



President's news

One of the most common questions put to me from RACI members is 'What does the RACI do for

me?' The workshop we held last October, which was reported on electronically and in last month's *Chemistry in Australia*, gave recommendations for ways to improve member services. We have already made a start on implementing services such as professional development programs, improved communication to the public, and establishing a networked chemistry community. You will hear more about these initiatives over the next few months.

In this note I am going to tackle a different question: 'What can you do for the RACI?' The workshop developed a clear statement of purpose for the RACI:

- To be the voice of chemistry in Australia
- To advocate the importance of chemistry to the public and all levels of education, industry and government
- To support the professional needs of all RACI members

All members of the RACI can help put these purposes in place by taking an active role in the large array of activities we have in the Institute. Groups at all levels – from small specialist sections, through

Branches and Divisions, to the National level are anxious for members to become more involved. So if you are presently concentrating on the first question, please spend a little time working on the second one!

There is one very important thing you can do for the RACI right now. Register to attend the National Convention, to be held in Melbourne in July. Ken Ghiggino and Greg Simpson, together with their dedicated organising teams, have put together an outstanding meeting. The National Convention 'Chemistry for a Sustainable World' has been deliberately designed to cut across standard divisional interests. The meeting will expose you to an exceptional smorgasbord of science, covering essentially every application of modern-day chemistry. Six interdisciplinary themes show how the traditional divisions of the chemical sciences combine to resolve important questions in materials science, health science, environmental sustainability, emerging technologies, energy production, green chemistry and chemical education. These topics will be matched by a set of five outstanding symposia associated with IUPAC's 12th International Congress of Pesticide Chemistry, ranging from pesticide development through to legal and legislative issues generated by the need to have environmentally sustainable use of pesticides. You have access to all 11 symposia for a single registration fee. Register before 26 April at <www.raci2010.org> and get the early bird rate.

Bob Watts FRACI CChem <rowatts@bigpond.net.au>



**RACI 2010 CHEMISTRY
FOR A SUSTAINABLE WORLD**
4-8 July Melbourne Convention Centre

13TH RACI NATIONAL CONVENTION and the
IUPAC 12TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF PESTICIDE CHEMISTRY



Abstract submission and
registration now open



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