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Front cover: Dr Mo Williams receives a silver salver from Prof. Albert Fischli in recognition of 29 years' service to IUPAC (see page 179).

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The International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC), formed in 1919, is a voluntary non-governmental, non-profit association of organizations, each of which represents the chemists of a member country.

Its objectives are:

- to promote continuing co-operation among the chemists of the member countries
- to study topics of international importance to pure and applied chemistry which need regulation, standardization, or codification
- to co-operate with other international organizations which deal with topics of a chemical nature
- to contribute to the advancement of pure and applied chemistry in all its aspects

The membership of IUPAC presently comprises 39 countries, each represented by a national organization, such as an academy of science or research council.

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