

Editorial



Peter Kündig

We are very pleased to offer you again a very exciting issue of CHIMIA that underlines and strengthens three of the Swiss Chemical Society's (SCS) four strategic pillars. Eight articles from SCS Award winners 2014/15 represent the research excellence in chemistry promoted by the SCS, whose award program was established back in 1936 (Werner Prize) and 1941 (Paracelsus Prize), respectively. The section detailing the SCS Fall Meeting (FM) 2015 attests to the SCS's competence in the organization of top quality events. The FM offers a perfect opportunity for researchers to present their latest research results. It also fosters scientific discussion and interaction. Finally CHIMIA demonstrates the SCS' activity in the publication business and its support to communication within the chemistry community. This issue is strong evidence for the SCS providing not only an important contribution to a world-class research environment in Switzerland but also for offering an active and vivid platform for chemistry.



David Spichiger

The first part of this CHIMIA issue contains articles by the winners of the major SCS prizes in 2014 and the Werner Prize 2015.

Prof. Richard R. Schrock, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (US), recipient of the **Paracelsus Prize 2014** for his seminal work in synthetic and mechanistic organo-transition metal chemistry.

The **Werner Prize 2015** was awarded to **Prof. Gilles Gasser**, University of Zurich, for his outstanding contributions in the field of medicinal inorganic chemistry and of inorganic chemical biology.

Dr. Erwin Reisner, University of Cambridge (UK), received the **Grammaticakis-Neumann Award 2014** for his research combining synthesis, photochemistry, photophysics, and molecular photobiology to develop artificial photosynthesis.

A research team from **Syngenta Crop Protection Münchwilen AG**, with its members **Dr. Harald Walter**, **Dr. Hans Tobler**, **Dr. Camilla Corsi** and **Dr. Denis V. Gribkov**, was awarded the **Sandmeyer Prize 2014** for its successful and innovative efforts in discovering, developing, and producing new broad-spectrum agrochemical fungicides.

To complete the list of the 2014 award winners there are articles by the winners of the **KGF-SCS Industrial Science Awards 2014**. The Distinguished Industrial Investigator Award was given to **Dr. Hans-Ulrich Blaser**, for his outstanding contributions to the development of highly selective and efficient catalysts for the industrial production of bioactive chiral compounds and for the leading role he played in asymmetric catalysis in both industry and academia. **Dr. Werner Neidhart**, F. Hoffmann-La Roche, received the Senior Industrial Investigator Award for his contributions to medicinal chemistry and the creation of multiple candidate drugs, particularly Endothelin antagonists Avosentan and Clazosentan and the marketed Bosentan/Tracleer. The Industrial Investigator Award in this program were given to **Dr. Andreas Natsch**, Givaudan Schweiz AG, for his thorough investigation into the chemistry, biochemistry and microbiology of axilla malodor, culminating in the suppression of malodor causing processes and in the development of bacterial fragrance release from new families of odorant precursors and to **Dr. Wolfgang Jahnke**, Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research, Basel, for his excellence in developing and applying biomolecular NMR spectroscopy and fragment-based lead discovery, resulting in crucial contributions to many drug discovery projects.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all the winners on their outstanding contributions and for contributing to this issue of CHIMIA. We also thank all sponsors for their much appreciated support.

The second part of this issue provides the session program, the poster catalog, the sponsors' information and all organizational information to the SCS Fall Meeting scheduled for September 4, 2015 at the EPF Lausanne. 520 contributions in eight thematic sessions as well as three plenary lectures form an excellent program and promise an exciting day. The abstracts of the presentations are available in the SCS Conference Tool on www.chemistrycongresses.ch or as pdf download from the conference website.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Lausanne on September 4.

Prof. E. Peter Kündig
SCS President

David Spichiger
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