

# Conference Report

## STK Annual Meeting 2023

Nestlé Rive-Reine Conference Center  
Route de Saint-Maurice 54, CH-1814 La Tour-de-Peilz, Switzerland

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Fig. 1. Nestlé Rive-Reine conference center in La Tour-de-Peilz.

On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> of October 2023, the Swiss Society for Thermal Analysis and Calorimetry (Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Thermoanalytik und Kalorimetrie - STK) had the unique opportunity to hold its Annual Meeting at Rive-Reine, the private conference center of Nestlé, located in a superb manor built in 1851 just next to the Léman Lake (Fig. 1).

The first session, dedicated to 'Calorimetry for Food Sciences', started with **Michael Beyrer** (HES-SO Sion) with his Invited Talk on *Micro DSC combined with rheology for detecting functional properties of food proteins*, followed by **Damiano Rickenbach** (AKTS SA, Sierre). Later on, we had the honour to hand out the STK Award 2023 to **Alois Raemy**, for his lifelong achievements on *Temperature, heat and pressure in industrial food research* at Nestlé. The second session focused on 'Calorimetry for Life Sciences': **Michal Dabros** (HES-SO Fribourg) and **Fabien Bernardeau** (KEP Technologies, FRANCE) showed us how heat can be used to effectively monitor bioprocesses and study living organisms.



Fig. 2. Participants of the STK Annual Meeting 2023.

After the lunch break and the General Assembly of STK (Fig. 2), the 'Calorimetry for Materials Sciences' session was kicked off by **Nicolas Sbirrazzuoli** from University Côte d'Azur in Nice (FRANCE), with his thorough Invited Lecture on *Crystallization and polymerization of biobased polymers*, followed by an exciting Invited Talk on *Frontal polymerization for energy efficient processing of composite materials* by **Jeroen Staal** (EPFL). Finally, **Léa Kemper** (Givaudan SA, Geneva) and **Christophe Soares** (TA Instruments, FRANCE) concluded the symposium with considerations on thermal safety.

We invite scientists interested in **Thermal Analysis for Health & Safety** to participate in our **STK Annual Meeting 2024**, which will take place at **dsm-firmenich, Hauptstrasse 4, CH-4334 Sisseln** on **Wednesday September 18<sup>th</sup> 2024**. The Call for Abstracts (with Invited Speakers) will be published in June on our website ([www.stk-online.ch](http://www.stk-online.ch)), completely rebuilt in 2023 with the help of dedicated students from Junior Entreprise EPFL.

### Footnote:

It is with deep sadness that we learned of the death of Dr. Erwin Marti (born 1932), a former Ciba-Geigy scientist, co-founder of STK in 1975 and STK President for 20 years, who left us on October 20<sup>th</sup> 2023. We are grateful to him for his great contributions to our society, for his visionary and far-sighted nature, as well as his commitment and benevolent support throughout all these years. We will keep his memory worthy and strive to continue to run STK in his spirit.

