



## 2024 Chemistry Travel Awards by SCNAT and SCS

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The Platform Chemistry of the Swiss Academy of Sciences (SCNAT) and the Swiss Chemical Society (SCS) are pleased to announce the selection of 44 winners for the Chemistry Travel Award 2024. The Chemistry Travel Award aims to provide financial support to exceptional PhD students in all fields of chemistry, enabling them to actively engage in an international conference. The rigorous selection process involved a committee comprising four distinguished chemists representing various subdisciplines of chemistry: Prof. Dr. Pablo Rivera Fuentes (SCS, University of Zurich), Dr. Alain de Mesmaeker (SCS), Prof. Dr. Sandra Luber (SCNAT, University of Zurich), and Prof. Dr. Laura Nyström (SCNAT, ETH Zurich). Each jury member meticulously reviewed and evaluated all submitted applications (excluding those with a conflict of interest). On behalf of SCNAT and SCS, we extend our thanks to the jury for their extensive work and our heartfelt congratulations go out to this year's awardees. We wish them inspiring and successful conferences.



### Jean Behaghel de Bueren, EPFL

Advisor: Jeremy Luterbacher

Conference: GRC Lignin

Contribution: Valorization of oxygenated lignin monomers obtained *via* aldehyde-assisted fractionation into high value applications



### Luc Bondaz, EPFL

Advisor: Kumar Varoon Agrawal

Conference: AICHE

Contribution: A multi-disciplinary approach for incorporating gated angstrom-scale pores into single layer graphene for gas separation: from atomic simulation to large-scale membranes



### Etienne Bonvin, UniBe

Advisor: Jean-Louis Reymond

Conference: ICAP 2024

Contribution: Peptoid macrocycles inspired from polymyxin B2



### Petru Albertini, EPFL

Advisor: Raffaella Buonsanti

Conference: GRC Catalysis

Contribution: Hybrid oxide coatings generate stable Cu catalysts for CO<sub>2</sub> electroreduction



### Claire Bourmaud, EPFL

Advisor: Jeremy Luterbacher

Conference: GRC Lignin

Contribution: Exploring structure-reactivity relationships in lignin depolymerization through integrated coupled graph modeling and kinetic monte carlo simulation



### Willi Marco Amberg, ETHZ

Advisor: Erick Moran Carreira

Conference: ISHC 2024

Contribution: Photo- and cobalt-catalyzed synthesis of heterocycles *via* cycloisomerization of unactivated olefins



### Héloïse Bürgisser, UZH

Advisor: Nina Hartrampf

Conference: CPS 2024

Contribution: Chemical synthesis of MYC's transactivation domain enabled by a synthesis tag

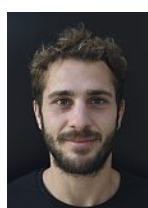


### Maryam Asadikorayem, ETHZ

Advisor: Marcy Zenobi-Wong

Conference: TERMIS World

Contribution: Cartilage-penetrating and lubricating zwitterionic sealant for early-stage osteoarthritis treatment



### Nicola Carrara, EPFL

Advisor: Harm-Anton Klok

Conference: GRC Impactful Nano-Applications for Sustainable Food Production

Contribution: Stimuli-responsive nanofertilizer for a sustainable agriculture



### Julian Baumgärtner, ETHZ

Advisor: Maksym Kovalenko

Conference: PRiME 2024

Contribution: Unlocking stable cycling performance in iron fluoride cathodes with pyrochlore structure



### Diana Cavalli, EPFL

Advisor: Jérôme Waser

Conference: GRC Organic Reactions and Processes

Contribution: Ethynylbenziodoxolones and cesium oxalates under blue light: from deoxyalkynylation to lactonization



**Dongping Chen**, UniBas  
 Advisor: Thomas Ward  
 Conference: GRC Biocatalysis  
 Contribution: A dual anchoring strategy for the directed evolution of improved artificial transfer hydrogenases based on carbonic anhydrase



**Bastiaan Kooij**, EPFL  
 Advisor: Kay Severin  
 Conference: ICCS 2024  
 Contribution: Reactivity of diazoolefins



**Millicent Dockerill**, UniGe  
 Advisor: Nicolas Winssinger  
 Conference: EPS 2024  
 Contribution: Development of supramolecular anticoagulants with on-demand reversibility



**Henry Lindner**, ETHZ  
 Advisor: Erick Carreira  
 Conference: PHOTOIUPAC 2024  
 Contribution: Photochemical iron-mediated anti-markovnikov hydroazidation of unactivated olefins



**Maxime Hedou**, EPFL/HEIA-FR  
 Advisor: Jeremy Luterbacher  
 Conference: IUPAC Macro 2024  
 Contribution: Designing inherently degradable epoxy resins around a carbohydrate core



**Xingyu Liu**, EPFL  
 Advisor: Jérôme Waser  
 Conference: CPS 2024  
 Contribution: Peptide hypervalent iodine conjugates: enabling peptide functionalization and macrocyclization



**Isabelle Holzer**, UniBe  
 Advisor: Natalie Banerji  
 Conference: GRC Electronic Processes in Organic Materials  
 Contribution: Enhancement of charge transport properties using in-plane oriented organic semiconductors



**Tin Nguyen**, EPFL  
 Advisor: Jérôme Waser  
 Conference: GRC Organic Reactions and Processes  
 Contribution: Photocatalysed homolysis of bond in carbonyl cyclopropanes. From mechanistic study to synthetic application



**Xueqian Hu**, UniFr  
 Advisor: Christoph Weder  
 Conference: SCINT 2024  
 Contribution: Sensitized triplet-triplet annihilation in nanostructured polymeric scintillators allows for pulse shape discrimination



**Sven Papidocha**, ETHZ  
 Advisor: Erick Carreira  
 Conference: ACS Fall 2024  
 Contribution: Enantiospecific construction of vicinal quaternary centers *via* ruthenium-catalyzed coupling of lithium ester enolates



**Krittapas Jantarug**, UZH  
 Advisor: Pablo Rivera Fuentes  
 Conference: GRC Bioorganic Chemistry  
 Contribution: A far-red fluorescent probe to visualize gram-positive bacteria in patient samples



**Subrata Patra**, UniBe  
 Advisor: Dmitry Katayev  
 Conference: GRC Organic Reactions and Processes  
 Contribution: Iron-mediated electron-catalyzed nitration of unsaturated hydrocarbons in solution and solid-state



**Daniel Kaech**, ETHZ  
 Advisor: Máté Bezdek  
 Conference: ISNA 2024  
 Contribution: Bipolar redox chemistry of functionalized terthiophenes



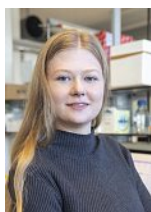
**Maria Reichenbach**, UZH  
 Advisor: Roland Sigel  
 Conference: RNA 2024  
 Contribution: Elucidation of the switching ability of the moaA riboswitch with sulfido Mo-MPT by comparing in-line probing and SHAPE methodologies



**Kevin Kleemann**, ETHZ  
 Advisor: Michael Sander  
 Conference: ACS Spring 2025  
 Contribution: Water-soluble and water-dispersible polymers in commercial agricultural formulations: inventory of used polymers and perspective on their fate in soils



**Daniel Richter**, ETHZ  
 Advisor: Jörn Piel  
 Conference: RiPPs 2024  
 Contribution: Interaction-guided discovery of ribosomally synthesized natural products through structure predictions



**Verena Rukes**, EPFL  
Advisor: Chan Cao  
Conference: From Solid State to Biophysics XI  
Contribution: Label free identification of full-length proteins and protein modifications using a nanopore



**Kateryna Tolmachova**, ETHZ  
Advisor: Jeffrey W. Bode  
Conference: CPS 2024  
Contribution: Installation of electrophiles onto the C-terminus of recombinant ubiquitin and ubiquitin-like proteins



**Kevin Schiefelbein**, UZH  
Advisor: Nina Hartrampf  
Conference: EPS 2024  
Contribution: Exploring the chemical space of lasso peptides using enzymatic transformation of chemically synthesized precursors



**Ajmal Roshan Unniram Parambil**, UniBas  
Advisor: Jonathan De Roo  
Conference: ICC 2024  
Contribution: Atomically precise surface chemistry of zirconium and hafnium metal oxo clusters beyond carboxylate ligands



**Hendrik Schmitt**, ETHZ  
Advisor: Bill Morandi  
Conference: BOSS XVIII  
Contribution: Regiodivergent ring expansion of oxindoles to quinolinones



**Meenu Upadhyay**, UniBas  
Advisor: Markus Meuwly  
Conference: SCAPAPS 2024  
Contribution: Atmospheric decomposition reactions and molecule formation on amorphous solid water



**Vladyslav Smyrnov**, EPFL  
Advisor: Jérôme Waser  
Conference: GRC Organic Reactions and Processes  
Contribution: Photocatalytic decarboxylative functionalization of cyclopropenes *via* cyclopropenium cation intermediates



**Luca Vedani**, UniBe  
Advisor: Eva Hevia  
Conference: ICC 2024  
Contribution: Exploiting coordination effects in nickelate complexes for cross-coupling challenging electrophiles



**Annina Stuber**, ETHZ  
Advisor: Nako Nakatsuka  
Conference: GRC Bioanalytical Sensors  
Contribution: Aptamer-based small-molecule detection on lateral flow platforms



**Johannes von Szczepanski**, ETHZ  
Advisor: Dorina Opris  
Conference: IUPAC Macro 2024  
Contribution: High-permittivity silicone elastomers for soft actuators and stretchable electronics



**Ivan Surin**, ETHZ  
Advisor: Javier Pérez-Ramírez  
Conference: ICC 2024  
Contribution: Lattice-stabilized single chromium atoms on ceria for nitrous oxide synthesis *via* ammonia oxidation



**Hyun Suk Wang**, ETHZ  
Advisor: Athina Anastasaki  
Conference: IUPAC Macro 2024  
Contribution: Controlled depolymerization of RAFT polymethacrylates



**Sarah Teworte**, UniBe  
Advisor: Paola Luciani  
Conference: CRS 2024  
Contribution: Vaginal administration of mucoadhesive 3D printed ovules for endometriosis treatment: drug repurposing and biorelevant assay development



**Joël Wellauer**, UniBas  
Advisor: Oliver Wenger  
Conference: PHOTOIUPAC 2024  
Contribution: Iron(III) carbene complexes show long-lived LMCT luminescence due to a reservoir effect



**Georg Tiebel**, ETHZ  
Advisor: Patrick Steinegger  
Conference: NRC 10  
Contribution: Evaluation of the ion funnel-to-IVAC system for the rapid chemical characterization of superheavy elements



**Jennifer Wilson**, ETHZ  
Advisor: Patrick Steinegger  
Conference: NRC 10  
Contribution: Online and offline gas-phase adsorption chromatography with TI for future Nh experiments



**Lito Zambounis**, ETHZ

Advisor: Cornelia Halin

Conference: GRC Chemotactic Cytokines

Contribution: Imaging dendritic cell migration into lymphatics in human skin

Further details on the activities organized by the Platform Chemistry at SCNAT can be found under [chem.scnat.ch](https://chem.scnat.ch). If you are not amongst this year's winners: make sure you don't miss out on the opportunity to participate in the 2025 Chemistry Travel Awards. The announcement will appear early 2025 on [chem.scnat.ch/travel\\_award](https://chem.scnat.ch/travel_award) and in *CHIMIA*.

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