

Conference Report

18th Swiss Snow Symposium

From January 25th–27th members of the Swiss Young Chemists' Association (SYCA) met in Saas Fee for the 18th Swiss Snow Symposium. After the participants' accommodation and welcoming dinner, two invited lecturers shared their experience in one-hour presentations. The first speaker, Prof. **Bill Morandi** (ETH Zurich) gave a talk on the employment of the concept of shuttle catalysis for reversible group transfer. The second presenter, Dr. **Richard J. Smith**, the Managing Editor of *Helvetica Chimica Acta*, provided tips and tricks on the successful publishing of the scientific results. The day was closed by four talks from PhD students and postdocs. On Saturday morning the participants enjoyed the beautiful weather and those who wanted tested their skiing skills on the slopes of Saas Fee. This year was the first time that SYCA has organized ski lessons for the participants from Saas-Fee ski school, which proved to be very successful. The winter sports part of the day was followed by a lecture from Prof. **Thomas Wirth** from Cardiff University (UK), who introduced flow chemistry as a technology for synthesis. After dinner and poster session, **Sviatlana Siankevich**, the CEO of a recent startup Embion Technologies, participated in a Q&A session presenting Embion and sharing her experience on the problems faced when a new startup is being created and established. The scientific part of the symposium was concluded by four talks from PhD students and postdocs, and at the end of the day the winners were announced on the awards ceremony.



All the participants presented high-quality research results and it was demanding to choose the best presentations. In the end, the jury decided to acknowledge three people with prizes. The winners were **Jovana Milic** (EPFL Lausanne, best oral presentation), **John Reed** (EPFL Lausanne, runner-up for the oral presentation) and **Atena-Bianca Solea** (University of Fribourg, best poster). Congratulations!

More information about the Swiss Young Chemists' Association (SYCA) is available at: <https://scg.ch/syca>