

Editorial

Switzerland has an extremely strong chemical industry, home to some of the world's top companies in all key areas, petrochemicals, pharmaceuticals, agrochemicals and analytics to name just a few. This industry is supported by outstanding teaching and research in the chemical sciences and engineering at Swiss Universities including the Universities of Applied Sciences. Based on Web of Science citation data for the last 10 years EPFL and ETHZ are ranked one and two in Europe, with Cambridge in third place, separated by a whisker, and other Swiss universities also perform very strongly. This demonstrates academic excellence and high impact research, which is also supported by other impressive parameters related to patents and start-ups.

Key to the success of Swiss university chemistry departments is the ability to conduct both fundamental and applied research and to attract substantial research funds and the best researchers from outside the country. In this issue of CHIMIA we are proud to present some of the new faculty recently hired in Swiss universities. The nine articles highlight the range and breadth of chemical research in Switzerland and the creativity and ingenuity of the new professors. We hope you will join us in welcoming our new colleagues and wishing them great success in their teaching and research activities over the coming years.



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The cover image shows an artist's rendition of some of the research focus areas in the Laboratory of NanoBiotechnology (LNB). The image highlights the interplay of single-walled carbon nanotubes and biological macromolecules, such as DNA and proteins. Artist: Shang-Jung Wu.