



2024 Chemistry Travel Awards by SCNAT and SCS

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The Platform Chemistry of the Swiss Academy of Sciences (SCNAT) and the Swiss Chemical Society (SCS) are pleased to announce the selection of 44 winners for the Chemistry Travel Award 2024. The Chemistry Travel Award aims to provide financial support to exceptional PhD students in all fields of chemistry, enabling them to actively engage in an international conference. The rigorous selection process involved a committee comprising four distinguished chemists representing various subdisciplines of chemistry: Prof. Dr. Pablo Rivera Fuentes (SCS, University of Zurich), Dr. Alain de Mesmaeker (SCS), Prof. Dr. Sandra Luber (SCNAT, University of Zurich), and Prof. Dr. Laura Nyström (SCNAT, ETH Zurich). Each jury member meticulously reviewed and evaluated all submitted applications (excluding those with a conflict of interest). On behalf of SCNAT and SCS, we extend our thanks to the jury for their extensive work and our heartfelt congratulations go out to this year's awardees. We wish them inspiring and successful conferences.



Petru Albertini, EPFL

Advisor: Raffaella Buonsanti
Conference: GRC Catalysis
Contribution: Hybrid oxide coatings generate stable Cu catalysts for CO₂ electroreduction



Willi Marco Amberg, ETHZ

Advisor: Erick Moran Carreira
Conference: ISHC 2024
Contribution: Photo- and cobalt-catalyzed synthesis of heterocycles *via* cycloisomerization of unactivated olefins



Maryam Asadikorayem, ETHZ

Advisor: Marcy Zenobi-Wong
Conference: TERMIS World
Contribution: Cartilage-penetrating and lubricating zwitterionic sealant for early-stage osteoarthritis treatment



Julian Baumgärtner, ETHZ

Advisor: Maksym Kovalenko
Conference: PRiME 2024
Contribution: Unlocking stable cycling performance in iron fluoride cathodes with pyrochlore structure



Jean Behaghel de Bueren, EPFL

Advisor: Jeremy Luterbacher
Conference: GRC Lignin
Contribution: Valorization of oxygenated lignin monomers obtained *via* aldehyde-assisted fractionation into high value applications



Luc Bondaz, EPFL

Advisor: Kumar Varoon Agrawal
Conference: AICHE
Contribution: A multi-disciplinary approach for incorporating gated angstrom-scale pores into single layer graphene for gas separation: from atomic simulation to large-scale membranes



Etienne Bonvin, UniBe

Advisor: Jean-Louis Reymond
Conference: ICAP 2024
Contribution: Peptoid macrocycles inspired from polymyxin B2



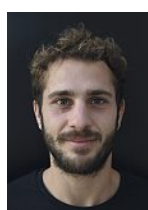
Claire Bourmaud, EPFL

Advisor: Jeremy Luterbacher
Conference: GRC Lignin
Contribution: Exploring structure-reactivity relationships in lignin depolymerization through integrated coupled graph modeling and kinetic monte carlo simulation



Héloïse Bürgisser, UZH

Advisor: Nina Hartrampf
Conference: CPS 2024
Contribution: Chemical synthesis of MYC's transactivation domain enabled by a synthesis tag



Nicola Carrara, EPFL

Advisor: Harm-Anton Klok
Conference: GRC Impactful Nano-Applications for Sustainable Food Production
Contribution: Stimuli-responsive nanofertilizer for a sustainable agriculture



Diana Cavalli, EPFL

Advisor: Jérôme Waser
Conference: GRC Organic Reactions and Processes
Contribution: Ethynylbenziodoxolones and cesium oxalates under blue light: from deoxyalkynylation to lactonization



Dongping Chen, UniBas
 Advisor: Thomas Ward
 Conference: GRC Biocatalysis
 Contribution: A dual anchoring strategy for the directed evolution of improved artificial transfer hydrogenases based on carbonic anhydrase



Bastiaan Kooij, EPFL
 Advisor: Kay Severin
 Conference: ICCC 2024
 Contribution: Reactivity of diazoolefins



Millicent Dockerill, UniGe
 Advisor: Nicolas Winssinger
 Conference: EPS 2024
 Contribution: Development of supramolecular anticoagulants with on-demand reversibility



Henry Lindner, ETHZ
 Advisor: Erick Carreira
 Conference: PHOTOIUPAC 2024
 Contribution: Photochemical iron-mediated anti-markovnikov hydroazidation of unactivated olefins



Maxime Hedou, EPFL/HEIA-FR
 Advisor: Jeremy Luterbacher
 Conference: IUPAC Macro 2024
 Contribution: Designing inherently degradable epoxy resins around a carbohydrate core



Xingyu Liu, EPFL
 Advisor: Jérôme Waser
 Conference: CPS 2024
 Contribution: Peptide hypervalent iodine conjugates: enabling peptide functionalization and macrocyclization



Isabelle Holzer, UniBe
 Advisor: Natalie Banerji
 Conference: GRC Electronic Processes in Organic Materials
 Contribution: Enhancement of charge transport properties using in-plane oriented organic semiconductors



Tin Nguyen, EPFL
 Advisor: Jérôme Waser
 Conference: GRC Organic Reactions and Processes
 Contribution: Photocatalysed homolysis of bond in carbonyl cyclopropanes. From mechanistic study to synthetic application



Xueqian Hu, UniFr
 Advisor: Christoph Weder
 Conference: SCINT 2024
 Contribution: Sensitized triplet-triplet annihilation in nanostructured polymeric scintillators allows for pulse shape discrimination



Sven Papidocha, ETHZ
 Advisor: Erick Carreira
 Conference: ACS Fall 2024
 Contribution: Enantiospecific construction of vicinal quaternary centers *via* ruthenium-catalyzed coupling of lithium ester enolates



Krittapas Jantarug, UZH
 Advisor: Pablo Rivera Fuentes
 Conference: GRC Bioorganic Chemistry
 Contribution: A far-red fluorescent probe to visualize gram-positive bacteria in patient samples



Subrata Patra, UniBe
 Advisor: Dmitry Katayev
 Conference: GRC Organic Reactions and Processes
 Contribution: Iron-mediated electron-catalyzed nitration of unsaturated hydrocarbons in solution and solid-state



Daniel Kaech, ETHZ
 Advisor: Máté Bezdek
 Conference: ISNA 2024
 Contribution: Bipolar redox chemistry of functionalized terthiophenes



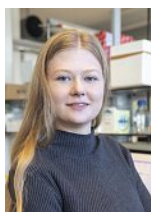
Maria Reichenbach, UZH
 Advisor: Roland Sigel
 Conference: RNA 2024
 Contribution: Elucidation of the switching ability of the moaA riboswitch with sulfido Mo-MPT by comparing in-line probing and SHAPE methodologies



Kevin Kleemann, ETHZ
 Advisor: Michael Sander
 Conference: ACS Spring 2025
 Contribution: Water-soluble and water-dispersible polymers in commercial agricultural formulations: inventory of used polymers and perspective on their fate in soils



Daniel Richter, ETHZ
 Advisor: Jörn Piel
 Conference: RiPPs 2024
 Contribution: Interaction-guided discovery of ribosomally synthesized natural products through structure predictions



Verena Rukes, EPFL
 Advisor: Chan Cao
 Conference: From Solid State to Biophysics XI
 Contribution: Label free identification of full-length proteins and protein modifications using a nanopore



Kateryna Tolmachova, ETHZ
 Advisor: Jeffrey W. Bode
 Conference: CPS 2024
 Contribution: Installation of electrophiles onto the C-terminus of recombinant ubiquitin and ubiquitin-like proteins



Kevin Schiefelbein, UZH
 Advisor: Nina Hartrampf
 Conference: EPS 2024
 Contribution: Exploring the chemical space of lasso peptides using enzymatic transformation of chemically synthesized precursors



Ajmal Roshan Unniram Parambil, UniBas
 Advisor: Jonathan De Roo
 Conference: ICC 2024
 Contribution: Atomically precise surface chemistry of zirconium and hafnium metal oxo clusters beyond carboxylate ligands



Hendrik Schmitt, ETHZ
 Advisor: Bill Morandi
 Conference: BOSS XVIII
 Contribution: Regiodivergent ring expansion of oxindoles to quinolinones



Meenu Upadhyay, UniBas
 Advisor: Markus Meuwly
 Conference: SCAPAPS 2024
 Contribution: Atmospheric decomposition reactions and molecule formation on amorphous solid water



Vladyslav Smyrnov, EPFL
 Advisor: Jérôme Waser
 Conference: GRC Organic Reactions and Processes
 Contribution: Photocatalytic decarboxylative functionalization of cyclopropenes *via* cyclopropenium cation intermediates



Luca Vedani, UniBe
 Advisor: Eva Hevia
 Conference: ICC 2024
 Contribution: Exploiting coordination effects in nickelate complexes for cross-coupling challenging electrophiles



Annina Stuber, ETHZ
 Advisor: Nako Nakatsuka
 Conference: GRC Bioanalytical Sensors
 Contribution: Aptamer-based small-molecule detection on lateral flow platforms



Johannes von Szczepanski, ETHZ
 Advisor: Dorina Opris
 Conference: IUPAC Macro 2024
 Contribution: High-permittivity silicone elastomers for soft actuators and stretchable electronics



Ivan Surin, ETHZ
 Advisor: Javier Pérez-Ramírez
 Conference: ICC 2024
 Contribution: Lattice-stabilized single chromium atoms on ceria for nitrous oxide synthesis *via* ammonia oxidation



Hyun Suk Wang, ETHZ
 Advisor: Athina Anastasaki
 Conference: IUPAC Macro 2024
 Contribution: Controlled depolymerization of RAFT polymethacrylates



Sarah Teworte, UniBe
 Advisor: Paola Luciani
 Conference: CRS 2024
 Contribution: Vaginal administration of mucoadhesive 3D printed ovules for endometriosis treatment: drug repurposing and biorelevant assay development



Joël Wellauer, UniBas
 Advisor: Oliver Wenger
 Conference: PHOTOIUPAC 2024
 Contribution: Iron(III) carbene complexes show long-lived LMCT luminescence due to a reservoir effect



Georg Tiebel, ETHZ
 Advisor: Patrick Steinegger
 Conference: NRC 10
 Contribution: Evaluation of the ion funnel-to-IVAC system for the rapid chemical characterization of superheavy elements



Jennifer Wilson, ETHZ
 Advisor: Patrick Steinegger
 Conference: NRC 10
 Contribution: Online and offline gas-phase adsorption chromatography with TI for future N_h experiments



Lito Zambounis, ETHZ

Advisor: Cornelia Halin

Conference: GRC Chemotactic Cytokines

Contribution: Imaging dendritic cell migration into lymphatics in human skin

Further details on the activities organized by the Platform Chemistry at SCNAT can be found under chem.scnat.ch. If you are not amongst this year's winners: make sure you don't miss out on the opportunity to participate in the 2025 Chemistry Travel Awards. The announcement will appear early 2025 on chem.scnat.ch/travel_award and in *CHIMIA*.

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