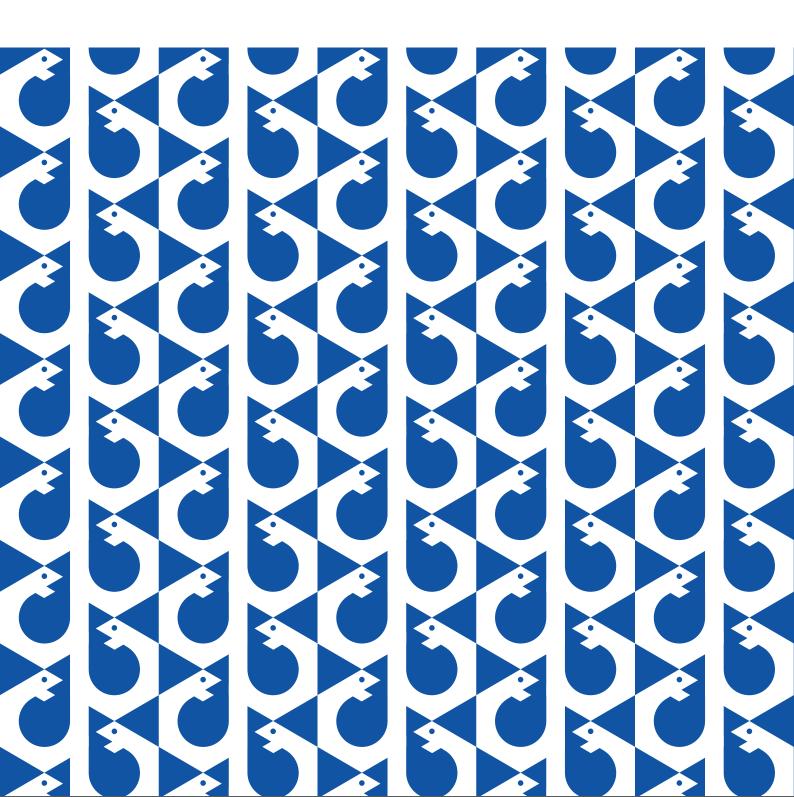


2023 Medicinal Chemistry and Chemical Biology in Europe





SESSIONS AND SESSION COORDINATORS

CHEMICAL IMMUNOLOGY & CHECKPOINT INHIBITORS

Dr Sascha HOOGENDOORN (University of Geneva, CH)

CHEMICAL PROTEOMICS IN DRUG DISCOVERY Dr Sebastian ESSIG (Bayer, DE)

CHEMICALLY INDUCED PROXIMITY
Prof. Gonçalo BERNARDES (University of Cambridge, UK)

COMPUTATIONAL CHEMICAL BIOLOGY (LS-EUCHEMS SESSION)
Dr Sonsoles MARTIN SANTAMARIA (CIB-CSIC, ES)

NEW UNDERSTANDING OF POST-TRANSLATIONAL MODIFICATIONS
Prof. Christian A. OLSEN (University of Copenhagen, DK)

PROTEIN CONFORMATIONS: BEYOND THE GROUND STATE Dr Wolfgang JAHNKE (Novartis, CH)

TARGET ENGAGEMENT AND MECHANISM OF ACTION DETERMINATION Dr Andrew ZHANG (AstraZeneca, US)

TARGETING METABOLISM (ICBS SESSION)

Prof. Zaneta NIKOLOVSKA-COLESKA (University of Michigan, US)

CONFIRMED KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Prof. Thomas CARELL (Ludwig-Maximilians-University, DE) **Dr John TALLARICO** (Novartis Institutes for Biomedical Research, US) **Prof. Claudia HÖBARTNER** (University of Würzburg, DE)

ORAL COMMUNICATION, FREE POSTER & EARLY-BIRD REGISTRATION May 25, 2023

POSTER SUBMISSION (FEE OF 50,00€) May 25, 2023 - September 20, 2023

International Organising Committee

CHAIRS

Dr Yves P. AUBERSON (Novartis, CH)

Prof. Maja KOEHN (University of Freiburg, DE)

MEMBERS

Prof. Yimon AYE (EPFL, CH)

Prof. Dennis GILLINGHAM (University of Basel, CH)

Prof. Gianluca SBARDELLA (University of Salerno, IT)

EFMC-ISCB 2023 Secretariat

LD ORGANISATION SRL

Scientific Conference Producers

Rue Michel de Ghelderode 33/2 1348 Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium Tel: +32 10 45 47 77 Fax: +32 10 45 97 19

Mail: secretariat@ldorganisation.com Web: www.efmc-iscb.org

Deadlines





Content

Editorial	2
Corporate Members	5
Council	6
Executive Committee	8
Advisory Board	8
Influencing EU-Policy	9
Chemical Biology Initiative	10
Best Practices	11
EFMC ²	12
EFMC Young Scientists Network	14
MedChemBioWatch	16
EFMC-ISMC 2022 – Report	17
EFMC Short Course 2022 - Report	18
EFMC Honorary Fellows 2022 - Ceremony	20
EFMC Awards 2022 - Ceremony	22
EFMC Prizes 2022	24
EFMC-YMCS 2022 - Report	26
EFMC Photo Competition 2022	28
National Adhering Organisations	29





Editorial

Dear colleagues,

In 2023 I will be entering the third and final year of my EFMC presidency. Time flies and the work is not yet finished, but I am convinced that with the help and enthusiasm of many collaborators, past and new, we will continue to build the success story of our Federation. As you will read below, a lot happened in 2022. We launched many new initiatives and reinforced established projects and events, for the greater goal of creating a stronger community.

Before moving on, I would like to take the opportunity to welcome **Beatriz De Pascual Teresa** as new EFMC Treasurer, as well as Mathilda Bingham and Martin Missbach as new members of the EFMC Executive Committee (EC). I am very much looking forward to working with them and the other EC members in the upcoming year: Luc Van Hijfte (President-Elect), Gianluca Sbardella (Secretary) and Christa Müller (Member). I want to thank Yves P. Auberson, Anders Karlén and Antoni Torrens, now leaving the EC, for their long-lasting commitment and extraordinary contribution to EFMC. I also want to express my sincerest gratitude to **Henk Timmerman** for his decades' long commitment to our Federation, and recent years as advisor of the Executive Committee. Finally, I want to congratulate Chiara Borsari for her election as chair of the EFMC Young Scientists Network (YSN). Walking in the steps of **Kristina** Goncharenko, I am certain that the YSN will continue achieving many great things under her guidance.

My thank you also goes to Maria Emilia Sousa (Portugal), Gabriele Costantino (Italy), Georg Jaeschke (Switzerland) and Sébastien Papot (France) for their years-long contribution to the EFMC Council and I'm pleased to welcome their successors, Amparo Faustino, Maria-Laura Bolognesi, Antonia Stepan and Rebecca Deprez -Poulain, respectively. I extend a warm welcome to Isabel Rozas, the representative of the Medicinal and Biological Chemistry Division of the Institute of Chemistry of Ireland, who recently joined our Federation as Adhering Organisation.

Let's now have an overview of the most important events of 2022 and the activities planned by our Federation for 2023.

GOING OUT OF THE WORLD PANDEMIC

As the world cautiously started to recover from the global pandemic, the EFMC welcomed the return to presential events, and to be able to host its events planned for the year.

The EFMC Short Course on New Opportunities in GPCR Drug Discovery finally took place on May 8-11. The participants were able to meet at the historical venue of Castle Oud Poelgeest, near Leiden for a 3-day intensive course with renowned experts in the field. The XXVII EFMC International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ISMC 2022) took place on September 4-8 in Nice, France and gathered one thousand participants who listened to an extraordinary programme composed by our colleagues of the Société de Chimie Thérapeutique (SCT). The 9th EFMC Young Medicinal Chemists' Symposium (EFMC YMCS 2022) gathered around 180 young investigators around a programme mixing keynote lectures by leaders in the fields, oral communications by national prize winners and poster sessions open to all.

EFMC is most grateful to Dr Luc Van Hijfte (EFMC-ISMC 2022 Chair), Maria Duca (EFMC-ISMC 2022 Local Committee Chair & Chair of the EFMC-YMCS 2022), Prof. György Keserű & Prof. Rob Leurs (Short Course Organisers), Laura Heitman (Short Course Local Organiser) as well as all the other committee members and members of the EFMC-Young Scientists Network for their continuous support.

2022 saw again the success of the EFMC-YSN MedChem-**BioOnline**, the now established series of webinars mixing science, soft-skills trainings, and round-table discussions. The success story of the initiative, that comprised four webinars with an average of 500 participants, clearly shows the spirit of endeavour of the younger community and the thirst to learn from early career researcher around the globe. Our Federation has the duty to support our younger generation in their training, regardless of their origin and access to financial resources. The MedChemBioOnline is a great opportunity for many of them to hear great science and learn valuable lessons – and I am thankful to the efforts of the organising committees and the financial support of the sponsors. I can only encourage everyone to support our younger generation in their activities and mentor them to always reach greater goals.

The EFMC working groups provided again valuable contributions in diverse areas, with the appreciated help from many participants. I invite you to have a closer look at the report on their activities on pages 9 to 13 of this Yearbook. I want to extend a personal thank to Anders Karlén and the team of the EU Policy working group, which has been recently terminated. Many lessons were learned in the



difficult task of showcasing the importance of our field to European leaders.

A TIME OF WAR AND ECONOMICAL CRISIS

Our joy of seeing the end of a global pandemic and many months of lockdowns were shadowed by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, which brough Europe on the verge of a largescale conflict and had many repercussions on our economies. EFMC would like to reinforce its condemnation of Russia's actions and expresses again its support to the scientific community and to the Ukrainian people. We urge the leaders at National, European, and International levels to work towards a quick and peaceful end to this situation.

At the EFMC level, we tried our best to support activities such as ScienceForUkraine and we funded grants to allow the participation of displaced researchers to the EFMC Certified Schools, while supporting Ukrainian based companies such as Enamine, who have always been valued partners of the EFMC.

With an economical and energy crisis lurking, we must stand strong together and confident of better days to come. The EFMC will do its best not to pass the inflations' surging costs on to the registration fees in 2023 – true to our motto of keeping science and research as accessible as possible to all.

A BROADER COMMUNITY...

The recent events showed us the importance of a strong and connected community, and it is moved by this belief that EFMC engaged in several activities aiming at strengthening the links between European researchers, and with the world.

Firstly, I am proud to welcome a new adhering organisation in our Federation: The Medicinal and Biological Chemistry Division of the Institute of Chemistry of Ireland. Since our first official contact with the Irish scientific community in 2016 when we supported their 1st Medicinal Chemistry Ireland Conference, we remained attentive and welcoming, convinced that a great partnership was blossoming.

The EFMC continued its effort to gather medicinal chemists, chemical biologists, and computational chemists under one roof. By rebranding our newsletter, by taking over the successful series launched by the NCCR Chemical Biology and launching the **EFMC International** Symposium on Chemical Biology (*EFMC-ISCB 2023*) which will take place in Basel, Switzerland on November 16-18, 2023, and by encouraging initiatives aiming to showcase each community, we are reinforcing our idea that all these fields are part of a continuum.

It is with pleasure that EFMC signed a collaboration agreement with Chemistry Europe to increase the visibility of ChemMedChem and ChemBioChem, bring valuable additional benefits to readers, authors, and early-career researchers, and strengthen the science of medicinal chemistry and chemical biology. Under the terms of the agreement, the Chemistry Europe journals ChemMedChem and ChemBioChem became official journals of EFMC.

Our partnership with our American colleagues of ACS MEDI was also reenforced by the return of the successful series of the ACS MEDI-EFMC Medicinal Chemistry Frontiers (MedChemFrontiers 2023). The 2023 edition will take place in Boston, MA, United States on June 10-13, 2023. The series will increase its presence in the event landscape by shifting to a yearly format, alternating between Europe and the United States. The 2024 edition will take place in The Netherlands in Spring.

Lastly, we continued and intensified our contacts with partner organisations: Renewed Memorandum of Understanding were signed with the Asian Federation for Medicinal Chemistry (AFMC) and our long-lasting partnership with the European Chemical Society (EuChemS) finally led to the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding between EFMC-EuChemS and its Life Science Division (LS-EuChemS). EFMC will now be represented with a guaranteed session at the EuChemS Chemistry Congress, and we will welcome our partner to host a session at the EFMC-ISMC. A similar exchange with take place between the Life Science Division's event and EFMC's new event on Chemical Biology.

... REFLECTING ON THE CHALLENGES OF TOMORROW...

Again, the past months reminded us that our future is full of challenges, and that scientists and investigators need to be appropriately tooled to overcome them; and deliver the bright future we are all aiming forward to.

EFMC, as a learned society, must play a leading role in fostering new initiatives and activities to sustain global/ European leadership in the MC/CB arena; as well as reflecting on best actions to serve our community and stake-





holders. For these reasons and carried by the success of the preceding event hosted in 2019, the EFMC will host another **workshop** with participants from the Executive Committee, Council, Advisory Board but also external researchers from the working group or recent prize winners. We look forward to fruitful discussions and vivid brainstorming to help designing the next five years!

Our Federation will continue promoting research at every level and encourage youngster to embrace the way of science. Inside our community, with **symposia**, **courses** and **webinars**, as well as initiatives such as **travel grants**, **mentoring programmes**, the release of teaching material on **best practices in medicinal chemistry** or the soon to be launched **Publishing** and **Reviewing Academies**, we are making sure to always have up-to-date researchers and qualified young investigators.

We are welcoming you all to the IX EFMC International Symposium on Advances in Synthetic and Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ASMC 2023) and the 10th EFMC Young Medicinal Chemists' Symposium (EFMC YMCS 2023), scheduled to take place in Zagreb, Croatia on September 3-7 and 7-8, 2023 respectively, at the EFMC International Symposium on Chemical Biology (EFMC-ISCB 2023) in Basel, Switzerland on November 16-18, 2023 – or at the 17th EFMC Short Course on Medicinal Chemistry, dedicated to Small Molecule Protein Degraders, on April 23-26, 2023 in The Netherlands.

Supporting our community is of course not the responsibility of EFMC alone. We encourage the medicinal chemistry, chemical biology and computational chemistry communities to support these efforts, starting in their own professional environment.

...AND REWARDING EXCELLENCE.

Because it is important to recognise excellence, in 2022, the EFMC conferred again three awards: The <u>Nauta Pharmacochemistry Award for Medicinal Chemistry and Chemical Biology</u>, the <u>UCB-Ehrlich Award for Excellence in Medicinal Chemistry</u> and the <u>Prous Institute - Overton and Meyer Award for New Technologies in Drug Discovery</u>.

We were also proud, once again, to welcome our partner prizes, the **IUPAC Richer Prize** and **the Klaus Grohe Prize**, at the occasion of the XXVII EFMC International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ISMC 2022) in Nice.

The EFMC is particularly proud to announce the creation of the EFMC-WuXi AppTec Award for Excellence in Chemical Biology to recognise outstanding research in the field of chemical biology as defined by EFMC in The Chemical Biology-Medicinal Chemistry Continuum: EFMC's Vision, ChemBioChem 2021, 22, 2823–2825. The Award will be given biennially and consists of a diploma, 7.500€ and an invitation to present a lecture at an EFMC-ISCB symposium.

EFMC will continue conferring the EFMC Prizes for Young Medicinal Chemists or Chemical Biologist in Academia and Industry, to acknowledge the scientific accomplishments of established scientists or rising stars. The EFMC-YSN PhD Prize on its side, will reward excellence and accomplishment in postgraduate research, together with the newly created Symeres PhD Prize for Excellence in Chemistry in Life Sciences Research which will offer an additional opportunity for talented young researcher to build a promising career.

We will as well continue providing updates on EFMC activities through our monthly newsletter <u>MedChemBioWatch</u>, via the <u>EFMC LinkedIn group</u>, our <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u> accounts (talk to us as @euromedchem). Our website <u>www.efmc.info</u> is always updated with the latest information, including a meeting calendar and a job portal.

Let me close by wishing you all the best for a healthy, successful and happy 2023, both in your professional and personal life.

With my best personal regards,

Rui Moreira EFMC President



Corporate Members

EFMC offers any company the opportunity to become an official Corporate Sponsor. Corporate membership will help the EFMC with its objective of advancing the science of medicinal chemistry and chemical biology and can be achieved by paying an annual fee of 2.000 € to the EFMC.

Companies interested in becoming a Corporate Member should contact the Administrative Secretariat at administration@ efmc.info.

CURRENT EFMC CORPORATE MEMBERS































AWARD SPONSORS

EFMC is thankful to the organisations below for helping in its mission to advance the science of medicinal chemistry and chemical biology in acknowledging and supporting excellence in the fields.

The EFMC Awards are distributed biennially at the occasion of EFMC's flagship meeting, the EFMC International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry.

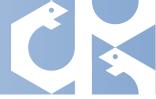












Council

The Council consists of the members of the EC and one delegate of each National Adhering Organisation.

According to the statutes, updated on August 28, 2021, the voting rights are allotted according to the following rules:

- → members of the EC: 1 vote
- → countries with up to 99 members: 2 votes
- → countries with 100-199 members: 3 votes
- → countries with 200-399 members: 4 votes
- → countries with 400-599 members: 5 votes
- → countries with 600-899 members: 6 votes

- → countries with 900-1199 members: 7 votes
- → countries with 1200-1599 members: 8 votes
- → countries with 1600-1999 members: 9 votes
- → countries with 2000-2499 members: 10 votes
- → countries with 2500-2999 members: 11 votes
- → countries with more than 3000 members: 12 votes

As for countries with more than one Adhering Organisation, votes will be proportionally distributed among them, taking into account their respective memberships. The resulting number will be rounded off to the closest digit. In the distribution process, each NAO will receive at least one vote.

CURRENT COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Dr David ALKER

David Alker Associates, United Kingdom)

The Biological and Medicinal Chemistry Sector (BMCS) of the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC)

Prof. Marko ANDERLUH

University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

Section for Medicinal Chemistry of the Slovenian Pharmaceutical Society

Prof. Sergey BACHURIN

Institute of Physiologically Active Compounds, Russia

The D.I. Mendeleev Russian Chemical Society, Medicinal **Chemistry Section**

Prof. Ayla BALKAN

Hacettepe University, Turkey

Turkish Association of Medicinal and Pharmaceutical Chemistry

Dr Jose Manuel BARTOLOME

Janssen, Spain

Sociedad Española de Química Terapéutica

Dr Mathilda BINGHAM

Malvern Panalytical, United Kingdom

EFMC Executive Committee

Prof. Maria Laura BOLOGNESI

University of Bologna, Italy

Division of Medicinal Chemistry of the Italian Chemical Society (DCF-SCI)

Prof. Rasmus P. CLAUSEN

University of Copenhagen, Denmark

The Danish Society for Medicinal Chemistry and Chemical Biology

Prof. Bernd CLEMENT

University of Kiel, Germany

German Pharmaceutical Society, Section of Pharmaceutical/Medicinal Chemistry

Prof. Iwan DE ESCH

VU University Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Section Medicinal Chemistry, Royal Netherlands Chemical Society (KNCV)

Prof. Beatriz DE PASCUAL-TERESA

CEU San Pablo University, Spain

EFMC Executive Committee

Prof. DEPREZ-POULAIN Rebecca

University of Lille, France

Société de Chimie Thérapeutique (SCT)

Prof. Martin DOLEZAL

Charles University, Czech Republic

Section of Synthetic Drug of the Czech Pharmaceutical Society

Prof. Amparo FAUSTINO

University of Aveiro, Portugal

Division of Medicinal Chemistry of the Portuguese **Chemical Society**



Dr Vesna GABELICA MARKOVIC

Croatian Chemical Society, Croatia

Section of Medicinal/Pharmaceutical Chemistry

Dr Mike HANN

GlaxoSmithKline, United Kingdom

Society for Medicines Research

Prof. Anna K. H. HIRSCH

Helmholtz Institute for Pharmaceutical Research Saarland,

Division of Medicinal Chemistry of the German Chemical Society (GDCh)

Dr Annika Jenmalm JENSEN

Karolinska Institutet, Sweden

Swedish Pharmaceutical Society

Prof. György Miklós KESERU

Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Hungary

Organic and Medicinal Chemistry Division (OMCD) of the Hungarian Chemical Society (HCS)

Prof. Katarzyna KIEC-KONONOWICZ

Jagiellonian University, Poland

Polish Society of Medicinal Chemistry

Dr Martin KONDZA

University of Mostar, Bosnia-Herzegovina

Organization Pharmaceutical Research Institute

Prof. Thierry LANGER

University of Vienna, Austria

Austrian Chemical Society, Medicinal Chemistry Section

Dr Nir LONDON

The Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel

The Medicinal Chemistry Section of the Israel Chemical Society

Prof. Emmanuel MIKROS

University of Athens, Greece

Hellenic Society of Medicinal Chemistry

Dr Martin MISSBACH

Novartis, Switzerland

EFMC Executive Committee

Prof. Rui MOREIRA

University of Lisbon, Portugal

EFMC Executive Committee

Prof. Christa MÜLLER

University of Bonn, Germany

EFMC Executive Committee

Prof. Igor OPSENICA

University of Belgrade, Serbia

Serbian Chemical Society, Division of Medicinal Chemistry

Dr Laurent PROVINS

UCB, Belgium

Société Royale de Chimie (SRC), Medicinal Chemistry Division

Prof. Jarkko RAUTIO

University of Eastern Finland, Finland

Finnish Pharmaceutical Society

Prof. Isabel ROZAS

Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

Medicinal and Biological Chemistry Division of the Institute of Chemistry of Ireland

Prof. Gianluca SBARDELLA

University of Salerno, Italy

EFMC Executive Committee

Dr Antonia F. STEPAN

F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd., Switzerland

Division for Medicinal Chemistry & Chemical Biology (DMCCB) of the Swiss Chemical Society (SCS)

Prof. Serge VAN CALENBERGH

Ghent University, Belgium

Medicinal and Bioorganic Chemistry Division of Royal Flemish Chemical Society (KVCV)

Dr Luc VAN HIJFTE

Symeres, The Netherlands

FFMC Executive Committee

Dr Boris VAUZEILLES

Institut de Chimie des Substances Naturelles (ICSN),

Chemical Biology Group of the French Chemical Society (SCF-ChemBio)

Prof. Raivis ZALUBOVSKIS

Latvian Institute of Organic Synthesis, Latvia

Latvian Association for Medicinal Chemistry





Executive Committee

The EFMC Executive Committee (EC) consists of seven members: the President, the President Elect or the Past President, the Secretary, the Treasurer and three additional members. All details about the election process can be found in the statutes of the EFMC on the EFMC official website: www.efmc.info



President **Prof. Rui MOREIRA** University of Lisbon Faculty of Pharmacy Av. Prof. Gama Pinto 1649-019 Lisbon, Portugal



President Elect **Dr Luc VAN HIJFTE** Symeres Kerkenbos 1013 6546 BB – Nijmegen, The Netherlands



Secretary **Prof. Gianluca SBARDELLA** University of Salerno Via Giovanni Paolo II, 132 84084 Fisciano (SA), Italy



Treasurer **Prof. Beatriz DE PASCUAL-TERESA CEU San Pablo University** Facultad de Farmacia Urb. Montepríncipe Ctra. Boadilla del Monte Km 5.3 28668 Madrid, Spain



Member Dr Mathilda BINGHAM Malvern Panalytical Concept Life Sciences Chapel en le Frith SK23 OPG Greater Manchester, United Kingdom



Member **Dr Martin MISSBACH Novartis** WKL-136.3.23 4002 Basel, Switzerland



Member **Prof. Christa MÜLLER** University of Bonn Pharmazeutisches Institut An der Immenburg 4 53121 Bonn, Germany

Advisory Board

The Advisory Board is a consulting body for the EFMC Executive Committee (EC) and provides advice on EFMC's policies, strategies, and main initiatives. It is composed of well-recognised scientists in medicinal chemistry and chemical biology and is chaired by the EFMC Past-President.



Chair Yves P. AUBERSON Novartis, Switzerland

To see the current and previous composition of the Advisory Board, please click here.

Advisory Board Members

Maria Laura BOLOGNESI University of Bologna, Italy

Karin BRINER Genentech, USA

Ingo HARTUNG Merck, Germany

Hermen OVERKLEEFT

Leiden University, The Netherlands

Herbert WALDMANN

Max Planck Institute of Molecular Physiology, Germany



Influencing EU-Policy

The EU-Policy working group was formed at the EFMC workshop held in Frankfurt in 2013. Soon after its creation, the working group started a collaboration with EuChemS in order to jointly work on information activities towards European institutions and to increase the visibility of EFMC.

In partnership with EuChemS we organized the workshop "Solving Antimicrobial Resistance", held in the EU Parliament in April 2016. In 2018 we organized a second workshop "Cause and Cure for Parkinson's Disease" that was also held in the EU Parliament. The value of hosting these types of events is that it enables the discussions between the scientific community and policy makers. It also allows us to put the spotlight on challenges that EFMC believes are important and where Medicinal Chemistry and Chemical Biology can play an important role in shaping the future.

The work in the EU Policy group took a new direction in 2019 when we joined the newly started **European Science** for Health (EurSci4Health) platform. This initiative started by EUFEPS aims to synchronize the activities of scientific societies at the European level and to strengthen and intensify contacts with the EU commission in heath related matters. This was a very good fit for the EFMC and together with EuChemS, APV, EPHAR, EUROTOX and FEBS, that together represent close to 200 000 researchers in Europe. the EurSci4Health platform was established. To promote its mission and to establish it as a platform a one-day workshop with the title "Science for Health: the Agenda for **2021-2027"** was organized on October 16, 2020. This was a very successful workshop bringing together key lecturers from the European Commission, European Parliament, Innovative Medicines Initiative and EFPIA. Five parallel sessions on different topics were also arranged with invited speakers. This was followed by a discussion and a written report indicating some key priorities for EurSci4Health to work with going forward. Personally, I believe this is the right way to influence EU Policy. A large platform such as EurSci4Health representing many researchers in Europe can speak with one voice which is very important. Unfortunately, it is very reliant on a strong leader that has the energy and background to work on these matters and the right connections into the corridors of power. When the leader of EurSci4Health left for another job, much of the work slowed down in order to find a new person that could replace him. This has not happened yet and at the EFMC Executive meeting on September 2022 it was decided to close the EU Policy group and to continue monitoring the development of the EurSci4Health initiative.

Goals of the EU-policy group:

- → To increase visibility, awareness, and funding of Medicinal Chemistry & Chemical Biology
- → To identify and recommend lobbying strategies at the EU, regional and national levels

Anders KARLÉN

Uppsala University, Sweden





Chemical Biology Initiative

Chemical Biology is an essential part of EFMC's activities and events, as attested not only by the fact that this interdisciplinary field is present since many years in all EFMC events, but also by the upcoming International Symposium of Chemical Biology (EFMC-ISCB 2023) which will take place in Basel next November.

The Chemical Biology Initiative, created at the end of 2020, is a working group currently composed of 14 members from both industry and academia across Europe and supports the chemical biology activities within EFMC.

This goal is achieved through different actions such as:

- → Increasing the **cooperation** with chemical biology groups not yet member of EFMC
- → Increasing **communication** in the field of chemical
- → Supporting the collaboration between EFMC and **Chemistry Europe**
- → Improving the cooperation between the **industrial** and **academic** sectors

During 2022, the working group discussed with representatives of chemical biology groups across Europe to better understand their interests and initiate new cooperations. The main aim of this activity is to improve inclusion and representativity of EFMC for the entire chemical biology community. Communication was also increased through participation to MedChemBioWatch publication and the organisation of online seminars. Amongst others, in 2022 the working group participated in the organisation of a YSN MedChemBioOnline about Chemical Biology as a Bridge Between Industry and Academia. We also supported EFMC in the organisation of EFMC-ISCB 2023 and in the creation of the new *EFMC-WuXi* AppTech Award for Excellence in Chemical Biology. The relationship with the International Chemical Biology Society (ICBS), is also supported by the working group.

In 2023, we plan to pursue these activities and initiate new ones. Specific contributions will be published in the MedChemBioWatch newsletter. In the context of the recently officialised collaboration between EFMC and Chemistry Europe, ChemBioChem and ChemMedChem became the official journals of EFMC. The working group is contributing to this collaboration with the preparation of two special collections devoted to the field of chemical biology and the organisation of online seminars in collaboration with ChemBioChem.

Throughout all these activities and thanks to the **broad com**position of the working group, the needs and major challenges of industrial chemical biology and new possibilities of collaboration with academia are continuously discussed. This contributes to finding a common language that should help the scientific community to better communicate and further cooperate. Altogether, these activities also help to identify which are the scientific locks that the community needs to overcome to move the field forward and enable new major discoveries such as the one rewarded by the 2022 Chemistry Nobel Prize for the development of click chemistry and biorthogonal chemistry, which are among the pillars of current chemical biology. We indeed hope that promotion of chemical biology, communication, good representation and support of the scientific community will help future developments and progresses.

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

Maria DUCA (Chair)

University of Côte d'Azur, France

Yves P. AUBERSON

Novartis, Switzerland

Paola ARIMONDO

Institut Pasteur, France

Sebastian ESSIG

Bayer, Germany

Dennis GILLINGHAM

University of Basel, Switzerland

Uwe GRETHER

F. Hoffmann-La Roche, Switzerland

Christian Adam OLSEN

University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Arne RUFER

F. Hoffmann-La Roche, Switzerland

Gianluca SBARDELLA

University of Salerno, Italy

Ulrich SCHOPFER

Novartis, Switzerland

Mario VAN DER STELT

University of Leiden, The Netherlands

Boris VAUZEILLES

Institut de Chimie des Substances Naturelles (ICSN), France

Olalla VAZQUEZ

Marburg University, Germany

Andrew ZHANG

AstraZeneca, United States



Best Practices

Have you ever wondered how medicinal chemists work in other companies or in academia? Are there important trends or new technologies that you may have missed? How can you find general guidelines or tips and tricks on important topics in drug discovery?

Our group is creating open access educational content on Best Practices in Medicinal Chemistry to help answer these questions. We use the literature and our collective knowledge and experience. The main target audiences are students and early career practitioners, but we hope it will also be valuable for experienced scientists.

Our first 3 sets of Best Practices focused on the early phase of drug discovery: Validating Chemical Probes, Hit Generation and Phenotypic Drug Discovery.

The material is available in several formats: webinars on the EFMC YouTube channel, educational slide decks and case studies: <u>Best Practices in Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC</u> Working Group). These are freely accessible for personal use or to create further training or teaching material.

We are now continuing with **Hit to Lead optimization** as the next phase in drug discovery. We also decided to create a set on Proteolysis-targeting chimera (PROTAC) as this topic is of rising interest in the community. **Rob Young** (Blue Burgundy, former GSK) and **Kurt Ritter** (University of Tübingen, former Sanofi) have joined the group and are leading the creation of these topics. If you're also interested in contributing with your experience and expertise in a specific area, please reach out to us.

We also would love to hear your feedback on the already existing content and on how you use the material: administration@efmc.info

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

Jean QUANCARD (Chair)

Novartis, Switzerland

Anders BACH

University of Copenhagen, Danemark

University of Sussex, United Kingdom

Russel CRAFT

Symeres, The Netherlands

Stéphanie GUÉRET

AstraZeneca-Max Planck Institute Satellite Unit, Germany

Ingo HARTUNG

Merck, Germany

Hannes KOOLMAN

Boehringer Ingelheim, Germany

Stefan LAUFER

University of Tübingen, Germany

Josef MESSINGER

Orion Pharma, Finland

Kurt RITTER

University of Tübingen, Germany

Gianluca SBARDELLA

University of Salerno, Italy

Rob YOUNG

Blue Burgundy, United Kingdom





EFMC²

The Computational Chemistry Initiative (EFMC²) is a newly created EFMC working group aiming at representing and showcasing the modelling/digital/informatics community in Europe, advocating on digital techniques across Europe and connecting industry and academia.

Integrated in the EFMC's fields of expertise, such as medicinal chemistry and chemical biology, the EFMC² works towards better defining the scope of computational chemistry, better uniting the various communities, and follow the evolution of this scientific discipline.

Various topics will be addressed:

→ Retrosynthesis

- What can these tools be used for?
- What are the possible advances to be made?

→ Computational-related Case Studies

- How can in silico methods aid project teams?

→ Digital in the Lab (AI/Digital-LabInterface)

- How do digitally enabled project teams work (socially, design meetings)?
- Digital in the lab

→ Crystal structure prediction

- Can predictions of crystal structures help with solubility
- What is available to project teams?

→ Modelling of in vivo/ex vivo assays

- What is the state of the art? What is a reliable model?
- → Generative Chemistry in Drug Discovery
 - What is real and what is hype?

MEMBERS

Franz VON NUSSBAUM (Chair)

Nuvisan, Germany

Xavier BARRIL

Barcelona University, Spain

Andreas BENDER

University Cambridge, United Kingdom

Hayley BINCH

F. Hoffmann-La Roche, Switzerland

Nathan BROWN,

BenevolentAI, United Kingdom

Clara CHRIST

Bayer, Germany

Zoe COURNIA

Biomedical Research Foundation Academy of Athens, Greece

Marco DE VIVO

Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia, Italy

Gerhard HESSLER

Sanofi, Germany

Richard LEWIS

Novartis, Switzerland

Klaus LIEDL

University of Innsbruck, Austria

Zara SANDS

Confo Therapeutics, Belgium



SESSIONS AND SESSION COORDINATORS

ENABLING CHEMISTRIES FOR CHEMICAL BIOLOGY RESEARCH

Prof. Daniel HARKI (University of Minnesota, US)

ADVANCES IN TARGETED PROTEIN DEGRADATION

Prof. Terry MOORE (University of Illinois, US)

A FOCUS ON EARLY CAREER INVESTIGATORS

Dr Melissa GRENIER-DAVIES (GlaxoSmithKline, US)

CHEMICAL MODULATION OF RNA

Dr Darby SCHMIDT (Sonata Therapeutics, US)

COMPUTATIONAL APPROACHES TO IDENTIFY AND TARGET CRYPTIC AND ALLOSTERIC POCKETS

Dr Malin LEMURELL (AstraZeneca, SE)

DRUG TARGETS IN GPCR SIGNALLING

Prof. György KESERU (Hungarian Academy of Sciences, HU)

GETTING OUT OF THE STARTING BLOCK: NEW HIT FINDING AND CHEMOTYPE ADVANCEMENT METHODS

Dr Carolyn DZIERBA (Bristol-Myers Squibb, US)

ORGANIC SYNTHESIS IMPACTING MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY & CHEMICAL BIOLOGY

Prof. Rui MOREIRA (University of Lisbon, PT)

PROXIMITY-INDUCING MOLECULES AND THEIR THERAPEUTIC APPLICATIONS

Dr Amit CHOUDHARY (The Broad Institute, US)

eadlines

ORAL COMMUNICATION, FREE POSTER & EARLY-BIRD REGISTRATION March 16, 2023

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ACCEPTED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS **April 2023**

POSTER SUBMISSION (FEE OF 50,00€) March 16, 2023 - April 25, 2023

Organising Committee

CHAIR

Prof. Daniel HARKI

(University of Minnesota, US)

MEMBERS

Dr Amit CHOUDHARY

(The Broad Institute, US)

Dr Carolyn DZIERBA

(Bristol-Myers Squibb, US)

Dr Melissa GRENIER-DAVIES

(GlaxoSmithKline, US)

Prof. Gyorgy KESERU

(Hungarian Academy of Sciences, HU)

Dr Malin LEMURELL

(AstraZeneca, SE)

Prof. Terry MOORE

(University of Illinois, US)

Prof. Rui MOREIRA

(University of Lisbon, PT)

Dr Darby SCHMIDT

(Sonata Therapeutics, US)

ACSMEDI | EFMC Medicinal Chemistry Frontiers 2023 Secretariat

LD ORGANISATION SRL

Scientific Conference Producers

Rue Michel de Ghelderode 33/2 1348 Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium Tel: +32 10 45 47 77

Fax: +32 10 45 97 19

Mail: secretariat@ldorganisation.com Web: www.medchemfrontiers.org





EFMC Young Scientists Network

As many of you, the EFMC-Young Scientist Network (EFMC-YSN) welcomed the return to presential events and took the opportunity of the XXVII EFMC International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ISMC) and 9th EFMC Young Medicinal Chemists' Symposium (EFMC-YMCS) to network and meet with new early career scientists.

The **EFMC Booth** at EFMC-ISMC 2022 hosted the 5th edition of the **Annual Photo Competition** and was also the appropriate meeting point for the various networking activities. A Photobooth was available for participants to immortalize their visit and snap a picture with their newfound peers. During the EFMC-YMCS, the EFMC Young Scientist Network (EFMC-YSN) hosted again several **soft-skill trainings** and gathered the bravest of the participants for yet another evening of bites, drinks, and laughter under the mild weather of the French Riviera.

With the aim to meeting the needs of the whole scientific community, and because we know that not everyone can travel to a physical event, the EFMC-YSN continued its successful series of **MedChemBioOnline** webinars, offering the opportunity to everyone to listen to outstanding scientists and expand their knowledge. Four editions took place in 2022, each time mixing keynote lecture, soft-skills training, and round table discussions. The thematic were as diverse as interesting and gathered each time hundreds of attendees. The webinars will again come back in 2023 and we invite you to regularly browse www.efmc.info/efmc-ysn-medchembioonline for updated information.

The third edition of the **EFMC-YSN PhD Prize** recognised excellence and accomplishment in postgraduate research, and it was with pleasure that we were finally able to gather all the previous winners in Nice, France for the official ceremony. The call for the 2023 edition is already open and more information can be found here: www.efmc.info/ysn-phd-prize. The EFMC-YSN is also proud to announce a partnership with Symeres to support the creation of a second valuable prize: The Symeres PhD prize for Excellence in Chemistry in Life Sciences Research.

Grants also made an awaited return, supporting the participation of one researcher at the 16th Short Course on Medicinal Chemistry, and of ten PhDs and/or Post-Doc at the EFMC Symposia in Nice, France.

The team launched a second edition of the mentoring

programme, with the goal of connecting motivated students (up to 18 months before the end PhD) and Post-docs with high-profile mentors. The main objective being to support the mentee transition into the job market by providing return of experience, soft-skill training, and overall guidance on topics such as future career plans, career coaching, networking, building confidence, interpersonal skills, and many more.

Finally, two new initiatives, launched in collaboration with **Chemistry Europe**, will contribute to the teaching of the members:

- → The <u>EFMC-YSN Publishing Academy</u>, an intensive workshop covering topics on writing, publishing, and general communication.
- → The <u>EFMC-YSN Reviewer Academy</u>, to teach best practices in peer review, especially for early-career researchers.

Interested in learning more about the activities? Visit www.efmc.info/ysn.

EFMC COMMUNICATION TEAM

Managed by the same young and motivated scientists hiding behind the EFMC Young Scientists Network, the Communication Team aims at developing the brand awareness and recognition of EFMC, using social media and diverse public activities. If you are interested to join, simply reach out to communication@efmc.info.

The team focused its efforts in sharing important news as well as lighter messages on the various social media of the EFMC: LinkedIn, Twitter (@EuroMedChem), Facebook and Instagram. We invite all of those who are not yet following us to do so quickly, this is the place to be!

The team also continued the series of **interviews** of Medicinal Chemists and Chemical Biologists, and welcomed Computational Chemists to share their stories and views on the future of their research field. These portraits aim to show all the various faces behind our community and can be seen on www.efmc.info/iamamedicinalchemist.

For the year to come, the team will be back with plenty of activities – so stay tuned on our social media channels or on the website www.efmc.info/activities!



MEET THE TEAM



Nadia AHMAD Charles River, United Kingdom



Piia BARTOS University of Eastern Finland, Finland



Chiara BORSARI University of Milan, Italy



Laia JOSA-CULLERE Institute for Advanced Chemistry of Catalonia (IQAC-CSIC), Spain



Etienne J. DONCKELE Monte Rosa Therapeutics, Switzerland



Kristina GONCHARENKO Zifo RnD Solutions, Switzerland



Caroline LANTHIER University of Antwerp, Belgium



Michele MARI University of Urbino Carlo Bo, Italy



Brieuc MATAGNE EFMC & LD Organisation, Belgium



Sean MCKENNA Trinity College Dublin, Ireland



Matic PROJ University of Ljubljana, Slovenia



Filipa RAMILO GOMES F. Hoffmann-La Roche, Portugal



Luc Van HIJFTE Symeres, The Netherlands (EFMC EC Sponsor)



Clemens ZWERGEL Sapienza University of Rome, Italy





MedChemBioWatch

Established in 2007 as the official newsletter of the EFMC, MedChemBioWatch has evolved throughout the years to reach its current form: a monthly e-newsletter providing readers with updates on the activities of the EFMC, its committees and working groups, literature spotlights, news from the National Adhering Organisations and partners, and with information on EFMC meetings and approved events.

Eager to provide enrichened content, the Editorial Committee always welcomes suggestions and ideas from the community, and invites all readers to send feedback to administration@efmc.info.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Nadia AHMAD

Charles River, United Kingdom

Brieuc MATAGNE

EFMC, Belgium

Website

The EFMC website (www.efmc.info) is the one-stop-shop to learn about all the activities of the European Federation for Medicinal chemistry and Chemical biology, and of its National Adhering Organisations.

Whether you want to read the latest news or learn about the recent activities, learn more about the EFMC and its committees, consult the job portal, apply for a grant or submit a nomination for an award or a prize, the EFMC website will allow you to easily find the required information.

The website also lists all the EFMC organised, sponsored and certified events, as well as the meetings from National Adhering Organisations and other partners. The regularly updated meeting calendar is thus the perfect tool to rapidly find the most important meetings related to Medicinal Chemistry and Chemical Biology.

Social Media

FOLLOW THE EFMC ON SOCIAL MEDIA









FOLLOW THE EFMC YOUNG SCIENTISTS NETWORK ON SOCIAL MEDIA







EFMC-ISMC 2022 - Report



The XXVII EFMC International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ISMC 2022) took place on September 4-8, 2022 in Nice. France.

More than 1.000 scientists from all over the globe gathered to listen to the cutting-edge science presented by the 76 invited speakers, 44 Oral Communications and 384 poster presenters over the five days of the symposium.

The scientific programme covered advances in drug dis**covery in major therapeutic areas**, including bacterial and viral infections, diseases of the brain, heart, and respiratory system, fibrotic diseases, and cancer. EFMC-ISMC 2022 presented the most recent advances in new technologies such as, artificial intelligence in drug discovery and chemical synthesis, the role carbohydrates in disease pathology and carbohydratge-based drug discovery, the exploitation of RNA as drug target, small molecule-induced stem cell differentiation, or the impact of cryo-EM on drug discovery and design. In a series of dedicated sessions, the interface between chemical biology and drug discovery has been highlighted, including topics such the use of chemical probes for target discovery, molecular imaging, and photochemical approaches. In response to frequent requests by attendees of previous conferences, two sessions have been dedicated to advances in synthetic methodology for drug discovery.

The opening ceremony was chaired by the EFMC President, Prof. Rui Moreira (University of Lisbon, Portugal), the Symposium Chair, Dr Luc Van Hijfte (Symeres, The Netherlands) and the President of the "Société de Chimie Thérapeutique", Prof. Rebecca Deprez-Poulain (University of Lille/Institut Pasteur of Lille, France). Hosted at the Nice Acropolis Convention Center, it provided an ideal stage to host the various Awards ceremonies and the EFMC Honorary Fellows ceremony.

The patient testimonial, chaired by **Dr Tatjana Ross** (Merck, Germany) was a vibrant reminder of the importance of medicinal chemistry and chemical biology, and

its impact on healthcare - setting the tone for an inspiring meeting. **Prof. Herbert Waldmann** (Max Planck Institute of Molecular Physiology, Germany), winner of the Nauta Pharmacochemistry Award for Medicinal Chemistry and Chemical Biology, delivered a lecture on "Pseudo Natural Products – Chemical Evolution of Natural Product Structure". **Dr Raphaël Rodriguez** (Institut Curie, France), winner of the Klaus Grohe Prize, followed by a talk entitled "Discovery of a Druggable Copper-signaling Pathway that Drives Cell Plasticity and Inflammation".

Several musical interludes by a traditional local dance group, the Ciamada Nissarda, punctuated the lectures.

In the following four days, the participants attended a busy programme of 2 award lectures, 4 plenary lectures, 6 prize lectures, 25 themed sessions, two plenary first-time disclosures sessions, workshops, and poster sessions. Among the posters presented, ten were awarded an EFMC Best Poster Prize. Ten young scientists were also awarded a free subscription to the event by the EFMC.

Amongst many highlights of the programme were the award lectures by Prof. Mike Waring (Newcastle University, United Kingdom) and Prof. Alessio Ciulli (University of Dundee, United Kingdom), plenary lectures by **Prof. Benoit Deprez** (Institut Pasteur of Lille, France), **Prof. Erik Miska** (University of Cambridge, United Kingdom), **Prof. Sarah E. Reisman** (California Institute of Technologies, United States), and the 2022 IUPAC-Richter Prize Lecture by **Prof. Michael E. Jung** (UCLA Chemistry & Biochemistry, United States). The closing lecture was delivered by **Dr Outi Vaarala** (Orion Corporation, Finland).

Several networking opportunities were offered, and the exhibition gathered 56 exhibitors, to whom we are thankful for their support. To conclude the event in style, the symposium banquet was hosted in the beautiful "Palais de la **Mediterannée**" – an Art Déco landmark on the famous Promenade des Anglais.

We would like to thank again all our committee members, speakers, sponsors, exhibitors, and of course participants for their support - and we look forward to warmly welcoming you all in the "Eternal City" for the XXVIII EFMC International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ISMC 2024), which will take place on September 1-5, 2024 in Rome, Italy.





EFMC Short Course 2022 - Report

After several postponements due to the coronavirus outbreak, the 16th EFMC Short Course "New Opportunities in GPCR Drug Discovery" finally took place in the beautiful green estate of Oud-Poelgeest castle in Oegstgeest, Netherlands on May 8-11, 2022 and was attended by 16 participants from academia and industry.

The course leaders, Prof. Gyorgy Keseru (Hungarian Academy of Science, Hungary) and Prof. Rob Leurs (VU Amsterdam, The Netherlands) composed an attractive programme with 10 world-renowned experts. The speakers, Iwan de Esch, Chris de Graaf, Laura Heitman, Raimond Heukers, Albert Kooistra, Rob Lane, Aurélien Rizk and Moran Shalev-Benami covered all aspects of GPCR Drug Discovery.

Most of the participants rated the course as very good; the remaining participants scored the course as good. The participants also scored the different teachers, both for the content of their presentation and the way of presenting it. Using a score from 0 to 5, five being the highest, the average figure reached 4.5.

Part of the success of the course is also due to the pleasant venue in the midst of a beautiful park in the outskirts of Leyden, a city known for its rich history in arts and sciences. The course included a city tour around charming Leiden and a social dinner in a local restaurant – and the 2022 edition was blessed by a bright sunny weather.

For sure participants left this course enriched with new knowledge and connections.

The EFMC plans the next course on "Protein Degradation" for April 23-26, 2023. The course will be organised by Prof. Alessio Ciulli and Dr Suzanne O'Connor, University of Dundee (United Kingdom).

The local organisation of the course will be taken over by Prof. Laura Heitman (University of Leiden, The Netherlands), succeeding to **Prof. Henk Timmerman** (VU Amsterdam, The Netherlands) – initiator of the EFMC Short Course series more than a decade ago. The EFMC is thankful to his continuous effort and dedication in making each course successful.

More info on

www.efmcshortcourses.org



17th EFMC Short Course on Medicinal Chemistry

SMALL MOLECULE PROTEIN DEGRADERS: A NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR DRUG DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT

April 23-26, 2023 Oegstgeest, The Netherlands

Scope

This intensive course is intended for scientists working in the field, and the presentations will be given by senior scientists from industry and academia. The number of participants is limited to 35, to allow in depth discussion.

Course Outline

In the last ten years there have been significant developments in the field of designing small molecule protein degraders both as chemical tools and clinical candidates. These degraders can offer major advantages over small molecule inhibitors as a therapeutic strategy by achieving more complete target inhibition and by expanding the potentially druggable proteome. This course aims to provide opportunities for in depth discussions on the key aspects of PROTAC design and development for medicinal chemists.

The course will introduce small molecule protein degraders, including PROTACs and molecular glues, and give a detailed overview of the novel technologies used to characterise protein degradation biophysically and in living cells.

Confirmed Speakers

Dr Chun-wa CHUNG

Prof. Alessio CIULLI (University of Dundee, UK)

Dr Danette DANIELS (Foghorn Therapeutics, US)

Dr Ingo HARTUNG

Dr Suzanne O'CONNOR (University of Dundee, UK)

Dr Andrea TESTA
(Amphista Therapeutics. UK

Course Organisers

Prof. Alessio CIULLI (University of Dundee, UK)

Dr Suzanne O'CONNOR (University of Dundee, UK)

Local Organiser

Prof. Laura HEITMAN (University of Leiden, NL)







EFMC Honorary Fellows 2022 - Ceremony

The **EFMC Honorary Fellow** is a recognition programme consisting of a life-long title and associated medal, to acknowledge the individuals who have provided outstanding support to the EFMC and contributed in strengthening the position of medicinal chemistry, chemical biology or related fields in Europe.

The 2022 ceremony took place during the XXVII EFMC International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ISMC 2022), held in Nice, France on September 4-8, 2022. The ceremony was hosted by **Prof. Rui Moreira** (EFMC President) and **Dr Luc Van Hijfte** (Symposium Chairman).

The life-long title of **Honorary Fellows** was given to:

- Dr Dave Alker David Alker Associates, United Kingdom
- Prof. Gabriele Costantino Università degli Studi di Parma, Italy
- Dr Kristina Goncharenko Zifo RnD Solutions, Switzerland
- Dr Peter Mohr Retired from F.Hoffmann-La Roche, Switzerland

These awardees have dedicated many years of efforts to support our community at large, and this recognition is only a small token of the way we perceive and appreciate their contribution.





More information about the awardees and nomination can be found here.



EFMC-ASMC

International Symposium on Advances in Synthetic and Medicinal Chemistry

Zagreb, Croatia September 3-7, 2023



OPENING LECTURE

Prof. Jeffrey BODE (ETH Zürich, CH)

CONFIRMED SPEAKERS as of December 20, 2022

Dr Cara BROCKLEHURST (Novartis, CH)

Dr Clara CHRIST (Bayer Pharma, DE)

Dr Susannah COOTE (University of Bath, UK)

Prof. Leroy CRONIN (University of Glasgow, UK)

Prof. Ivana FLEISCHER (University of Tübingen, DE)

Dr Uwe GRETHER (F. Hoffmann-La Roche, CH)

Dr Anders JOHANSSON (AstraZeneca, SE)

Dr Ming Joo KOH (National University of Singapore, SG)

Dr Darryl MCCONNELL (Boehringer Ingelheim, AT)

Dr Timothy NOEL (University of Amsterdam, NL)

Dr Stéphanie NORSIKIAN (Institut de Chimie des Substances Naturelles, FR)

Dr Johannes PLATZEK (Bayer, DE)

Dr Rebecca RUCK (Merck, US)

Dr Marwin SEGLER (Microsoft Research, UK)

Prof. Ryan SHENVI (Scripps Research, US)

Dr Nicolas SOLDERMANN (Novartis Pharma, CH)

Dr Owen WALLACE (Monte Rosa Therapeutics, US)

eadlines

ORAL COMMUNICATION, FREE POSTER AND EARLY-BIRD REGISTRATION

April 13, 2023

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ACCEPTED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS **End May 2023**

POSTER SUBMISSION (FEE OF 50,00€)

April 13, 2023 – July 4, 2023

International Organising Committee

SYMPOSIUM CHAIRS

Prof. Karl GADEMANN (University of Zürich, CH)

Dr Ingo HARTUNG

(Merck Healthcare, DE)

MEMBERS

Dr Vesna GABELICA MARKOVIC

(Croatian Chemical Society, Medicinal & Pharmaceutical Chemistry Section, HR)

Prof. Rui MOREIRA

(University of Lisbon, PT)

EFMC-ASMC 2023 Secretariat

LD ORGANISATION SRL

Scientific Conference Producers

Rue Michel de Ghelderode 33/2 1348 Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium Tel: +32 10 45 47 77

Fax: +32 10 45 97 19

Mail: secretariat@ldorganisation.com

Web: www.efmc-asmc.org







EFMC Awards 2022 - Ceremony

The Nauta Pharmacochemistry Award for Medicinal Chemistry and Chemical Biology, The UCB-Ehrlich Award for Excellence in Medicinal Chemistry and the Prous Institute - Overton and Meyer Award for New Technologies in Drug Discovery have been awarded in 2022.

The awards have been conferred at the occasion of the opening ceremony of the XXVII EFMC International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ISMC 2022), which took place in Nice, France on September 4-8, 2022.

THE NAUTA PHARMACOCHEMISTRY AWARD FOR MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY AND CHEMICAL BIOLOGY

The Nauta Pharmacochemistry Award for Medicinal Chemistry and Chemical Biology was established to honour the memory of Prof. Dr. W. Th. Nauta, whose activities have been very important for the advancement of medicinal chemistry in general, and the development of international organisational structures for this discipline.



Prof. Herbert Waldmann

Max Planck Institute of Molecular Physiology, Germany

received his award from Prof. Rui Moreira (EFMC President), Prof. Henk Timmerman (W. Th. Nauta Foundation for Pharmacochemistry) and Dr Andele Nauta (W. Th. Nauta Foundation for Pharmacochemistry), before delivering a lecture entitled Pseudo Natural Products -Chemical Evolution of Natural Product Structure.

THE UCB-EHRLICH AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY

The UCB-Ehrlich Award for Excellence in Medicinal Chemistry was established to acknowledge and recognise outstanding research in the field of Medicinal Chemistry in its broadest sense.



Prof. Mike Waring

Newcastle University, United Kingdom

received his award from both Prof. Rui Moreira (EFMC President) and Dr Adrian Hall (UCB). He delivered a lecture entitled Small Molecule Drugs and where to find them - Approaches to Hit Generation and Lead Optimisation.

THE PROUS INSTITUTE - OVERTON AND MEYER AWARD FOR NEW TECHNOLOGIES IN DRUG DISCOVERY

The Prous Institute-Overton and Meyer Award for New Technologies in Drug Discovery was established to encourage innovation and investigation in technologies related to drug discovery.



Prof. Alessio Ciulli

University of Dundee, United Kingdom

received his award from both Prof. Rui Moreira (EFMC President) and Dr Josep Jr. Prous (Prous Institute). He delivered a lecture entitled How PROTACs Work: Molecular Recognition and Design Principles.

EFMC ANNOUNCES THE CREATION OF THE EFMC-WUXI APPTEC AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN CHEMICAL BIOLOGY

The award will be conferred biennially on the occasion of the EFMC International Symposium on Chemical Biology (EFMC-ISCB). The **EFMC-ISCB 2023** will be held in Basel, Switzerland on November 16-18, 2023.

More information about the call for nominations can be found on www.efmc.info/awards.



THE EFMC ANNOUNCES THE CREATION OF THE EFMC-WuXi AppTec AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN CHEMICAL BIOLOGY

The award will be conferred biennially on the occasion of the European Federation for Medicinal chemistry and Chemical biology (EFMC) International Symposium on Chemical Biology (EFMC-ISCB).

The EFMC-ISCB 2023 will be held in Basel, Switzerland on November 16-18, 2023.

THE EFMC-WuXi AppTec AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN CHEMICAL BIOLOGY

will recognise outstanding research in the field of chemical biology as defined by EFMC in **The Chemical Biology-Medicinal Chemistry Continuum: EFMC's Vision**¹, ChemBioChem 2021, 22, 2823–2825.

Applicants should have a track record of significant research achievements in chemical biology during the last 10 years in terms of originality and significance of their research contributions.

The award will consist of a diploma, € 7.500, and an invited lecture by the award recipient at the EFMC International Symposium on Chemical Biology (EFMC-ISCB).

The award shall be open to any scientist whose career does not exceed 20 years after PhD on

January 1st of the year during which the award is to be presented, and whose accomplishment has not yet been honoured by other EFMC awards.

Nominations should consist of a letter (max. two pages) proposing the candidate, a brief biographical sketch with a list of selected publications, and two supporting letters. Self-nominations are also accepted.

This Award has been established with the support of WuXi AppTec

Nomination deadline: January 31, 2023

1 For a more complete definition of medicinal chemistry and chemical biology as understood by EFMC, please see Duca M, Gillingham D, Adam Olsen C, Sbardella G, van der Stelt M, Vasquez O, Vauzeilles B, Auberson YP. The Chemical Biology-Medicinal Chemistry Continuum: EFMC's Vision. ChemBioChem 2021, 22, 2823–2825.







EFMC Prizes 2022

EFMC PRIZES FOR A YOUNG MEDICINAL CHEMIST OR CHEMICAL BIOLOGIST IN ACADEMIA/INDUSTRY

The EFMC Prize for a Young Medicinal Chemist or Chemical Biologist in Academia and the EFMC Prize for a Young Medicinal Chemist or Chemical Biologist in Industry have been established by the European Federation for Medicinal chemistry and Chemical biology to acknowledge and recognise an outstanding young medicinal chemist working in academia or in industry within Europe. The prizes are given annually and consist of a diploma, €1.000 and an invitation for a short presentation at an EFMC Symposium. Two nominees are also identified and acknowledged.



The selection committee designated Prof. Olalla Vazquez (Philipps-Universität Marburg, Germany) as the winner of the 2022 EFMC Prize for a Young Medicinal Chemist or Chemical Biologist in Academia.

Prof. Tiago Rodrigues (University of Lisbon, Portugal) and Dr Cristina Mayor Ruiz (IRB Barcelona, **Spain)** have been recognised as the most meritorious runners-up.



Dr Marie-Hélène Larraufie (Almirall, Spain) won the 2022 EFMC Prize for a Young Medicinal Chemist or Chemical Biologist in Industry.

Dr Nadine Schneider (Novartis, Switzerland) has been recognised as the most meritorious runner-up.

The 2022 Prize ceremony has been hosted at the occasion of the XXVII EFMC International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ISMC 2022), which took place in Nice, France on September 4-8, 2022.

More information about the 2023 Prizes is available on www.efmc.info/prizes.

EFMC-YSN PHD PRIZE

The EFMC-YSN PhD Prize, created in 2020 as an initiative of the EFMC Young Scientists Network to recognise excellence and merits at the early stage, was again awarded in 2022.



The selection committee designated Dr Johannes Morstein (University of California, United States) as the winner of the 2022 EFMC-YSN PhD Prize.

Ms Vanesa Nozal Garcia (CIB - CISC, Spain) and Ms Eleonora Comeo (University of Nottingham, United *Kingdom)* have been recognised as the most meritorious runners-up.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the XXVII EFMC International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ISMC 2022) hosted the ceremonies for the 2020, 2021 and 2022 editions of the prize. Winners and runners-up were called on stage to receive their diploma from Prof. Rui Moreira (EFMC President).

More information about the 2023 EFMC-YSN PhD Prize is available on www.efmc.info/ysn-phd-prize.



FOR A YOUNG MEDICINAL CHEMIST OR CHEMICAL BIOLOGIST IN ACADEMIA

To acknowledge and recognise an outstanding young medicinal chemist or chemical biologist working in Academia within Europe.

The **Prize** is given annually to a young medicinal chemist or chemical biologist (≤ 12 years after PhD), and consists of a diploma, € 1.000 and an invitation to give a short presentation at the IX EFMC International Symposium on Advances in Synthetic and Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ASMC 2023) | September 3-7, 2023.

Two additional nominees will also be identified and acknowledged.

Applications should be done via the application form on www.efmc.info/prizes and should consist of:

- a one-page letter by the candidate including a short rationale for their application
- one page with his/her most important publications
- a brief cv of the candidate
- abstract of potential oral presentation

FOR A YOUNG MEDICINAL CHEMIST OR CHEMICAL BIOLOGIST IN INDUSTRY

To acknowledge and recognise an outstanding young medicinal chemist or chemical biologist working in Industry within Europe.

The **Prize** is given annually to a young medicinal chemist or chemical biologist (≤ 12 years after PhD), and consists of a diploma, € 1.000 and an invitation to give a short presentation at the IX EFMC International Symposium on Advances in Synthetic and Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ASMC 2023) | September 3-7, 2023.

Two additional nominees will also be identified and acknowledged.

Nominations should be submitted by the candidate's supervisor via the submission tool on www.efmc.info/prizes and should consist of:

- a letter by the supervisor
- a brief cv of the candidate
- abstract of potential oral presentation

Deadline for Nominations is January 31, 2023







EFMC-YMCS 2022 - Report



Continuing its mission of promoting interactions between young scientists, sharing scientific work with peers and rewarding excellence, the 9th EFMC Young Medicinal Chemists' Symposium (EFMC-YMCS 2022) took place on September 8-9, 2022 - following EFMC-ISMC 2022. Located in the beautiful scenery of the Villa Arson, an Art centre located on the hills of Nice overlooking the bay, the conference was this time again the cradle of lively exchanges and interactions for the early career researchers. 185 researchers gathered to listen to the two inspiring keynote lectures, 19 oral communications by invited prize winners from national young medicinal chemist meetings in Europe and 19 Flash Poster Presentations over the one and half day conference.

The opening ceremony was chaired by the EFMC President, Prof. Rui Moreira (University of Lisbon, Portugal) and the Symposium Chair, **Dr Maria Duca** (University of Côte d'Azur, France) and immediately followed by the opening lecture by Prof. Benoit Deprez (Institut Pasteur of Lille, France), entitled "All Models are Wrong, Some are Useful: the Medicinal Chemist is Never Better than the Biological Models Available to Assess Compound Properties". The rest of the morning went on with the first part of the competition, with oral communications by the winners of the young medicinal chemist meetings from Denmark, Italy, Switzerland, France, Turkey and Spain. A series of 15 Flash Poster Presentations also had the opportunity to showcase their science in 90 seconds before drawing participants to the poster session, which took place in the evening.

The second day started with the oral communications by the winners of the young medicinal chemist meetings from Serbia, Germany, Portugal, Israël – followed by a second series of Flash Poster Presentations. The morning session was closed by lectures from candidates from The Netherlands, Greece, Croatia and Poland. The second poster session took place during lunch time.

The afternoon saw the final part of the competition, with

oral communications from candidates of Slovenia, United Kingdom, Czech Republic, Belgium and Sweden. Dr Gerhard Müller (Anavo Therapeutic, Germany) closed the scientific programme with an inspiring keynote lecture on "Medicinal Chemistry Today: be Prepared for the Unexpected!".

At the end of the event, the traditional Award ceremony was held, and several prizes were conferred to promising young scientists: Ms Floriane Eshak (University Paris Cité, France) received the 2022 EFMC-YMCS Presentation Prize sponsored by the EFMC for her presentation on "Epitope Identification, a Case Study: Nanobodies Binding to MGLU5 Receptor". The following scientists received an **EFMC Best** Poster Prize, sponsored by Chemistry Europe.

- Poster 031: Giulia Assoni (University of Trento, Italy)
- Poster 062: Beatrice Chiew (University of Newcastle, Australia)
- Poster 095: Louna Mossino Diaz (Université Paris Cité, France)

Margarida Espadinha (University of Antwerp, Belgium) grabbed the coveted iPad offered by F. Hoffmann-La Roche in winning the EFMC-YMCS Public's choice prize for her lecture on "Design, Synthesis and Biological Evaluation of Novel P53 Activators by Targeting P53 Protein-Protein Interactions".

Finally, the bravest of the attendees stayed for the very interesting optional programme hosted by the EFMC Young Scientists Network and composed of a workshop by Reaxys, given by Giulia Moncelsi and a lecture on Effective Communication and Networking for Scientists, given by **David Peralta**.

A total of 185 scientists gathered for the event. Many questions were asked, and great science was shared during these two days, showing that the aims of the EFMC Young Medicinal Chemists' Symposium are still alive and shared by the younger scientific community.

We would like to thank again all our committee members, speakers, sponsors, exhibitors, and of course participants for their support – and we look forward to warmly meeting you all in Zagreb, Croatia to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the EFMC Young Medicinal Chemists' Symposium. EFMC-YMCS 2023 which will take place on September 7-8, 2023.





10th EFMC Young Medicinal Chemists' Symposium ANNIVERSARY EDITION

The EFMC Young Medicinal Chemists' Symposium is an initiative of the European Federation for Medicinal Chemistry and Chemical Biology (EFMC). This Symposium, organised in connection with EFMC-ASMC 2023, has the aim of:

- —— Creating a network of young European investigators
- Stimulating young European investigators to share their scientific work with peers and inspiring leaders in the field
- Creating competition and excellence within Europe by selecting the European Champion in Medicinal Chemistry and Chemical Biology

ogramm

The Programme of the 10th EFMC Young Medicinal Chemists' Symposium will include:

keynote lectures given by inspiring leaders in the field

oral communications by invited prize winners from national young medicinal chemist's and chemical biologists' meetings in Europe

flash poster presentations selected from submitted abstracts

a poster session open to any young researcher submitting an abstract

prizes

a series of optional soft-skill training activities provided by the EFMC Young Scientists Network (EFMC-YSN)

adlines

FLASH POSTER SUBMISSIONS & EARLY-BIRD REGISTRATION May 3, 2023

POSTER SUBMISSION June 8, 2023

International Organising Committee

SYMPOSIUM CHAIR

Dr Maja BEUS (Institute for Medical Research, HR)

MEMBERS

Dr David ALKER (David Alker Associates, UK)

Ms Floriane ESHAK (University Paris Cité, FR)

Dr Hrvoje RIMAC (University of Zagreb, HR)

Dr Isabella ROMEO (Magna Græcia University, IT)

More information and on-line registration available on **www.efmc-ymcs.org**

Spread the word on social media using **#EFMC_YMCS**









"MedChemBio Realness" was the topic of our 2022 Photo Competition. We invited researchers from any level and affiliation to submit a picture showing their reality of Medicinal Chemistry/Chemical Biology, why it is important for them and what it represents in their everyday life.

More than twenty candidates met the challenge, submitting their picture to public voting, first online and afterwards at the occasion of the XXVII EFMC International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ISMC 2022). Conference attendees were invited to discover the pictures at the EFMC Booth, and select their preferred one.

GRABBING MOST OF THE VOTES, THE WINNER IS:

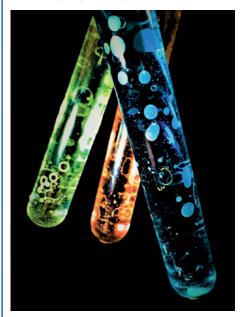


The World we Live in The PharmaChemistry D3 of the Italian Institute of Technology (Italy)

Congratulations to them, and to all our contestants. Browse all submitted pictures under this link.

What about 2023? A new contest will be back this spring, so stay tuned to www.efmc.info/photocompetition.

THE TWO RUNNERS-UP ARE:



Chromatissimo Manuela Jörg (Monash University, Australia)



Smoky Reaction Souvik Sarkar (Quretech Bio Ab, Sweden)



National Adhering Organisations

Below you can find the list of the 29 National Adhering Organisations composing the European Federation for Medicinal Chemistry and Chemical Biology (EFMC). More information can be found on the EFMC website: $\underline{http://www.efmc.info/adhering-organisations-european-medicinal-chemistry}$

Austria	Medicinal Chemistry Section of the Austrian Chemical Society
Belgium	Medicinal and Bioorganic Chemistry Division of the Royal Flemish Chemical Society (KVCV) Medicinal Chemistry Section of the Société Royale de Chimie (SRC)
Bosnia & Herzegovina	Organisation Pharmaceutical Research Institute of Bosnia & Herzegovina
Croatia	Section of Medicinal/Pharmaceutical Chemistry of the Croatian Chemical Society
Czech Republic	Section of Synthetic Drug of the Czech Pharmaceutical Society
Denmark	The Danish Society for Medicinal Chemistry and Chemical Biology
Finland	Finnish Pharmaceutical Society
France	Société de Chimie Thérapeutique (SCT) Chemical Biology Group of the French Chemical Society (SCF-ChemBio)
Germany	Division of Medicinal Chemistry of the German Chemical Society (GDCh) Section of Pharmaceutical/Medicinal Chemistry of the German Pharmaceutical Society (DPhG)
Greece	Hellenic Society of Medicinal Chemistry
Hungaria	Organic and Medicinal Chemistry Division (OMCD) of the Hungarian Chemical Society (HCS)
Ireland	Medicinal and Biological Chemistry Division of the Institute of Chemistry of Ireland
Israel	The Medicinal Chemistry Section of the Israel Chemical Society
Italy	Division of Medicinal Chemistry of the Italian Chemical Society (Società Chimica Italiana)
Latvia	Division of Chemical, Biological and Medical Sciences Section of Medicinal Chemistry of the Latvian Academy of Sciences
Netherlands	Section Medicinal Chemistry of the Royal Netherlands Chemical Society (KNCV)
Poland	Polish Society of Medicinal Chemistry
Portugal	Division of Medicinal Chemistry of the Portuguese Chemical Society
Russia	Medicinal Chemistry Section of The D.I. Mendeleev Russian Chemical Society
Serbia	Division of Medicinal Chemistry of the Serbian Chemical Society
Slovenia	Section for Medicinal Chemistry of the Slovenian Pharmaceutical Society
Spain	Sociedad Española de Química Terapéutica
Sweden	The Swedish Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences
Switzerland	Division of Medicinal Chemistry & Chemical Biology (DMCCB) of the Swiss Chemical Society
Turkey	Turkish Association of Medicinal and Pharmaceutical Chemistry

www.efmc.info

