

# Editorial



The recruitment of young talent to Swiss University Departments of Chemistry heralds a new dawn in scientific excellence in Switzerland. The last issue of CHIMIA that was dedicated to 'News from New Chemistry Professors in Switzerland' was published in September 2020. Two years later, I decided to extend the invitation to include Ambizione Fellows. Naturally, this resulted in a significant pool of young faculty and, therefore, their contributions will be spread over two issues of CHIMIA – the present issue and one planned for June 2024. It is disappointing that the pressures on early career scientists resulted in a lower than anticipated uptake for contributions. Although invitations were broad and inclusive, this is not reflected in the geographical and gender balance of the present issue.

The range of topics covered in this issue reflects the diversity of research interests exhibited by our young colleagues. **Michal Shoshan** focuses on developing new candidates for chelation therapy and removal of toxic metals from the environment, and in her article, Michal describes progress in the use of short peptides for chelation therapy. The research field of **Michel Rickhaus** lies with polyaromatic species and supramolecular assemblies, but his contribution to CHIMIA goes beyond a summary of his research; in a tutorial essay, Michel reflects on how to design the most appealing figures to tell a scientific story in a research article. **Ulrich Lorenz** and coauthors give a fascinating account of the application of time-resolved cryo-electron microscopy for investigating nanoscale dynamic processes, in particular protein dynamics. Highlights from the work of **Peter Stacko** and his group are provided in an overview of heptamethine cyanine dyes, the photophysical and photochemical properties of which can be tuned to afford a range of different applications. The research program of **Edith Joseph** exploits green technologies for conservation of aspects of our cultural heritage, and in their contribution to CHIMIA, Edith and her coworkers provide insight into the preservation of waterlogged archeological wood from marine and lake environments. Organic and transition metal chemistries are at the heart of research efforts in the group of **Ilija Čorić**, and the contribution from Ilija and his collaborator, Jyoti Dhankhar, describes mild and selective C–H bond activation reactions, emphasizing the replacement of C–H bonds by C–aryl groups. Finally in this issue, we are brought up to date with the work of **Jovana Milić** who describes progress in the field of hybrid materials for applications in photovoltaics.

I am confident that the readership of CHIMIA will enjoy the news from this selection of our young chemistry colleagues in Switzerland.

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Editor-in-Chief, CHIMIA