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Community News

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SWISS CHEMICAL SOCIETY NEWS

“140 years of scienceindustries – there is still much to do!”



In the beginning of March 2022, scienceindustries celebrated its 140th anniversary. The association has always been the voice for the chemical, pharmaceutical and life sciences industries. We represent the interests of our members and aspire to be a trustworthy dialogue partner for politics, the media and civil society.

Over the past two years, our members have played a vital role in mitigating the effects of the corona pandemic. With the war in Ukraine, society is currently facing completely different challenges with major humanitarian implications. Our companies are supporting the Federal Council's sanctions while trying to maintain supplies. In a first “Carte Blanche” guest article, author and Avenir Suisse director Peter Grünenfelder presents his view of the current situation.

In times of uncertainty, good domestic policy conditions are all the more important. Switzerland must preserve its opportunities and build on the foundations of its innovation and competitiveness. Opportunities lie with the current OECD tax reform as well as with the Horizon Europe research programme. It is also important to keep our health system efficient – please have a look at our position paper on this important topic.

The spring session of the Swiss parliament came to an end with important decisions: the National Council favoured an indirect counter-proposal to the glacier initiative – scienceindustries welcomes the Federal Council's counter-proposal with the net zero target 2050 for greenhouse gas emissions as a basic principle. Meanwhile, the Council of States has spoken out in favour of clear rules for innovative breeding methods in Switzerland. This offers opportunities for better products and more sustainable agriculture.

Innovation is and remains key to the success of our members and to solving the major societal challenges of the future. There is still a lot for scienceindustries to do in the next 140 years!

Source: scienceindustries.ch

Contribute to the Development of the Next Generation of Scientists!



Join the pool of 300+ experts in our database.

What's it about?

SCNAT's Commission for the Promotion of Young Scientists makes its database of scientific experts available to teachers and high school students, as well as textbook publishers, to facilitate

contacts and promote science among young people.

How is the data tank used?

Students, teachers, and publishers can contact you about your provided information to collaborate or organize events with you. We ask you to name your areas of expertise with examples of topics, e.g. for visits or excursions with school classes, or Matura thesis topics.

Sponsorships for Matura theses?

The sponsorships are the heart of our database. Each year, more than 30 Matura theses are supported. As an expert, you advise students on the choice of topic or provide the infrastructure to answer the question they have developed themselves. Our goal is to increase the number of sponsorships to about 50 per year by 2024.

Who are we looking for?

We welcome your application if you are currently working in science (research, production, analysis, etc.). You are happy to share your passion and have the necessary resources (time for visits or lectures, infrastructure for [at least] four practical half-days during a Matura thesis). It is basically a voluntary commitment. SCNAT is not financially involved in collaborations with publishers. The experts set their own fees as service providers.

Source: mint.scnat.ch/en/withscientists

Call for Candidates for the Board of Directors of the IUPAC Centenary Endowment Fund



IUPAC is setting up a “centenary endowment fund” and is looking for members of the respective board. The board will manage the fund from sponsor/donor allocation to evaluation and support of initiatives (see attached file) and will meet four times a year. If you know any candidates to nominate for this mandate, please contact the

Swiss member of IUPAC's Finance Committee Urs Rüegg (urs.ruegg@unige.ch). Please also address your questions to him.

The purpose of the Centenary Endowment Fund will be to finance IUPAC projects and activities in support of:

The establishment of IUPAC nomenclature and standards in the digital domain to enable advances in Big Data relevant to chemistry and chemistry related research and development,

IUPAC's unique international role in the critical evaluation of chemical data and establishment of standards that will be necessary to underpin the achievement of Sustainable Development and the UN millennium goals,

Chemistry Education and Capacity Building in less developed countries to promote their economic development whilst helping to ensure the safe and environmentally sensitive application of chemical technologies in these countries.

The Centenary Endowment Fund will provide a mechanism through which Fund Donors can support and engage in IUPAC's international work into its second century of existence.

The initial objective of the Fund is to provide endowment investment earnings of at least \$100,000 per annum for IUPAC

activities consistent with the Fund Mission, net of the operational costs of the fund, including those of the Centenary Endowment Board. The Fund will be self-financing.

More details: iupac.org

A Warm Welcome to Our New Members!



Period: 01.03.2022 - 24.03.2022

Balazs Budai, Basel - Noemi Cerboni, Ennetbaden - Si-Kai Chen, Geneva - Hao Chen, Geneva - Xiaoxiao Chen, Geneva - Michael Cognet, Geneva - Jean Pierre Daguier, Annemasse (FR) - Bibiana Fabri, Geneva - Tomas Fiala, Zurich - Marco Finger, Bern

- Pascal George, Longvillers (FR) - Rahul Giri, Fribourg - Arthur Gonse, Ville-La-Grand (FR) - Nerea Gonzalez, Geneva - Ángeles Gutiérrez López, Collonges sous salevé (FR) - Felix Hartrampf, Zurich - Takehiro Kato, Geneva - Mikail Levasseur, Zurich - Miguel Lopez Tena, Geneva - Jean-Rémy Marchand, Basel - John Maynard, Geneva - Rebecca Mucci, Geneva - Pavol Ondrisek, Geneva - Oleksii Parkhomenko, Basel - Mahsa Parvizian, Basel - Subrata Patra, Fribourg - Alexandre Perera, Zurich - Rohan Pokratath, Basel - Phil Preikschas, Glattpark (Opfikon) - Jikson Pulparayil Mathew, Basel - Chandralekha Rajalakshmi, Pathanamthitta (IN) - Nico Reichholf, Basel - Maria del Hénar Rojo Sanz, Wettlingen - Fedor Romanov Michailidis, Schlieren - Sunil Kumar Sailapu, Zurich - Simon Schlapansky, Zurich - Carlotta Seno, Basel - Selena Simon Zúñiga, Basel - Harshit Singh, Geneva - Dietger Van den Eynden, Basel - Matteo Vanni, Zurich.

JOURNAL NEWS

Helvetica, Volume 105, Issue 3, March 2022



Communications

Direct Access to Fluorinated Sulfonylhydrazides and Study of Their Reactivity in Thiolation Reaction on Indoles
Tingting Cao, Benoît Crousse

Full Papers

A Journey through Hemetsberger–Kniittel, Leimgruber–Batcho and Bartoli Re-

actions: Access to Several Hydroxy 5- and 6-Azaindoles
Sylvie Radix, François Hallé, Zahia Mahiout, Amélie Teissonnière, Grégoire Bouchez, Ludovic Auberger, Roland Barret, Thierry Lomberget

Research Articles

Synthesis of (Di)thiahelicones and Dithiophenohelicones by [2+2+2] Cycloisomerization of Alkynes

Ondřej Palata, Angelina Andronova, Michal Šámal, Jindřich Nejedlý, Jiří Rybáček, Miloš Buděšinský, Lucie Bednářová, Lubomír Pospíšil, Ivana Čisarová, Ivo Starý, Irena G. Stará

A Short and Versatile Approach for the Synthesis of Pyrrolizidines

Dylan Dagoneau, Pierre Quinodoz, Amandine Kolleth, Mert Bozoflu, Beyza Horoz, Saron Catak, Philippe-Alexandre Poisson, Alexandre Lumbroso, Sarah Sulzer-Mossé, Alain De Mesmaeker

Polar Substituents Enable Efficient Catalysis for a Class of Cobalt Polypyridyl Hydrogen Evolving Catalysts

Peter Müller, Benjamin Probst, Bernhard Spingler, Olivier Blacque, Roger Alberto

The Influence of ZnO–ZrO₂ Interface in Hydrogenation of CO₂ to CH₃OH

Petr Šot, Gina Noh, Ines C. Weber, Sotiris E. Pratsinis, Christophe Copéret

Website: onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/15222675

INDUSTRIAL NEWS

Source: www.chemanager-online.com

DuPont Sustainable Solutions Becomes Dss+

March 3, 2022: DuPont Sustainable Solutions has been rebranded as dss+ with effect from Feb. 28. After separating from parent DuPont in September 2019 in a spinoff backed by Swiss private equity group Gyrus Capital, the company became an independent consulting firm to industrial sectors such as chemicals, oil & gas, mining, metals and manufacturing. Davide Vassallo, CEO of dss+, said the new brand name “represents the exponential capability we have to help companies work safer and smarter, with purpose and impact.” Since being spun out, dss+ said it has evolved and enhanced its capabilities both through organic growth and three acquisitions to improve the breadth and depth of capabilities in operational excellence, sustainability and environmental, social & governance (ESG). The acquisitions included Sofies Group last October, adding new intellectual property, methodologies, tools and capabilities in sustainability management, KKS advisors in July 2021, a leader in ESG with particular expertise in financing and investment, and global consulting firm Lodestone Partners in February 2020. dss+ said it has more than 1,000 professionals operating in 40 countries worldwide.

Lonza Completes API Expansion in China

March 10, 2022: Swiss CDMO Lonza has completed a planned laboratory expansion at its active pharmaceutical ingredients (API) manufacturing site at Nansha, China and plans to begin operation on Mar. 22. The upgrade, which increases the laboratory footprint to 250 m² is part of plans announced in mid-2021 to extend the capabilities and capacity of development laboratories and kilogram-scale cGMP manufacturing laboratories for clinical supply of highly-potent APIs (HPAPI). As part of the investment, three 1,000-liter GMP trains with an overall 12 m³ of reactor volume were added to the facility, along with new development and GMP laboratories with capabilities to manufacture small-scale batches of the HPAPIs. Lonza said earlier that the higher scale capacity will facilitate mid-scale manufacturing to ensure a smoother transition between early-phase and large-scale commercial production and benefit the many global emerging biotechs with which it partners. HPAPIs, which represent a growing part of the small molecules pipeline with special requirements related to equipment, process safety, containment, and facility design, currently form a large part of Lonza’s small molecule development pipeline and the demand for manufacturing is growing, especially in supporting clinical trials in oncology, the company said.

Maersk Enters Strategic Partnerships for Green Methanol

March 17, 2022: Shipping giant A.P. Moller-Maersk has entered into strategic partnerships with six companies with the aim of sourcing at least 730,000 t/y of green methanol by the end of 2025. The companies are China’s CIMC Enric and Green

Technology Bank (GTB), Danish companies European Energy and Orsted, Swiss methanol producer Proman and US start-up WasteFuel. With this capacity, the Danish group said it will “reach well beyond” the methanol needed for the first 12 green container vessels currently on order. It added that green methanol is currently the only market-ready and scalable solution that is available for shipping and production must be increased through collaboration. “That is why these partnerships mark an important milestone to get the transition to green energy underway,” said Henriette Hallberg Thygesen, CEO of fleet & strategic brands at Maersk. Maersk’s timetable for the projects envisions a total of 130,000 t/y of green methanol online by the end of 2024, an additional 600-700,000 t/y by the end of 2025, plus another 500,000 t/y added after 2025. In China, CIMC Enric’s proposal is for a first phase of 50,000 t/y biomethanol starting up in 2024, with a second phase of 200,000 t/y to start production at a date to be determined. GTB’s projects in China will be undertaken with other developers that have yet to be selected. The first project is planned to produce 50,000 t/y biomethanol starting from 2024, with a second project producing 300,000 t/y at a start date yet to be determined. In the US, Orsted will develop an e-methanol project with capacity of 300,000 t/y. Startup is planned for 2025. E-methanol is produced by combining green hydrogen and captured CO₂ from industrial sources. In addition, Proman, which is expanding capacity in North America, aims to supply Maersk with 100-150,000 t/y of biomethanol once its project goes online in 2025. European Energy will also produce e-methanol for Maersk’s first green feeder vessel, which is expected to go into operation by 2023. The two firms will also develop e-methanol projects in Latin America and the US that will be able to produce up to 200-300,000 t/y starting in 2025-2026. In South America, WasteFuel is developing a bio-meth-

anol project that will produce more than 30,000 t/y from 2024. Last September, Maersk announced that it had invested an undisclosed sum in WasteFuel.

Lonza to Manufacture Oasmia’s Ovarian Cancer Drug

March 22, 2022: Swiss CDMO Lonza has signed an agreement for the large-scale manufacture of the main drug intermediate for Swedish specialty pharma Oasmia’s investigational cancer drug candidate Cantrixil. In development for treating late-stage ovarian cancer, Cantrixil has successfully completed a Phase I clinical trial and Oasmia is now preparing to start Phase II trials. Oasmia licensed the drug from Australian pharma Kazia last year. Under terms of the deal, Lonza will provide kilogram-scale synthesis, purification and stability testing of Cantrixil, and deliver cGMP batches of drug substance for clinical supply. The CDMO will start manufacturing the drug substance this month at its facility in Nansha, China. Lonza announced earlier this month that it had completed an expansion at Nansha, extending the capabilities and capacity of development laboratories and kilogram-scale cGMP manufacturing laboratories for the clinical supply of highly potent APIs. “The manufacture of Cantrixil is planned to be performed in three steps and this agreement is the first and most crucial step in us securing the clinical drug supply for its development,” said Oasmia’s chief technical officer Kai Wilkinson. Separately, Oasmia is planning to upgrade its R&D laboratory in Uppsala for formulations intended to treat cancers. The upgrade will provide greater capacity to handle formulations, such as Cantrixil and others using Oasmia’s proprietary drug delivery platform that the company said is designed to improve solubility, efficacy and safety. As well as Cantrixil, Oasmia is also developing docetaxel micellar for treating advanced prostate cancer.

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