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SWISS CHEMICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Call for Nominations for the SCS Awards 2017



Nominations have to be submitted electronically to info@scg.ch. The deadline for all documents to reach the Swiss Chemical Society is September 30, 2016.

Again, more than CHF 70'000 and medals in gold and bronze will be given for the following prizes, that are part of the SCS prize program:

- Werner Prize
- Grammaticakis-Neumann Prize
- Balmer Prize
- Dr. Max Lüthi Award
- Sandmeyer Award
- KGF/SCS Industrial Science Awards

For specific award information and required documents please see CHIMIA 5/2016 or 6/2016 and visit our website on <http://scg.ch/awards> respectively.

Old Chemistry Building of the University of Zürich as Chemical Landmark 2016



The Old Chemistry Building of the University of Zürich at Rämistrasse 74/76 has been elected as Chemical Landmark 2016 by the Swiss Academy of Science. This recognition highlights historical buildings that have played an important role in the development of chemistry in Switzerland. The Swiss Academy of Science wishes to emphasize with this hon-

or the significance of the University of Zurich in promoting the development of chemical sciences based on the contributions of several generations of chemists who were trained in this building under the guidance of Nobel prize winners Prof. Alfred Werner and Prof. Paul Karrer.

On September 9th, the award ceremony took place at Rämistrasse 74, a building that hosts today the Faculty of Law with its famous Calatrava library. The event was coupled with a presentation by the Sounding Board of the UZI-5 project on the new building for Chemistry to be located at the edge of the Irchel Campus. UZI-5 will host the next generation of chemists and thus this event will serve as link between a brilliant past and a full of promise future for chemistry at University of Zurich.

The Platform Chemistry of SCNAT will publish a detailed article about the event and the Chemical Landmark 2016 in CHIMIA 10/2016.

Bronzemedaille für Schweizer Nachwuchstalent an Internationaler Chemie-Olympiade



Die Chemie stimmt: Die Schweizer Delegation kehrt mit einer Bronzemedaille von der Internationalen Chemie-Olympiade in Tiflis (Georgien) zurück. Am Sonntag, 31. Juli 2016, ging die Olympiade mit einer Schlussfeier zu Ende. 250 Jugendliche aus 73 Ländern wetteiferten um Medaillen. Und erkannten, dass Chemie verbindet.

Dominic Egger (Kantonsschule Solothurn) aus Arch (BE) ist stolzer Gewinner einer Bronzemedaille und betont: «Das war wohl die schwierigste Prüfung meines Lebens!» Er nimmt – nebst seiner Medaille – auch zwei Erkenntnisse mit nach Hause: «Ich habe gelernt, dass Chemie Menschen unterschiedlichster Kultur und Herkunft miteinander verbindet. Und dass es in der Welt der Chemie noch vieles zu entdecken gibt.» Mit dabei an der Olympiade waren auch Nicolò Gantenbein (ehemals Kantonsschule Wattwil) aus Eschenbach (SG), Simone Heimgartner (Kantonsschule Baden) aus Fislisbach (AG) und Diego Zenhäusern (Berufsfachschule Oberwallis) aus Bürchen (VS). Die drei konnten leider keine Medaille ergattern.

Internationale Chemie-Olympiade IChO

Die Internationale Chemie-Olympiade IChO ist ein Wettbewerb für junge Chemikerinnen und Chemiker. Die Schweiz nimmt seit 1987 an der IChO teil. Das Ziel der Olympiaden ist die Herausforderung und Ermutigung wissenschaftlich interessierter und begabter Mittelschülerinnen und -schüler sowie der internationale Austausch.

Jedes der 73 Teilnehmerländer kann ein Team von maximal vier Jugendlichen unter 20 Jahren stellen, die zuvor in der nationalen Olympiade ihres Landes selektioniert worden sind. Die erste Runde der Schweizer Chemie-Olympiade SwissChO absolvierten 170 Schweizer und liechtensteinische Teilnehmende.

Quelle: Verband Schweizer Wissenschafts-Olympiaden

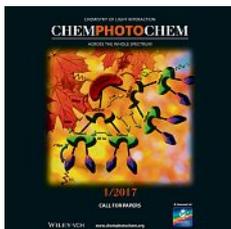
A warm welcome to our new members!

Period: 23.07.2016 – 12.08.2016

Sabine Anliker, Lausanne – Stefan Berger, Eglisau – Snaedis Björgvinsdóttir, Basel – Ewa Drab, Zürich – Lyndon Emsley, Möhlin – Andreas Griesser, Annemasse – Georg Lambert, Wallisellen – Vit Lellek, Wabern – Matthias Ruff, Windisch – Jens Top, Gravina in Puglia – Andreas Unsinn, Zürich – Maria Asunta Ventura, Lausanne – Josef Wendrinsky, Wien.

JOURNAL NEWS

ChemPhotoChem is live!



ChemPhotoChem is aimed to become a top-ranking photochemistry journal for primary research papers and critical secondary information from authors across the world. The journal covers the entire scope of pure and applied photochemistry, the latter encompassing for example photovoltaics, photopharmacology, imaging, analytical chemistry, and synthesis.

ChemPhotoChem is published on behalf of ChemPubSoc Europe. It will have 12 issues in 2017. Language of Publication is English. Source: Wiley-VCH Verlag GmbH & Co. KGaA

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INDUSTRIAL NEWS

Source: www.chemmanager-online.com

Neonics Said to Cut Bee Sperm by 40%

July 29, 2016: A new study of male honeybees (drones) conducted by a doctoral candidate at the University of Bern, Switzerland, shows that two neonicotinoid insecticides, thiamethoxam and clothianidin, can significantly reduce the drones' ability to reproduce. "We've been able to show for the first time that neonicotinoid pesticides are capable of having an effect on the male reproductive system," the study's lead author, Lars Straub, a doctoral student at the University of Bern in Switzerland, told a British biological sciences journal. Up to now, studies have shown that neonics harm the health of individual bees and the reproductive ability of female insects. The Swiss study took a closer look at the effect the pesticides have on males and found that bees subjected to the two active ingredients had 39% less living sperm on average than bees that had not come into contact with the pesticides.

As part of the field research conducted between April 2015 and October 2015 – the study was completed in April 2016 and published on July 27 – Straub said that after reaching maturity the drones that had been subjected to insecticides were dissected, with their testes and mucous glands removed and analyzed for sperm viability.

In this first experiment, the male bees were raised to sexual maturity after being removed from the colonies in which they were exposed to the chemicals. According to Straub, the next step will be to investigate the effects of the pesticides on the drones that were allowed to stay in the colonies longer.

The research team plans to do what Straub called "further field-realistic studies," which would also focus on the interaction of several stressors seen as acting together to decimate bee populations. In the US, 44% of the bee populations died off between April 2015 and April 2016, according to an annual survey conducted by the Bee Informed Partnership. This was an increase of 3.5% against the results of 2014 and 2015.

The two neonicotinoids implicated in Switzerland were subject to a two-year EU-wide moratorium in 2013 that was supposed to have been reviewed last year but is still in place. They are still used on an industrial scale in the US while the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) continues studying them. The agency has announced it will release risk assessments for the two chemicals, as well as another neonicotinoid, dinotefuran, in December of this year.

Clariant Places Certificates of Indebtedness

August 12, 2016: Swiss specialty chemicals producer Clariant has issued certificates of indebtedness worth \$276.5 million and €95 million of debt in the German market. The proceeds, it said, will be used for refinancing and general corporate purposes. The US dollar-denominated tranche has a term of five years and the euro-denominated certificates five and seven years respectively.

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- ◊ Get access to RÖMPP online for a reduced fee of CHF 175 for regular members or CHF 75 for students respectively
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Membership fees in CHF

Regular membership	150.00
Membership for retired persons	80.00
Membership for bachelor, master and PhD students	50.00
Membership for companies/universities	800.00
Groups Membership for Universities	15% discount on total amount

Additional fees for divisional services in CHF

Division of Industrial & Applied Chemistry (DIAC)	
Individual members	20.00
Institutional members	100.00
Photochemistry Section (PCS)*	
Regular and retired members	40.00
Student members	20.00
all other divisions and sections	free of charge

* The Photochemistry Section acts as the Swiss section of the European Photochemistry Association (EPA)..

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The interest to be paid for the certificates is based on six-month Euribor and three-month US dollar Libor (variable tranche) or mid-swap (fixed tranche), respectively, plus a credit margin premium (spread). Total interest costs of the fixed tranches range between 0.78% and 2.62% per annum, the company said. Sole arranger of the issue is Landesbank Hessen, the bank of the German state of Hessen.

Firmenich Adds Flavors Facility in Nigeria

August 15, 2016: Switzerland's Firmenich has opened a flavors facility in Lagos, Nigeria, to boost its product development in the region. The center, which includes laboratories for sweet goods, beverages and savories, will focus on health and nutrition, unique blends reflecting local preferences and competitively priced flavors for all segments of the food industry.

The flavors and fragrances company said Nigeria will serve as a critical hub as it accelerates its innovation efforts to meet customers' needs across the 30 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. Firmenich's CEO Gilbert Ghostine said the significant investment reflected the strategic importance of Sub-Saharan Africa with its population of 800 million and strong growth potential.

"By increasing our proximity to Nigerian consumers, we will focus on creating flavors that appeal to the rich and diverse culture of Nigeria and its neighbouring countries. For instance, we look forward to expanding our industry-leading seafood flavor range and exploring other iconic tonalities," explained Oddvar Bjorge, Firmenich's vice president flavors, Sub-Saharan Africa. The Geneva-headquartered company said it will build on its existing partnership with Nigeria's Yaba Institute of Technology to drive solutions adapted to the local market.

Lonza Acquires InterHealth Nutraceuticals

August 16, 2016: Lonza CEO Richard Ridinger said the transaction takes the company a further step along its strategic path as a high-value supplier to the healthcare continuum, adding that he sees significant positive synergies from the merger.

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Swiss specialty chemicals and biotechnology company Lonza has agreed to pay up to \$300 million for InterHealth Nutraceuticals, a US-based developer and manufacturer of nutritional ingredients used in dietary supplements. The Californian company's range of 15 branded ingredients, including UC-11 which Lonza said was revolutionizing the joint-health segment, complements the Basle-headquartered group's portfolio in sports nutrition, weight management, immune health and pet health. The acquisition will also expand Lonza's offering in cognitive and diabetic health.

Lonza CEO Richard Ridinger said the transaction takes the company a further step along its strategic path as a high-value supplier to the healthcare continuum, adding that he sees significant positive synergies from the merger. The purchase of InterHealth from private equity firm Kainos Capital is expected to be immediately accretive to earnings. The deal is anticipated to close in September 2016. According to Transparency Market Research, the global nutraceuticals market is forecast to see a compound annual growth rate of 7.3% from 2015 to 2021 when it will be worth nearly \$279 billion.