

# International Federation of Societies of Cosmetic Chemists\*

The IFSCC was founded on September 8, 1959, by Societies of Cosmetic Chemists from eight countries. These were Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Spain, Switzerland and the United States. There are presently fourteen member societies from Australia, Belgium, Chile, Scandinavia, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, and the United States. These societies represent approximately 3000 scientists who are dedicated to the advancement of cosmetic science on a worldwide scale through their association with the IFSCC.

In the years since its founding the IFSCC has successfully achieved many important and valuable objectives to the benefit of the national societies whose members have mutual scientific interests.

The IFSCC has encouraged fundamental research work by universities and industrial scientists in many disciplines. To this end it has held International Congresses every two years, involving speakers from many countries. It now proposes to sponsor awards for outstanding original scientific papers presented at these meetings.

The IFSCC Congresses have been held in various countries and have been well attended by scientists from within the cosmetic chemistry field and from other related scientific disciplines such as dermatology, molecular biology, organic chemistry, physical chemistry, statistical analysis, chemical engineering, textile chemistry, microbiology, etc.

The exchange of information and ideas which flow from international scientific meetings of this character is of unmeasurable value to cosmetic chemists everywhere. Most papers presented at the Congresses are published in the Journals edited by various member societies.

In addition, close communication by correspondence is maintained through the office of the Secretariat of the IFSCC in The Hague with the offices of the various member societies. In this manner a constant interchange of information is maintained on technical matters.

The IFSCC has been successful in raising standards of scientific excellence in cosmetic chemistry in many countries where this field is still in its early stages. In this way it has contributed greatly to the production of better and more effective cosmetics, and to the safety of the consumer on a worldwide basis.

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\* Editor's Note: The following excerpt from a press release is being printed here in order to help acquaint the members of the Society of Cosmetic Chemists with the activities of the IFSCC.