

Editorial



Alain De Mesmaeker

Besides *Helvetica Chimica Acta* (published by Wiley), CHIMIA is the second scientific journal of the Swiss Chemical Society (SCS) and is one of the society's major channels to inform the Swiss Chemistry Community about the great science being performed in Switzerland. In addition to the usual contributions to CHIMIA including Notes, Highlights, Community News, Events and Report/Company News, the present issue contains six manuscripts of the laureates of very important SCS Awards 2016–2018. You will find also some very useful information on the coming SCS Fall Meeting 2018, which will take place at the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) on Friday 7th September 2018 displaying a very promising program. We are all very much looking forward to welcoming you in Lausanne at one of the major events organized by the SCS showcasing the vitality of Swiss Chemistry.

Professor Peter Nesvadba, BASF Schweiz AG, was awarded the KGF-SCS Senior Industrial Investigator Award 2016 (now named the SISF-SCS Industrial Science Awards) for his ground-breaking contributions to the discovery and development of novel stabilizers for monomers and polymers, novel dyes, first industrial realization of controlled radical polymerization, to the development of safe alternatives to organic peroxides and for his engagement as bridge builder between academia and industry. P. Nesvadba discloses some of his scientific results in the present CHIMIA issue in the manuscript entitled 'Radical and Polymers'.

Dr. E. Pinard, F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd, Basel, received the SISF-SCS Senior Industrial investigator Award 2017 for his very successful research on several therapeutic targets as enzymes (Bace1, COMT), ion channels (NMDA), GPCRs (Orexin, Vasopressin) and transporters (GlyT1) that address high unmet central nervous system disorders such as Parkinson's Disease, Stroke, Schizophrenia, Depression, Autism and Spinal Motor Atrophy. His manuscript, co-authored with E. Borroni, A. Koerner, D. Umbricht, D. Alberati, is entitled 'Glycine Transporter Type I (GlyT1) Inhibitor, Bitopertin: A Journey from Lab to Patient'.

Dr. Thomas Netscher, DSM Nutritional Products, Basel, has been honored by the SISF-SCS Senior Industrial Investigator Award 2017 in recognition of his achievements in advancing synthetic methodology and total synthesis of natural products, specifically vitamins and isoprenoid derived compounds. Dr. T. Netscher presents some of his scientific results in his manuscript entitled 'Vitamins and Nutraceuticals from the Perspective of Process Chemistry'.

Drs. S. Hildbrand, G. Rimmler, D. Fishlock, P. Rege, C. Peters, C. Mössner, R. Diodone, M. Schantz, F. Hoffmann-La Roche AG, Basel, received the Sandmeyer Award 2017 for the development of an efficient industrial synthesis of Idasanutlin (a MDM2 antagonist for treatment of cancer) via a Cu(I)-catalyzed [3+2] asymmetric cycloaddition. This outstanding work is presented in the manuscript co-authored by D. Fischlock, R. Diodone, S. Hildbrand, B. Kuhn, C. Mössner, C. Peters, P. D. Rege, G. Rimmler, M. Schantz entitled 'Efficient Industrial Synthesis of the MDM2 Antagonist Idasanutlin via a Cu(I) Catalyzed [3+2] Asymmetric Cycloaddition'.

Professor Robert R. Knowles, Princeton University, received the Grammaticakis-Neumann Prize 2017 for expanding the methodology in organic synthesis by new processes founded upon visible light-mediated Proton-Coupled Electron Transfer (PCET). R. Knowles, together with M. P. Rauch, presents some of their recent scientific results in their manuscript entitled 'Applications and Prospects for Triplet-Triplet Annihilation Photon Upconversion'.

Professor Sandra Luber, University of Zurich, received the Werner Prize 2018 for her outstanding research in the field of theoretical and computational chemistry. S. Luber summarizes some of her major achievements in her manuscript entitled 'Advancing Computational Approaches for Study and Design in Catalysis'.

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President of the Swiss Chemical Society