



Information

News – Honors – Workshops – Conferences – Lectures

NEWS

The global leader in the fragrance and flavours industry **Givaudan** has founded a joint venture with China's Zhejiang Xinhua Chemical, as part of a plan to produce some of its perfume ingredients in the People's Republic. Xinhua is both a manufacturer and trader of organic amines, aroma chemicals, hydrogen peroxide, ammonia and other large-scale products. Givaudan's CEO Gilles Andrier said transfers of certain products to Chinese plants "will be done progressively over the coming years alongside continued investment in the long-term competitiveness and continuous improvement of existing sites."

Researchers from the **University of East Anglia** in the UK have discovered four new ozone-depleting gases from as yet unidentified sources. Three of the gases are said to be chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), the fourth a hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC), which can also damage the ozone layer. "Our research has shown four gases that were not around in the atmosphere at all until the 1960s which suggests they are manmade," lead researcher Johannes Laube told BBC News. The research group estimates that around 74,000 t of these gases have been released into the atmosphere, and two of the gases are said to be accumulating at significant rates that it termed "very worrying." The East Anglia scientists discovered the gases by analyzing polar firn, a perennial snow pack – air extracted from this snow is regarded as a natural archive of what was in the atmosphere up to 100 years ago. They also looked at modern air samples collected at Tasmania's remote Cape Grim. Laube added that possible sources include feedstocks for insecticide products and solvents for cleaning electronic components. "What's more, the three CFCs are being destroyed very slowly in the atmosphere, so if emissions were to stop immediately, they will still be around for many decades to come."

In an open letter to European Commission president Jose Manuel Barroso, also published on the company's website, **Ineos** chairman Jim Ratcliffe said the region's chemical industry could go down the drain within ten years, taking six million direct and indirect jobs with it. Ratcliffe pointed to the textile industry, which in the 1980s largely decamped to low-cost Asia, as an example of what could happen to the European chemicals sector. The chemical industry is a "jewel in Europe's crown" that must be saved from extinction, he argued. In his view, a "toxic cocktail" of high energy costs, further burdened with "green" taxes, along with uncompetitive labor, are killing an industry with revenues of \$1 trillion a year. Yet, he said, "Europe seems rather agnostic" about the industry's fate. "Chemicals depend upon competitive energy and feedstock costs," Ratcliffe noted, adding that, "whilst intensely technical as an industry, and one of the reasons historically that Europe has been so successful, technology alone will not save it."

Making the pitch for exploitation of unconventional energy sources, the billionaire, who according to reports owns a majority of his company's capital, explained that gas prices in Europe are three times higher than in the U.S. and electricity costs 50% higher. "There are no cheap feedstocks in Europe." In the U.S., where \$71 billion worth of petrochemical expansions based on shale feedstock have been announced, and the numbers

are "predicted to grow to over \$100 billion," the new source of energy "has transformed both the country's competitiveness and its confidence," Ratcliffe continued. In contrast, he said, "Europe announces closure after closure. In the UK, we have seen 22 chemical plant closures since 2009 and no new builds." At the same time, the Ineos supreme chief warned that China "is building relentlessly" and soon will be self-sufficient.

CONFERENCES IN SWITZERLAND

01.05. – 31.10.2014

Bürgenstock Conference

04.05.2014–09.05.2014

Seehotel Waldstätterhof, Brunnen

The EUCHEM Conference on Stereochemistry, better known as 'Bürgenstock Conference', is an outstanding international chemistry meeting of high scientific quality, with an optimal setting for intense inter-disciplinary discussion.

<http://www.stereochemistry-buergenstock.ch/>

Swiss Nanoconvention 2014

21.05.2014–22.05.2014

FHNW Campus, Brugg

The Swiss Nanoconvention is the prime annual showcase for nanotechnology in Switzerland, bringing together experts from industry, universities, public research institutions and the media. If you are active in nanotechnology or interested in that field, participating in this event is a must for you.

<http://www.swissnanoconvention.ch/2014>

Kinetics and Thermodynamics in Drug Discovery

22.05.2014

Department of Chemistry, Big Lecture Hall, University of Basel
This year's annual mini-symposium organized by the Division of Medicinal Chemistry & Chemical Biology of the Swiss Chemical Society is dedicated to the topic of Kinetics and Thermodynamics in Drug Discovery.

<http://scg.ch/ktdd2014>

International Symposium on Synthetic Two-Dimensional Polymers

02.06.2014–03.06.2014

ETH Zürich, Hönggerberg Campus, HCI J 6, Zürich

The organizers of this international symposium are convinced of the enormous future impact that two-dimensional polymers and covalent molecular sheets will have. The symposium will bring together high-caliber international specialists from all fields (chemistry, physics, theory, materials, structure analytics) to discuss the burning questions, ranging from synthesis issues to structure analytics and from properties to expected societal impact.

<http://www.2dp.ethz.ch/>

Young Faculty Meeting 2014

05.06.2014

University of Bern, DCB, Auditorium EG 16, Bern

The «Young Faculty Meeting» was set up in order to promote scientific exchange and networking among young academics in chemistry in Switzerland.

Registration before 25 May 2014 by email (chemistry@scnat.ch)

<http://www.chemistry.scnat.ch/YFM>
27th International Symposium on Polymer Analysis and Characterization, ISPAC

16.06.2014–18.06.2014

Eurotel Vitoria, Les Diablerets

The mission of ISPAC is to provide an international forum for the presentation of cutting-edge technologies in the field of polymer analysis and characterization.

Annual Meeting of the Swiss Physical Society SPS

30.06.2014–02.07.2014

University of Fribourg, Building Pérolles 2, Fribourg

In 2014 the Swiss Institute of Particle Physics (CHIPP), the NCCR MUST, the Association MaNEP (emerged from the former NCCR MaNEP) and the Swiss Neutron Scattering Society will partake.

http://www.sps.ch/events/spg_jahrestagung_2014/
International Mass Spectrometry Conference (IMSC)

24.08.2014–29.08.2014

International Conference Centre in Geneva (CICG), Geneva

The IMSC is the largest international mass spectrometry conference, bringing together scientists covering all aspects of mass spectrometry and related fields, from fundamentals and instrumentation, to applications in such diverse areas as organic chemistry, isotope / elemental analysis, environmental science, and biology.

<http://www.imsc2014.ch>
SET2014 The 13th International Conference on Sustainable Energy Technologies

25.08.2014–28.08.2014

Geneva

SET 2014 is a multi-disciplinary international conference on the sustainable energy sources and technologies, and will provide a forum for the exchange of latest technical information, the dissemination of the high-quality research results on the issues, the presentation of the new developments in the area of sustainable energy, and the debate and shaping of future directions and priorities for better environment, sustainable development and energy security.

<http://www.hes-so.ch/set2014>
65th Annual Meeting of the International Society of Electrochemistry

31.08.2014–05.09.2014

Swiss Tech Convention Center (STCC), EPFL, Lausanne

The meeting will illustrate the central role played by electrochemistry in different fields ranging from analytical chemistry to solar cells, from corrosion to fuel cells, from transportation to DNA sequencing. Above all, electrochemistry is a fundamental science at the frontier between physics, chemistry and biology.

<http://annual65.ise-online.org>
BioTech 2014

04.09.2014–05.09.2014

Grüental Campus, Wädenswil

Interdisciplinary conference on bioprocess analytics and sensor

technology. The BioTech conference series has been successfully focusing on various topics in biotechnology for many years, bringing together scientists and professionals from both industry and academia.

<http://www.biotech2014.ch>
SCS Fall Meeting 2014

11.09.2014

University of Zurich, Institute of Chemistry, Zurich

The Fall Meeting represents a major event for chemical research in Switzerland, offering a unique opportunity for graduate students, post-doctoral fellows and senior scientists from academia and industry.

The call for abstracts is open until May 18, 2014

<http://www.scg.ch/fallmeeting>
ILMAC-Lounges 2014

23.09.2014–25.09.2014

MCH Messe Schweiz, Basel

Innovative and pioneering platform which joins the concept of a trade fair with the objectives of a lecture event: Exhibition, Product Shows, Action Platforms, Top-class Lectures, Social Events

<http://ilmac-lounges.ch>
11. Swiss Course on Medicinal Chemistry 2014

12.10.2014–17.10.2014

Mercure Classic Hotel, Leysin

This five-day Medicinal Chemistry School, that is organized by the Division of Medicinal Chemistry and Chemical Biology of the Swiss Chemical Society, will focus on most modern aspects associated with small molecule drug discovery, highlighting the relevance of hit generation, lead finding and lead optimization technologies.

<http://scg.ch/leysin2014>
LECTURES**Universität Basel, Pharmazeutische Wissenschaften**

Lecture Hall 1

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|-----------------------|--|
| 07.05.2014
17.00 h | <i>Dr. Alexander Titz, Helmholtz Institute for Pharmaceutical Research Saarland (HIPS), Saarbrücken, Germany</i>
'Chemical Biology of Carbohydrates: Lectin-mediated Fungal Defense and Medicinal Chemistry of Lectin-mediated Biofilm Formation' |
| 14.05.2014
17.00 h | <i>Dr. Amit S. Kalgutkar, WRD Cambridge, UK</i>
'Drug Metabolism Challenges for the Next Generation of Covalent Drugs Seminars on Drug Discovery and Development' |
| 28.05.2014
17.00 h | <i>Prof. Tetsuya Terasaki, Division of Membrane Transport and Drug Targeting, Tohoku University, Japan</i>
'Quantitative Targeted Absolute Proteomics as A New Tool for the Research of Transporters, Receptors and Channels' |

Universität Basel, Physikalische Chemie

Physikalische Chemie, Departement Chemie, Universität Basel,
Kleiner Hörsaal, Raum 4.04., 2. Stock

07.05.2014 16.30 h *Prof. Ursula Graf-Hausner, Zürcher Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften, Wädenswil*
'Tissue Engineering for Drug Delivery Development'

14.05.2014 16.30 h *Dr. Thomas Pino, Université Paris-Sud, France*
'Exploration of Polyaromatic Components in Space Thanks to Laboratory Experiments'

19.05.2014 10.45 h *Prof. Keiji Morokuma, Kyoto University, Japan*
'Exciting World of Theoretical Studies of Chemical Reactions – From Gas Phase Reactions to Catalysts, and Enzymatic Reactions'

21.05.2014 16.30 h *Prof. Keiji Morokuma, Kyoto University, Japan*
'Theoretical Studies of Complex Molecular Systems. Methods and Applications'

28.05.2014 16.30 h *Prof. Henrik Stapelfeldt, Aarhus University, Denmark*
'Laser Induced Control of the Spatial Orientation of Molecules: Applications in Physics and Chemistry'

Universität Bern, Anorganische, Analytische und Physikalische Chemie

Departement für Chemie und Biochemie, Universität Bern,
Hörsaal S481

08.05.2014 11.15 h *Prof. Mark MacLachlan, University of British Columbia, Canada*
'Supramolecular Chemistry with Schiff Base Macrocycles'

15.05.2014 11.15 h *Prof. Markus Reiher, Laboratorium für Physikalische Chemie, ETH Zürich*
'Experiencing Chemical Reactivity in Real-Time'

University of Fribourg

Main auditorium, Chemistry department

06.05.2014 17.15 h *Prof. Mark MacLachlan, University of British Columbia, Canada*
Title to be announced

20.05.2014 17.15 h *Prof. Keiji Morokuma, Emory University / Kyoto University*
Title to be announced

27.05.2014 17.15 h *Prof. Richard Glass, University of Arizona, USA*
Title to be announced

Université Genève, Chimie organique

Auditoire A-100

08.05.2014 16.30 h *Dr. Jean-François Lutz, Institut Charles Sadron, Université de Strasbourg, France*
'Development of Bioinspired Nanostructures for Therapeutic and Sensing Applications'

22.05.2014 16.30 h *Prof. Lutz H. Gade, Universität Heidelberg, Germany*
Title to be announced

EPFL, Institut des Sciences et Ingénierie Chimiques

EPFL BCH 2218 (batiment Chimie UNIL)

01.05.2014 17.15 h *Prof. Masahiro Murakami, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan*
'Reactions Set up in Sequence Open New, Save Lots'

12.05.2014 17.15 h *Prof. Shuli You, Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry, Shanghai, China*
'Transition-metal-catalyzed Asymmetric Allylic Dearomatization Reactions'

28.05.2014 17.15 h *Prof. Karl-Heinz Altmann, ETH Zürich*
'Total synthesis of macrocyclic natural products and their biological exploration'

ETH Zürich, Laboratorium für Organische Chemie

Hörsaal HCI J 3, ETH Hönggerberg

12.05.2014 16.00 h *Prof. Marcey Waters, Department of Chemistry, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, USA*
'Biomolecular Recognition: Lessons from Nature and Design'

Simon Behringer Lecture

19.05.2014 16.00 h *Prof. K. Peter C. Vollhardt, Department of Chemistry, University of California, Berkeley, USA*
'Saving the Planet: Toward a Sun-charged Thermal Molecular Battery'

ETH Zürich, Laboratorium für Physikalische Chemie

Hörsaal HCI J 3, ETH Hönggerberg

06.05.2014 16.45 h *Benjamin Simmen, Laboratorium für Physikalische Chemie, ETH Zürich*
'Pre-Born-Oppenheimer Theory with Explicitly Correlated Wave Functions'

13.05.2014 16.45 h *Prof. Lorenz Cederbaum, Theoretische Chemie, Universität Heidelberg, Germany*
'Interatomic Coulombic Decay and its exploration by short, intense and coherent light pulses'

Richard R. Ernst Lecture 2014

20.05.2014 16.00 h *Prof. Kamil Ugurbil, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, USA*
'Towards understanding the Human Brain: A marriage between Physics and Neuroscience'
ETH Zürich, Audimax, HG F 30,

The complete and updated lecture calendar is available on www.scg.ch.