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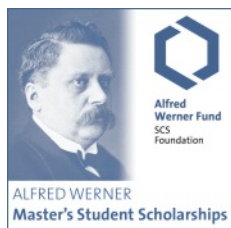
News and Announcements

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MEET & GREET 2018 OF THE ALFRED WERNER SCHOLARS

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Since 2013, the SCS Foundation sponsors – through the Alfred Werner fund – up to ten excellent foreign students working towards their Master's degree in Chemistry or Biochemistry at a Swiss University or at a Federal Institute of Technology. The aim of this program is to bring young talent to Switzerland.

The Alfred Werner Scholarship Program is supported by BASF, Firmenich, Givaudan, Lonza, Novartis, Roche and Syngenta (see: <http://www.scs-foundation.ch/index.php/alfred-werner-fund/master-scholarships>).

The Host

In 2016, Christoph Täschler initiated the Meet & Greet events with a one-day visit of Lonza in Visp to offer the scholars the opportunity to learn about industrial research and production facilities, as well as to have an exchange with industrial chemists.^[1] Thereafter, in 2017, Edouard Godineau and Alain De Mesmaeker organized a similar visit at Syngenta in Stein.^[2] In order to pursue this tradition, Maud Reiter and Christian Chapuis invited, on May 17th 2018, thirteen current recipients of an Alfred Werner scholarship for a visit to the Firmenich R&D Division at Geneva (seven scholars from the 2016–2018 class, along with six scholars from the 2017–2019 class, accompanied by David Spichiger, Hans Peter Lüthi of the SCS, and Christoph Täschler, Lonza and member of the Alfred Werner Fund Committee).

Firmenich, a supporter of the Alfred Werner Program, is the world largest privately-owned fragrance & flavor company, creating the key ingredients for some of the world's most desirable brands. It was founded in 1895 in Geneva and has 7'000 employees worldwide (see: www.firmenich.com).

The Program

The morning program comprised a tour through five different laboratories:

1. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Malodor project on reinventing toilets for emerging countries, presented by C. Starkenmann
2. The New Ingredient synthetic lab of C. Chapuis
3. A perfumery lab, hosted by N. Jeckelmann
4. An NMR lab presented by J.-Y. de saint Laumer, and
5. The work of a sensorial lab explained by C. Vuilleumier.

The informal and lively discussion between these senior scientists and the students was continued during the lunch and coffee break on the terrace of the cafeteria (see picture).

The afternoon session started with an introductory presentation by Maud Reiter on topic of Firmenich SA and its R&D Division, and then ended with short presentations by the scholars of the 2016 – 2018 class.

The Visitors

The students of the class of 2016–2018 presented their research in the format of 10 minute short presentations:

Jean Behaghel de Bueren, EPF Lausanne: 'Valorisation of Lignin'

Dora Harangozo, ETH Zürich: 'Synthesis of Improved Cyclohexylpyrrolidine-Based Inhibitors of Trypanothione-Reductase'

Brett Garabedian, University of Basel: 'Directed Evolution of Artificial Metalloenzymes'

Joncev Zlatko, University of Basel: 'Atroposelective Methathesis'

Zahra Pourmand Tehrani, EPF Lausanne: 'Biological Photovoltaics'

Heorhii Humeniuk, University of Geneva: 'Dual-Emission Papillon Mechanophores for Ratiometric Sensing'

Viktoriia Morad, ETH Zürich, will present her thesis topic 'Exploration of Luminescent Hybrid Metal Halides' at the occasion of next year's Meet & Greet event

The following students of the class of 2017–2019 participated in event at Firmenich:

Kleni Mulliri, University of Bern

Luka Milosevic, EPF Lausanne

Alena Budinska, ETH Zürich

Kevin Maik Jablonka, EPF Lausanne

Dragan Miladinov, University of Basel

Asma Mansouri, University of Geneva

The Class of 2018–20

In its June meeting, the Alfred Werner Scholarship selection committee granted a stipend to seven new students, four female and three male, representing five different countries (Canada, Czech Republic, Ireland, Serbia and Ukraine).

[1] *Chimia* 2016, 70, A374.

[2] E. Godineau, *Chimia* 2018, 72, 75.



Coffee break on the terrace of the cafeteria



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