

Berzelius Society

The Berzelius Society was founded in December 1991 with the purpose of deepening and spreading knowledge about Jac. Berzelius and his work, create interest in and maintaining a Berzelian tradition. This is done by promoting publications of papers by and about Berzelius, protect and keep the reminiscence of Berzelius and by giving lectures illustrating his personal life and achievements. Information from the Society is mainly distributed to its members by e-mail.

Membership

After notification, the Society may accept domestic as well as foreign citizens and organisations to become members of the Society. Membership is free of charge although a fee will be charged in connection with distribution by the Society of printed publications or for specific activities. The board is happy to support any initiatives relating to Jac. Berzelius by distributing information about literature, lectures etc.

Contact

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Jacob Berzelius (1779-1848): Pioneer in the Service of Science



The brilliant contributions of Jacob Berzelius to the chemical science have been described in a variety of essays and papers throughout the years. His success was based upon a purgatory view of the scientific visions. With a unique ability of judgement, thoroughness, clarity and with an encyclopedic knowledge, Berzelius took up a remarkable position in society. He became one of the immortals in History of Chemistry.

The legislator of chemistry

Jacob Berzelius contributed to the whole field of chemistry. A complete description of his achievements and the impact he has had on the development of the subject is impossible to give, but some of the main areas of his accomplishments can be summarised as follows:

- Fundamental and accurate experimental investigations
- The theory of definite proportions and the electrochemical theory
- Symbol- and nomenclature systems (O = oxygen, C = carbon etc)
- Discovery of new elements (Ce, Se, Si, Zr, Th)
- Clearness and simplicity in critical writing
- New concepts (catalysis, isomerism, protein etc)
- In annual reports critically surveying the progress of chemistry
- Pioneering work in animal chemistry (biochemistry and physiological chemistry)