

Editorial



Eva Hevia

We are excited to invite you to the Laureates Issue of CHIMIA, where the recipients of the best oral and poster presentation awards, at the Fall Meeting of the Swiss Chemical Society, present their award-winning research. The articles are written in a way that the non-specialist is able to enjoy them. Furthermore, the articles also showcase the breadth and depth of the vibrant research activities currently being undertaken in the chemistry departments of our universities. A large and diverse variety of topics is covered in this special issue spanning from organic mixed conductors to earth-abundant metal complexes for catalysis and small molecule activation; or from technologies such as electrocatalysis to flow chemistry, opening the door to innovation.



Hans Peter Lüthi

The 2023 Fall Meeting was hosted by the University of Bern. More than 400 young scientists presented their research as posters or as oral communications in nine thematic sessions. In this issue, fourteen laureates present their research. Next to the invitation to present their award-winning research in this issue of CHIMIA, the best poster and the best oral presenters in each parallel session, received 500 CHF in cash plus a 750 CHF travel-voucher to attend a scientific conference. Similar awards were also presented for the second ranked presenters.^[1]

Overall, close to 40'000 CHF was handed out to the laureates during the Award Ceremony, which deserves a great Thank You to the generous sponsors. For over a decade, Metrohm (oral communications) and dsm-firmenich (posters) have been sponsoring this unique award program.

A big Thank You also goes to the Award Juries! The large number of presentations, the intensity of the meeting, and the minimal time available to come to a decision, make the selection process an extremely challenging task. The attribute 'best' should not be taken literally, but it is absolutely correct to say that the presentations of the winners were of outstanding quality. The articles presented in this issue will convince you that this is indeed the case!

Prof. Eva Hevia (University of Bern) and Dr. Hans Peter Lüthi (SCS Foundation)

[1] For the 2023 Fall Meeting Award program and the complete list of winners see: <https://fm23.scg.ch/awards/best-presentation-awards>

The CHIMIA Editorial is very grateful to Prof. Eva Hevia and Dr. Hans Peter Lüthi for their great efforts in organizing this issue on *Laureates: Junior Prizes of the SCS Fall Meeting 2023* showcasing the excellent and broad levels of research that is presented at the SCS Fall Meeting

Cover page image: Swapping roles – A spin on microfluidic synthesis and characterization of single-atom heterogeneous catalysts.

The structure of graphitic carbon nitride supporting palladium single atoms is illustrated as the microfluidic channels hosting the droplets employed for their synthesis and *operando* analysis.

Image created by Thomas Moragues.