

Conference Report

Basel Chemistry Christmas Symposium 2015

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After two very successful chemistry symposia held in 2013 and 2014, graduate students from the University of Basel continued this new tradition and held a symposium at the end of the year on Friday, 4th December 2015. The main topic was dedicated to the UNESCO main theme of 2015: light.

The PhD Chemistry Community (PCC)

The PCC consists of graduate students and researchers in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Basel. They aim to enhance collaboration and promote community spirit, by organizing social and academic events across the department, such as symposia and research seminars.



The organizing committee (from left, Serena Rigo, Andrea Pannwitz, Linda Bannwart, Lorenzo Bizzini, Sabine Malzkuhn, Thomas Müntener, not on the picture: Charlotte Laupheimer).

The Basel Chemistry Christmas Symposium

As a great finale to the year 2015, the audience at the University Basel was enlightened by four invited speakers. The two talk sessions were chaired by Andrea Pannwitz and Thomas Müntener. During the coffee break the poster session was held.

Prof. Dr. **Thorsten Bach** (TU Munich) gave insight into enantioselective photocycloaddition reactions templated and catalyzed by suitable sensitizers.

Prof. Dr. **Eric Meggers** (Philipps-University Marburg) presented details about his research in metal-templated chiral and asymmetric photoredox catalysis.

As spontaneous guest speaker Prof. Dr. **Bernd Giese** (University of Fribourg) provided insight into long-range electron transfer in natural systems.

The talk of Prof. Dr. **Guido Clever** (TU Dortmund) was focused on supramolecular cages that can be controlled through anion uptake and conformationally switched by light.

Poster Session and Poster Prizes

During the coffee break, the posters were presented and in lively discussions academic content was exchanged. The best posters were elected by the audience of the symposium in the categories organic chemistry (OC), inorganic chemistry (IC) and physical chemistry (PC). The prizes were awarded as follows: **Laëtitia Misson** (F. P. Seebeck group, OC), **Andrea Pannwitz** (O. S. Wenger group, PC) and **Michael Skaisgirski** (O. S. Wenger group, IC).

After the last talk, mulled wine was served during an apéro to set the mood for the following Christmas dinner which was accompanied by fruitful discussions.

The organizing committee would like to thank the Department of Chemistry at the University of Basel for financial support, all poster authors for their scientific contribution and the speakers for their enlightening presentations.

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Invited speakers: (from left) Thorsten Bach, Eric Meggers, Guido Clever, and Bernd Giese and the poster prize winners (from left): Laëtitia Misson, Andrea Pannwitz, and Michael Skaisgirski.