Dear MEDICHEM Members,

With this MEDICHEM-Newsletter I would like to share with you some very important News.

As a first:

Some of you used the chance for nominating yourself or another Member after my Call for Candidates for the MEDICHEM Board and President Elections 2016, which I have sent out on April 25, 2016, and a reminder on May 31. I am very glad that we have the attached Candidates for the MEDICHEM Board, the MEDICHEM Officers and the MEDICHEM President for the period Oct. 2016 – Sept. 2019 who will stand for election or re-election. The elections will be performed in July.

Now it is the time to inform you, the MEDICHEM Membership about the change at the position of the Secretary General of MEDICHEM: I will hand over the office to our well known MEDICHEM Colleague, Prof. Dr. Kenneth A. Mundt. Please find his CV and contact data in the attachment. I am glad that my two colleagues from the Executive Committee of the Board (Officers), our President Dr. Murray Coombs and our Treasurer Dr. Steffen Hitzeroth, agreed with my suggestion of Prof. Dr. Kenneth Mundt to be the ideal successor for this position. Fortunately Ken Mundt’s answer on my request was absolutely positive. On April 28 Ken and I met in Heidelberg to ensure a seamless and straightforward and effective handover of data and work to do. Ken will officially take over on July 1, 2016.

I would like to thank you for the always positive cooperation. Please confide Kenneth with the same trust you have put in me. I am convinced that you can absolutely rely on him and that he not only continues the good work for MEDICHEM but that he even will significantly drive forward MEDICHEM. If you want to see me in the next term of the Board from Oct. 2016 – Sept. 2019: I am one of the Candidates for re-election. The election in July will be one of the first tasks performed by our new Secretary General, Prof. Dr. Kenneth Mundt.

As a second:

I have updated our Flyer “MEDICHEM in Brief” and have ordered the print of 2000 pieces, together with the new Information “MEDICHEM 2017 in Vienna - Mark the Date!” and with the “Application for MEDICHEM Membership-Form”, of which you can find the electronic versions attached. Please forward these pieces of information to your colleagues in your occupational surroundings and invite
them to become a Member of MEDICHEM. Please let me know how many of the printed versions you need. I can send you the requested number and I will bring some to Basel.

As a third:

I am really proud to present to you our List of MEDICHEM Members Worldwide with Expertise Databank. To enter you need the password worldlink. To find Members with specific interests, tick the associated interest box or boxes and then click the "Continue" button. If you do not select a country, a list of all Members with matching interests will be displayed. If you also select a country, only Members with matching interests in that country will be displayed. If you only look for other Members in a special country just select a country from the list below and click the "Continue" button at the bottom of the form to view the alphabetical listing of MEDICHEM Members in that country. Please check your data and send your corrections to the Secretary General. Your updates as well as data of new MEDICHEM Members are constantly updated. Use the opportunity to connect with your colleagues from all over the world. The strongest card of our MEDICHEM Membership is the Members themselves and the close ties between many of them.

As a fourth: Congresses

The Chairman of the Congress, Dr. Martin Kuster, would be happy to welcome as many of you as possible at our 44th International MEDICHEM Congress 2016 in Basel. At the Pre-conference reception on August 31, 2016 at 6 p.m. you will get together, and get to know the impressive Campus of Novartis. High ranking representatives from Politics and Industry and our MEDICHEM President will be welcoming you at the official Opening of the Congress on Thursday, September 1, 8.30 a.m. at the congress venue Bildungszentrum 21, Oekolampad, Schönenbuchstrasse 9, 4055 BASEL, Switzerland. With an A-List of brilliant speakers we intend to provide scientific excellence and exchange of knowledge on cutting-edge developments in all fields concerned. They will be discussing the challenges and finding solutions together with you, the participants of the premier 2016 International Health Event in Basel, within the different topics of the MEDICHEM 2016 Theme: "Risk Assessment at the workplace: concepts for emerging issues". Register today! Our MEDICHEM General Assembly will be on September 1, 5.15 p.m. after the scientific program of the first day, and before the Congress Dinner. The invitation with the Agenda for the GA will be sent to you by Prof. Mundt in due course.

Mark the Date in your calendars for our 45th MEDICHEM Congress 2017 in Vienna:
Our MEDICHEM Member, Board Candidate and National Representative of Ireland, Dr. Martin Hogan is the Chairman of the next ICOH Congress in Dublin 2018, from 29.04.-04.05.2018, as always with a MEDICHEM Symposium. Our MEDICHEM Board decided on the theme of our “MEDICHEM Symposium - Environmental and Occupational Impacts on the Human Genome”. The speakers will be Dr. Avi Wiener from Israel and Prof. Aaron Ciehanover (Won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry, 2004) - if he agrees, and three further speakers. If you are interested to give one of the three lectures please let Prof. Mundt know as soon as possible, since we had to inform the organizers already on February 10, which I did, but only with two of the necessary five talks. Prof. Mundt needs the name and the title of your talk.

As MEDICHEM being the ICOH Scientific Committee on Occupational Health in the Chemical Industry, we have agreed to offer a MEDICHEM Symposium: “Occupational Toxicology and Chemical Risk Assessment” at the next IUTOX Congress from 02.-06.10.2016 in Merida, Mexico, together with the ICOH Scientific Committee on Occupational Toxicology. Mark the date!

Have a look at another highlight of our MEDICHEM website, the comprehensive Congress Databank: Other Conferences Worldwide. I offer you the service to get informed about currently 146 Upcoming Conferences until 2026 with direct link to the event, and 97 conferences in the Archive of Recent Conferences. Please inform me if you want me to integrate a meeting which is not mentioned yet, or better: Inform Prof. Mundt 😊.

As a fifth:

Our President, Murray Coombs has provided some information for our website at History of Chemical Industry, at Professional Bodies and at Chemical Industry and he created a MEDICHEM Group at LinkedIn which can be reached via the link at Forum and Blog under the Heading Discussion. I provided you with some new information with links, about substance abuse and addiction.

As the last but not as the Least: People and Events

A very warm welcome to our 9 new MEDICHEM Members (after my Newsletter of February 19):

Dr. Brian Gallagher, EHA Corporate, Cork (IRELAND), 160404
Christos-Stergios Bachtsetzis, European University Cyprus, Nicosia (CYPRUS), 160415
Dr. Georgios Boustras, European University Cyprus, Nicosia (CYPRUS), 160415
Dr. Despo Ierodiakonou, European University Cyprus, Nicosia (CYPRUS), 160420
Dr. Christos Dimopoulos, European University Cyprus, Nicosia (CYPRUS), 160420
Dr. Ignacio Mauro Lopes Alho, Clariant S/A, Valinhos (BRAZIL), 160502
Dr. Dirk Pallapies, IPA (Institute for Prevention and Occupational Medicine of the German Social Accident Insurance), Bochum (GERMANY), 160511
Dr. Maria Isabel Ortega Eslava, Solvay, Brussels (BELGIUM), 160609
Dr. Brian Bennett, Huntsman Corporation, The Woodlands, TX (USA), 160621

A warm welcome to our new Sustaining Member (Bronze Sponsor): The European University - Cyprus EUC, Nicosia, Cyprus. The Sustaining Members are invited to provide some advertising and their Logo, like in the examples Travax and AkzoNobel.
Thank you for the preparedness of our new National Representative, who I was able to appoint after my Newsletter of February 19:

GERMANY, Dr. Dirk Pallapies, Appointed June 2016

In the following countries I have either requested (and I got no answer yet), or there has to be appointed a National Representative: AUSTRALIA, BULGARIA, EGYPT, FRANCE, ITALY, LUXEMBOURG, NEW ZEALAND, SENEGAL, TAIWAN and UNITED ARAB EMIRATES. In the remaining countries there were already National Representatives before I became Secretary General.

At this point I want to say a big final “Thank you” to Shoreland and especially to Dawn Keough, as our MEDICHEM Website is designed and supported by Shoreland. The establishment and continuous improvement of our MEDICHEM Website and especially the establishment of our wonderful new List of MEDICHEM Members Worldwide with Expertise Databank I only could realize with the outstanding work and help of Dawn and her colleagues.

I hope the information in my last MEDICHEM Newsletter have been of interest for you.

Kindest regards and all the best for you,

Maren Beth-Hübner

Dr. med. Maren Beth-Hübner
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Kompetenz-Center Gefahrstoffe und biologische Arbeitsstoffe
Referat Gefahrstoffe, Biostoffe, Analytik
Berufsgenossenschaft Rohstoffe und chemische Industrie (BG RCI)

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