



SCS  
Swiss Chemical  
Society

## Community News

[www.scg.ch](http://www.scg.ch)

[www.chemanager-online.com](http://www.chemanager-online.com)

### SWISS CHEMICAL SOCIETY NEWS

#### a<sup>+</sup> published its Annual Report 2024



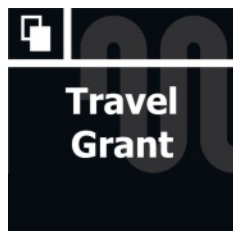
In pictures and text, the a<sup>+</sup> annual report 2024 provides insights into the work of the association and shows what the academies are all about: a committed network that works with expertise, curiosity and responsibility - in Switzerland and beyond.

You will find printed copies in the House of Academies. As always, the report is

available online: <https://akademien-schweiz.ch/news/jahresbericht-2024-der-akademien-der-wissenschaften-schweiz>

Source: <https://scnat.ch>

#### Chemistry Europe Travel Grant Helps Young Chemists Go Abroad



Early-career researchers in chemistry now have a new chance to expand their international experience. The Chemistry Europe Travel Grant, first launched in 2024 and updated in 2025, offers €2,000 to support research stays of one to two months in another country.

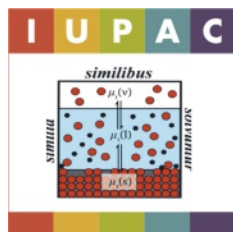
The grant aims to build global scientific networks and helps young scientists grow their careers through collaboration abroad. Eligible applicants must have earned their PhD at least two years ago, be a member of a Chemistry Europe society, and plan to conduct research in a country different from their current one.

Applications are open from July until November 1, 2025. To apply, candidates must submit their CV, a motivation letter outlining their project and host lab, and a list of five key publications through their national Chemistry Europe society. Selection will be based on the scientific quality and feasibility of the proposed project.

More information about the program:

<https://www.chemistryviews.org/chemistry-europe-travel-grant/>

#### Call for Nominations: IUPAC-Richter Prize 2026



IUPAC and Gedeon Richter, Plc. are pleased to announce the 2026 IUPAC-Richter Prize in Medicinal Chemistry. The prize is awarded to an internationally recognized scientist, preferably a medicinal chemist, whose activities or published accounts have made an outstanding contribution to the practice of medicinal chemistry or to an outstand-

ing example of new drug discovery. It is endowed with USD 10'000.

The 2026 IUPAC-Richter Prize will be presented during the 39<sup>th</sup> ACS National Medicinal Chemistry Symposium (May 31–June 3, 2026) in Atlanta, GA, United States and the recipient will also give a lecture on the subject of their research at the XXIX<sup>th</sup> EFMC International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry (September 6–10, 2026) in Basel, Switzerland.

Applications are by nomination, with only one person needing to serve in that capacity, although a total of five individuals should additionally be listed as references.

Nomination is open until 15 December 2025 via the following online form: <https://www.cognitofirms.com/IUPACI/IUPACRichterPrize2026NominationForm>

Source: <https://iupac.org>

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



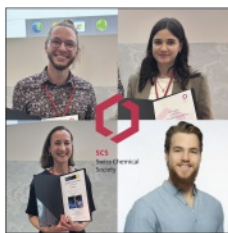
Period: 23.05. – 15.07.2025

Tiffany Abitbol, Lausanne - Daniel Armstrong, Lausanne - Arian Bajramaj, Collombey - Davide Barbiero, Lausanne - Ettore Bartalucci, Lausanne - Georg Berger, Zurich - Abhimanyu Bharade, Würenlingen - Roel Bienenmann, Zurich - Lea Bolis, La Chaux-de-Fonds - Andrea Brugnetti, Lausanne - Arda

Baran Burçak, Zurich - Filippo Buttignol, Como (IT) - Gopika C R, Kottaya (IN) - Chris Cerne, Zurich - Leander Choudhury, Chavannes-près-Rennens - Daniel Herculano Cruz Neto, Geneva - David Dejoz, Marly - Linlin Deng, Fribourg - Élodie Didier, Dübendorf - Lexin Ding, Zurich - Lidia Dubenska, Zurich - Hana Elhaddad, Lausanne - Charly Empereur-mot, Viganello - Emy Fabregue, Renens - Edvin Fako, Luzern - Francisca Figueiredo, Zurich - Michael Pascal Frey, Meggen - Michele Gandolfi, Lausanne - Christoph Gmeiner, Küsnacht - Jacob Gome, Lausanne - Ivan Hiltbold, Neuchâtel - Xinan Huang, Basel - Raphael Husstein, Zurich - Huygen Jobsis, Sion - Athira Kakkolliyil Prakash, Basel - Taehee Kim, Zurich - Dionysios Panagiotis Kinttos, Wädenswil - Sabrina Kleynemeyer, Zurich - Oliver Knechtle, St. Gallen - Yuliia Kominko, Zurich - Anna Koptelova, Lausanne - Nicole Leemann, Villigen - Valentin-Razvan Lupu, Dübendorf - Anirban Maity, Bombay (IN) - Talia Mathers, Bern - Michel Misteli, Wohlen b. Bern - Oindrila Mondal, Fribourg - Julia Moreno, Thonex - Mario Most, Zurich - Michel Mühlebach, Wallbach - Agnese Nicoli, Zurich - Iris Nogueroles Langa, Zurich - Corina Omlin, Zurich - Célia Paolucci, Villigen - Charalampos Papanagis, Zurich - Steve H Park, Zurich - Shimoni Patel, Basel - Andreas Peer, Grimisuat - Luca Pesce, Viganello - Rafael Reis, Dübendorf - Elvira Rudin, Zurich - Sebastian Sandl, Chur - Edith Sandström, Fribourg - Sabrina Sant-Greber, Fribourg - Arvinth Sekar, St. Gallen - Jaka Šivavec, Dübendorf - Timo Stern, Zurich - Victoria Susan, Mulhouse (FR) - Deqi Tang, Zurich - Ioannis Vagiakos, Bern - Mridhula Venkatanarayanan, Lausanne - Natalie Wichmann, Stein - Vincent Wirth, Zurich - Elena Zerbato, Thonex - Can Zimmerli, Dübendorf - Sabei Zou, Zurich.

## HONORS, AWARDS, APPOINTMENTS

### Best Presentation Award Winners at the Peptide Therapeutics Forum 2025



As part of the 2025 edition of the Peptide Therapeutics Forum 2025, that took place at Biozentrum Basel, the SCS also offered the opportunity for students to present their research and honored the best contributions with prizes for the best talks and the best posters. The program was supported by Chemistry Europe. Dr. Thomas Vorherr, co-chair of the symposium handed over the certificates:

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Best Contributed Talks:

**Moritz List**, University of Leipzig  
«Cytosolic delivery of therapeutic peptides based on receptor-mediated endocytosis»

**Stephanie Vogt**, University of Basel  
«Development of Next-Generation Compstatin Analogs with Enhanced Target Residence Time Enables New Applications»

Best Poster Presentations:

**Aliénor Jeandin**, University of Zurich  
«Exploring microproteins through chemical protein synthesis: KRASIM as KRAS interaction partner»

**Dennis Freisem**, University of Ulm  
«Discovery of an endogenous type-I Interferon inhibiting peptide»  
Source: <https://ptf25.scg.ch>

### Best Presentation Award Winners at the Swiss MatChem Symposium 2025



Congratulations to the winners of the Best Poster and the Best Contributed Talk Prizes of the Swiss MatChem Symposium 2025 that took place at Adolphe-Merkle-Institute in Fribourg on June 25, 2025.

The awards included a certificate and prize money of 100 CHF.

Best Poster Presentations:

**Maria Herz**, University of Geneva (upper left)  
«Controlling the Magnetic Properties of the Layered van der Waals Crystals V1-xCrxI3»

**Yeşim Şahin**, ETH Zurich & Empa (upper right)  
«Ligand Influence on the Performance of Cesium Lead Bromide Perovskite Quantum Dots in Photocatalytic C(sp<sup>3</sup>)-H Bromination Reactions»

Best Contributed Talk:

**Julian F. Baumgärtner**, ETH Zurich (lower left)  
«A Highly Conductive Halospinel Cathode for All-Solid-State Batteries»  
The prizes were handed over by Dr. Andrea Dodero, AMI Fribourg.

More information on: <https://mat25.scg.ch>

### EuCOMC 2025 Poster Prize Winners



Between Sunday, July 6 and Thursday, July 10 the XXVI European Conference on Organometallic Chemistry (EuCOMC) 2025 took place at university of Bern. Chaired by Prof. Eva Hevia and Prof. Martin Albrecht, the participants could enjoy 27 invited and keynote lectures as well as 62 short talks. During the two poster sessions

190 posters were presented and invited the community to interact and exchange the latest research data and new ideas. The event was rounded up by social activities like aperitifs, city tours and a conference dinner with more than 200 guests on the Guten Kulm.

Best Poster Prizes

At the end of the conference, the chairs honored five presenters for their outstanding posters and handed over the EuCOMC 2025 Best Poster Presentation Award that was sponsored by Organometallics (ACS Publishing), Helvetica, Chemistry Europe and and Synthesis from Thieme:

**Jos G. Briggs-Pritchard**, University of Oxford  
«Lifting The Lid on Iron-Catalysed Reductive Alkyl-Alkyl Cross-Couplings»

**Sadia Tanweer**, University of Oulu  
«C<sup>N</sup>-chelated manganese(I) carbonyl complexes as hydrogenation catalyst precursors»

**Na Jin**, University of Bern  
«Regioselective Direct Cobaltation of N-heterocyclic Molecules Mediated by a Super Basic Co(II) Amide»

**Anna Marlene Vogt**, Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel (CAU)  
«Chemocatalytic Conversion of Dinitrogen to Ammonia Mediated by a Tungsten Complex»

**Julius Wijbenga**, University of Bonn  
«Light-driven hydrodefluorination of aryl fluorides catalyzed by a heterobimetallic Ni–Ga complex»  
Visit the Website on <https://eucomc2025.scg.ch>

### Young Inventors Prize “World Builder” awarded to Dr. Marie Perrin, ETH Zurich



**Dr. Marie Perrin**, ETH Zurich, has been elected as one of the ten finalists for the European Patent Office's Young Inventors Prize 2025. She received the prize in the category “World builder”. Her innovation enables the environmentally friendly recovery of the rare earth element europium from e-waste like discarded fluorescent lamps.

The Young Inventors Prize honors young inventors for their contributions to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Prize winners in the World builders category use their inventions to ensure a better, more sustainable future and sustainably obtained resources.

Source: <https://ethz.ch>

## Talanta 2025 medal awarded to Prof. Eric Bakker, University of Geneva



Prof. Eric Bakker, School of chemistry and biochemistry, University of Geneva, has been awarded the Talanta Medal 2025, in recognition of his work in electrochemistry, electrochemical methodology, electrochemical materials and environmental electrochemistry.

Prof. Eric Bakker's research focuses on the development, understanding and application of chemical sensors including physico-chemical principles, materials fabrication and synthesis, and the development of electrochemical sensors. The chemical sensors developed are deployed in real environments, such as aquatic systems and hospitals, to contribute directly to practical applications.

The Talanta Medal, awarded every two years, recognizes outstanding achievements in the field of analytical chemistry. Source: <https://unige.ch>

## JOURNAL NEWS

### Helvetica, Volume 108, Issue 7, July 2025



#### Editorial

30 + 30 Stripes of Appreciation  
*Michel Rickhaus, Michal Juriček*

#### Research Article

Intramolecular Phenyl Transfer from Boron to Lithium, Sodium, and Copper: Defining the Limits of Transmetalation  
*Finn Kraft, Thomas Auth, Konrad Koszinowski*

*Koszinowski*

Towards Nickel-Catalysed Olefin Metathesis: A Computational Study of Nickelacyclobutane Fragmentation Reactions  
*Olaf L. Kooijman, Marc-Etienne Moret*

Green-Tuning of (Chir)Optical Properties for Axially-Chiral Boramidines  
*Nidal Saleh, Lorenzo Arrico, Francesco Zinna, Jérôme Lacour*

A Simplified Approach for Electrochemical Allylic Oxidation of Olefins  
*Kamil Hofman, Johannes Schneider, Roman Goy, Jan Schütz, Werner Bonrath, Siegfried R. Waldvogel*

Abstract Conformer Space  
*Gunnar Jeschke*

## INDUSTRIAL NEWS

Source: [www.chemanager-online.com](http://www.chemanager-online.com)

### Schott Pharma Invests in Sterile Cartridge Production

June 12, 2025: Schott Pharma, a drug containment and delivery solutions provider, is investing more than €100 million in its existing site in Lukácsháza, Hungary, to expand its capacity for sterile ready-to-use (RTU) cartridges. Schott Pharma has expanded its

Lukácsháza site with a new facility for prefillable glass syringes, which are used for GLP-1 therapies, vaccines, and biologics. Since opening in June 2024, the site has added 120 employees, begun production, and increased capacity. With RTU cartridges, the company is now looking to add additional manufacturing capacity for high-value solutions to the site, which has sufficient space to support the company's growth strategy. "We would like to express our sincerest gratitude to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade for its support of these two expansion projects. Lukácsháza is not only an important location for ensuring supply security to customers in the region but also makes an important contribution to Schott Pharma's global growth strategy," says Eva Szabó, Site Manager Lukácsháza. The company is adding a high-tech RTU cartridge manufacturing facility at its Lukácsháza site, featuring advanced equipment, automated processes, and new environmental measures. This will be the company's second site, after St. Gallen, Switzerland, to produce sterile cartridges.

### Sika Acquires Gulf Additive Factory

June 27, 2025: Sika has acquired Gulf Additive Factory in the State of Qatar. The company manufactures a wide range of construction chemical products and has a strong standing in the fast-growing Qatar construction market. Gulf Additive Factory (GAF) produces high-quality construction solutions – including admixtures, mortars, flooring, waterproofing, and EIFS – at a modern facility near Doha. This strengthens Sika's position in Qatar by enabling local production, cost efficiencies, and meeting demand for energy-efficient buildings, as the country's construction market is set to grow over 4% annually through 2028, driven by major investments and the Qatar National Vision 2030. Christoph Ganz, Regional Manager EMEA: "With this acquisition, we will strengthen our local expertise and production setup. It will provide us with a strong foundation to continue to drive our growth and benefit from the ambitious investment programs in both the infrastructure and commercial construction segments. We warmly welcome the GAF employees to the Sika team and look forward to growing our business together."

Sika also recently announced major investments to expand its manufacturing footprint in China, Brazil, and Morocco, reinforcing its "Local-for-Local" strategy and global growth ambitions. The company has upgraded its Suzhou site in China for advanced polyurethane technologies, extended its Belo Horizonte facility in Brazil to boost admixture production, and opened a new mortar and admixtures plant near Agadir, Morocco. These moves strengthen Sika's ability to serve regional markets with local production and innovation, positioning the company to capitalize on construction market growth in all three countries. Thomas Hasler, Chief Executive Officer, commented: "These site investments reflect the trust our customers place in us and our long-term commitment to the markets we serve. By expanding our local manufacturing capabilities, we are not only improving responsiveness – we are building a resilient, sustainable foundation for growth alongside our longtime customers and partners."

### Dow to Shut Down Three Upstream European Assets

July 7, 2025: Building on the April 2025 announcement, Dow will take actions across its three operating segments to support European profitability, resulting in the closure of sites in Germany and the UK. Dow Chemical announced that, as a follow-up to the European asset actions first announced in April 2025, its Board of Directors has approved the shutdown of three upstream assets in Europe – two in Germany and one in the UK – in addition to certain corporate operations and other assets across the company's global asset footprint. In response to structural challenges in the region, Dow will shut down ethylene cracker in Böhlen, Germany, and the chlor-alkali & vinyl (CAV) assets in Schkopau, Germany (both

shutdowns expected in the fourth quarter of 2027); as well as the siloxanes plant in Barry, UK (shutdown expected mid-year 2026). The shutdown of upstream assets in Europe will right-size regional capacity, reduce merchant sale exposure, and remove higher-cost, energy-intensive portions of Dow's portfolio in the region. This will improve our ability to supply profitable derivative demand and optimize margins. "Our industry in Europe continues to face difficult market dynamics, as well as an ongoing challenging cost and demand landscape," said Jim Fitterling, Dow chair and CEO. "Over the past decade, we have demonstrated Dow's commitment to operating with a best-owner mindset by taking proactive actions across higher-cost or non-strategic assets. Looking ahead, we remain committed to realizing the value of our incremental growth investments and enhancing profitability and cash flow through more than \$6 billion in near-term cash support." In April 2025, the Company announced it had identified three assets in Europe for action across all of its operating segments. On June 30, 2025, Dow's Board of Directors approved restructuring actions to rationalize the Company's global asset footprint, including these three assets as part of its European review, and certain corporate and other assets. Dow's actions to shut down these assets will result in an Operating EBITDA uplift beginning in 2026, ramping to 50% of the approximate \$200 million target by year-end 2027 with full delivery by 2029, with a cash outlay of approximately \$500 million over four years. As a result of these actions, the Midland, Michigan-based US company will record charges ranging from \$630 million to \$790 million, for both non-cash items – such as asset write-downs and write-offs – and cash items, such as exit and disposal of assets, as well as severance and related benefit costs. The shutdown of the assets is expected to begin in mid-2026 and is estimated to be complete by the end of 2027, with potential decommissioning and demolition to continue into 2029 as needed. At the end of May, more than 700 employees from the central German chemical triangle had already demonstrated in unison to preserve the production sites and jobs at Dow Chemical in Böhlen (Saxony), Schkopau (Saxony-Anhalt) and throughout the entire chemical network. Approximately 800 Dow roles will be impacted as a result of these actions. These roles are in addition to the \$1 billion cost savings actions announced in January that included a workforce reduction of approximately 1,500 Dow roles globally. Dow said it will involve local stakeholders as defined in each country and in compliance with relevant information and consultation processes.

The SCS Foundation supports and promotes research and education in the fields of chemistry and biochemistry and runs three programs to achieve these goals:

- Alfred Werner Excellence Scholarship Program for master students from abroad
- Mentoring program in collaboration with the youngSCS
- Best Presentation Award Program at the SCS Fall Meeting



As of October 1, or according to agreement, we are looking for a successor to the current

## Director of the Foundation, 30%

### Tasks

- Managing the business and supervising the programs in accordance with the guidelines of the foundation board
- Organizing meetings of the foundation board
- Cooperation with the allocation and steering committees of the foundation programs
- Negotiating and renewing contracts with the supporters
- Attracting new donors from industry, the foundation sector and private individuals (in collaboration with the foundation board)
- Preparation of the annual report and accounts for the foundation board and the FDHA Foundation Supervisory Authority

### Candidate's Profile

- Good networking within the Swiss academic and industrial chemistry and life sciences community
- Motivation to actively support the younger generation of chemists
- Experienced fundraising skills, especially from industry
- Business communication skills in German and English

### Application

Applications should include a letter of application, a curriculum vitae, and a certificate of the highest degree as well as additional documents that underlines the candidate's skills.

The dossier should be addressed to the President of the SCS Foundation, Prof. Christian Bochet (president@scg.ch)

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