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Meet & Greet 2022: The Alfred Werner Scholars at the **Givaudan Innovation Campus in Kemptthal**

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Since 2013, the SCS Foundation grants excellent foreign students a stipend for their Master's studies in Chemistry or Biochemistry at a Swiss University. The aim of this program, supported by industry, is to bring young talent to Switzerland. To date, more than 80 stipends were granted for students from over 30 different countries.

The Host

In 2016, Meet & Greet started with a one-day visit of the scholars to Lonza in Visp.[1] Thereafter, the Werner Scholars were invited each year by one of the program sponsoring companies to visit their laboratories and to meet with researchers and company officials. In return, the scholars will greet their hosts by presenting themselves and their MSc research project. After the Meet & Greet at Syngenta,[2] Firmenich,[3] and Roche,[4] the pandemic caused a two-year stop of the program in its traditional format. Finally, on August 24, the current classes of Werner Scholars had the opportunity to visit the Givaudan Innovation Campus in Kemptthal. Earlier this year, we tried an online version of the event, e-Meet & Greet, hosted by Novartis (see report in this issue of CHIMIA)

Givaudan, a supporter of the Alfred Werner Program since its beginning, is one of the world's largest fragrance and flavor companies. It creates the key ingredients for some of the world's most desirable brands, and, on the other hand, you find its aromas and fragrancies in countless consumer products.

The Program

The visit started with short presentations of the fifteen scholars; one slide per visitor to greet his or her hosts. The visitors then got to meet Jeremy Compton, Global Head of S&T Fragrances,



Figure 1: A group of visitors at the Discovery presentation spot, discussing subtle differences in a perfume due to a newly developed fragrance ingredient

giving an overview about the Science and Technology (S&T) activities of the Fragrance & Beauty division, followed by a presentation on the research activities in the field of Taste & Wellbeing by Fabio Campanile, Global Head of S&T Taste & Wellbeing.

After the Lunch at the Sensibar (... watch the exact spelling, it may not read the way you just did!), the visitors were split up into four teams to rotate between four "presentation spots", some set-up inside the laboratory space (see Figure 1)



Figure 2: The team of visitors: Dieu Khanh An Nguyen, Krikor Eblighatian, Giorgi Meshvildishvili, Tomás Rodríguez (Geneva), Chiara Compagnoni, Grigglestone, Erik Jung (UZH), Andrii Suponytskyi, Marina Teixeira Chagas, Konstantin Weber (ETHZ), Seyed Mohamad Javad Chabok (EPFL), Uroš Stojiljković, Anamarija Nikoletić (Basel), and Liliana Galvez Vazquez (Bern)

The Visitors

The visitors (Figure 2) enjoyed an exceptional experience, or as Tomás Rodríguez put it in his thank-you note: "It was truly an amazing day and a great opportunity to learn about the not-so-wellknown area of flavors and fragrances. Personally, I have discovered a whole new field that accommodates chemists and biochemists equally, and where Givaudan plays a major role at the international level.'

Ch. Taeschler, Chimia, 2016, 70, A374 (???)

E. Godineau, Chimia 2018, 72, 75

Ch. Chapuis, Chimia, 2018/7-8, 72, 553

V. Herdtweck, H.P. Lüthi, Chimia, 2019, 73, A771

Web Links:

http://www.scs-foundation.ch www.givaudan.com







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Figure 3: The program supporting companies