

Editorial



Prof. Ali Coskun



Dr. Hans Peter Lüthi

As editors of this Junior Laureates issue of CHIMIA, we are pleased to showcase the award-winning research of seventeen promising young scientists, recipients of a best oral- or poster-presentation prize at the 2024 Fall Meeting of the Swiss Chemical Society, held at the University of Fribourg.^[1] To win one of these generous prizes, apart from a big effort in the preparation of the talk or poster, an outstanding scientific presentation is required as well. In all the nine thematic sessions, the density of excellent oral and poster presentations is high, and it is quite a challenge for the Award Jury to come to a quick and fair decision. We would therefore like to thank all members of the Award Jury, usually composed of the session chairs and the senior lecturers, for the wonderful job they did.

Introduced twenty years ago, this award program has become one of the highlights of the Fall Meeting. The Award Ceremony is the final event on the agenda of an intense one-day meeting, and more than thirty winners and runners-up, when called on stage, were present in the audience.^[2] With the first prizes in the best poster and the best oral presentation categories of each parallel session, in addition to a cash- and a travel-award, there is also the invitation to contribute to this issue of CHIMIA to showcase their excellent research, thus providing a unique opportunity to promote up and coming young researchers.^[3]

It is a pleasure for us to introduce these early career researchers. Their work also reflects the breadth and exceptional quality of the chemical sciences in Swiss academia. We invite you to have a look at this year's Laureates Issue and to enjoy learning more about the state-of-the-art research in nine different areas of chemistry!

Finally, our heartfelt thanks also go to Metrohm (oral presentations) and dsm-firmenich (posters) for supporting this unique award program for over a decade.

Prof. Ali Coskun (University of Fribourg) and Dr. Hans Peter Lüthi (SCS Foundation)

[1] <https://fm24.scg.ch/>

[2] See image on back-cover of the September 2024 issue of CHIMIA

[3] For more details on the award program and a complete list of the prize winners see: <https://fm24.scg.ch/awards/presentation-awards>

The CHIMIA Editorial is very grateful to Dr. Hans Peter Lüthi and Prof. Ali Coskun for their great efforts in organizing this issue on Laureates: Junior Prizes of the SCS Fall Meeting 2024 showcasing the excellent and broad levels of research that is presented at the SCS Fall Meeting.

The cover image by Andrea Levy. Multiscale simulations are key techniques in computational chemistry, combining different resolutions and levels of theory to model complex systems. In particular, quantum mechanics (QM) and molecular mechanics (MM) can be combined in QM/MM simulations to treat, for example, the active site of an enzyme at QM resolution and the surrounding environment with MM. (Protein icon by DBCLS licensed under CC-BY4.0, hand icon by freepik licensed under free license).