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Chemistry

Platform of the Swiss Academy of Sciences

New Chief Science Officer and Board Member of the «Platform Chemistry»

Adrien K. Lawrence*

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The General Secretariat of SCNAT appointed Dr. Adrien Lawrence as Chief Science Officer of the «Platform Chemistry» as of 1 February 2013 succeeding Dr. Barbara Winter-Werner who directed the platform from 2007 to 2012. Dr. Adrien Lawrence graduated with a Master in Molecular and Biological Chemistry from EPF Lausanne in 2006. As part of his Master's thesis, he joined the group of Prof. Dr. Steven V. Ley at the University of Cambridge (UK) to work on natural product synthesis (spongistatin 1) supported by an ERASMUS Exchange Grant. After obtaining his MSc, Dr. Lawrence worked at F. Hoffmann-La Roche in Basel on the synthesis of potential drug candidates against schizophrenia. He then completed doctoral studies at EPF Lausanne (2010) focusing on natural product synthesis and quorum sensing with a fellowship from the European Science Foundation (advisor: Prof. Dr. Karl Gademann). Dr. Lawrence obtained a Certificate in Project Management from the University of Bern (2010) and worked as a Scientific Associate in the group of industrial ecology at the University of Lausanne on the valorisation of carbon dioxide (advisor: Prof. Dr. Suren Erkman). Before joining SCNAT, he worked for an evidence-based life sciences consultancy in London where he specialized in strategic communications.

In addition, Prof. Dr. Jay Siegel resigned as member of the Board at the end of 2012 and Prof. Dr. Christophe Copéret (ETH Zürich) entered the Board in January 2013. Prof. Dr. Copéret was educated at CPE Lyon, at Purdue University (PhD with Prof. E. Negishi), and at the Scripps Research Institute (Postdoctoral studies with Prof. K. B. Sharpless). In 1998, he was offered a permanent position at CNRS in the Laboratory of Surface Organometallic Chemistry, now the C2P2 laboratory, which focuses on catalysis, surface and polymer chemistry. Prof. Dr. Copéret was promoted to CNRS Research Director in 2008. Since 2010, Prof. Dr. Copéret is Full Professor of Inorganic Chemistry at ETH Zürich and, since 2011, Chairman of the



Dr. *Adrien K. Lawrence* studied at the EPFLausanne and at the University of Cambridge (UK) with Prof. Dr. Steven V. Ley CBS FRS FMedSci. He then worked at F. Hoffmann-La Roche before completing doctoral studies at EPF Lausanne with a fellowship from the European Science Foundation (advisor: Prof. Dr. Karl Gademann). Dr. Lawrence then obtained a Certificate in Project Management from the University of Bern. Before joining SCNAT, he worked as a Scientific Associate at the University of Lausanne (advisor: Prof. Dr. Suren Erkman) and for an evidence-based life sciences consultancy in London.

Institute of Inorganic Chemistry. His research group focuses on the design of functional materials with applications in catalysis (sustainable chemistry and energy), molecular recognition, imaging and microelectronics. Prof. Dr. Copéret is also a member of the Executive Board of the Swiss Chemical Society.

We would like to thank Barbara Winter-Werner for her dedication and commitment over the last five years as the first Chief Science Officer of the «Platform Chemistry». During that time, her contribution to the development of the «Platform Chemistry» was remarkable and led to the elaboration of the SCNAT/SCS Travel Award, the Young Faculty Meeting, and the Chemical Landmarks. We would also like to thank Jay Siegel for his engagement on the Board of the platform. Finally, we would like to welcome Christophe Copéret at the Board of the platform.

Additional information about the «Platform Chemistry» and its activities may be found at www.chemistry.scnat.ch



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