

The **European Federation for Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC)** is an independent association founded in 1970 that represents 25 scientific organisations from 23 European countries. Its objective is to advance the science of medicinal chemistry by promoting cooperation and encouraging strong links between the national adhering organisations in order to deepen contacts and exchanges between medicinal chemists in Europe and around the World. Moreover, it offers medicinal chemists the opportunity to present their work internationally by organising the biennial EFMC International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ISMC). These symposia, with an average attendance of more than 1.200 delegates, are highly international with a broad range of speakers and attendees from the pharmaceutical industry and academia. Furthermore, in collaboration with the Royal Society of Chemistry, EFMC is publishing *MedChemComm*, the official journal of EFMC. *MedChemComm* is a peer reviewed journal publishing concise articles and reviews covering medicinal chemistry research.

The EFMC pursues its activities via flexible working groups, who cover strategic themes, themes for exploration, and operational tasks. An Advisory Board, composed of internationally highly recognized opinion leaders in the field of medicinal chemistry, assists in strategic planning and ensures a dynamic and vibrant advancement of EFMC. The EFMC has very strong links with the Medicinal Chemistry Division of the American Chemical Society. Through this collaboration the ACS convenes sessions for the biennial EFMC-ISMC Symposia, and conversely the EFMC convenes sessions for ACS National meetings. In addition, the two societies regularly exchange observers at their committee meetings. Furthermore, the EFMC has an ex officio representative on the Editorial Advisory Board of the *Journal of Medicinal Chemistry*. EFMC also has strong links with the European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences (EuCheMS) and with

the European Federation for Pharmaceutical Sciences (EUFEPS). Furthermore, EFMC with the support of ChemBridge Corporation has been organising since 2004 the successful series of the International Symposium on Advances in Synthetic and Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ASMC). In addition, the EFMC also collaborates with the Asian Federation of Medicinal Chemistry by participating in meetings organised by the AFMC and vice versa, giving the EFMC a broad international footprint.

An important part of the EFMC activities is sponsorship of national scientific meetings and Medicinal Chemistry Schools. Supported by Bentham, it also awards bursaries for younger scientists to attend EFMC-ISMC Symposia. The EFMC also acknowledges the excellence of medicinal chemists' work, by conferring three major awards: the Nauta Award on Pharmacochimistry, the UCB-Ehrlich Award for Excellence in Medicinal Chemistry and the Prous Institute-Overton and Meyer Award for New Technologies in Drug Discovery, which are given every two years for outstanding achievements in the field of Medicinal Chemistry. From 2010 on, EFMC established two new prizes to acknowledge the scientific accomplishments of young medicinal chemists, both in industry and academia.

The EFMC homepage is now hot-wired to the websites of many national organisations, thus facilitating the flow of information. The monthly newflashes as well as the yearbook "Medicinal Chemistry in Europe" help to further develop cooperation between member organisations as well as their industrial partners and therefore advance medicinal chemistry in Europe, and by extension, around the globe. EFMC is also active on social media. To stay updated on EFMC activities, join the EFMC group on LinkedIn or follow us on Twitter @EuroMedChem.