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# **Community News**

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### SWISS CHEMICAL SOCIETY NEWS

#### **SNSF Scientific Image Competition**



The Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) Scientific Image Competition encourages researchers working in Switzerland to present their works to the public and the media. Photographs, images and videos will be rated in terms of their aesthetic quality and their ability to inspire and amaze, to convey or illustrate knowledge, to tell a human story or to let

us discover a new universe.

Categories of the competition

- Object of study (image)
- Women and men of science
- Locations and instruments
- Video loop

The competition is held annually. An international jury will meet at the beginning of the year and award a CHF 1,000 prize in each category for the winning entry, as well as CHF 250 for each distinction. The award-winning works are announced in April or May, displayed in an exhibition at the Biel/Bienne Festival of Photography and made available to the public and the media, as well as to scientific institutions.

The deadline for submissions is 31 January 2024. The winning images will be exhibited at the Biel/Bienne Festival of Photography in May 2024.

More information: *snf.ch* 

# SCS Mentoring Progam: An excellent start into the activities in the 4 Regions



The kick-off meetings of the four regional clusters of the SCS mentoring program were held successfully.

Around some snacks and a good glass of wine, mentors and mentees got to know each other and had the chance to express their thoughts and their expectations about the program and which topics the mentees would like to discuss

in the next sessions.

The goal of the program is to support the personal and professional development of students and postdocs by providing guidance, advice, and feedback from senior professionals. The focus of the SCS Mentoring Program is on career development.

#### Approach

Four regional clusters, each consisting of a managing team, mentors and mentees, are established. Each cluster defines the activities, one per semester, at its "kick-off meeting". At the end of the year, the cluster will meet for a closing event. More information: *foundation.scg.ch* 

#### **Ernst Schering Prize 2024 - Call for Nominations**



The prestigious Ernst Schering Prize annually honors outstanding scientists whose groundbreaking work has yielded new, inspiring models and led to fundamental shifts in biomedical knowledge. As of now, we invite both established scientists and scientific research institutions and societies to nominate candidates for this prize.

More information: scheringstiftung.de

#### SCS Anniversary Members 2023



The board members of the Swiss Chemical Society would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our senior memers who celebrate an SCS anniversary in 2023. We would like to express our special thanks to Reinhart Keese, Franz Müller, Kurt Wüthrich and Jean-Jacques Salzmann who have been SCS members for 60 years.

#### Member for 60 years

Reinhart Keese, Spiegel b. Bern Franz Müller, Hergiswil Kurt Wüthrich, Zurich Jean-Jacques Salzmann, Bottmingen

#### Member for 50 years

Reinhard Neier, Neuchâtel Carl W. Schläpfer, Düdingen Vittorio Rasetti, Riehen Konrad Becker, Binningen Klaus Rudolf Lindner, Sinzing (D) Peter Frey, Bern

#### Member for 40 years

Claude le Drian, Dommartin Charles-André Barras, Baltschieder Guido Bold, Gipf-Oberfrick Hans-Peter Buser, Arlesheim Philippe Rohner, Blonay Johannes Aebi, Murten René Nordmann, Zürich Werner Leupin, Liestal Eduard Rudolf Felder, Mendrisio Markus W. Läubli, Appenzell John T. Welch, Albany, NY (USA) A902 CHIMIA **2023**, 77, No. 12 COMMUNITY **N**EWS

Frank Seela, Osnabrück (D) Nicolas Di Menna, Männedorf

#### Member for 30 years

David M. Zeller, Basel

Xenia Beyrich-Graf, Efringen-Kirchen (D)

Franziska Arnhold, Reigoldswil

Peter Murer, Oberwil

Philippe Kamalaprija, Genève

Torsten Hoffmann, Weil am Rhein (D)

Ursula Hoffmann, Muttenz

Andreas Hafner, Gelterkinden

Daniel Bourgin-Mosimann, Liestal

Edwin C. Constable, Hochwald

Christoph Bucher, Hüttikon

Kurt Dietliker, Allschwil

Kaspar Eigenmann, Arlesheim

Jean-Michel Roulet, St-Prex

J.J. Cornelius Elie, Bernex

#### Member for 20 years

Rainer E. Martin, Basel

Markus Ramseier, Sissach

Martin E. Seiler, Vionnaz

Christophe Joris, Laufen

Francesco Santoro, Dardagny (FR)

Thomas Gude, Rohr

Samuel Peter, Stäfa

Anja Liedtke, Schlieren

Roger Schibli, Baden

Dietmar Hüglin, Basel

Jérôme Waser, Préverenges

Daniel Frauchiger, Prilly

Cyril A. Fuhrer, Uettligen

Guido F. Herrmann, Stuttgart (D)

Geir Legreid, Sisseln

Christine Brotschi, Allschwil

Samuel Luisier, Miège

Jaime Lage Robles, Fully

Robert Lysek, Martigny

Gavin Alexander Schmid, Ennetbaden

Sacha Javor, St-Prex

Thomas Pitterna, Kaisten

Jürgen Stohner, Horgen

Greta Ricarda Patzke, Zürich

Ivo Alxneit, Villigen

Silvano Bergamasco, Wangen b. Olten

Paul Bernhard, Marly

Martin Forster, Rapperswil-Jona

Manfred Hofmann, Marly

Beat Jenny, Oberentfelden

Frank Nüesch, Dübendorf

Erika Schmidt, Basel

Barbara Sulzberger, Zollikon

Laurent Jakob, Plan-les-Ouates

Hans Hollenstein, Zuzwil

Dustin Hofstetter, Zürich

Eva Altmann, Reinach

Dorte Renneberg, Allschwil

Heinz Fretz, Gunten

Jean-Marc Stoll, Zürich Harm-Anton Klok, St. Sulpice

Simon Duttwyler, Egg b. Zürich

Oliver Wenger, Basel

Jan Helbing, Zürich

Valentina Aureggi, Zug

Andreas Goeke, Dübendorf

Martin Tanner, Bern Martin Althaus, Küttigen Christophe Schlicht, Monthey Andras P. Borosy, Dübendorf Stefan Reber, Basel Fabian Fischer, Diolly Julia Klingele, Müllheim (D) Marc Gerspacher, Hägendorf Christian Frei, Sargans Jessica Krueger, Les Paccots

#### Member for 10 years

Lukas Kreis, Baden

Jens Jablonski, Diepflingen

Martin Magg, Geneva

Sarah Wegmüller, Sion

Tobias Hagendorn, Basel

Angela Neff, Zürich

Roman Lagoutte, Basel

Veronika Ehmke, Basel

Farhan Bou Hamdan, Basel

Matthias Weiss, Baden

Nicolas Eichenebrger, Boécourt

Frederik J. Hug, Backnang (D)

Marco Fischer, Oberrieden

Camille Le Chapelain, Baden

Régis Mondière, Basel

Jovana Milic, Neuchâtel

Pascal Engl, Dietikon

Andrea Pannwitz, Lörrach (D)

Sandra Luber, Zurich

Fabian Schwizer, Belp

Davide Righi, Chêne-Bourg

Alexandre Hofer, Cambridge (GB)

Sven Weiler, Lörrach (D)

Albert Ruggi, Marly

Trixie Wagner, Basel

Michal Juricek, Zurich

Jeremy Luterbacher, Lausanne

Eva Caroff, Ranspach le Haut (FR)

Kai Henning Viehweger, Herisau

Andreas Borgschulte, Dübendorf

Nicolas Blanchard, Niffer (FR)

Vladimir Paunovic, Zurich

Christian Trindler, Freiburg i.B. (D)

Berndt Oberhauser, Riehen

Bartosz Lewandowski, Zurich Andreas Wiesner, Golssen (D)

Stefan Stöckli, Trimbach

Adriana Edenharter, Aarau

Alexei Karpov, Muttenz

Michael Duss, Wohlen

Andreas Lutz, Galgenen

Ilche Gjuroski, Bern

Jan Vermant, Zürich

Radek Skupienski, Neuenegg

Andreas Züttel, Kandersteg

Christian Meisterhans, Teufen

Lukas Federer, Buchs SG

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#### A Warm Welcome to Our New Members!



Period: 31.10.2023-20.11.2023

María Álvarez, Basel - Finn Beiglboeck, Zurich - Doriane Chauvin, Zurich - Ray Cowen, Lausanne - Jiaxin Duan, Untersiggenthal - Andri Florin, Zürich - Ummugulsum Gunes, Lausanne - Nicola Jelmini, Zurich - Brenno Masina, Zurich - Sasa Miladinovic, Sion - Robert

Moretti, Satigny - Manjistha Mukherjee, Basel - Sabela Reuge, Bern - Ruben Rodriguez Madrid, Lausanne - Luca Schaufelberger, Zurich - Taj Seaton, Bern - Uros Stojiljkovic, Basel - Ran Wei, Lausanne.

## HONORS, AWARDS, APPOINTMENTS

# Ruzicka Prize 2023 given to Prof. Victor Mougel, ETH Zurich



On November 23, 2023 at ETH Zurich, Prof. Victor Mougel received the 2023 Ruzicka Prize for his oustanding research on "Redox Properties and Catalytic Applications of Synthetic Iron-Sulfur Clusters".

The Ruzicka Prize, named after the ETH professor and Nobel laureate Leopold Ruzicka, is one of the most impor-

tant awards for the promotion of young scientists in the field of chemistry in Switzerland. The prize is endowed with 10,000 CHF Source: *chab.ethz.ch*.

## SCS Award Winners 2024

It's our pleasure to announce the winners of the 2024 SCS Scientific Award Programs. We would like to sincerely congratulate all winners for their outstanding scientific contributions, and we are looking forward to the award ceremonies and lectures that will take place at one of our upcoming SCS events.

### Paracelsus Prize 2024



**Prof. Armido Studer,** Universität Münster, is honored for his outstanding contribution towards the development of novel radical-based methodologies.

The prize is endowed with CHF 20'000 and a medal in gold. The award lecture will take place at the Bern Symposium on Radical Chemistry in Bern on June 27-28, 2024.

#### **Werner Prize 2024**



*Prof. Athina Anastasaki*, ETH Zurich receives the prize for her excellence in research spanning across the broad areas of polymer synthesis, polymer self-assembly and chemical recycling, also referred to as depolymerization. The prize is endowed with CHF 10'000

and a medal in bronze. The award lecture will take place at the SCS Fall Meeting in Fribourg on September 5, 2024.

#### Sandmeyer Prize 2024



The SCS honors Prof. Urs von Gunten, EPF Lausanne, Prof. Juliane Hollender, ETH Zurich, Dr. Christa McArdell, Dr. Adriano Joss, Marc Böhler and Christian Abegglen, Eawag, and Prof. em. Hansruedi Siegrist, ETH Zurich from the *Eawag team "Advanced wastewater treatment"* in recognition of the team's outstanding achievements in us-

ing chemistry to address a challenge of large societal im-portance: securing clean water.

The award is endowed with CHF 20'000. The award lecture will take place at the SCS Fall Meeting in Fribourg on September 5, 2024, and the 17. Freiburger Symposium in spring 2025.

#### SCS Senior Industrial Science Award 2024



*Dr. Michel Muehlebach*, Syngenta Crop Protection AG

receives the prize for his impactful scientific contributions across two different product lines that have been critical to the discovery of two active ingredients, namely the herbicide Pinoxaden and the insecticide TINIVION<sup>TM</sup> technology (Spiropidion).

The prize is endowed with CHF 10'000.

The award lecture will take place at the Swiss Industrial Chemistry Sympsium (SICS) in Basel on January 31, 2025.



# Season's Greetings

Many thanks to all our members, partners, board members and co-workers who have supported us over the past year. Merci!

We hope that this Christmas season may sparkle and shine, that all your wishes and dreams may come true and that you may feel this happiness all year round.

All the best for 2024 and Happy New Year!

Your team from the SCS Office Sarah, Gillian, Céline, Robert, Hans Peter & David



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#### **SCS Industrial Science Award 2024**



Dr. Rosa Maria Rodriguez Sarmiento, F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd receives the prize for her impactful contributions to numerous research initiatives in various therapeutic areas such as CNS and rare diseases, as well as Cardiovascular and metabolic diseases coupled with her influence on the scientific community both within

and outside the company.

The award is endowed with CHF 7'000.

The award lecture will take place at the SCS Fall Meeting in Fribourg on September 5, 2024.

#### **Green & Sustainable Chemistry Award 2024**



**Prof. Rebecca Buller**, ZHAW Wädenswil

receives the prize for her extraordinary achievements in making state of the art enzyme catalysis easily and widely accessible for industrial use, that have become indispensable assets in moving toward a sustainable chemical industry in Switzerland and beyond.

The award is endowed with CHF 10'000 and is sponsored by Syngenta Crop Protection AG. The award lecture will take place at the SCS Spring Meeting 2024 in Basel on June 7, 2024.

#### **METAS Award 2024**



Dr. Andrea Rösch, Agroscope

receives the prize for the development of a comprehensive measuring method for around 150 pesticides in soil. Quantification is based on matrix-matched internal standards calibration, using 95 isotopically labelled analyte analogues. Issues such as proper sampling and applicability to routine private/cantonal

laboratories were also addressed.

The prize is endowed with CHF 5'000 and a certificate. The award lecture is planned at the CHanalysis in Beatenberg on April 10-12, 2024.

#### **Balmer Prize 2024**



*Dr. Klemens Koch*, Gymnasium Biel Seeland

wird geehrt für seine unermüdliche Arbeit für einen guten Chemieunterricht in der Schweiz und im angrenzenden Ausland, welche durch die grosse Fülle und Breite an Aktivitäten und Initiativen über eine lange Zeitdauer besticht.

Der Preis ist mit CHF 4'000 und einer

Bronze Medaille dotiert.

Der Vortrag findet im Rahmen des Zentralkurses Chemie in Winterthur vom 9.-11. Oktober 2024 statt.

#### Dr. Max Lüthi Prize 2024



Frau Céline Spack, HEIA Fribourg wird geehrt für ihre herausragende Bachelorarbeit «Nachweis von Torf in Erdproben mithilfe von Biomarkern». Der Preis ist mit CHF 1'000 und einer Bronze Medaille dotiert.

#### **DMCCB PhD Thesis Prize 2024**



**Dr. Jennifer Müller,** ETH Zurich, group of Prof. K.-H. Altmann, is honored for her thesis « Synthesis of Tyrosine- and Tryptophan-based LAT1 Inhibitors as Potential Antitumor Agents»

and



*Dr. Lukas Schneider*, University of Basel, group of Prof. D. Gillingham, is honored for his thesis « A novel selection approach for DNA-encoded libraries using terminal deoxynucleotidyl transferase».

More Information about the SCS Award Program is available on our website: <a href="https://scg.ch/awards">https://scg.ch/awards</a>

#### **JOURNAL NEWS**

#### Helvetica, Volume 106, Issue 11, November 2023



#### Reviews

β-Silylacrylate as a Multipurpose Reagent in Organic Synthesis *Sunil K. Ghosh* 

#### **Synthetic Procedures**

Kilogram-Scale Synthesis of 4-Chloro-6-(6-methoxypyridin- 3-yl) pyrimidine through a Suzuki-Miyaura

Cross-Coupling Using Micellar Catalysis *Nicholas A. Isley, Fabrice Gallou* 

#### **Research Articles**

Rapid Synthesis of Propargyl-γ-Modified Peptide Nucleic Acid Monomers for Late-Stage Functionalization of Oligomers Miguel López-Tena, Emma E. Watson, Patrick Romanens, Nicolas Winssinger

The Honeysuckle and the Bindweed Revisited: Synthesis and Stereochemistry of Extended Helical Structures from Coordination Complexes

Alan M. Downward, Matteo Granelli, Celine Besnard, Laure Guénée, Alan F. Williams

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Identification of Favorable Silica Surface Sites for Single-Molecule Magnets

Moritz Bernhardt, Lukas Lätsch, Boris Le Guennic, Christophe Copéret

iso-Fatty Acid Metabolism in *Caenorhabditis elegans*' Ceramide Biosynthesis

Rocío Rivera Sánchez, Siva Bandi, Marie-Désirée Scheidt, Hanna Laaroussi, Bennett William Fox, Yojiro Ishida, Gaétan Glauser, Sylvain Sutour, Stephan H. von Reuss

Synthesis and Evaluation of Novel 5-*O*-(4-*C*-Aminoalkyl-β-D-ribofuranosyl) Apramycin Derivatives for the Inhibition of Gram-Negative Pathogens Carrying the Aminoglycoside Phosphotransferase(3')-Ia Resistance Determinant

Dmitrijs Lubriks, Klara Haldimann, Fatmanur Kiliç, Maximilian Hartmann, Erik C. Böttger, Sven N. Hobbie, Edgars Suna, David Crich

Safety as a Factor in Reaction Development: Considerations of Sensitization Potential with Amide Bond Forming Reagents David T. George, Michael J. Williams, Gregory L. Beutner

Synthesis of {CB<sub>11</sub>} Monocarborane Sulfonamides by B2-Selective Rhodium-Catalyzed B–H Activation Zehua Ye, Jizeng Sun, Yujie Jin, Chuhao Lin, Jiyong Liu, Simon Duttwyler

Website: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/15222675

### INDUSTRIAL NEWS

Source: www.chemanager-online.com

#### **DKSH** to Acquire Scientific Instruments Distributor Bio-Strategy

November 6, 2023: DKSH has signed an agreement to acquire 100% of Bio-Strategy, said to be the largest independent distributor of scientific instruments in Australia and New Zealand, with a focus primarily on life sciences, medical & healthcare and environment & agriculture. With this acquisition, DKSH intends to strengthen its technology division for scientific instruments. The closing of the transaction is expected during the fourth quarter of 2023. Financial details of the deal were not disclosed. Established 2003 and based in Melbourne, Bio-Strategy generates net sales of more than CHF 40 million Swiss francs. With a team of over 100 people, the company serves renowned blue-chip clients and distributes products and services to around 1,200 customers. Bio-Strategy's management team and employees will join DKSH's business unit Technology. Hanno Elbraechter, head of the business unit Technology at DKSH, commented: "I am delighted with the acquisition of Bio-Strategy as important addition to DKSH. The specific industry and application knowledge of the company will help us to solidify our position in two of Asia Pacific's key markets. While complementing both DKSH Technology's product portfolio and regional presence, the acquired expertise will enable us to create added value for our clients and customers." John Chesterfield, CEO of Bio-Strategy, added: "We are pleased about the combination with DKSH, one of Asia's leading technology distribution players, marking the next big step in our 20-year journey. In addition to a wider regional reach and an enlarged product and service portfolio, our clients, customers, employees, and business partners will benefit from various synergies. We are excited about our shared future, to leverage our common expertise and to continue successfully serving our stakeholders."

#### **Harmonization of Carbon Accounting Methodologies**

TfS White Paper on New Approaches To Counting Carbon in Chemical Sector

November 16, 2023: The \$5 trillion chemical industry plays a pivotal role in the global economy, serving as the foundation for countless sectors from paints to plastics that rely on its products and processes. With a rich history of innovation, chemical companies are well-positioned to lead the charge on decarbonization. While working on the Product Carbon Footprint (PCF) Guideline, which was launched in November 2022, Together for Sustainability (TfS), a global chemical initiative with 50 members, including some of the world's largest chemical groups, identified several improvements in corporate greenhouse gas (GHG) accounting that would help incentivize decarbonization across the industry, the initiative said. TfS has now released a white paper exploring solutions to harmonize carbon accounting, contributing further to decarbonization efforts for the chemical sector and its supply chain. With its findings, the initiative aims to support the evolution of global carbon accounting standards and drive the transition to a low-carbon future.

The white paper "Improving and harmonizing Scope 3 Reporting" discusses why the chemical sector must look beyond just energy replacement strategies when it comes to decarbonization. It explores the challenges and potential solutions to harmonize carbon accounting methodologies for a more sustainable chemical industry, and shares findings in relation to three key modifications that TfS considers as vital for the chemical industry:

Biogenic carbon sources: produced from natural sources such as trees, agricultural crops and food waste;

Mass and energy balance (MB): the integration of biomass, recycled materials (such as kitchen waste) and energy sources into production of chemicals by using chain of custody approaches instead of traditional fossil feedstocks;

Recycled materials and content: the positive effects of a circular economy at both corporate and product levels.

According to TfS, a good example of this discussion is the way biogenic carbon sources are considered. These are gaining prominence due to being less GHG emissions-intensive than their fossil counterparts. For example, bioethanol is derived from sugar cane and can be used to produce ethylene, the essential building block for resins and plastics. This naturally sourced feedstock is used in many sectors, ranging from transport to textiles, providing a less carbon-intensive solution to produce thousands of everyday products. However, its emissions-saving benefits are not always represented in GHG accounting. Therefore, TfS suggests carbon accounting methodologies should use the -1/+1 gross flow accounting approach, which acts as a balance sheet for carbon emissions and removals. Through this approach, emitting a ton of carbon is recorded as "+1" (negative impact) and removing a ton of carbon is recorded as "-1" (positive impact) to determine the overall effect on the environment. Peter Saling, director Sustainability Methods at BASF and co-chair of the TfS Scope 3 GHG emissions program, said: "This white paper represents a significant step forward in our collective efforts to address the challenges of carbon accounting in the chemical industry. Using biogenic carbon sources as an example, the current approach for calculating carbon emissions for purchased goods and services in the corporate accounting doesn't consider the carbon removed from the atmosphere in the so-called category 3.1." "Our recommendation is to adopt the more meaningful approach that considers the carbon uptake at the beginning of a life cycle and, depending on the end-of-life process, the consideration of the emissions as well – the -1/+1 approach. The carbon removed by the purchased goods and services of a company is then factored accordingly. This approach will allow companies to showcase the benefits of products containing biogenic carbon and enable them

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to claim carbon removal through these materials in their emissions reporting," Saling added. TfS' findings aim to contribute to the evolution of global carbon accounting standards, such as the GHG Protocol, the cornerstone of corporate GHG emissions reporting. By considering renewable carbon cycles and emerging technologies, this evolution will incentivize chemical companies and adjacent industries to invest in innovative solutions to reduce GHG emissions and drive the transition to a low-carbon future. Gabriele Unger, general manager at TfS, commented: "This white paper builds on the previous success of TfS' Scope 3 GHG emissions program, which saw the launch of the PCF Guideline, the global gold standard for transparency when calculating emissions for chemical raw materials in chemical supply chains.' "The white paper, alongside the PCF Guideline, is the result of the collective expertise and efforts of TfS' members. It demonstrates TfS' unwavering commitment to reduce GHG emissions throughout chemical supply chains and support the transition to a greener global economy.'



# 1<sup>st</sup> Bern Symposium on Radical Chemistry (Bern-SRC)

University of Bern, Department of Chemistry, Biochemistry and Pharmaceutical Sciences June 27-28, 2024

#### **Confirmed Speakers**

- Prof. Franziska Schönebeg, RWTH Aachen
- Prof. David Procter, University of Manchester
- Prof. Armido Studer, University of Münster
- Prof. Derek Pratt, University of Ottawa
- Prof. Jieping Zhu, EPFL Lausanne
- Prof. Laurence Feray, Institut Chimie Radicalaire
- Prof. Samir Zard, LSO Laboratory
- Prof. Shunsuke Chiba, Nanyang Technological University
- Dr. Cyril Ollivier, Parisian Institute of Molecular Chemistry
- Prof. John Murphy, University of Strathclyde
- Prof. Chaozhong Li, Fluorinelab
- Dr. Emmanuel Lacôte, University of Lyon
- Prof. Ilhyong Ryu, National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University Academic Hub
- Prof. Dmitry Katayev, University of Bern
- Prof. Yannick Landais, University of Bordeaux
- Prof. Hideki Yorimitsu, Kyoto University
- Prof. HongLi Bao, Chinese Academy of Sciences
- Prof. Christina Nevado, University of Zurich

