

Program - Laboratorio Chimico Visit

5th International Conference on the History of Chemistry

10 September 2005 (9.00h-11.00h)

Because the Laboratorio is undergoing repairs at the moment, the larger group of about 50 people will have to be divided into 3 groups of about 17. Each group will enter the laboratory separately for a 20 minute visit.

During the visit, you will see:

- the exceptional and unique character of the laboratories' facilities from the 19th century that remain unchanged, without alterations (and possibly the only surviving 19th century university laboratories in Europe)'
- August Wilhelm Hofmann's opinion, during his visit to Lisbon in 1890, considering the Laboratório Chimico da Escola Politécnica de Lisboa to be one of the best in Europe - as much for its function as for its "elegance"
- the original collection of instruments and scientific equipment that allow the viewer to experience the classrooms as they were, as well as the research conducted by the professors, chemists on par with their European colleagues (A. A. Aguiar (1838-1887), J. J. Rodrigues (1845-1893), A. V. Lourenço (1822-1893))

The future exposition (2006) will show:

- the 19th century chemistry as it was practiced in the Escola Politécnica by professors (in research and public service), demonstrators, and students as they participated in their courses
- the applications of chemistry in the areas of health, pharmaceutical industry, food industry, etc.
- the pedagogical laboratory
- the "Reservas Visitáveis" and the Documentation Center
- multimedia as means of communication

The route of the visit will include:

- The great "Anfiteatro" as a space for theory classes and demonstrations, as well as the "Aula Magna da Escola", an historical space of grandiose décor
- The "Laboratório" as a workshop and classroom for practical application (with original worktables and hoods)
- The "Galeria" on the top floor with a dark room for spectral analysis and photography, and with a panoramic view of the Laboratório

Alternately, a short visit to the Reserva or the Library will also be offered.