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Changes in chemistry education for the 21st century

 \mathbf{S} cience education including chemistry is undergoing changes due to its increasing importance these days, as it faces economic and social challenges. It is possible to register these changes in most European countries as well as the USA. Society requires to prepare the younger generation for the 21st century. We need a workforce with generally higher levels of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) literacy, as well as a sufficient number of highly gifted individuals entering scientific and engineering careers. To carry out these requirements it is necessary to change way of education and to find its appropriate content. Experts are trying to define a new paradigm of science education. But in order to be successful, important curricular changes have to be accepted by all of the stakeholders in education: students, their parents, politicians and especially by teachers, who should implement these curricular changes into practice. We will present research findings of the Czech Republic concerning the identification of

views on science education, what opinions on current science education are held by stakeholders and what priority should be preferred in their opinion. The appropriate content of school chemistry and innovative methods of teaching chemistry will be discussed.

Speaker Biography

Eva Trnova is senior lecturer at the Faculty of Education Masaryk University in the Czech Republic. She graduated in chemistry at the Faculty of Science, Masaryk University. She has completed her PhD in chemistry education. She has been engaged in chemistry education for a long time and she has published monographs and articles in journals about this issue. She has dealt with problems connected with curriculum for chemistry and chemistry teachers' continuous professional development (CPD) in all levels of education. She is a member of the Hands on Science and the International Council of Associations for Science Education. She has been involved in many international projects dealing with research of chemistry education and the development of science education (e.g. PROFILES, Project of SFP, STAR).

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