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Chemistry

Platform of the Swiss Academy of Sciences

**2009 SCNAT Chemistry Travel Award**

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The «Platform Chemistry» of the Swiss Academy of Sciences (PFC-SCNAT) has received a large response of around 60 applications for its call for submissions for the «2009 SCNAT Chemistry Travel Award» for active participation of PhD students at international conferences. The Award Committee (Prof. Dr. E. Peter Kündig, University of Geneva; Prof. Dr. Karl Gademann, EPFL; Prof. Dr. Umberto Piantini, HES-SO Sion) was very impressed by the high scientific level of applications. The successful applicants were selected mainly based on scientific merit and in a second round based on additional criteria such as advancement of studies, past allocation of grants and distribution of research areas. The winners of the «2009 SCNAT Chemistry Travel Award» are:

**Jeanne BOLLIGER**

Dr. Christian M. Frech, University of Zurich  
‘Aminophosphine Based Pincer Complexes of Palladium as Highly Active Catalysts for the Heck Cross-Coupling Reaction’  
OMCOS 15, Glasgow GB

**Filippo DE SIMONE**

Prof Dr. Jérôme Waser, EPFL  
‘Acid-Catalyzed Formal Homo-Nazarov Cyclization’  
10th Tetrahedron Symposium, Paris F

**Barnali DUTTA**

Prof. Dr. Kay Severin, EPFL  
‘Changing the Chemical Behaviour of Ru Half-Sandwich Complexes with a Sterically Demanding Cyclopentadienyl Ligand’  
EuCOMC18, Göteborg SE

**Fabienne FURRER**

Prof. Dr. Jay S. Siegel, University of Zurich  
‘*p*-Dicyclobutabenzene Derivatives: Synthesis and Properties’  
ICIQ Summer School, Tarragona ES

**Monika GRUETTER**

Prof. Dr. Frédéric Merkt, ETHZ  
‘PFI-ZEKE Photoelectron Spectroscopic Study and Group Theoretical Analysis of the Rovibronic Structure of the Spin-orbit Split  $^2E$  Ground State of  $CH_3Cl^+$ ’  
ACS 238th National Meeting Division of Physical Chemistry, Washington DC

**Burçak IÇLI**

Prof. Dr. Kay Severin, EPFL  
‘Synthesis of Molecular Nanostructures by Multicomponent Condensation Reactions in a Ball Mill’  
ISMSC 2009, Maastricht NL

**Rameshwar KADAM**

Prof. Dr. Jean-Louis Reymond, University of Bern  
‘Virtual Fragment Based Lead Design Approach: Experimental and Informatics Challenges- Resolutions and Applications’  
FBLD 2009, York GB

**Jakub KAMINSKI**

Dr. Tomasz Wesolowski, University of Geneva  
‘Orbital-free Effective Embedding Potential at Nuclear Cusp’  
DFT2009, Lyon F

**Oksana KEL**

Prof. Dr. Eric Vauthey, University of Geneva  
‘Ultrafast Excited-State Dynamics of Lucifer Yellow-Biotin Derivatives in the Environment of Avidin and Streptavidin’  
15th International Congress of Photobiology (ICP 2009), Düsseldorf D

**Séverine LAVY**

Prof. Dr. E. Peter Kündig, University of Geneva  
‘New Applications of Arene Dearomatisation Reactions via  $Cr(CO)_3$  Complexes’  
ESOC 2009, Prague CZ

**Chen LI**

Prof. Dr. Thomas Wandlowski, University of Bern  
‘Gold Monatomic Contacts – An Electrochemical STM Study’  
Annual Meeting of the Intern. Society of Electrochemistry, Beijing China

**Luca MANTILLI**

Dr. Clément Mazet, University of Geneva  
 'Iridium-Catalyzed Asymmetric Isomerization  
 of Primary Allylic Alcohols'  
 OMCOS 15, Glasgow GB

**Oleg VECHORKIN**

Prof. Dr. Xile Hu, EPFL  
 'Ni-catalyzed Kumada-Corriu-Tamao Coupling  
 of Alkyl Grignard Reagents with Functionalized  
 Alkyl Halides'  
 EuCOMC18, Göteborg, SE

**Natalia NAGORNOVA**

Dr. Oleg Boyarkine, EPFL  
 'Gas-phase IR/UV Spectroscopy of Protonated  
 Antibiotic Gramicidin S.'  
 ECSBM 2009, Palermo I

**Chandra VOLLA**

Prof. Dr. Pierre Vogel, EPFL  
 'Iron-Catalyzed Mizoroki-Heck Cross-Coupling  
 reaction with Styrenes and Oxidative Coupling  
 of Tertiary Amines with Terminal Alkynes'  
 ESOC 2009, Prague CZ

**Tatiana PIMENOVA**

Prof. Dr. Renato Zenobi, ETHZ  
 'Quantification of Oxidative Modification in  
 Hemoglobin Using iTRAQ/Isobaric Tags and  
 Tandem Mass Spectrometry'  
 57th ASMS Conference on Mass Spectrometry  
 and Allied Topics, Philadelphia PA

**Jean-Yves WACH**

Prof. Dr. Karl Gademann, EPFL  
 'Towards the Total Synthesis of Sporolides A  
 and B'  
 10th Tetrahedron Symposium, Paris F

**Silvia ROCHA**

Prof. Dr. Nathaniel Finney, University of Zurich  
 'Synthesis and Photophysical Characterization  
 of Alternating Thiophene-Pyridine Oligomers'  
 13th Intern. Symposium on Novel Aromatic  
 Compounds, Luxembourg LU

**Markus WAELLE**

Prof. Dr. Detlef Günther, ETHZ  
 'Non-matrix Matched Quantification of Doped  
 and Pure Magnesium Diboride by UV Nano-  
 and Femtosecond LA-ICP-MS'  
 Colloquium Spectroscopicum Internationale  
 (CSI), Budapest HU

**Tobias SEISER**

Dr. Nicolai Cramer, ETHZ  
 'Enantioselective Rhodium Catalyzed C-C  
 Bond Activations'  
 OMCOS 15, Glasgow GB

**Kumaran SOWMINI**

Prof. Dr. Oliver Zerbe, University of Zurich  
 'Expression and NMR Structural Studies of  
 Double Transmembrane Domains of the Y4  
 Receptor, a Human GPCR'  
 Protein Science Summer School 2009, Spetses GR

Additional information about the «Platform Chemistry» and  
 its activities may be found at [www.chemistry.scnat.ch](http://www.chemistry.scnat.ch)