SCS Fall Meeting 2015 – Call for Contributions

EPF Lausanne, September 4, 2015

The call for contributions for the 2015 SCS Fall Meeting is now open, and researchers from all areas of chemistry are invited to submit a poster or an oral contribution to be presented at the largest annual scientific event in Switzerland. Over the past few years, the Fall Meeting has become a very popular event, and we again expect close to one thousand participants.

Apart from scientific papers presented as a poster or as an oral contribution in eight parallel sessions, there will also be lectures from distinguished scientists. Prizes will be awarded for the best oral and poster presentations. There is also a Commercial Exhibition.

The Meeting will take place on Friday, 4 September 2015 and will be hosted by the EPF Lausanne.

The deadline for submission of scientific contributions is 12 May 2015.

http://scg.ch/fallmeeting/2015

We are looking forward to see you at this year’s Fall Meeting! Sandrine Gerber, EPFL, chairmen of the Organizing Committee and David Spichiger, SCS

Members of the SCS are entitled to a discount on personal RÖMPP licenses

The Swiss Chemical Society (SCS) and Thieme signed a cooperation agreement to offer its members a personal access to RÖMPP, the chemical encyclopedia, at special conditions: Regular members can purchase a RÖMPP license at an annual license fee of 175 CHF; students and PhDs pay 75 CHF.

More information on http://scg.ch/roempp

Survey for CHIMIA’s Future

CHIMIA is one of the most attractive and visible services to SCS members and is an important communication channel of the Society and the chemical community in Switzerland as a whole. Therefore the Editorial Board is anxious to further improve the scientific content on one hand and to align the complementary information to the readers’ habits and ideas on the other side.

Your opinion is important and will be heard! Please tell us your ideas and proposals via the online survey on http://scg.ch/chimiasurvey. It will help us to define the strategy of CHIMIA for the next years and to keep CHIMIA as a valuable part of a SCS membership.

Salary Survey for Industrial Chemists in Switzerland

In collaboration with the Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker GDCh and the RWTH Aachen, the SCS evaluates the salary structure and development of chemists in Swiss companies.

The survey is led by the RWTH Aachen who designed and established the methodology over years. In Germany the survey is an inherent part of a membership in the GDCh and supports employers as well as employees in defining compensation standards.

SCS sent out the paper-based survey in early March to its known members in the industry. If you are interested in the survey and did not get the questionnaire so far, please send a mail to info@scg.ch including your corporate postal address.

The survey is personal but anonymous at the same time. The RWTH Aachen will receive the physical version of the filled-in questionnaire with the SCS member number only and will evaluate the data. SCS will receive a list of all members that participated and will forward the results to them without knowledge of any details of their input. This procedure will allow us to evaluate long time developments without any violation of the data protection law. The results will be exclusively provided to survey participants.

Please note that the questionnaire is available in German only. More details are available in ‘Nachrichten aus der Chemie 02/2015’ or on the website www.gdch.de/gehalt.

New Location of the SCS Head Office

As of May 1, 2015, SCS’ head office will relocate to the House of the Swiss Academies at Laupenstrasse 7, 3008 Bern. The new location will bring together the Academy of Natural Sciences, SCNAT, the Academy of Medicinal Sciences, SAMW, the Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences, SAGW, and Science et Cité.

As member of the SCNAT and the SATW, the Swiss Chemical Society takes the opportunity to move to the new location as well and to establish the good collaboration between the SCS and the academies. The new location will offer possibilities for meetings, workshops and seminars right next door to the main train station of Bern.

The website of the Swiss Academies (http://www.akademien-schweiz.ch) provides further information on the new location and the benefits.
NEW POSTAL ADDRESS OF THE SCS AS OF MAY 1, 2015

Swiss Chemical Society (SCS)
Schweizerische Chemische Gesellschaft (SCG)
Société Suisse de Chimie (SSC)
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ALFRED WERNER MASTERS SCHOLARSHIPS 2015–17

The Alfred Werner Fund of the SCS Foundation invites scholarship applications to carry out Master degree studies in Chemistry or Biochemistry at a Swiss University or Federal Institute of Technology.

The Foundation offers 8 to 10 scholarships of CHF 25’000 each per year as a one-time contribution to the cost of the two-year Master study program. This opportunity targets foreign students in the top 10% of their undergraduate programs.

The call for the 2015–2017 period is open until May 29, 2015.

For further details and the application process please visit the website on http://scs-foundation/

SCNAT/SCS/SSFEC CHEMISTRY TRAVEL AWARDS 2015

Through the «SCNAT/SCS/SSFEC Chemistry Travel Awards», contributions towards the cost of participation at an international conference in the chemical sciences are granted to selected PhD students.

The award includes a contribution of CHF 1’000 towards the cost of active participation (poster or oral presentation) at an international conference in the field of the chemical sciences. A total of 45 awards will be distributed to selected doctoral students from Swiss research institutions. Selection will be based primarily on scientific accomplishment and on the submitted conference abstract.

Application for the 2015 SCNAT/SCS/SSFEC Travel Award is open until 31 March 2015 (23:59) only. Take the last chance to hand in your application!

Further details on http://chemistry.scnat.ch/travel_award.

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

Period: 24.01.2015 – 20.02.2015


REPORT ON THE 13TH SWISS SNOW SYMPOSIUM

From the 23rd to the 25th of January 2015 the 13th edition of the Swiss Snow Symposium organized by the Swiss Young Chemists’ Association took place in Saas Fee (Kanton Wallis).

Sixty-four people among Ph.D. students, young researchers and professors, coming from different Swiss universities, had the opportunity to share their ideas and scientific results in the cozy atmosphere of hotel Alphubel. This edition, like the past ones, exhibited a high participation rate with a total of forty-three contributions divided in fourteen talks and twenty-nine posters presented.

On the first day, after the welcome speech of the SYCA president Simona Mazza, an interesting overview on semiconducting materials was given by the invited speaker Prof. Kevin Sivula, head of the Laboratory for Molecular Engineering of Optoelectronic Nanomaterials (LMNO) at EPF-Lausanne. Prof. Sivula presented the challenges to enable high performance in solution-processed semiconductors highlighting the approach used to control morphology, self-assembly of different classes of solution-processable semiconductors tested in devices for solar energy conversion.

His speech was followed by the inspiring talk of Dr. Albert Ruggi, maître-assistant and head of the Nanomaterial for Artificial Photosynthesis at the University of Fribourg. In his presentation entitled ‘Spot the Magic Dot!’ he illustrated the properties and application of quantum dots: semiconductor particles of nanometric size whose fluorescence emission and redox properties can be tuned with size, enabling the formation of luminesphores used in different fields such us medical diagnostic and solar cells. By using quantum dots functionalised with Mn(II) complexes, Dr. Ruggi presented a first example of a system able to
release CO upon photoexcitation with green light with a superior efficiency (200\%) with respect to the pristine Mn(i) complexes.

During the first evening three Ph.D. students presented their excellent works in the frame of the first Ph.D talks session: Matthew Wise (EPFL), Pascal B. Eng (University of Basel) and Andreas B. König (University of Fribourg).

On Saturday, after a great day on the slopes, the symposium started with the second Ph.D. talks session where Erika A. Crane (University of Basel), Gregor Kiefer (EPFL), and Pengpeng Cao (University of Fribourg) presented their outstanding research. The talks were followed by the poster session.

The next invited speaker was Dr. **Alain De Mesmaeker**, Principal Chemistry Expert and Principal Syngenta Fellow (since 2010, Highest Scientific Level in Syngenta R&D), in Syngenta Crop Protection and Crop Enhancement Research (Phytohormones), Stein, Switzerland. Dr. De Mesmaeker described the latest progress made in the field of structural modifications of phytohormones such as strigolactones for crop enhancement. He explained that structural modifications of the natural phytohormones are needed to transform them into potential commercial compounds for abiotic stress management. Therefore a novel approach for the stereoselective synthesis of modified and natural Strigolactones using intramolecular (2+2) cycloadditions of ketenes and ketene iminium salts to C=C bonds was presented.

The talk of Dr. **Henning Jacob Jessen**, Habilitand (SNF fellowship) in the group of Prof. Dr. Jay Siegel (University of Zurich), followed. In his talk Dr. Jessen presented novel chemical tools to study the function of diphosphoinositol polyphosphates (InsP\(_7\), and InsP\(_8\)), water-soluble second messengers playing an important role in diverse cellular functions. The tools presented were photocaged InsP\(_7\), and heavy isotope labeled analogs, followed by initial biological evaluations in order to demonstrate the utility of these compounds.

The third Ph.D. session came next with Sonia Kracht (University of Fribourg), Kiril Tishinov (University of Basel), Michel Rickhaus (University of Basel) and Thomas Di Franco (EPFL) presenting their interesting research.

The day concluded with the assignment of the best oral presentation award and the best poster presentation awards (prize winner and runner-up prize).

The SYCA would like to thank the four invited speakers: Prof. Sivula, Dr. De Mesmaeker, Dr. Henning, and Dr. Ruggi for their outstanding talks, and the generous sponsors for their valuable contributions.

Simona Mazza
President, SYCA
Es freut uns, Ihnen das Weiterbildungsprogramm 2015, das wir zusammen mit dem Centre de Compétence en Chimie et Toxicologie Analytiques (CCCTA) realisiert haben, vorzustellen.

Einzelmitglieder der folgenden Fachverbände können unsere Kurse zum vorteilhaften Mitgliedertarif besuchen:

Fachverband Laborberufe (FLB), Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker (GDCh), Schweizerische Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Spektrometrie und Elementaranalytik (SASP), Schweizerischer Chemikanten- und Chemisten-Verband (SCV), Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Lebensmittel- und Umweltchemie (SGLUC), Schweizerische Gruppe für Massenspektroskopie (SGMS) und Schweizerischer Verband Diplomierter Chemiker (SVC).

Falls Sie sich für unsere Veranstaltungen interessieren, erreichen Sie uns unter Telefon 058 765 52 00 oder Fax 058 765 58 01 oder mailen Sie an verena.schmid@eawag.ch. Online-Anmeldung im Internet unter: www.scg.ch/kurse

**InCompany Training – Individuelle Beratung und Schulung**

Im Rahmen des Weiterbildungsprogramms organisieren oder erarbeiten wir gemeinsam mit Ihnen InCompany-Schulungen und -Trainings nach Ihren Vorstellungen und Bedürfnissen. Profitieren Sie davon, dass wir für Sie

- Inhalte an firmenbezogene Anforderungen und Wünsche anpassen
- Frage- und Problemstellungen in Ihrem Einsatzgebiet gezielt behandeln
- praktische Übungen gegebenenfalls an Ihren Geräten durchführen
- Trainings bei Bedarf auch in französischer oder englischer Sprache durchführen

Ein weiterer Vorteil der InCompany-Trainings: Für Ihre Mitarbeiterinnen und Mitarbeiter fallen keine Reise- und Übernachtungskosten an!

Experten stehen Ihnen für eine persönliche Bedarfsabklärung und Beratung gerne zur Verfügung.

Sie erreichen uns über

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