

The World of Chemistry on Stamps: An Overview to Celebrate IYC 2011

Daniel Rabinovich, Ph.D.

Program Manager, National Science Foundation

Monday, February 21, 2011 at 5:30 PM

2401 Chemistry Building

Western Michigan University

Postage stamps constitute an inexpensive and engaging way of communicating ideas to a broad audience and are therefore often used by governments or postal authorities to inform the general public on a variety of topics, including history, geography, literature and the arts. A surprisingly large number of stamps have also been issued to celebrate scientific discoveries or to honor well-known scientists and can be used as simple yet powerful teaching tools in the classroom, to illustrate technical presentations or, as a matter of fact, to celebrate special events such as the International Year of Chemistry (2011). This talk will feature postage stamps and other philatelic materials related to the history of chemistry, the discovery and sources of the elements, chemical structures and formulas, laboratory equipment, biochemistry, and various aspects of the chemical industrial.



