
- **Presenter:** Prof. Ahmed Ghoniem, Century Energy Center, MIT



- **February 27, 2011**

- **Title:** “Ma’aden Delivering Growth in Mining and Downstream Industries”
- **Presenter:** Eng. Mohammed Bajba, Deputy Executive Director, Saudi Arabian Mining Company (MA’ADEN)



- **March 27, 2011**

- **Title:** “Middle East Chemical Industries: Rising to the Challenge Through Technology Innovation”
- **Presenter:** Dr. Abdulrahman Al-Ubaid, Executive Vice President for Technology and Innovation, SABIC



- **May 10, 2011**

- **Title:** “Suzuki Coupling Reaction: The Recent Progress”
- **Presenter:** Prof. Akira Suzuki, Professor Emeritus, Hokkaido University Sapporo, Japan



- **May 31, 2011**

- **Title:** “Growing the Saudi Knowledge Economy and Chemicals Industry”
- **Presenter:** Mr. Abdullatif Al-Othman, Senior Vice-President, Engineering & Project Management, Saudi Aramco



- **September 18, 2011**

- **Title:** “Emerging Trends and Technologies in Exploiting Quality (Seawater and Wastewater Effluent) Sources for Drinking Water”
- **Presenter:** Prof. Gary Amy, Director, Water Desalination & Reuse Center, KAUST, Saudi Arabia



- **November 27, 2011**

- **Title:** “Technology Development at the Saudi Aramco Research & Development Center”
- **Presenter:** Dr. Omar Abdul-Hamid, Manager, Research & Development Center, Saudi Aramco



## 2011 LABTECH Conference



The 2<sup>nd</sup> International Laboratory Technology Conference & Exhibition (LABTECH 2011) was held during October 8-12, 2011 at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Doha, Qatar. The conference was organized by the Saudi Arabian International Chemical Sciences – a Chapter of the American Chemical Society.

The conference was held under the patronage of H.E. Sheikh Khalifa bin Jassim Al-Thani, Board Chairman of Qatar Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The theme of this Conference and the Exhibition is “Advanced Technology Solutions for Laboratory Management”.



The conference had grand opening ceremony on October 10, 2011. The ceremony became more august and auspicious with the presence of H.R.H. Prince Saud bin Khalid Al-Saud, Deputy Governor of Investment Affairs and President of the National Competitiveness Center (SAGIA), Mohammed Al-Omar, Vice President, Refining & NGL Fractionation (Saudi Aramco), Dr. Naji Al-Mutairi, Director General, Kuwait Institute for Scientific research (KISR), Dr. Nancy Jackson, President of American Chemical Society, and other officials and dignitaries.



The conference attended more than 400 scientists and engineers from the GCC, Middle East, Europe, USA, Canada, and Asia. Delegates participated in four short courses offered by the LABTECH related to: 1) Risk Assessment Process at Laboratories, 2) Transportation Fuel Quality and Vehicle Workshop, 3) Qualification and Validation of Laboratory Instruments and 4) Fundamentals of Lab Management for New Supervisors. The conference brought together regional, national and international experts in all aspects of laboratory operation, including new techniques, work force development, Quality, Health, Safety and Environment Management. The conference aimed to offer a floor for all delegates to interact with subject matter experts from testing and calibration laboratories supporting oil & gas, petrochemical, and water industries; in addition to meeting with scientists, engineers, academicians and technologists from all over the world.

The conference provided a platform for panel discussion under the title, “New Horizons towards Laboratory Automation and Quality Assurance”. This discussion touches most pressing issues facing the laboratory management and adopting a structured approach towards solving the increasingly complex product quality issues faced by refiners today. Discussions also included redefining the standards that can help a laboratory to improve its performance and new areas for future collaboration and technology transfer. An exhibition has been held alongside the conference that involved leading companies showcasing the latest state-of-the-art instruments for testing crude and refined products.

SAICSC-ACS, on the sideline of LABTECH-2011 celebrated the International Year of Chemistry 2011 (IYC) by organizing a very outstanding ceremony on the evening of October 11<sup>th</sup>. The ACS President Dr. Nancy Jackson spoke at length dwelling at the issues pertaining to chemistry professionals. She appreciated the efforts of the SAICSC-ACS in promoting chemical science in the region. She was very much appreciative of the outreach program of the SAICSC-ACS for school children. As a mark of IYC-2011 celebration, SAICSC-ACS recognized several individuals, male and female, for their services to the chemical sciences in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and presented them citations and mementos of appreciations.



## International Year of Chemistry (IYC-2011)

One of the major achievements of this year is celebrating the International Year of Chemistry (IYC-2011) which is a world-wide celebration of the achievements of chemistry and its contribution to the well-being of human kind.

It has been organized by the United Nation Science Agency and International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry under the unified theme "**chemistry our life – our future**".



We are so believers about the important role of chemistry in our life, and to anchor this believe, we have organized school visits to S. Aramco R&DC where students are amazed by the chemistry experiments that prepared for them.



We participated also in the 3rd National Festival of Science and Technology at SciTech Center where we explained to students what is chemistry and its application in our home, in our industry, and in our transportation. We have wonderful job in demonstrating to students what chemistry is involved by conducting small lab experiments which resulted in instilling in our young generation the important of chemistry and the glory future of chemists.



The efforts have been exhibited during these mentioned events by the CY support team, were highly appreciated by the management of Ministry of Education and SciTech as shown below.



Part of our efforts to make the Year of Chemistry a memorial and unique occasion, we have recognized individuals from Saudi Universities, Saudi Aramco and Ministry of Education who have played an outstanding role in the field of chemistry under the patronage of His Royal Highness, Prince Saud Bin Khalid Al-Faisal, the honorary member of our society who has demonstrated his keen interest and support for the society and shared his views on the important role that Saudi Aramco technical societies play in fostering knowledge, supporting the professional and personal growth of its members.



### **Membership Program**

The society achievements at local and international levels have attracted more professionals to join the society which brought the number of members to more than 750. Members are a diverse group of professionals who represent a variety of organizations. We believe in the power of diversity, because each society member's unique background and life experiences add great value to our society.

### **SAICSC-ACS Membership Portal Enhancement**

SAICSC-ACS Membership portal was enhanced to handle easy online registration and accept online payment. This portal was developed to provide a central communications hub in order to track the number of members, send mass emails, announcements and issue required reports and statistics.

## SAICSC-ACS Website Content Management and Forum

SAICSC-ACS continued enhancing the society website ([www.saicsc-acsc.com](http://www.saicsc-acsc.com)) to improve the communication and collaboration between the society's members and Board of Directors. A new website content management was installed to make sure that all contents up to date.

## Society Newsletter "ORGANON"

The society has several channels of communication with its members through an interactive website and issuing quarterly society newsletter called "ORGANON" as part of our great efforts to foster better understanding and escalating the attention to chemistry science. We appreciate the society's members' feedback and the ideas our members bring to the table and in fact we consider it as powerful role models and have potential for a profound additional impact based on their personal experiences.

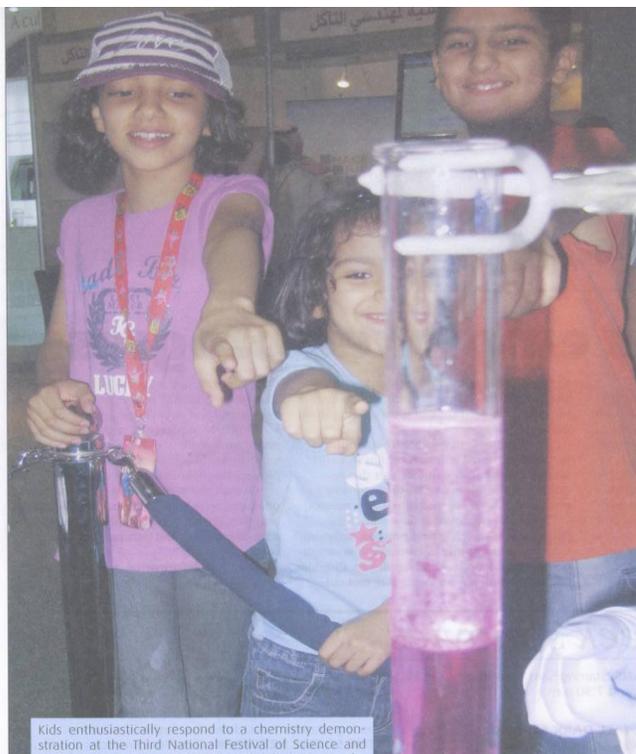


## Out of Kingdom Trip

Taking into consideration that family is the most important unit of our society and plays an essential role in fulfilling the emotional and physical needs of individuals, which is required for achieving economic and social development. As part of our social activities program for this year, we organized an out of Kingdom trip to Turkey for our society members and their families.







Kids enthusiastically respond to a chemistry demonstration at the Third National Festival of Science and Technology at Prince Sultan ibn Abdulaziz Center for Science and Technology in al-Khobar.

## Celebrating chemistry

*R&DC aims to dazzle, inspire and educate*

DHAHRAN — For many of the researchers at the Research and Development Center (R&DC), chemistry is a living. But they also know that it's more than that.

It's life.

All known matter — gas, liquid and solid — is composed of chemical elements and compounds made from those elements. Indeed, all living processes are controlled by chemical reactions.

Now, R&DC experts — along with the Saudi Arabian International Chemical Sciences Chapter of the American Chemical Society (SAICSC-ACS) — want to share their enthusiasm with others through a celebration of the International Year of Chemistry (IYC) 2011. IYC 2011 is a global celebration of the contribution of chemistry to humankind.

The theme of the event is "Chemistry — Our Life, Our Future," and IYC 2011 offers a range of entertaining and educational activities for all ages.

"The International Year of Chemistry 2011 is intended to reach across the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, with opportunities for public participation at the local, regional and national level," said Abdullah



A potential future chemist holds a banner for the International Year of Chemistry 2011 at the Third National Festival of Science and Technology, vital role in this effort."

As part of the celebrations, students from local high schools are visiting R&DC and are dazzled by chemistry experiments being shown there. Atef Al-Zahrani, Yaser Al-Qahtani, Faisal Al-Rasheed, Anas



R&DC scientists and engineers introduce students to the wonders of chemistry at the Third National Festival of Science and Technology at Prince Sultan ibn Abdulaziz Center for Science and Technology in al-Khobar.

### Chemistry:

(continued from page one)

IYC 2011 strives to increase public appreciation of chemistry in meeting people's needs, encourage interest in chemistry among young people, generate enthusiasm for the creative future of chemistry and promote the role of women in chemistry.

"The year 2011 coincides with the 100th anniversary of the Nobel Prize awarded to Madame Marie Curie," Al-Dhuwaili said. "This gives us an opportunity to celebrate the contributions of women to science." It is also the 100th anniversary of the launch of the International Association of Chemical Societies, head

benefits of international scientific collaboration," he said.

SAICSC-ACS scored a coup as part of IYC 2011 with the visit May 9 by the 2010 Nobel Laureate in chemistry, professor emeritus Akira Suzuki. His presentation was titled "Suzuki Coupling Reaction: The Recent Progress." About 150 scientists and engineers attended.

Suzuki and his collaborators are involved in organoborane chemistry — the chemistry of chemical compounds that contain carbon and boron. They have developed new synthetic methods using these organoborane compounds, which are important reagents in organic chemistry enabling many chemical reactions and transformations.

Another in a series of IYC 2011 events was the demonstration of chemistry at

of Science and Technology at Prince Sultan ibn Abdulaziz Center for Science and Technology in al-Khobar. SAICSC-ACS chairman Abdullah Al-Ghamdi said the May 17-19 event was part of his organization's effort to promote science in the community.

Al-Zahrani discussed the impact of chemistry on daily life and in countless applications — ranging from fossil fuels and oil to medicine, to paint, plastics, semi-conductors, nanotechnology and more.

The team members conducted experiments and answered visitors' chemistry questions. Demonstrations explained chemical concepts such as catalysts, color-changing oxidation and other reactions. The children, students of High

ment and fascination at the powers of chemistry, and some said they were inspired to pursue the field.

The team, led by Al-Dhuwaili, also included Faisal Al-Melibari, Al-Juraifani, Al-Zahrani, Maher Shariff, Al-Qahtani and Mohammad.

"Several activities are planned for the rest of the year, including exhibitions for students of all ages and the public, sponsoring poster exhibitions highlighting the usefulness and wonder of chemistry," said Al-Dhuwaili. "We will continue to hold fairs for high schools students, and the scientists and engineers will show how they use chemistry in their jobs."

Employees and their families can also come to events. For more information, contact Al-Dhuwaili at 976 4340.

## Annual Gathering

The 2011 SAICSC-ACS Annual Gathering was held on December 28, 2011 at Le Meridian Hotel, Khobar and attended by around 290 persons. It was held under the patronage of His Royal Highness, Prince Saud Bin Khalid Al-Faisal, the honorary member of our society and the chairwomen of LABTECH conference Dr. Meena Marafie, Manager, Petroleum Refining Department (KISR), Kuwait. The gathering also attracted different executives from Saudi Aramco and major local companies, SAICSC-ACS board of directors, and society members.

The agenda of this gathering included a presentation by the SAICSC-ACS chair Mr. Abdullah Al-Ghamdi highlighting the main accomplishments and achievements during the year 2011. Followed by a recorded video tape for the ACS president Dr. Nancy Jackson expressing her gratitude for: 1) our chapter's remarkable activities to raise the profile of chemistry science in Saudi Arabia as well as in the Gulf region, 2) the extraordinary efforts in delivering a world-class scientific conference (LABTECH-2011), and 3) the most memorable celebration of International Year of Chemistry (IYC-2011).

A video tape has been delivered to the audience highlighting to them the major chapter's activities during the year 2011. It was well received from all the attendees. Nobody denies that our local sponsors are real partners in our success stories. The gathering was a chance to recolonize them and express our sincere appreciation for their continuous support which has played an important role of achieving the society objectives.



In summary, exceptional achievements have been realized for the chapter this year by everyone's participation and contribution to the society's activities which made this year remarkable and extraordinary. I strongly believe that 2011 will be a remembered year due to the successes that we all achieved by our collaboration and dedication. I would like to clarify that all what have been achieved this year went through hard work and everyone had done an outstanding job and I am proud of the Society Board of Directors and their support teams.

Thank you and best regards,

Abdullah Al-Ghamdi  
12/31/2011