

Editorial



Hans Peter Lüthi

In this issue of CHIMIA, the laureates of the 2016 Fall Meeting of the Swiss Chemical Society present their award-winning research. The idea behind the Laureates Issue is that it renders a platform for these young authors to present their research for a broader, non-specialist audience of chemists. In most cases, the original research has been, or will be published in specialized journals.

First introduced in 2002,^[1] the ‘best poster’ and ‘best oral presentation’ award programs have become one of key elements of the Fall Meeting. The Award Ceremony is the last item on the agenda of an intense day, and still, when the winners are called on stage to claim their prize, almost everyone is present. The awards are sponsored by Metrohm (oral presentations) and by DSM Nutrition (posters). Their generous contribution makes this ‘grand finale’ of the Fall Meeting possible.

The first prizewinners in the best poster and the best oral presentation categories of each parallel session, in addition to 500 CHF cash and a 750 CHF travel award, receive an invitation to contribute to this issue of CHIMIA. There are similar awards for the second ranked in both categories.^[2]

The number of prizes awarded also reflects the size and popularity of the Fall Meeting. In 2002, eighteen prizes were available for the 300 presenters. In 2016, the program covered nearly 600 scientific contributions, and as many as 39 prizes were awarded to the best posters and oral contributions presented in the eight parallel thematic sessions.^[2]

In this issue of CHIMIA, 16 laureates present their award-winning research. Even though these are invited articles, they are reviewed for scientific content and quality of the presentation. This year, for the first time, there is a picture of the author(s) along with their short CV. It is interesting to see what background they have and how their still young career is evolving.

I would like to thank the authors of the articles for their excellent contributions. I also thank the Jury for their effort to select the award-winning presentations. For the poster presentations this is certainly not an easy task: there is only limited time available, and the number of posters to be viewed is large. The attribute ‘best’ therefore cannot always be taken literally, but it is fair to say that the research of the winners is of excellent quality.

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[1] A. Merbach, *Chimia* 2002, 57, 146.

[2] For the 2016 Fall Meeting Award program and the complete list of winners see: www.scg.ch/fallmeeting/2016, section ‘Awards’.