

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Published in CHIMIA Volume 74, No 1-2/2020

Introduction and Strategy

With pleasure we look back on a very interesting and active year. The Swiss Chemical Society not only continued and developed its well-established activities but again pushed new initiatives to face today's challenges. We also implemented new sections and networks to incorporate community members whose interest were not covered so far. In addition, the SCS took over the responsibility for existing programs that run now under the umbrella of the SCS and complete our activity portfolio.

The most important, new initiatives in 2019:

- SCS took over the operative responsibility for the Swiss National Technology Platform of SusChem to push the Green & Sustainable Chemistry approach in the chemical R&D;
- Within the Division of Analytical Sciences, the Section of Chemistry and the Environmental was founded and initiated initiatives that will be implemented in 2020;
- The SCS Spring Meeting 2019 on the topic of Material Sciences showed the importance and the potential of this field and the SCS will follow up to keep the momentum and establish an active community;
- After a very successful symposium on Artificial Intelligence in Chemical Research in October 2018, the CHIMIA issue 12/2019 picked up the topic and reported on the latest development in this promising discipline;
- To increase the visibility of female researchers in our community the SCS initiated the Swiss Women in Chemistry Network that was launched with a fantastic inauguration event at ILMAC in Basel.
- Our next generation of researchers needs to be developed and actively supported and the SCS established a mentor group of young professionals that assist the Swiss Young Chemists' Association to define and manage their agenda.

Furthermore, we stayed actively connected to our partners and co-operated for many projects.

Please enjoy reading through the 2019 annual report that shows again a very active and lively society.

Dr. Alain De Mesmaeker
President

David Spichiger
Executive Director

Overview of SCG Events 2019

David Spichiger

- 25.–26.01. Swiss Snow Symposium, Saas-Fee
- 24.–27.03. Frontiers in Medicinal Chemistry, Würzburg, GER
- 05.04. SCS Spring Meeting, Dübendorf
- 11.–12.04. CHanalysis, Beatenberg
- 25.04. OnTheTop Symposium (Chemical Landmark), Bern
- 05.–09.05. Bürgenstock Conference, Brunnen

- 16.–17.05. Freiburger Symposium, Fribourg
- 14.06. NoNoMeCat Symposium, Stein (AG)
- 14.06. Photochemistry Symposium, Fribourg
- 19.–22.08. Swiss Summer School (Organic Synthesis), Villars
- 06.09. SCS Fall Meeting, Zurich
- 06.09. ChemEdu, Zurich
- 24.–27.09. ILMAC Basel, Basel
- 25.–27.09. Swiss SusChem Days, Basel
- 17.10. SCS Syngenta Symposium, Stein (AG)

SCS Award Winners 2019

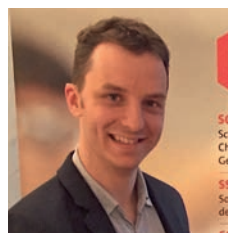
scg.ch/awards

David Spichiger

The SCS awarded six individuals and one group of scientists for their outstanding contributions. A total sum of CHF 58'000 as well as medals and award certificates were given to the prize winners.

Werner Prize

CHF 10'000 and medal in bronze; awarded to a promising young scientist for outstanding independent chemical research. The award was given to



Prof. Jeremy Luterbacher,

EPFL Lausanne, for his original and groundbreaking research on chemical conversion of plant material using protection group chemistry during biomass depolymerization and upgrading.

The prize was given on the occasion of the SCS Spring Meeting in Dübendorf on April 5, 2019.

Grammaticakis-Neumann Prize

The prize is awarded to a promising young scientist for outstanding accomplishments in the field of experimental or theoretical photochemistry. The prize is awarded bi-annually, and the winner receives a certificate and a cash check of CHF 5'000. In 2019 the prize was awarded to



Prof. David Sarlah,

University of Illinois, Urbana (USA), for his great achievements in the development of photochemical de-aromatization of nonactivated arenes that allows for a rapid incorporation of oxygen, nitrogen and carbon functionality with exquisite stereocontrol.

The ceremony and the lecture took place on the occasion of the SCS Fall Meeting in Zurich on September 6, 2019.

SCS Senior Industrial Science Award

The prize is given to honor very successful and established investigators with outstanding achievements over many years. The winner receives a certificate and a cash check of CHF 10'000.

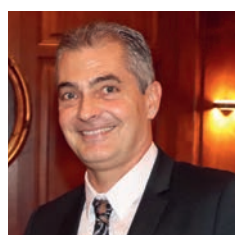


Dr. Fabrice Gallou,

Novartis Pharmaceuticals AG, Basel, was awarded in recognition of his outstanding track record of innovation and creativity in the field of organic synthesis and for his leadership in coaching and mentoring of young scientists at Novartis.

SCS Industrial Science Award

The prize is given to honor successful investigators with outstanding achievements. The winner receives a certificate and a cash check of CHF 7'000.



Dr. Christoph Boss,

Idorsia Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Allschwil, received the prize for his outstanding contributions as medicinal chemists with remarkable analytical skills and an excellent flair for multidimensional lead optimization taking into consideration all aspects of modern medicinal chemistry.

The two SCS Industrial Science Award lectures took place on the occasion of the SCS Fall Meeting in Zurich on September 6, 2019.

Sandmeyer Award

CHF 20'000; awarded to a person or to a group for outstanding work in industrial or applied chemistry. In 2019 the SCS awarded



Dr. Michael Berg, Dr. Stephan Hug, Dr. Annette Johnson (in memoriam), Dr. Andreas Voegelin and Prof. Lenny Winkel,

from the Eawag, Dübendorf, for their experimental and modelling studies on drinking water contamination by arsenic and other geogenic elements with an enormous impact not only in

Switzerland but around the globe.

The award lecture took place at the Freiburger Symposium on May 17, 2019 and at the SCS Fall Meeting in Zurich on September 6, 2019.

Balmer Prize

CHF 2'000 for individuals and CHF 2'000 for the school's chemistry department. SCS awarded



Dr. Rita Oberholzer,

Kantonsschule im Lee, Winterthur, for developing and implementing an innovative and, in the meantime well-established, experiment of anodizing Caran d'Ache pens that can be easily used in a short hands-on training at Gymnasium level.

The award ceremony took place at the ChemEdu Meeting in Zurich on September 6, 2019.

Dr. Max Lüthi Award

CHF 1'000 and medal in bronze; presented for an outstanding diploma thesis in Chemistry conducted at a Swiss University of Applied Sciences. SCS awarded



Ms. Sandra Witschard,

Zürcher Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften, Wädenswil, for her Bachelor thesis focusing on 'Voxelated planar spheroid tissue assembly'

and



Mr. Ivan Cornu,

Haute école d'ingénierie et d'architecture Fribourg, for his Bachelor thesis entitled «Synthesis of new pinene-phenanthroline and pinene-terpyridine type ligands».

The award lectures took place at the ILMAC 2019 in Basel on September 27, 2019.

We would like to take the opportunity to congratulate all winners once again.

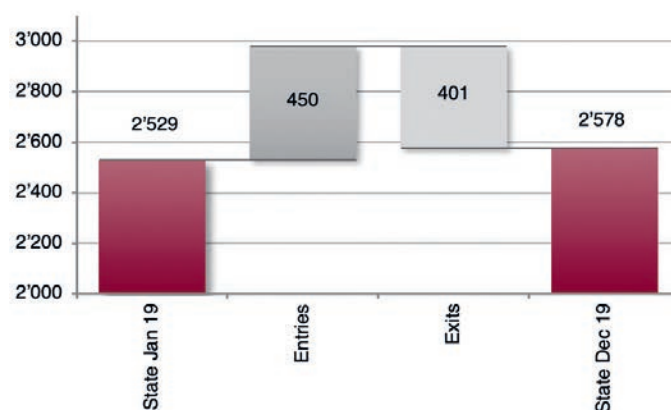
The deadline to nominate candidates for the 2021 awards is September 30, 2020

Member Statistics (December 2019)

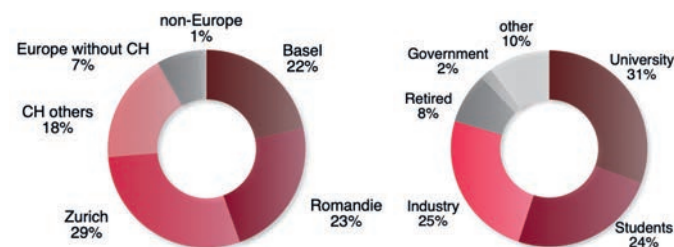
scg.ch/membership

David Spichiger

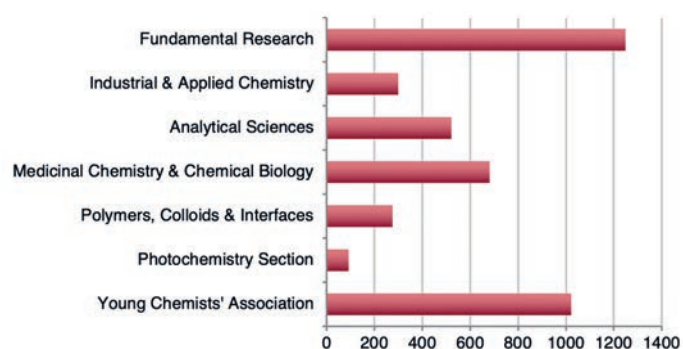
Development of members 2019: +49



Members per region and profession



Members per SCS Division (multiple subscription per member are possible)



Executive Board and Board of Directors

David Spichiger

Executive Board ExB

Dr. Alain De Mesmaeker, Syngenta Crop Protection AG
SCS President

Prof. Christian Bochet, University of Fribourg
SCS Vice President and

Dr. Gillian Harvey, Luzern

Chair of the CHIMIA Editorial Board

Dr. Hans Peter Lüthi, ETH Zurich

SCS Treasurer

David Spichiger, Swiss Chemical Society

SCS Executive Director

Board of Directors BoD (in addition to the ExB members)

Prof. Roger Alberto, University of Zurich
President Division of Fundamental Research

Dr. Yves Auberson, Novartis Pharma AG
President Division of Medicinal Chemistry & Chemical Biology

Prof. Christophe Copéret, ETH Zurich
Resort national and international relations

Prof. Sandrine Gerber, EPF Lausanne
Member of the board

Prof. Christian Hinderling, ZHAW
President Division of Polymers, Colloids & Interfaces

Dr. Marc J. Suter, Eawag, Dübendorf
President Division of Analytical Sciences

Prof. Antonio Togni, ETH Zurich
President Division of Chemical Education

Dr. Bernhard Urwyler, Syngenta Crop Protection AG (new)
President Division of Industrial & Applied Chemistry

Dr. Martin Vollmer, Clariant International Ltd
Member of the board

At the end of 2019 Roger Alberto, Yves Auberson, Antonio Togni and Christian Hinderling stepped down as presidents of their divisions.

Principal Supporters of the Swiss Chemical Society and the SCS Foundation

Our most sincere thanks go to our main sponsors for their generous support. In addition, we thank all our divisional event sponsors that supported the SCS during the year. The main sponsors were:

Principal Supporters (>CHF 50'000)

- Novartis AG
- F. Hoffmann-La Roche AG
- Syngenta Crop Protection AG
- Swiss Academy of Natural Sciences (SCNAT)

Main Supporters (10'000 to 50'000)

- BASF Schweiz AG
- Clariant AG
- DSM Nutritional Products Ltd.
- Firmenich SA
- Givaudan SA
- Lonza AG
- Idorsia Pharmaceuticals Ltd
- Metrohm Foundation and Metrohm Schweiz AG

Supporters (5'000 to 10'000)

- Cilag AG (Janssen)
- Mettler-Tolodo
- Siegfried AG
- Swiss Academies of Technical Sciences (SATW)



Society's Activities and Head Office

www.scg.ch

David Spichiger

ChemPubSoc Europe

In its sixth year as a full member of the ChemPubSoc community, the SCS once again profited from a respectable royalty payment of *Chemistry a European Journal* and some of the ChemPubSoc Journals as well as from the ChemPubSoc conference grant.

Prof. E. Peter Kündig represented the SCS as Swiss delegate and chaired the annual ChemPubSoc meeting in Warsaw, Poland, on September 1–3, 2019.

SCS holds 5% of shares of *Chemistry – A European Journal* and participates as co-owner of *ChemElectroChem*, *ChemPlusChem*, *ChemistryOpen*, *ChemCatChem*, *ChemPhotoChem*, *Batteries & Supercaps* and *Chemistry Select*.

SCS supported the marketing initiatives of ChemPubSoc on its website, during SCS events and in CHIMIA.

Helvetica – A Journal of the Swiss Chemical Society

After its relaunch in 2016 and comprehensive marketing and promotion measures in the past four years, including the celebration of the 100th anniversary in 2017, we see an encouraging increase of the journal's reputation that is also reflected in the impact factor that passed the 2.0 marker for the first time since 20 years. Especially the 'Special Issues' for François Diederich (5/2019) and Philippe Renaud (12/2019) provided high visibility and numerous papers. A total of 88 articles were published in volume 102 (2019).

onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/15222675



SCS Conference on Stereochemistry 2019 (Bürgenstock Conference), Brunnen, September 5–9, 2019

It was snowing on the Bürgenstock summit and the surrounding countryside when the participants of the 54th Conference on Stereochemistry reached Brunnen on Sunday May 5, 2019. The organizing committee (Christian Bochet, Alain De Mesmaeker, Fabrice Gallou, Cristina Nevado, Thomas Ward and Jérôme Waser) warmly greeted each newcomer and disclosed the program of the prestigious conference. This year's president, Véronique Gouverneur, University of Oxford, welcomed the guest of honor John Brown, University of Oxford, and all of the 119 attendees during the dinner, and officially opened the conference with a few words of introduction.

Main speakers of the 2019 edition were

- Hagan Bayley, University of Oxford
- Peng Chen, Peking University
- Dario Neri, ETH Zurich
- Yasutero Urano, University of Tokyo
- Eric Jacobsen, Harvard University
- Jonathan Clayden, University of Bristol
- Darren Dixon, University of Oxford
- Tobias Ritter, Max-Planck-Institut für Kohlenforschung
- Paolo Melchiorre, Italian Institute of Technology and ICIQ
- Abigail Doyle, Princeton University
- Marc Fontecave, Collège de France
- Miquel Costas, Universitat de Girona Shannon
- Shannon Stahl, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The next conference will take place in Brunnen from April 26–30, 2020.

A conference report was published in CHIMIA 06/2019.



The attendees of the 54th Bürgenstock conference 2019.

ILMAC Basel 2019

As founder of the trade fair in 1956 and now partner of MCH Messe Schweiz, SCS was again responsible for the organization of the ILMAC Forum activities. The overall topic of the four-day program was 'Green & Sustainable Solutions':

Tue, September 24, 2019

- Exhibitor Talks: Sustainable Solutions

Wed, September 25, 2019

- SusChem Lunch Symposium
- Exhibitor Talks: Digitalization and Industry 4.0
- Swiss Women in Chemistry Inauguration Gala Night

Thu, September 26, 2019

- SusChem Lunch Symposium
- Exhibitor Talks: Resource efficiency
- SusChem Discussion Roundtables
- SusChem Evening Session: Lectures and Panel Discussion

Fri, September 27, 2019

- Universities of Applied Sciences Highlights
- SwissBiotech Success Stories, Dr. Michael Altorfer

- Ceremony and Lecture of the Dr. Max Lüthi Award 2019
- SVC Lecture, Yves Santa-Eugenia



Lunch Symposium on Wed, 25 September 2019

Linked to the forum program SCS provided a platform for its partners to present themselves and to highlight their activities in the field of Green & Sustainable Chemistry. The poster session with 18 contributions gave a compact and informative overview of the topic. Presenting partners:

- SusChem Switzerland
- Swiss Process and Chemical Engineers (SGVC)
- Schweizerischer Verband Diplomierter Chemiker FH (SVC)
- scienceindustries
- Swiss Coordination Committee for Biotechnology (SCCB)
- Swiss Biotech Association (SBA)
- act – Cleantech Agentur Schweiz
- Innosuisse – Swiss Innovation Agency
- Swiss Society for Food Chemistry

Traditionally also the Universities of Applied Sciences used the platform to promote their offers:

- ZHAW, Life Sciences and Facility Management, Wädenswil
- HEIA-FR, School of Engineering and Architecture of Fribourg
- FHNW, School of Life Sciences, Muttens

scg.ch/ilmac/2019



Booth of the ZHAW, Life Sciences and Facility Management

SusChem Switzerland and SusChem Days 2019

After its launch in 2013 the Swiss National Technology Platform SusChem Switzerland was officially hosted by the SCS but run by CimArk. To express its commitment and to push green and sustainable approaches, SCS took over the responsibility to run the platform. Phase II of the initiative was initiated at ILMAC 2019 with the 1st Swiss SusChem Days on September 25–27, 2019. The three lunch forums, the workshops, the discussion roundtables and the SusChem Evening session with input lectures and a panel discussion formed a fantastic program.

scg.ch/ilmac/2019

SUSCHEM^{CH}
Plateforme Technologique Européenne
pour la Chimie Durable



Panel discussion at the SusChem Evening Session: John Warner (Warner Babcock Institute for Green Chemistry), Rafael Cayuela (Dow Chemicals), Nicoletta Piccolrovazzi (Dow Olympics), Martin Vollmer (Clariant), Juan Gonzalez-Valero (Syngenta), James Clark (University of York and entrepreneur), Moderator: Bérangère Magarinos-Ruchat (Global Head Sustainability, Firmenich)

Edouard Godineau and David Spichiger represented SusChem CH at the annual meeting of the SusChem Europe platform in the Cefic Building in Brussels on November 26, 2019, and participated in the SusChem stakeholder event on November 27, 2019, where the new 'Strategic Innovation and Research Agenda (SIRA)' was presented. The SIRA defines the technology priorities towards 2030 for a better future of Europe. suschem.ch

SCS Syngenta Symposium, Stein, October 17, 2019

The Swiss Chemical Society and Syngenta organized the 5th edition of this one-day symposium entitled «Welcome to the One Electron World» on Thursday 17, October 2019. The focus was on cutting-edge research in single electron chemistry, from photoredox to electrochemistry and radical reactions and beyond for their role in life science.

The highlight of the day were three plenary lectures with Prof. Samir Zard, Prof. Robert Knowles and Prof. Dereck Pratt as well as six invited lectures. A poster session rounded out the program over lunch time.

The event took place at the Syngenta research campus in Stein, close to Basel Switzerland. More than 200 participants joined the event.



More than 200 participants followed the invitation to the 5th SCS-Syngenta Symposium 2019

Head Office Support for Divisional Events

In 2019 the head office further developed the support for divisional conferences and events and provided financial services, communication support (e.g. flyers, newsletters, forms and webpages) as well as legal advice and general consulting for 15 events.

CHIMIA

www.chimia.ch

www.ingentaconnect.com/content/scs/chimia

Dr. Gillian Harvey, Chair of the Editorial Board

CHIMIA

2019 was a very successful year with excellent special issue topics organized by Editor-in-Chief E. Peter Kündig and the guest editors. It is with great pleasure that I thank them all for their expert input. Our guest editors in 2019 in the order of their appearance were: Christoph Weder, Curzio Rüegg and Lucas Montero de Espinosa (University of Fribourg), Alan F. Williams (University of Geneva), Sandrine Geber (EPF Lausanne), Oliver Mühlemann (University of Bern) and Frédéric Allain (ETH Zurich), A. Dieter Schlüter (ETH Zurich), Alain de Mesmaeker (Syngenta Crop Protection, Stein), Fabrice Gallou (Novartis Chemical and Analytical Development, Basel), Claudio Battilocchio and Edouard Godineau (Syngenta Crop Protection AG), Catherine E. Housecroft and Edwin C. Constable (University of Basel), Torsten Luksch (Syngenta) and Hans Peter Lüthi (ETH Zurich).

In 2019 (volume 74) the following 10 issues were published:

- 1-2 NCCR Bio-Inspired Materials
- 3 International Year of the Periodic Table
- 4 Laureates: Junior Prizes of the SCS Fall Meeting 2018
- 5 NCCR RNA & Disease
- 6 Dimensionality in Chemistry
- 7-8 SCS Laureates and Awards & Fall Meeting 2019
- 9 Green and Sustainable Chemistry
- 10 Continuous Flow Chemistry – Industry and Academia Perspectives
- 11 Materials for Energy Conversion
- 12 Artificial Intelligence in Swiss Chemical Research

Issues 4 and 7/8 containing the SCS laureates' articles and the program of SCS Fall Meeting are regular features of the annual program. The column section with the Swiss Science Concentrates, Highlights of Analytical Chemistry, Highlights in Polymer and Colloids Chemistry, Medicinal Chemistry and Chemical Biology Highlights, Chemical Education and Universities of Applied Sciences is now well-established and with the Conference Reports give a regular insight into the activities of the SCS and the Divisions. The Society information pages, under the direction of David Spichiger, also provide news and information about current and future events.



Covers of all CHIMIA issues of volume 73

After more than 70 years of publishing activity in one or another form, CHIMIA will be entering into a new phase in 2020. From the beginning of the year CHIMIA will become a platinum Open Access journal. This means that the online special topic articles will be available (from ingentaconnect.com) free of charge and that the authors will not be required to pay any article

or page fees. We hope that this move will increase the visibility of CHIMIA and that authors will be even more willing to contribute their excellent review articles.

The CHIMIA website was redesigned to give better access to the content, with all the past columns and the full pdf issues (for SCS members) easily accessible.

Submissions of scientific articles are now done exclusively on the OJS system (<https://ojs.chimia.ch/index.php/chimia>) and is generally performing well for both guest editors and authors.

The Advisory Board is currently being revamped by Sarah Sulzer-Mosse and in 2020 will take up its new role in advising both the Swiss Chemical Society and CHIMIA on strategy and future planning.

After the successful change to a two-column layout in 2019, CHIMIA will be presenting a new face in 2020 with a redesigned front cover. A competition to find a new background design was won by Pavol Ondrisek, University of Geneva, and laid the basis for a redesign of the CHIMIA title and the overall appearance while still retaining a familiar look.

EuChemS

www.euchems.eu
David Spichiger



About EuChemS

EuChemS acts as a single independent voice for chemistry in Europe. EuChemS advises the European Parliament and Commission on chemistry topics and promotes excellence in European research *via* continuous collaboration with the European Research Council. The divisions and working parties run biennial conferences and summer schools in most areas of chemistry.

The 2019 General Assembly took place in Bucharest, hosted by the Rumanian Chemical Society on October 3–4, 2019.



Delegates and Board Members of EuChemS at the GA 2019

In 2019 EuChemS published four Newsletters and a monthly EuChemS Brussels News Update. SCS re-published them on the SCS website and partially in CHIMIA.

Division delegates of the Swiss Chemical Society

- *Prof. Christophe Copéret*, ETH Zurich
Member, EuChemS Executive Board
- *Prof. Jeffrey Bode*, ETH Zurich
Member, Division of Organic Chemistry
- *Prof. Kay Severin*, EPF Lausanne
Member, Division of Inorganic Chemistry
- *Prof. Franka Kalma*, HESSO/IVS
Member, Division of Analytical Chemistry
- *Dr. Thomas Bucheli*, Agroscope
Member, Division of Chemistry and the Environment
- *Prof. Andreas Türlér*, PSI Villigen
Member, Division of Nuclear and Radiochemistry

- *Prof. Laura Nyström*, ETH Zurich
Members, Division of Food Chemistry
- *Prof. Martin Albrecht*, University of Bern
Division of Organometallic Chemistry
- *Dr. Hans Peter Lüthi*, ETH Zurich
Treasurer, Division of Computational Chemistry
- *Prof. Thomas Bürgi*, Université de Genève
Member, Division of Physical Chemistry
- *Dr. Markus Müller*, Kanti Frauenfeld
Member, Division of Education
- *Prof. Greta Patzke*, University of Zurich
Member, Division of Solid State and Materials Chemistry
- *Dr. Jovana Milic*, EPFL Lausanne
European Young Chemists' Network EYCN

Division of Fundamental Research DFR

www.scg.ch/dfr/

Prof. Roger Alberto

SCS Spring Meeting, Empa Dübendorf, April 6, 2019

The Spring Meeting 2019 was organized by Prof. Brigitte Buchmann (Empa Dübendorf and ETH Zurich) under the topic 'Novel Pathways in Materials Science'. To meet the importance and relevance of this topic, six leading speakers were invited; Profs. Mercuri Kanatzidis, Northwestern University, Evanston USA, Maryna Bodnarchuk, Empa Dübendorf CH, Edward Sargent, University of Toronto, CDN, Christophe Copéret, ETH Zurich, CH, Jürgen Janek, Justus-Liebig Universität Giessen and KIT, D and Michele Ceriotti, EPF Lausanne, CH. They provided the attendees with exciting presentations about this topic in a broader sense.

Traditionally, the Spring Meeting is the platform for the Alfred Werner Prize, which was awarded this year to Prof. Jeremy Luterbacher from the EPF Lausanne, Switzerland. His award lecture gave fascinating insights into the chemistry of biomass as related to the production of added-value products and was entitled 'Protect and serve: acetal formation during biomass fractionation as a toolkit for reducing degradation and introducing new reactivities'.

The Spring Meeting was very well attended with participants not only from Switzerland but also from abroad. During lunch time, the general assembly of the SCS took place, confirming the board and the executive board members of the SCS and its divisions.

scg.ch/springmeeting/2019



Prof. Mercuri Kanatzidis, Northwestern University, Evanston USA

SCS Fall Meeting, Zurich, September 6, 2019

The Fall Meeting is the largest event of the Swiss Chemical Society. Whereas it was extended to 1.5 days in 2017 in Bern, the duration was again one day at the Meeting in Zurich 2019 as at EPF Lausanne in 2018. The SCS board together with the DFR board decided at one of its meetings to follow a rhythm with one-

day events in Zurich and Lausanne and a 1.5d event in Bern. The Fall Meeting was very well attended with about 900 national and international participants. 97 oral contributions and 422 posters were presented throughout the fields of chemical research.

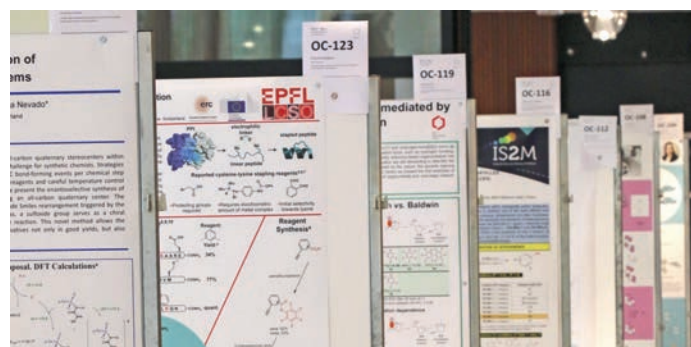
Fall Meeting 2019 Contributions	Talks	Posters
Analytical Sciences	10	38
Computational Sciences	12	53
Catalysis & Engineering	12	47
Inorganic Chemistry	13	51
Medicinal Chemistry & ChemBio	14	57
Organic Chemistry	12	70
Physical Chemistry	13	73
Polymers, Colloids & Interfaces	11	33
Total	97	422

Plenary lectures were provided by the **Sandmeyer Award** recipients *Dr. Michael Berg*, *Dr. Stephan Hug*, *Dr. Annette Johnson* (in memoriam), *Dr. Andreas Voegelin* and *Prof. Lenny Winkel*, Eawag, Dübendorf. The awardee of the **SCS Industrial Science Award** was *Dr. Christoph Boss*, Idorsia Pharmaceuticals Ltd. who presented a plenary lecture entitled ‘20 Years of Medicinal Chemistry - Always look at the bright side (of life)’. The **Grammatikakis-Neumann Award Lecture 2019** was provided by *Prof. David Sarlah*, University of Illinois, Urbana, USA about ‘Photochemical Dearomatization of Nonactivated Arenes’. The **SCS Senior Industrial Science Award Lecture 2019** went to *Dr. Fabrice Gallou*, Novartis Pharma AG and was entitled ‘Alternative solvents: from a compliance-driven activity to a trigger for innovation’. The meeting was excellently organized by the local team under the chair of Profs. Roger Alberto and Hans-Peter Lüthi. The scientific committees with members from all Swiss Universities organized an outstanding scientific program. As the DFR board anticipated, most of these members will serve also on the forthcoming SCS Fall Meetings to enable a continuity. Parallel sessions in the classical fields of chemistry in the morning and in the afternoon gave insights into fundamental and applied research going on in the different divisions of the SCS.

The Fall Meeting was financially supported by many companies and public bodies such as the Swiss Academy of Science SCNAT, BASF, Syngenta, Novartis, Roche, ChemPubSoc/Büchi and the University of Zurich. Session endowments came from Mettler Toledo, Clariant, Lonza, Syngenta, Janssen, Idorsia, Siegfried and Dow. DSM and Metrohm are the award sponsors. All their supports are gratefully acknowledged.

Feedback from the participants was excellent and the Jury had for once enough time to select the laureates, mirroring the excellent local organization. In 2022, the next Fall Meeting will again be at the University of Zurich.

scg.ch/fallmeeting/2019



More than 400 poster were presented at the Fall Meeting 2019.

Support to Conferences

One of the main DFR duties is to provide financial support to conferences within Switzerland organized by its members. The rules for support were amended in 2017 and support was given according to these new guidelines. The following conferences and symposia were thus supported in 2019

- SCS Symposium on Environmental Chemistry, April 25, 2019, University of Bern, CHF 5'000 (scg.ch/onthetop/2019)
- Bürgenstock Conference 2019, May 5-9, 2019, Hotel Waldstätterhof, Brunnen, CHF 5'000 (scg.ch/buergenstock/2019)
- Francois Diederich Symposium, June 3, 2019, ETH Zurich, Hönggerberg, CHF 5'000 (chab.ethz.ch/en/research/institutes/LOC/diederich-farewell-symposium)
- 19th International Conference on Biological Inorganic Chemistry, Interlaken, August 11.-16 2019, Switzerland, CHF 5'000 (chem.uzh.ch/en/icbic19)
- Chirality@The Nanoscale, 13–17 October 2019, Congresso Stefano Franscini, Ascona, Empa 5'000 (nanochiral.empa.ch)

SCS Lectureships 2019

The SCS Lectureships are a third major platform of the Division of Fundamental Research. These consists of a one-week lecture tour of the awardee through at least 4 or 5 Swiss Universities. The 2019 program consisted of the following eight programs:

- *Prof. David J. Craik*, University of Queensland, Australia, ‘Discovery and applications of cyclic peptides in drug design’, 14.–22.01.2019, organizer: Dr. Fabien Cougnon, University of Geneva
- *Prof. Robin Perutz*, University of York, UK, ‘Photochemistry of metal hydride complexes inside an NMR spectrometer: Breaking the speed limits of NMR’ and ‘Hydrogen bonding and halogen bonding to transition metal complexes’, 23.04.–02.05.2019, organizer: Prof. Christoph Copéret, ETH Zurich
- *Prof. Richard Saykally*, University of California, Berkeley, USA, ‘Hydrogen Bond Network Rearrangement Dynamics in Water Clusters: Dramatic Effects of Librational Excitation on Hydrogen Bond Tunneling Rates’ and ‘Probing Complex Interfaces (Review of the methods we employ, including “DUV SHG, XAS, soft X-ray SHG with FELs)” and ‘Selective Adsorption of Ions to Aqueous Interfaces: Towards a Complete Mechanism’, 06.–10.05.2019, organizer: Prof. Rainer Beck, EPF Lausanne
- *Prof. Thomas Ternes*, Federal Institute of Hydrology, Germany, ‘Analytical methods for emerging contaminants: advanced tools to understand environmental and technical processes’, 13.–15.05.2019, organizer: Dr. Marc Suter, Eawag
- *Prof. Takashi Ooi*, Nagoya University, Japan, ‘Molecular Design of Organic Ions for Asymmetric Catalysis’ and ‘Behavior of Molecules: From Catalysis to Biological Functions’, 20.–24.05.2019, organizer: Prof. Jérôme Lacour, University of Geneva
- *Prof. Gary Siuzdak*, The Scripps Research Institute, USA, ‘Discovering Metabolites that Alter Physiology, an Omics Perspective’, 27.–31.05.2019, organizer: Prof. Nicola Zamboni, ETH Zurich
- *Prof. Sarah E. Reisman*, California Institute of Technology, US, ‘Necessity is the Mother of Invention: Natural Products and the Chemistry They Inspire’, 09.–13.09.2019, Dr. Andreas Marzinzik, Novartis, Basel
- *Prof. Donna Blackmond*, The Scripps Research Institute, USA, ‘Explaining Mechanistic Anomalies in Organocatalysis: “Downstream Intermediates” and a New Paradigm for Stereocontrol’ and ‘Symmetry Breaking and Asymmetric Amplification via Autocatalytic Self-Replication’ and

'Physical Models for the Origin of Biological Homochirality', 07.–11.10.2019, Prof. Martin Quack, ETH Zurich
scg.ch/scs-lectureships

Changes in the Board

Prof. Stefan Willitsch, University of Basel, will follow Prof. Roger Alberto, University of Zurich, as the head of the Division of Fundamental Research. Roger Alberto will stay as deputy head in 2020. Roger Alberto will take over the organization of the SCS lectureships from Stefan Willitsch. To coincide with the duration of DFR board memberships, the current DFR board is confirmed until the end of 2021. Due to his move from ETHZ to EPFL, Prof. P. Rivera-Fuentes will represent the EPFL Lausanne in the future.

Outlook 2020

- The SCS Spring Meeting 2020 entitled 'Chemistry and the Environment' will take place at Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz FHNW, April 5, 2020, chaired by Kathrin Fenner, Eawag and University of Zurich (scg.ch/springmeeting/2020).
- The Fall Meeting 2020 will take place on August 24–25, 2020, vonRoll Areal, University of Bern, chaired by Prof. Silvio Decurtins (scg.ch/fallmeeting/2020).
- The DFR supports in 2020 a number of symposia, conferences and workshops which can be found under the SCS homepage
- Seven SCS lectureships are organized for 2020 to be found under the DFR homepage <https://scg.ch/dfp>

Photochemistry Section PCS

scg.ch/pcs

Olivier Nicolet (HES-SO/HEIA-Fribourg)

SCS Photochemistry Meeting, Fribourg, June 14, 2019

On June 14, 2019, nearly 50 photochemists from all over Switzerland and beyond gathered together at the Haute Ecole d'Ingénierie et d'Architecture in Fribourg (HEIA-FR) for the annual SCS Photochemistry Section meeting to discuss their latest findings in the field. The organizing committee consisting of the board of the SCS Photochemistry Section put together a program consisting of 3 invited talks, 9 oral communications and a poster session with 24 posters to revive this event which, they hope, will take place annually. The general assembly of the section was held during the day. (scg.ch/pcs).

Outlook 2020

- The annual Photochemistry Symposium will take place in Fribourg (HES-SO/HEIA-FR) on June 19, 2020.

Swiss Young Chemists' Association (SYCA)

www.scg.ch/syca/

Dr. Guido Panzarasa



Participants and Speakers of the 2019 Snow Symposium

Swiss Snow Symposium, Saas-Fee, January 25–27, 2019

The 17th Swiss Snow Symposium (SSS) 2019 took place in Saas-Fee (January 25–27). The symposium featured five invited lectures, nine contributed talks and a poster session. About 40 people participated to this traditional event of SYCA.

A conference report was published in CHIMIA 5/2019.

Delegate Assembly of the EYCN, Bremen

The delegates of the Swiss Young Chemists' Association, Dr. Jovana V. Milic and Amin Hodaei, attended the Delegate Assembly of the European Young Chemists' Network (EYCN) in Bremen, Germany (March 17–20, 2019) and they presented activities of SYCA on the occasion.

A report has been published on the SCS website.

Visit Each Other Events

The second 'Visit Each Other' event was held at ETH Zurich (June 15), organized by the local representative Dr. Guido Panzarasa. After a short overview of the Hönggerberg campus, the research laboratories of Prof. Dr. Markus Niederberger, of Prof. Dr. Christophe Copéret and of Prof. Dr. Eric R. Dufresne opened their doors to the visitors. After lunch, a short tour of the city of Zurich led to the conclusion of the visit. A total of 16 people participated to the event.

A report was published in CHIMIA 7-8/2019.

General Assembly of the IYCN, Paris

The General Assembly of the International Young Chemists' Network (IYCN) at the IUPAC Congress in Paris, France (July 7–9, 2019) was attended by Dr. Jovana V. Milic, as representative of the Swiss Young Chemists' Association. The representatives were involved in defining the vision and mission of the IYCN and contributed to the revision of its statute and bylaws, as well as planning the activities of the association over the upcoming period.

ChemTogether 2019, Zurich

The Swiss Young Chemists' Association was represented at Chemtogether 2019, the annual career fair at ETH Zurich (November 6), with a 10 min presentation (given by Dr. Guido Panzarasa) of SYCA and its activities.

Social Media

The presence of SYCA in the principal social media is increased, thanks to the efforts of the new responsible for communications, Selina Kaiser: the Twitter account has been revived, and a LinkedIn account has been opened.

Changes in the Board

- At the general assembly of SYCA, held in Zurich on September 6, Dr. Guido Panzarasa (ETH Zurich) took over the presidency of the section and the chair for the Swiss Snow Symposium from Dmitry Vasilyev (EPFL).
- Lu Chen (EPFL) was elected vice-president, Natalia Yalovenko (EPFL) was reconfirmed as treasurer, Dr. Jovana Milic was re-elected as the delegate for international relations. Oksana Desiatkina (University of Bern) was reconfirmed as local representative for Uni BE.
- New members were welcomed and elected with different tasks. Stephanie Linker (ETH Zurich) joined as secretary, Selina Kaiser (ETH Zurich) became the representative for communication. Benjamin Schroeder (ETH Zurich), Eva Vandaele and Melanie Gut (University of Zurich), Dragan Miladinov (University of Basel) were elected representatives of their respective institutions. Ahmed Elabd (University of Fribourg) and Amin Hodaei (EPFL) were selected representatives of their institutions after the General Assembly.

Moreover, Amin Hodaie, as former EYCN delegate, will continue his activities supporting the collaboration with the EYCN.

- The institution of the Mentors of the SYCA Board was confirmed, with members: Dr. Amandine Kolleth-Krieger (Syngenta), Prof. Dr. Christian Heinis, (EPFL), Prof. Dr. Christof Sparr (University of Basel), and Dr. Malika Makhoulf (SynphaBase AG).

Outlook 2020/2021

- The 18th Swiss Snow Symposium (SSS) 2020 will take place in Saas-Fee (January 24–26). Around 40 participants already registered, together with seven confirmed invited speakers from both academia and industry. The participation of the Alfred Werner Scholars (classes of 2018–2020 and 2019–2021) is kindly sponsored by the Swiss Chemical Society Foundation.
- The EYCN delegate, Dr. Jovana Milic, and the former EYCN delegate with ongoing engagements at the EYCN, Amin Hodaie, will attend the next Delegate Assembly of the European Young Chemists' Network in Sitges, Spain (January 26–29, 2020). Dr. Milic will present the activities of SYCA and the proposal to organize the next DA and EYChem in Switzerland.
- The third 'Visit Each Other' event will be held at the University of Bern (April 25, 2020), and will be organized by the local representative Oksana Desiatkina.
- An industry visit is planned at Syngenta (Basel), which will be organized by Dr. Amandine Kolleth-Krieger.
- The Swiss Young Chemists' Association has put forward a proposal to organize the next Delegate Assembly and the European Young Chemists' Meeting (EYChem) in Switzerland in 2021 with the support of the Swiss Chemical Society and in collaboration with the University of Fribourg.

Division of Analytical Sciences DAS

www.scg.ch/das/
Dr. Marc Suter

CHanalysis, Beatenberg, April 12–13, 2019

Roughly 80 analytical scientists participated in the meeting and enjoyed a nice scientific and social atmosphere, allowing a lot of exchange across different disciplines but also between academia and industry. About half of the attendees were PhD students, reflecting one of the goals of the meeting, which is connecting young scientists and providing networking opportunities also for future collaborations. The 26 posters presented surpassed the expectations of the organizers, almost double the numbers of the previous year. Six sponsors supported the meeting and had the chance to present themselves.

Simon-Widmer Award 2019

Eric Bakker, University of Geneva, received the Simon-Widmer Award 2019 at the CHanalysis in Beatenberg.

Other Activities of the Division

- The Analytical Sciences Session at the Fall Meeting at University of Zurich, Irchel, with 9 oral presentations and poster pitches, attracted many attendants. 37 posters were presented, representing ETHZ, EPFL, various Universities and federal research institutes. The session was sponsored by Mettler Toledo.
- Courses: 69 courses have been offered in 2019. The course secretariat was managed by Esther Wolff.
- DAS Travel Award: The DAS handed out five travel awards, one to A Reido (Uni Leiden, Uni Bern) for the AbSciCon in Washington, two to S Veyrat and L Akbal from the University

of Geneva, for the HPLC Milan, one to C Driesen, Empa, for the Dioxin Meeting in Kyoto, and one to Yashashwa Pandey, ETHZ for the SASP 202 in St Moritz. Conference Reports have been published online under DAS Travel Awards.

- The Division Analytical Chemistry of the EuChemS selected Geneva, Switzerland as host for the 2023 Euroanalysis. Organizing Committee: Franka Kalman, Eric Bakker, Marc Suter.

Changes in the Board

- Roland Looser leaves the DAS Board after 17 years of service. His contributions are greatly acknowledged. He continues supporting the DAS activities by being part of the course team.
- Peter Oggenfuss leaves the DAS Board after 5 years of service and is also warmly thanked for his support. He also continues being part of the course team.
- Bodo Hattendorf, ETHZ, has accepted to be part of the DAS Board and is warmly welcomed.

Outlook 2020

- The Spring Meeting 2020 of the SCS will be organized by the Section of Chemistry and the Environment at the FHNW Muttentz, April 3, 2020.
- The 6th CHanalysis will be taking place May 7-8 in Beatenberg. The DAS board will have a retreat prior to the meeting at the same location.
- M Suter steps down as president of the DAS at the General Assembly in Beatenberg but stays on as vice-president. Eric Bakker will be proposed as new president at this time.

Section Chemistry and the Environment

www.scg.ch/sce/
Prof. Kathrin Fenner

Foundation of the Section

The new section was officially announced at the General Assembly of the Division of Analytical Sciences and confirmed by the SCS General Assembly in April 2019.

A short article to introduce the section was published in CHIMIA 7-8/2019.

Scope and Goals of SCE

The scope of SCE comprises all activities related to "understanding and managing the chemical processes that molecules undergo in the environment". This allows fostering interdisciplinary exchange and to become home to a wide range of persons active in environmental research in Switzerland. Chemical processes occur all throughout the biosphere, *i.e.* in the terrestrial, aquatic and atmospheric environment, but also in the anthroposphere. Therefore, all of these compartments are within the scope of the Section.

The major goals of the Section are to leverage high quality environmental chemistry & (eco-)toxicology research in Switzerland, to generate innovative research ideas between academia and chemical industry, and to act as platform and network opportunity for young environmental chemists and (eco-)toxicologists.

Board Members

The board was newly constituted in 2019.

- Kathrin Fenner, Eawag & University of Zurich, Chair
- Lukas Emmenegger, Empa
- Jutta Hellstern, Novartis
- Stefan Hoeger, IES Ltd
- Tamar Kohn, EPFL Lausanne
- Heike Laue, Givaudan

- Vera Slaveykova, University of Geneva
- Imelda Stamp, Syngenta

Outlook 2020

- SCE will host the SCS Spring Meeting on April 3, 2020 at the new campus of the FHNW in Muttensz. Seven national and international speakers have been invited to cover topics a diverse range of topics. scg.ch/springmeeting/2020
- CHIMIA 3/2020 will be dedicated to featuring environmental chemistry related research in Switzerland.
- The first scientific meeting of SCE will be organized as parallel session at the SCS Fall Meeting in Bern, August 25, 2020, incl. a poster session.

Division of Industrial & Applied Chemistry DIAC

www.scg.ch/diac/

Dr. Bernhard Urwyler

Annual DIAC Meeting, Metalor AG, 22 February 2019

The annual DIAC meeting took place at Metalor Technologies SA on February 22, 2019. Metalor is the worldwide leading precious metal company, located in Marine-Epagnier. It is an international Swiss-based group, with subsidiaries in 17 countries.

Dr. Lynda Si-Ahmed and Dr. Jonathan Jodry from the Metalor management addressed a warm welcome to the approx. 20 DIAC members and gave an introduction to Metalor's activities.

The exclusive scientific lecture during the annual meeting was given by Prof. Dr. Rebecca Buller, ZHAW. She leads the Competence Center for Biocatalysis (CCBIO) at the Institute of Chemistry and Biotechnology, Zurich University of Applied Sciences in Wädenswil and she gave us an update on her work in the field of biocatalysis. All presentations, as well as the Q&A after the lectures, were highly appreciated by the participants.

After lunch everybody was invited to participate at the site tour of Metalor, where the groups were given the presentation of the manufacturing of precious metals and advanced materials. The participants learnt a lot about site security and how, compounding of precious metals adds value through the creation of a high degree of purity.



Bernhard Urwyler, DIAC president, reported on the activities of the past year.

14th Freiburger Symposium 2019

The 14th Freiburger Symposium took place on May 16–17 at the HEIA-Freiburg. The topic of the Symposium was: 'Industrial Applications of Catalysis – Time for New Approaches'. Again a keynote lecture was given by the CSO, Dr. Jürgen Roos (new Chief Scientific Officer) of Siegfried AG, Zofingen, with the key note lecture 'Catalysis - an important tool in Siegfried's offering'. The organizers under the lead of Dr. Remo Gamboni and Dr. Prof. Roger Marti, have designed a fantastic program, combining

theoretical aspects and practical implementation around the symposium topic. The Symposium was also the platform to present the 2018/19 winners of the Sandmeyer Awards: Dr. Alain De Mesmaeker and Dr. Raymonde Fonné-Pfister from Syngenta for 2018 and Dr. Andreas Voegelin and Dr. Stephan Hug from Eawag, Dübendorf for 2019.

Again, the Symposium met the expectations of the participants. Beside the scientific lectures, participants always appreciate the networking opportunities during the coffee/lunch breaks and the symposium dinner. Close to 100 industrial professionals and students attended the symposium and were giving a very positive feedback.



DIAC Workshop, Sumiswald, November 7–9, 2019

DIAC Workshop was held on November 7–9, 2019 in Sumiswald i.E.. The main topics were the on-boarding of our new DIAC board members and to review our strategic intent, with the program for 2020. Highlights for 2020 will be the general assembly at Dottikon ES, the ILMAC Lausanne and the SICS-Symposium end of October. (See outlook)



DIAC board at the workshop in Sumiswald in Nov. 2019: (from the left: St. Gentner, DSM; U. Jenelten, Firmenich; Th. Heinz, Novartis; R. Marti, HEFR; B. Urwyler, Syngenta; D. Spichiger SCS; N. Künzle, Lonza; R. Gamboni, Roche; S. Hildbrand, Roche; U. Brändli, Dottikon ES; A. Sting, Syngenta.

Changes in the Board

- Dr. Xenia Beyrich-Graf, BASF, has resigned after many years of active work in the DIAC board. She will be replaced by Dr. Urs Brändli, part of the Dottikon ES Senior Management and Head of Processes & Technologies, joining the DIAC board from March 2020.
- Dr. Remo Gamboni, Roche, will resign after the annual Meeting 2020. He was actively working over 17 years in the DIAC board.
- Bernhard Urwyler (Syngenta) announced his resignation as president of the DIAC board for 2020.
- Dr. Stefan Hildbrand, Head Development & Catalysis in Roche, and Dr. Andrea Sting, Head Global Process Technology in Syngenta, have been nominated as new members of the board.

Outlook 2020

- The DIAC Annual Meeting 2020 will take place at Dottikon Exclusive Synthesis AG, in Dottikon on March 31, 2020. Dottikon ES AG, is the specialist for hazardous reactions and the strategic development and manufacturing partner of the world's leading chemical and pharmaceutical companies. Apart from the annual meeting, we will have a presentation about Dottikon ES and a lecture on 'Technical Sourcing from China, risks and opportunities', held by Stephen Fulton, Team lead in Technology & Sourcing of Syngenta AG.
- The 3rd Swiss Industrial Chemistry Symposium (SICS) is planned for October 30, 2020 in Basel. Dr. Thomas Heinz, Novartis AG and Dr. Stefan Hildbrand from Roche AG, will be part of organizing team.
- ILMAC Lausanne 2020: will be held from October 7–8, 2020 in Lausanne with the Topic: Lab. 4.0 and contributions from the DIAC. Dr. Andreas Sting, Syngenta AG will support the organizing team to set up the planned learn and lunch sessions.
- DIAC Strategy Workshop will be held again early November 2020

Division of Medicinal Chemistry & Chemical Biology DMCCB

www.scg.ch/DMCCB/

Dr. Yves Auberson

Message from the President

"By the end of the year, I will hand over the presidency of the DMCCB to Prof. Jean-Louis Reymond (Uni Bern). The division now has a stronger focus on young investigators, a board with a gender and age balance representative of all DMCCB members, a strong communication program, a much-increased integration of chemical biology, and a rich panel of activities with Swiss and international partners.

Evolution is necessary, and change is good: The DMCCB board is composed of motivated and competent scientists, and I believe that Jean-Louis Reymond will bring a new perspective to the DMCCB and encourage its further development. It has been a privilege and a pleasure to serve our community in this function for the last six years."

Dr. Yves Auberson (Novartis), DMCCB President

LS2 Annual Meeting, Zurich, February 14–15, 2019

DMCCB organized a session at the LS2 annual meeting, focusing on Chemical Biology & Drug Development (February–15, 2019, Zurich). Life Sciences Switzerland (LS2) is an official partner of the DMCCB and there is an active relationship between both societies.

Frontiers in Medicinal Chemistry, Würzburg, GER, March 24–27, 2019

The event took place on March 24–27, 2019 in Würzburg, Germany. This event is co-organized every second year with our German colleagues from GDCh and DPhG.

Session at the SCS Fall Meeting, Zurich, September 6, 2019

As always, there was a DMCCB session at the SCS Fall meeting (Sept 6, 2019, Zurich), where the best oral presentation award went to Kris Meier (Uni Bern).

International Symposium on Chemical Biology

The International Symposium on Chemical Biology has been organized every second year by the Swiss NCCR on Chemical Biology, in Geneva. It was scheduled to take place for the last time in 2022. The DMCCB has signed an agreement with the European Federation for Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC) to ensure the continuation of this prestigious event and to co-organize it after 2022.

CHIMIA Column

A regular contribution to CHIMIA in the form of a DMCCB column.

Changes in the Board

- Prof. Jean-Louis Reymond (Uni Bern) will become president as of Jan 1, 2020.
- Dr. Fides Benfatti (Syngenta) will become vice-president as of Jan 1, 2020.
- Dr. Yves P. Auberson will remain in the board as past president.

Outlook 2020

2020 will be particularly active for the DMCCB, in particular due to the co-organization with EFMC of the largest medicinal chemistry and chemical biology conference in Europe. EFMC-ISMIC will take place in Basel next September. This is a great opportunity for the Swiss community to attend this exceptional event, which will also see EFMC celebrate its 50th anniversary. Stay tuned and do not miss it!

- Chocolate and fat blends, Basel, January 16, 2020, co-organized with the Basler Chemische Gesellschaft: a conference and a networking event.
- 2nd Anglo-Swiss symposium, Basel, February 4, 2020 on 'Using chemical biology to identify new targets for medicinal chemistry'; co-organized with RSC BMCS.
- The Peptide Therapeutics Forum, Basel, August 17–18, 2020.
- EFMC International Symposium in Medicinal Chemistry, Basel, September 10–11, 2020.
- EFMC Young Medicinal Chemist Symposium, Basel, September 10–11, 2020
- 14th Swiss Course on Medicinal Chemistry, Leysin, October 4–9, 2020



Division of Polymers, Colloids & Interfaces DPCI

www.plycoll.ch / www.scg.ch/DPCI/

David Spichiger

CHIMIA column

The PCI Division published four Polymer & Colloid highlights in 2019.

Session at the SCS Fall Meeting

At the SCS Fall Meeting 2019 in Zurich, 11 oral and 33 poster presentation formed the PCI session. The invited lecture at the beginning of the morning session was given by Maria Laura Santarelli, University of Rome Sapienza M. P. Bracciale, Italy.

Changes in the Board

Prof. Christian Hinderling stepped down as president of the Division at the end of 2019. His successor will be nominated in Q1/2020.

Outlook 2020

- Polycoll meeting in spring/summer 2020.
- PhD Award 2020.
- DPCI Highlights in CHIMIA
- Fall Meeting Session in Bern, August 25, 2020

Division of Chemical Education DCE

www.scg.ch/DCE/

David Spichiger

ChemEdu, Zurich, September 6, 2019

Within the framework of the Fall Meeting of the Swiss Chemical Society, the Division of Chemical Education in cooperation with Christian Hinderling and Achim Ecker from the ZHAW Wädenswil organized a symposium for chemistry teachers teaching at different levels such as Sek I, Sek II, advanced technical colleges (FH) and universities. The major objective of this symposium was the dialogue between chemists working in education, research and industry and to gain insight of current topics, that might enrich future chemistry lessons and be transferred to the classrooms.

About 80 participants followed the invitation and listened to the five plenary lectures and participated in the workshops.

CHIMIA Column

Eight Chemical Education columns were published in CHIMIA

Swiss Women in Chemistry SWC

www.scg.ch/SWC/

Maud Reiter



A New Network

The creation of the new Swiss Women in Chemistry (SWC) network was announced in the June 2019 Chimia Issue. Under the umbrella of the Swiss Chemical Society, its aim is to facilitate networking and provide a supportive community for female chemists in Switzerland at all career stages. The founding members are:

- Rebecca Buller, Professor for Chemical and Biotechnological Methods, Systems and Processes, ZHAW;
- Rachel Hevey, Research Associate and Lecturer, University of Basel and
- Maud Reiter, Director of New Ingredients Discovery, Firmenich S.A.



SWC board members and speakers of the inauguration gala night

SWC Inauguration Gala Night, Basel, September 25, 2019

The Swiss Women in Chemistry (SWC) celebrated their inauguration with a gala night at the ILMAC conference in Basel in September 2019, with two short presentations by Dr Maria Inès Velazco, Consultant at MIV Senses and former SVP R&D, Firmenich and Dr. Leslie A. Fendt, Integrated Strategy Leader IBD at Roche, followed by a networking cocktail event.



More than 120 female scientists joined the launch of the new Swiss Women in Chemistry network in Basel.

SWC Mentor-Mentee Program

The first round of the SWC mentor-mentee matching platform was successfully launched in October 2019 across three regions: Zurich (contact person Rebecca Buller), Basel (contact person Rachel Hevey) and Romandy (contact person Maud Reiter). The mentors meet up with their mentees (Master, PhD students and postdoctoral researchers) on a monthly basis to provide support and advice on helping to guide them in achieving their career goals. An informal dinner to allow for a free exchange between all the program participants was held in November/December 2019 in all three locations.

Outlook 2020

- The SWC will organize a *Global IUPAC Women's breakfast* event in Switzerland at the University of Basel on February 12, 2020, as a follow-up of the success of the Women's breakfast organized for the IUPAC centenary.
- Together with Firmenich, the SWC is organizing a first corporate *Meet-And-Greet Event* on March 12, 2020. The event will present an opportunity for Swiss-based Master students, PhD students, and postdoctoral researchers to interact with female scientists employed at Firmenich. The event will feature two short presentations by Dr. Jezabel Praz (Trainee Perfumer) and Dr. Sarah Reisinger (VP Biotechnology and Process Science), followed by interactive workshops with perfumers and flavourists and a networking aperitif. We hope to organize two corporate meet-and-greet events per year in different locations across Switzerland.



- During the *Pre-Symposium of the 3rd Industrial Biocatalysis Symposium* (June 3–4, 2020), the Swiss Women in Chemistry will organize a dedicated session featuring presentations of selected female PhD students, post-docs and a senior industrial leader.
- The second round of the SWC Mentor-Mentee Matching Program will kick off in October 2020 with an informal dinner across the three regions.

Appendix Reports from Member Societies

Swiss Society for Food Chemistry

swissfoodchem.ch

Dr. Hans Jörg Bachmann, Secretary



Swiss Food Science Meeting 2019, Neuchâtel, June 26–27, 2019

The topic of the SFSM 2019 was ‘Process and Industrial Food Contaminants – Analytical Challenges and Risk Assessment’ (www.foodsciencemeeting.ch). We organized it together with the association of Swiss cantonal chemists and it took place at the University of Neuchâtel on June 26–27 with some 130 participants, 14 interesting lectures and 3 short poster presentation sessions. Experts from analytical laboratories and production plants presented their concepts of assessment and management of the risk for specific food contaminants. Overviews were given over EU legislation and other regulations of food contamination.

SFC General Assembly 2019

The General Assembly 2019 was held within the SFSM in Neuchâtel.

SFC Young Scientist Awards

The awards 2019 were granted to Annina Tännler and Kilian Müller for their master and bachelor thesis, respectively (swissfoodchem.ch/awards). With these prizes SFC wishes to honor two excellent masters’ or bachelors’ projects with a reward, including a free three-year membership to the SFC. The awardees also used the possibility to present their work to public, *i.e.* the participants of the SFSM 2019, in a short presentation.

Outlook 2020

- SFC is organizing a seminar ‘Pesticide residues: danger for health or analytical hype?’ on April 3, 2020 in Bern. It will offer a comprehensive and up-to-date overview on this current topic given by experienced experts in chemical analysis, in quality and safety control as well as in risk assessment and regulation processes.
- The 132nd General Assembly of the SFC will take place on April 3 before preceding the seminar mentioned above.
- The SFC Young Scientist Awards 2020 will be presented after the General Assembly on April 3. The deadline for application is February 29 (swissfoodchem.ch/awards).
- As another current topic microplastic will be the subject of a SFC seminar held on November 27 in Bern.

Number of Members

Members as per 31.12.2019: 250

Swiss Group for Mass Spectrometry SGMS

www.sgms.ch

Dr Bertran Rubi, President

VSN
SSPSN
ASISN

SGMS Annual Meeting, Beatenberg, October 24–25, 2019

The 37th annual meeting of the SGMS was held at Hotel Dorint, Beatenberg, 24-25 Oct 2019. A total of 129 participants enjoyed scientific stimulation meeting, excellent presentations and the chance to meet people from industry, academia and regulatory bodies.

Invited lectures were by:

- Vicki Wysocki (The Ohio State University)
- Dietrich Volmer (Humboldt University Berlin)
- Andrea Büttner (Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg)
- Valérie Gabelica (University of Bordeaux, France)

The meeting was preceded by the 2nd SGMS School on the fundamentals and applications of Ion Mobility. This was a huge success and attended by 50 participants. We have now had two years of successful school and will be organizing one in 2020 as well.

Board Members

Bertran Rubi (President), Jean-Luc Wolfender (Vice President), Matthias Herzog (Secretary), Laurent Bigler (Treasurer), Yury Tsybin (Education), Michael Affolter (SGMS meeting), Richard Knochenmuss (Member at Large), Elizabeth Janssen (Member at Large), Nadine Bohni (Member at Large)

Outlook 2020

- The 38th annual SGMS meeting and general assembly will take place at hotel Dorint, Beatenberg on October 29–30, 2020.
- The SGMS meeting will be preceded by the SGMS School, subject to be determined.

Number of Members

Members as per 31.12.2019: 136 (active)

Bern, January 2020