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Changes to the Board of the «Platform Chemistry»

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On 24 May 2013, the Delegate Assembly of SCNAT elected Prof. Dr. **Karl Gademann** as a new member of the Executive Board of SCNAT starting from 1 January 2014. In order to take up this new appointment, Karl Gademann resigned from the Board of the «Platform Chemistry» at the end of 2013 after six years of continuous service as Board Member (2007–2010) and as President (2010–2013). Following this change of role, the Executive Board of SCNAT was required to elect a new board member and a new president on the Board of the «Platform Chemistry». On 13 December 2013, Prof. Dr. **Katharina M. Fromm**, who has been a Board Member of the «Platform Chemistry» since 2009, was elected to the presidency of the platform and Prof. Dr. **Oliver Wenger** to the board.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Karl Gademann for his contribution and dedication to the development of the platform and we are confident that his new role at the Executive Board of SCNAT will be beneficial to the chemical sciences in Switzerland. Finally, we would like to welcome Oliver Wenger to 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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Prof. Dr. **Oliver Wenger** was educated at the University of Bern (PhD with Prof. Hans U. Güdel), at the California Institute of Technology (Postdoctoral studies with Prof. Harry B. Gray), and at the Université Louis Pasteur in Strasbourg (Postdoctoral studies with Prof. Jean-Pierre Sauvage). In 2006, he became Assistant Professor (SNF) at the University of Geneva before accepting a position of W2 Professor at the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen in 2009. Since 2012, Prof. Dr. Wenger is Associate Professor at the University of Basel. His research interests focus on combining synthesis with (optical) spectroscopic and electrochemical investigations.



Katharina M. Fromm was born in Germany, raised in France, Germany, and USA. She studied chemistry in Karlsruhe (Germany) and Strasbourg (France). Katharina Fromm obtained her PhD with Professor Evamarie Hey-Hawkins (University of Karlsruhe) on organometallic compounds with metal-phosphorous double bonds (Mo, Nb, Ta) in 1994. After post-doctoral research stays in Germany (Prof. D. Fenske, Karlsruhe and Prof. J. Strähle, Tübingen) and France (Prof. J.-M. Lehn, Strasbourg) from 1994 to 1998, she did her habilitation with Professor Alan F. Williams at the University of Geneva, which she was awarded in 2003. She was briefly appointed at the University of Karlsruhe with an Emmy Noether grant II (DFG), and then took a position of Assistant Professor (SNF) at the University of Basel before becoming Full Professor at the University of Fribourg in October 2006. Her main research topics are cluster and coordination compounds, with a view to applications in the wide field of materials, such as oxides or medical implants. In addition, she is highly committed in improving the general image of chemistry in society and is thus very involved in teaching and outreach activities. In 2013, Katharina Fromm was honoured as the first fellow of the American Chemical Society in Europe.