

The Society of Spanish Researchers in the United Kingdom launches its website and starts its cycle of events of 2013

The Society of *Spanish Researchers in the United Kingdom* (SRUK/CERU) celebrated its first event of the year last 9th February. The event, organised by the London Constituency, had around 60 attendees and was hosted at the prestigious King's College of London. The scientific day comprised not only an informative session about SRUK/CERU with the official launch of its website, but also a scientific seminar.

A consolidation year for SRUK/CERU

Dr Lorenzo Melchor, Researcher at The Institute of Cancer Research in London and President of SRUK/CERU, started the day by disclosing the history and achievements of the young association since its origins in July 2011. Dr Melchor also presented the objectives for 2013.



Informative session about SRUK/CERU (Left) with the official launch of the website <http://www.sruk.org.uk> (Right)

Official launch of the SRUK/CERU website

One of the key moments of the day was the official launch of <http://www.sruk.org.uk>. The Society had been using its social networks on Facebook (with over 700 followers), Twitter and LinkedIn to date. Thus, a new 2.0 website is available for any visitor to learn about the history, structure, news, and events of the Society; furthermore, any SRUK/CERU member will have access to forum, databases and job opportunities. This meeting point and virtual library has become true thanks to the kind support of the Ramón Areces Foundation.

The First International Symposium in Madrid and the Cycle of Seminars and Roundtables 2013 in London and Cambridge

Next, the SRUK/CERU scientific events for 2013 were introduced. Dr Laura García-Álvarez, associate researcher at the Imperial College of London, firstly showed "Spanish Science in the United Kingdom: 1st International Symposium of the Spanish Researchers in the United Kingdom", to be celebrated next 1st April at the headquarters of the Ramón Areces Foundation in Madrid. SRUK/CERU would like to take this opportunity to introduce itself before the Spanish public general. Attendance is free. All the information is available on <http://www.sruk.org.uk/symposium>.

Dr. María Hernández-Fuentes, Senior Lecturer at the King's College in London and Secretary of SRUK/CERU, showed the striving cycle of seminars and roundtables SRUK/CERU 2013, with renowned guest speakers such as Sir Gregory Paul Winter, Sir Salvador Moncada, Prof Peter Lawrence and Dr Ginés Morata.



The SINC Agency as a front window to advertise scientific publications

Ana Correas, spokesperson of the Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FECYT) and scientific advisor of the Office for Cultural and Scientific Affairs of the Embassy of Spain in the United Kingdom, depicted the initiatives developed by the Secretary of State for R+D and FECYT, as well as the existence of the Scientific News Agency SINC (<http://www.sinc.es>). Correas emphasised that any scientific institution could register in the SINC website to advertise their scientific news to journalists, other researchers and general public, with the support of the SINC editorial office.



The International Symposium "Spanish Science in the UK" (Left) and the Cycle of Seminars and Roundtables SRUK/CERU 2013 (Right) were introduced

The presence of Spanish Scientists in the United Kingdom in the last three centuries"

For the first seminar of the year, SRUK/CERU invited Dr Francisco González-Redondo, historian, mathematician, author, and lecturer at the University Complutense of Madrid. It was a remarkable occasion for every attendee and SRUK/CERU member to learn about the role and achievements of some of their predecessors. For about an hour, Dr González-Redondo captivated the audience with stories about not only naval espionage by Jorge Juan and Antonio de Ulloa, but also liberal scientists who moved to the UK during the absolutist Spain of the 19th Century, as well as the stays of renowned Spanish researchers such as Santiago Ramón y Cajal, Severo Ochoa, or Arturo Duperier during the 20th Century.

You may listen to the interview of Lucía de la Riva with Dr González-Redondo, recorded just after the event. Click [here](#).



Dr Francisco González-Redondo during his Plenary Lecture "The presence of Spanish scientists in the United Kingdom in the last three centuries"

A remarkable beginning

To sum up, SRUK/CERU initiated the year with the right step. The official launch of the website was celebrated, and networking amongst membership as well as Science Communication were triggered with the first Seminar of the year. Many plans are to be developed with efforts and excitement.

You may access to a photo album of the event, [here](#).