

Editorial



Prof. Christian G.
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As most of you already know, the SCS supports a very active award program, and the past year honoured a wide range of outstanding scientists at all career levels. The purpose of distributing awards is manifold. Its most visible aspect is of course to recognize a substantial achievement in a particular domain, and to associate a name and a face to a particular discovery. But it is also addressed to younger colleagues or students who see the awardee as a role model and to stimulate hard work, skill and creativity to be recognized one day in the future. Last, but not least, it helps the broader community to stay in touch with important developments in multiple fields, and, why not, to motivate new aspects of investigations in their own research or activity. In that perspective, it is very important for all of us to learn more about these discoveries, and it is the reason why CHIMIA is so enthusiastic in inviting as many awardees as possible to show their research in an article.

Thus, I am particularly pleased to welcome in this issue seven laureates of the 2021/2022 series of awards. Recipient of the **Werner Prize 2022**, Prof. Fabian von Rohr and his coworker invite us to a journey into the discovery of quantum materials. This award is given to an outstanding promising young researcher, under the age of 40. Dr. Pierdomenico Biasi and Dr. René Eckert and coworkers received the **Sandmeyer Award 2021** for outstanding work in industrial or applied chemistry, and detail how they developed their catalyst for a massively improved synthesis of ammonia. The **Senior Industrial Science Award 2021** was awarded to Dr. Andrew Edmunds, who exposes the discovery of Bicyclopurone, a potent herbicide acting by inhibiting hydroxyphenylpyruvate dioxygenase in plants. The **Industrial Science Award 2021** was given to Dr. Cornelia Zumbunn, who will take us into the history of topoisomerases. Focused on contribution in metrology in chemistry or biology, the **METAS Award 2021** was received by Dr. Kristýna Kantnerová for her work on the analysis of greenhouse gases. We will then discover the world of microfluidics, with the contribution of Prof. Andrew de Mello, recipient of the **Simon-Widmer Award 2021**, awarding outstanding work in analytical science. Finally, we will learn about improving the sustainability of biocatalytic processes with the article from Prof. Francesca Paradisi, who received the **Green&Sustainable Chemistry Award 2021**.

As you can see, the breadth of fields covered by some of the SCS awards is indeed very large, and all of us will definitely discover plenty of new science; a perfect menu for an excellent summer, that I wish you sunny, relaxing and fulfilling!

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