

EDITORIAL



The Fall Meeting in Lausanne on September 12, 2007 was again a very successful conference. This concentrated one-day meeting is obviously a welcome necessity for the younger members of our chemical community. Most of the 600–700 who attended the meeting are hooked on chemistry for life and I can only congratulate them, having chosen, with a bit of luck, an interesting life.

The next and urgent question is how interest in chemistry, and science generally, can be stimulated in the next generations. Switzerland does not lead the field when pupils are compared internationally on their knowledge in science. Swiss pupils come at the end of the first third. This is not good enough in a country which depends so heavily on R&D in different fields. How can one convince pupils that science is cool *and* great fun? Probably only

through enthusiastic teachers, who themselves are convinced about the value and the importance of science. Where do we find those fantastic teachers? (see *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* 22./23. März 2008, p. 55, an article by *fur*).

Both the *Werner* and the *Grammatikakis-Neumann* Prizes were awarded in appreciation of supramolecular chemistry. The chemistry of intermolecular bonds and of non-covalent interactions forms the basis of biological systems such as receptor–ligand, antigen–antibody interactions and so on. Molecular self-assembly and molecular recognition are different names for the same principle. In 1987 this field was broadly recognized with the Nobel Prize for D. Cram, J. M. Lehn, and C. J. Pedersen. Since then a tremendous development has taken place with the aim of constructing supramolecules with properties which go far beyond those of the component parts. Increasing complexity is one of the keywords, although not always the sole key. **Jonathan Nitschke** talked about synthetic routes from simplicity to complexity, whereas **Alberto Credì** presented routes to photochemical molecular machines.

In the afternoon, as a novelty, the *Max Lüthy* Award presentation was delivered by **Ludovic Gremaud**. At the very end of a full day the *SCS Mettler-Toledo* Awards for the best oral presentations in the different sections and the *SCS Prizes* for the best posters were presented.

SCS Mettler-Toledo Award Winners for Oral Presentations

Butterfield Sara M.	UNIGE
Chaplin Adrian B.	EPFL
Favre Sylvain	EPFL
Hirsch Anna K. H.	ETH
Jo Yun Suk	EPFL
Lin I-Chun	EPFL
Manca Carine	ETH
Stearns Jaime A.	EPFL
Vlčková Markéta	UNIBA

SCS Prize Winners for Poster Presentations

Brunetto Priscilla S.	UNIFRI
Heckenroth Marion	UNIFRI
Horný L'uboš	ETH
Kielsch Iris	ETH
Konradi Rupert	ETH
Luisier Samuel	UNIBE
Niederer Hans-Martin	ETH
Patiny Luc	EPFL
Pitschumony Tamil S.	UZH
Touboul David	ETH
Van der Veen Renske M.	EPFL

You will find the contributions of all the awardees in this issue of the CHIMIA except one ...

In only five months we will see each other again at the Fall Meeting 2008 at the University of Zurich, Irchel. I wish all of you interesting times in your research and elsewhere.

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