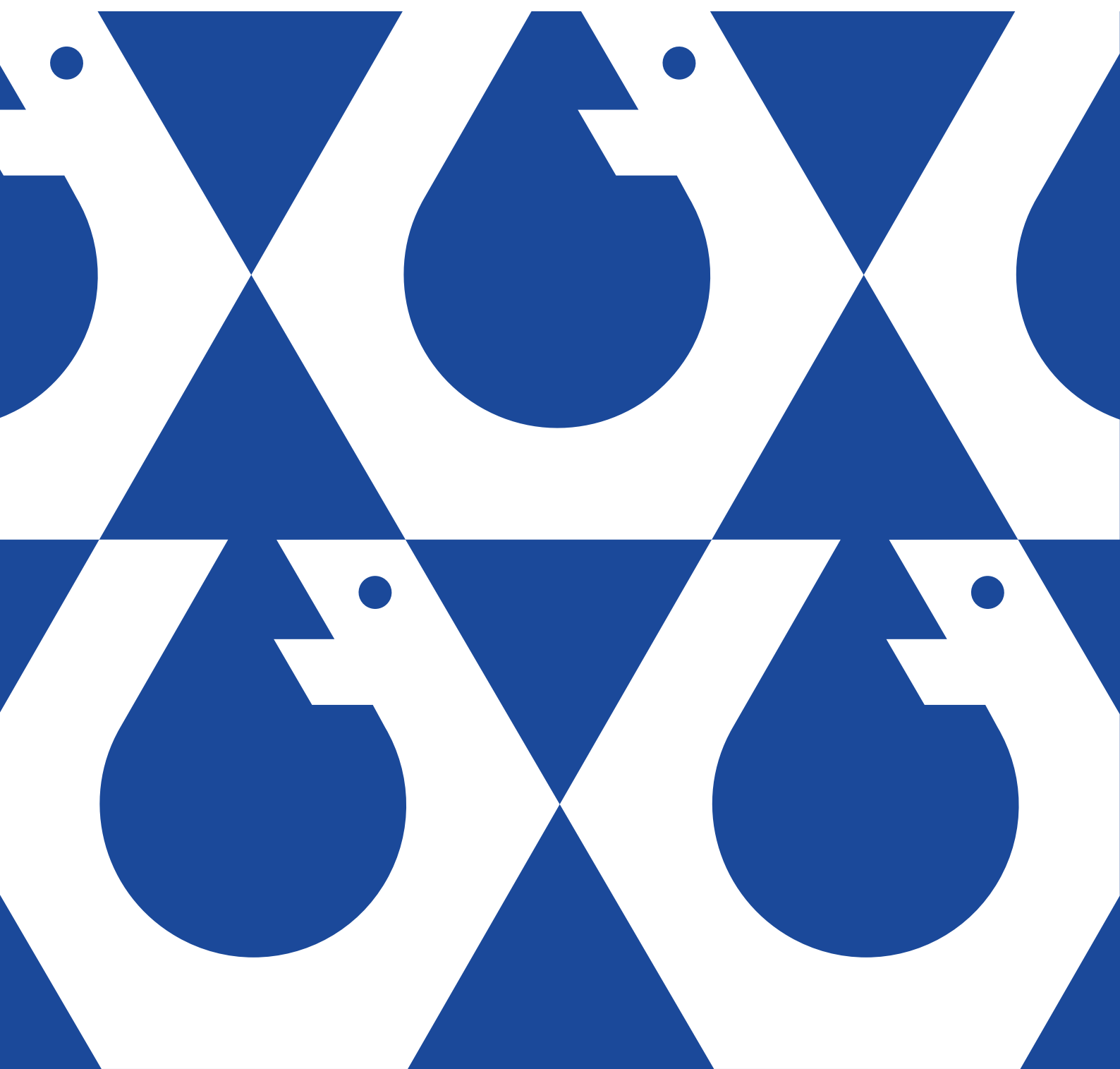


2025

Medicinal Chemistry and
Chemical Biology in Europe





EFMC-ASMC 2025
International Symposium
on Advances in Synthetic
and Medicinal Chemistry
Porto, Portugal
August 31-September 4, 2025



OPENING LECTURE

Prof. Samuel STUPP (Northwestern University, US)

CONFIRMED SPEAKERS as of January 10, 2025

Prof. Varinder K. AGGARWAL (University of Bristol, UK)
Dr Jesus ALCAZAR (Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicine, ES)
Dr Luke ASHCRAFT (Cytokinetics, US)
Dr Davide AUDISIO (CEA-Saclay, FR)
Dr Rebecca EBENHOCH (Boehringer Ingelheim, DE)
Dr Malte GERSCH (TU Dortmund, DE)
Dr Pedro GOIS (University of Lisbon, PT)
Prof. Paula GOMES (University of Porto, PT)
Dr Jürgen HINRICHS (Novartis, CH)
Dr Vera JOST (F. Hoffmann-La Roche, CH)
Dr Elisa LIARDO (Monte Rosa Therapeutics, CH)
Prof. Paolo MELCHIORRE (University of Bologna, IT)
Dr Anneli NORDQVIST (AstraZeneca, SE)
Dr Nick PALMER (Astex Pharmaceuticals, UK)
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EFMC-ASMC 2025 Secretariat

LD ORGANISATION SRL

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organised by



Deadlines

ORAL COMMUNICATION & FREE POSTER SUBMISSIONS, AND EARLY-BIRD
REGISTRATION: **April 8, 2025**

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE ACCEPTED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:
Beginning May 2025

LATE POSTER SUBMISSIONS (HANDLING FEE OF 50,00€):
April 9, 2025 – June 26, 2025



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Editorial

Dear colleagues,

Once again, I am pleased to write this editorial, reflecting on the remarkable achievements of our community and the strong support we continue to receive from all of you. It is inspiring to see how our collective efforts and passion for advancing medicinal chemistry, chemical biology, and computational chemistry have translated into tangible progress. Whether through record-breaking attendance at conferences, active participation in webinars, or contributions to initiatives that support young researchers and foster collaboration, your commitment demonstrates the strength and unity of our community.

In this sense, I would like to reaffirm my gratitude to Rui Moreira, the EFMC Past President and to the whole Executive Committee who supported me in my duties and will continue to do so in 2025: Gianluca Sbardella (Secretary), Beatriz de Pascual Teresa (Treasurer), Mathilda Bingham, Martin Missbach and Christa Müller. Additionally, I am grateful to Yves Auberson, the EFMC Advisor and to Chiara Borsari, past chair of the EFMC Young Scientists Network. I also welcome Sean McKenna as new chair of the EFMC Young Scientists Network, and I look forward to fruitful exchanges.

My thank you also goes to Amparo Faustino (Portugal), Vesna Gabelica Markovic (Croatia) and Igor Opsenica (Serbia) for their contribution to the EFMC Council and I'm pleased to welcome their successors, Pedro Gois, Sanja Kostrun and Zivota Selakovic, respectively.

Let's now have an overview of the most important events of 2024 and the activities planned by our Federation for 2025.

A SUCCESSFUL SERIES OF EVENTS!

This year, the EFMC was particularly proud to welcome such a large number of researchers to its events.

The **EFMC Short Course on Transformative Approaches in Medicinal Chemistry, with Applications in Cancer Research** took place on April 21-24, 2024. As per the tradition, the participants gathered at the historical venue of Castle Oud Poelgeest, near Leiden for a 3-day intensive course with renowned experts in the field. The Netherlands, and more precisely the city of Utrecht also had the pleasure to welcome the European edition of the now annual **EFMC-ACSMEDI Medicinal**

Chemistry Frontiers, joint endeavor between ACS MEDI (American Chemical Society, division of Medicinal Chemistry) and EFMC.

The **XXVIII EFMC International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry** (EFMC-ISM 2024), our flagship conference held in Rome, Italy, achieved a record-breaking attendance of 1.355 participants, highlighting the continued future of Drug Discovery. We were equally delighted by the unprecedented attendance at the EFMC Young Medicinal Chemists' Symposium (EFMC YMCS 2024), signalling that the next generation of researchers is ready to shape the future.

Finally, EFMC is particularly proud to continue the series of the **EFMC International Symposium on Chemical Biology** (EFMC-ISCB), with a second edition returning to Basel, Switzerland on January 29-31, 2025.

EFMC is most grateful to Prof. Roberto di Santo (EFMC-ISM 2024 Chair), Prof. Iwan de Esch (MedChemFrontiers 2024 Chair), Prof. Michele Mari & Dr Isabella Romeo (EFMC-YMCS 2024 Chairs), Prof. Mike Waring & Dr Hannah Stewart (Short Course Organizers), Laura Heitman (Short Course Local Organiser), Prof. Claudia Höbartner & Dr Uwe Grether (EFMC-ISCB 2025 Chairs) as well as all the other committee members for their continuous support.

The year 2024 once again marked the success of the webinar series **EFMC-YSN MedChemBioOnline** and **EFMC² Tandem Talks**. The former focused on equipping students and early-career professionals with essential knowledge and skills to excel in their fields, while the latter offered valuable real-world insights into how medicinal and computational chemists can collaborate effectively to drive projects forward.

A STRONG COMMUNITY

The geopolitical situation in Europe, in the Middle East and all around the world continue to show us the importance of having a strong and connected scientific community, which aims to overcome borders and barriers, and support any and all researchers in their endeavor to advance the human health.

The EFMC continued its effort to gather medicinal chemists, chemical biologists, and computational chemists under one roof by encouraging initiatives aiming to show-



case each community and their necessary interactions with each other, reinforcing our idea that all these fields are part of a continuum.

Through our collaboration agreement with **Chemistry Europe**, we continuously aimed at increasing the visibility of ChemMedChem and ChemBioChem, establishing them as strong European journals in the field while bringing valuable additional benefits to readers, authors, and early-career researchers.

Lastly, we continued and intensified our contacts with our partner organisations: the ACS Division of Medicinal Chemistry, the Asian Federation for Medicinal Chemistry, the Chinese Pharmaceutical Association, the Brazilian Chemical Society, the European Chemical Society, the European Federation for Pharmaceutical Sciences, the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry and the International Chemical Biology Society.

Our Federation remains committed to advancing research at all levels and inspiring young minds to pursue careers in science. Through **symposia, courses, webinars**, and initiatives such as **travel grants, mentoring programmes**, as well as the **Publishing and Reviewer Academies**, we are dedicated to fostering well-informed researchers and highly qualified young investigators.

Finally, I am particularly proud to share yet another chapter of the work done by the **Best Practices in Medicinal Chemistry** working group. Their new set on PROTACS® joins the ones on Hit Generation, Phenotypic Drug Discovery, Validating Chemical Probes and Hit-to-Lead. If you haven't done yet, go and have a look at the website www.efmc.info/best-practices.

LOOKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE

EFMC also plays a key role in spotlighting emerging or underrepresented topics, supporting initiatives that bring them to the forefront. For example, a recent edition of MedChemBioOnline addressed the theme of **"Knowledge Creation from Failure"**, encouraging researchers to share not only their success stories but also insights from unsuccessful programmes and chemical series. This approach emphasizes that valuable lessons can be drawn from challenges and setbacks in medicinal chemistry, as well as from achievements.

A topic particularly close to my heart is **Sustainability in Drug Discovery**. EFMC is committed to staying at the

forefront of developments in this critical area and influencing decisions to ensure that essential drugs reach the market efficiently while considering environmental impact. Through its newly established working group, EFMC aims to unite pharmaceutical companies, regulatory authorities, and academia to develop and implement "benign by design" principles guided by optimal environmental parameters.

REWARDING EXCELLENCE

True to its engagement, EFMC continued to reward excellence in 2024 with 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**. We will also confer the second **EFMC-WuXi AppTec Award for Excellence in Chemical Biology** in early 2025.

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 **XXVIII EFMC International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry** (EFMC-ISMC 2024) in Rome.

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**, sponsored by Selvita, will reward excellence and accomplishment in postgraduate research, together with the returning **EFMC-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.

Let me close by wishing you all the best for a healthy, successful, and happy 2025, both in your professional and personal life.

With my best personal regards,

Luc Van Hijfte

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 2.250 € to the EFMC.

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

CURRENT EFMC CORPORATE MEMBERS



AWARDS & PRIZES SPONSORS

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

 Inspired by patients.
Driven by science.

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



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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.



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University of Lisbon

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Max Planck Institute of Molecular Physiology, Germany

To see the current and previous composition of the Advisory Board, please [click here](#)

Council

The Council consists of the members of the Executive Committee 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.

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

Sustainability Initiative

There is increasing concern that a significant proportion of current drugs and active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs), either in their original forms or as their transformation products, are prevalent in the environment, posing risks to human and environmental health. This has sparked discussions on designing greener APIs, ranging from adopting "benign by design" principles to outright restricting certain reagents from the pool of building blocks.

The EFMC is committed to staying at the forefront of developments in this field and influencing decisions to ensure that essential drugs reach the market efficiently. We believe the EFMC can play a pivotal role in uniting pharmaceutical companies, regulatory authorities, and academia to establish robust "benign by design" principles grounded in optimal environmental considerations, but also ensuring to the fullest the interests of the patients. Our Sustainability Working Group will dedicate time to shaping our strategy for addressing this critical issue.

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Neil PRESS

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Helen SNEDDON

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Ghent University, Belgium

Chemical Biology Initiative

Chemical Biology has become a cornerstone of EFMC's initiatives due to its highly interdisciplinary nature and its relevance across our community. This is evidenced by the widespread interest in the upcoming second EFMC International Symposium on Chemical Biology (EFMC-ISCB2025), scheduled for January 29-31, 2025 in Basel (www.efmc-iscb.org). Presently, a dedicated working group of eight core members, along with additional partners from both industry and academia across Europe, actively support EFMC's chemical biology endeavors.

The key activities of the Chemical Biology Initiative include:

- **Fostering the Education and Development of Future Chemical Biologists:** *We are committed to nurturing the next generation of chemical biologists through educational activities and development opportunities.*
- **Enhancing Academia-Industry Collaboration:** *We aim to strengthen the exchange of knowledge and resources between academic institutions and industry partners to drive innovation and practical applications in chemical biology.*
- **Collaborating with Other EFMC Groups:** *Our successful cooperation with various EFMC groups ensures a multidisciplinary approach and the integration of diverse expertise in our initiatives.*
- **Expanding Interactions with Chemistry Europe:** *We are actively broadening our engagement with Chemistry Europe to facilitate the dissemination of cutting-edge research and foster international collaborations.*
- **Promoting High-Quality Scientific Communication:** *We prioritize the dissemination of high-quality scientific information through various channels, ensuring that our communications are accurate, impactful, and accessible to the broader scientific community.*

In 2024, the Chemical Biology working group has compiled a comprehensive directory of Chemical Biology MSc programs, now available on the EFMC Website. This resource provides valuable information for students and professionals seeking specialized education in chemical biology or medicinal chemistry. To ensure the directory remains up-to-date and comprehensive, we encourage the submission of updates and new entries via the EFMC Administrative Secretariat. Additionally, the Initiative contributed to the 'Becoming a Chemical Biologist' webinar on June 11, 2024, as part of the 18th EFMC-YSN MedChemBioOnline series.



To bridge the gap between academia and industry, the Chemical Biology Initiative has established the 'Chemical Biology in Industry' Interest Group. This group regularly discusses the most interesting topics and recent developments, aiming to catalyze pre-competitive research activities among companies and in collaboration with academic partners.

The Chemical Biology Initiative has engaged in multiple collaborations with other EFMC groups. In partnership with the Young Scientists Network (YSN), we have published career paths and profiles of medicinal, computational chemists, and chemical biologists. Additionally, we are including chemical biology elements in ongoing 'best practices' contributions.

Our collaboration with Chemistry Europe has intensified, resulting in the publication of two special collections in ChemBioChem. Furthermore, we are supporting the ChemBioChem & ChemPhysChem Symposium 2025, scheduled for October 23-24, 2025, in Berlin.

The Chemical Biology Initiative has promoted high-quality scientific communication through various channels. The aforementioned ChemBioChem collections on academia-industry collaborations and chemical probing concepts have garnered significant interest. Several contributions for the MedChemBioWatch publication are also under preparation.

The CB WG has made significant strides in fostering collaborations between academia and industry, enhancing communication, and providing educational resources. For 2025, we will continue to pursue these activities and initiate new ones. A key event will be the EFMC International Symposium on Chemical Biology (EFMC-ISCB 2025), scheduled for January 29-31 in Basel. We will also continue ongoing and have initiated close new collaborations with the YSN, the EFMC Best Practices group, and the EFMC2 team. Further scientific communications, including contributions to MedChemBioWatch and the peer-reviewed EFMC official journals, are under preparation.

These activities facilitate ongoing discussions about the needs and challenges of industrial chemical biology and potential collaborations with academia. This dialogue helps establish a common language for better communication and cooperation within the scientific community. The promotion of chemical biology, effective communication, and strong community support are expected to drive future developments and progress in the field.

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

Uwe GRETHER (chair)

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Yves AUBERSON

Novartis, Switzerland

Sebastian ESSIG

Bayer, Germany

Ruben RAGG

Wiley-VCH, Germany

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University of Leiden, The Netherlands

Gianluca SBARDELLA

University of Salerno, Italy

Mario VAN DER STELT

University of Leiden, The Netherlands

Best Practices

Are you looking for courses on drug discovery? Are you looking to create teaching material in Medicinal Chemistry? Are there important trends or new technologies you may have missed?

Our group is creating open access educational content on Best Practices in Medicinal Chemistry to help answer these questions. We use the literature as well as our collective knowledge and experience. The main target audience 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**. This year, we have continued along the drug discovery journey with the release of a set on the **Hit to Lead** phase and will now tackle **Lead Optimization**.

Beyond this, we would like to cover important modalities and we have just released best practices for the discovery of **PROTACs**[®] (Proteolysis Targeting Chimeras). For our next topic, we have assembled a group of experts in **Covalent Drug Discovery** (Matthias Gehringer (University of Tübingen), Uwe Grether (Roche), Sebastian Essig (Bayer), Alexander Pautsch, Birgit Wilding and March Grundl (Boehringer Ingelheim).

The material we deliver is available in several formats: webinars on the EFMC YouTube channel, educational slide decks and case studies: [Best Practices in Medicinal Chemistry](#). These are freely accessible for personal use or to create further training or teaching material. 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

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Novartis, Switzerland

Anders BACH

University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Chiara BORSARI

University of Milan, Italy

Russell CRAFT

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Stefan LAUFER

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Gianluca SBARDELLA

University of Salerno, Italy

Andrea UNZUE LOPEZ

Merck, Germany

Rob YOUNG

Blue Burgundy, United Kingdom



EFMC²

The **EFMC² - Computational Chemistry Initiative** aims to strengthen the EFMC modelling/digital/informatics community, advocate on digital techniques across Europe and connect Industry & Academia.

Within medicinal chemistry and chemical biology, EFMC² works towards better defining the scope of computational chemistry, better uniting the various communities, and facilitating the evolution of this scientific discipline.

With our series of **EFMC² Tandem Talks**, we will share real life insights into how medicinal and computational chemists can drive projects together, with case studies and round table discussions on what makes the essence of successful MedChem-CompChem interactions. The ample opportunity to **engage and discuss** with our speakers sets these webinars apart. Register and learn not only about great science but also which ways of collaborating were key to success.

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Clara CHRIST

Bayer, Germany

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Hayley BINCH

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Mireille KRIER

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Martin MISSBACH

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Ina TERSTIEGE

AstraZeneca, Sweden

Theodor THEIS

BI, Germany

EFMC-ACSMEDI - Medicinal Chemistry Frontiers 2024 - Report

The **EFMC-ACSMEDI Medicinal Chemistry Frontiers 2024 Symposium**, chaired by Prof. Iwan DE ESCH (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands), was held in **Utrecht, The Netherlands**, from April 8-11, 2024 and included 9 different sessions covering a selection of vital topics in medicinal chemistry.

Over **300 participants** engaged in a comprehensive programme featuring 3 high-quality plenary lectures, 19 invited talks, and 20 oral presentations selected from submitted abstracts, creating a rich and diverse agenda in the fields of computer assisted drug design, biology, DMPK, pharmacology, and early toxicology.

The organising committee prepared a truly exciting event, which featured a number of distinguished scientists that delivered inspiring talks, encouraged fruitful discussions, and highlighted the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration. The scientific programme provided the attendees with a broader perspective on the challenges facing medicinal chemists, which will undoubtedly contribute to their own research projects.

In addition, **2 poster sessions of 122 posters** allowed fruitful exchanges between the participants, who could present their research to peers in a relaxed and informal atmosphere.

The **EFMC Young Scientists Network** and **ACSMEDI Young Medicinal Chemists Committee** organised a series of networking activities to facilitate the exchanges between students and early career researchers, especially those for whom attending a conference abroad was a first experience. The programme was completed by a **panel discussion on Career Perspectives from Industry, Academia and Beyond, from Graduate Student to Young Professional**, with panellists from the US and Europe sharing their experience to an eager audience.

Finally, the conference was also the occasion to meet more informally during the social programme, whether it was during the welcome reception, the (rainy) city tour, or at the conference dinner in the beautiful restaurant La Cantina Di David, located in charming cellars in the heart of Utrecht.

We invite you all to the next edition of the meeting, scheduled to take place in **Chicago, IL, United States** on **May 12-15, 2025**.



ACSMEDI | EFMC Medicinal Chemistry Frontiers 2025

Chicago, Illinois, USA | May 12-15, 2025

PLENARY LECTURES



Dr Ingo HARTUNG
MERCK HEALTHCARE, Darmstadt, Germany



Prof. Paul J. HERGENROTHER
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, Urbana, IL, United States



Dr Wendy YOUNG
BIOTECH EXECUTIVE & INDEPENDENT BOARD MEMBER,
San Francisco, CA, United States

SESSIONS AND SESSION COORDINATORS

GPCRS

Dr Tilly BINGHAM (GIO Therapeutics, Basel, Switzerland)

A FOCUS ON EARLY CAREER INVESTIGATORS

Prof. Oluseye ONAJOLE (Roosevelt University, Chicago, IL, United States)

CHEMICAL BIOLOGY

Prof. Zeynep ATES-ALAGOZ (Ankara University, Ankara, Turkey)

AI IN DRUG DISCOVERY

Dr Luc VAN HIJFTE (Symeres, Nijmegen, The Netherlands)

INDUCED PROXIMITY

Dr Jennifer ALLEN (Amgen Inc., South San Francisco, CA, United States)

PEPTIDE THERAPEUTICS

Prof. Terry MOORE (University of Illinois, Chicago, IL, United States)

ANTIVIRAL DRUG DISCOVERY

Prof. Daniel HARKI (University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, United States)

CHEMISTRY TOOLS

Dr Hasan A. KHAN (AbbVie, North Chicago, IL, United States)

NEW FRONTIERS IN ONCOLOGY AND IMMUNO ONCOLOGY

Dr Darby SCHMIDT (Violet Therapeutics, Cambridge, MA, United States)

DEADLINES

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS,
FREE POSTERS & EARLY-BIRD
REGISTRATION
FEBRUARY 27, 2025**

**POSTER SUBMISSIONS
(FEE OF 50 USD)
FROM FEBRUARY 28 UNTIL
MARCH 25, 2025**

ACSMEDI | EFMC Medicinal Chemistry Frontiers 2025 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



ACSMEDI | EFMC
Medicinal Chemistry Frontiers

EFMC Young Scientists Network

This year again, the EFMC Young Scientists Network (EFMC-YSN) worked hard to promote the development of early career medicinal chemists and chemical biologists in Europe.

EVENTS & WEBINARS

The **MedChemBioOnline** webinar series returned with four new editions, tackling timely topics and even venturing into less discussed themes such as “**Knowledge Creation from Failure**” or “**Sustainable Chemistry**”. The webinars will come back in 2025, and we invite you to regularly browse www.efmc.info/efmc-ysn-medchembio-online for updated information.

Among the virtual event portfolio, a new endeavor made its premiere last November. Teaming up with the [GDCh NextGenMedChem](#) group, and the [SCT YMCF](#), we hosted our first virtual poster session, gathering a few dozen participants who presented their poster on LinkedIn, and via some slam videos.

Our collaboration with Chemistry Europe continued with several editions of the **EFMC-YSN Publishing Academy**, covering topics on writing, publishing, and general communication and the **EFMC-YSN Reviewer Academy**, aimed to teach best practices in peer review, especially for early-career researchers. Both programmes will resume in 2025.

MENTORING PROGRAMME

Entering its fourth year, the **Mentoring Programme** took a giant leap forward in supporting the transition of PhDs and Post-docs into the job market. Collaborating with the colleagues of the Young Medicinal Chemists Committee of the ACS Division of Medicinal Chemistry, not only do we offer one-to-one consultation with high-profile mentors, but also a series of six **Virtual Career Development Sessions** delivered by experts in the field and tackling key topics such as navigating the job market, CV building, acing job interviews, marketing yourself via social media and exploring unusual career opportunities.

PRIZES & GRANTS

Prizes and funding opportunities were also showcased over the year. The fifth edition of the **EFMC-YSN PhD Prize**, now generously supported by Selvita, recognised excellence and accomplishment in postgraduate research while the second **Symeres PhD prize for Excellence in Chemistry in Life Sciences Research** added another opportunity for researchers to get recognised.

Several **Grants** were also attributed to facilitate the attendance of one researcher at the 18th EFMC Short Course on Medicinal Chemistry, five at EFMC-ACSMEDI Medicinal Chemistry Frontiers 2024, eleven at the EFMC International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ISMC 2024) & 11th EFMC Young Medicinal Chemists' Symposium (EFMC-YMCS 2024), and five at EFMC International Symposium on Chemical Biology (EFMC-ISCB 2025). Additionally, the EFMC-YSN partnered with the Young Medicinal Chemists Committee of ACS MEDI to finance **two grants of 1.500€** to support the participation of young researchers to attend transatlantic conferences and offer them the opportunity to broaden their network outside the national-regional scope.

Finally, our aim to foster connections with **existing young MedChem groups** and pave the way to a Young Scientists Network Council continued, with two virtual meetings and a series of cross-network collaborations.

Interested in learning more about the EFMC-YSN 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 EFMC 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, X (@EuroMedChem), Facebook and Instagram. The EFMC and YSN also made the decision to officially move from X to Bluesky as of 2025.

The team also continued the series of interviews - now rebranded into MedChemBioConversations - of Medicinal Chemists, Chemical Biologists, and recently added 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/interviews-efmc.

Finally, proudly announce the election of new board members to occupy the position of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. We also welcome five new members to replace the leaving ones, to whom we are thankful for their valuable contribution: Nadia Ahmad, Michele Mari, Filipa Ramilo Gomes & Clemens Zwergel.

MEET THE TEAM

Aikaterini BARMPIDI *University of Barcelona, Spain*
Piia BARTOS *University of Eastern Finland, Finland*
Tilly BINGHAM *GIO Therapeutics, Switzerland (EFMC EC Sponsor)*
Shiao CHOW *University of Strathclyde, United Kingdom*
Chiara BORSARI *University of Basel, Switzerland (Past Chair)*
Laia JOSA-CULLERE *Institute for Advanced Chemistry of Catalonia (IQAC-CSIC), Spain (Secretary)*
Etienne J. DONCKELE *Monte Rosa Therapeutics, Switzerland (Treasurer)*
Kristina GONCHARENKO *Zifo RnD Solutions, Switzerland*
Alex HALLATT *Newcastle University, United Kingdom*
Maria KORPIDOU *InnoMedica, Switzerland*
Caroline LANTHIER *University of Antwerp in J&J, Belgium*
Noemi MARTINEZ CONDE *University of Barcelona, Spain*
Brieuc MATAGNE *EFMC & LD Organisation, Belgium*
Sean MCKENNA *Leiden University, The Netherlands (Chair)*

FOLLOW THE EFMC ON SOCIAL MEDIA



FOLLOW THE EFMC YOUNG SCIENTISTS NETWORK ON SOCIAL MEDIA



MedChemBioWatch

MedChemBioWatch is the official **monthly e-newsletter** of the EFMC, 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; with information on EFMC meetings and supported events and with job opportunities published on the EFMC Job Portal.

Eager to provide enriched 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. Finally, the website provides a platform where recruiting companies and institutions can post their job offer or available PhD/Post-Doc positions.

ChemMedChem & ChemBioChem

THE OFFICIAL JOURNALS OF THE EFMC



ChemMedChem publishes high-impact articles on medicinal chemistry and drug discovery, from small molecules to new modalities. ChemBioChem showcases vital ground-breaking science combining chemistry and biology across the world.

Submit your next Research Article or propose Reviews and Perspectives.

www.chemmedchem.org – chemmedchem@chemistry-europe.org

www.chembiochem.org – chembiochem@chemistry-europe.org

Social Media

EFMC officially moved to Bluesky. While we've loved connecting with you on X/Twitter, it's time for a fresh start in a platform that aligns with our values & vision.

FIND AND FOLLOW THE EFMC ON SOCIAL MEDIA



FOLLOW THE EFMC YOUNG SCIENTISTS NETWORK ON SOCIAL MEDIA





EFMC-ISMIC 2024 - Report

The XXVIII EFMC International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ISMIC 2024) took place on September 1-5, 2024, in Rome, Italy.

The 5-day symposium gathered a historical record of 1.355 participants in an equally historical city to listen to the cutting-edge science presented by the 62 invited speakers, 57 Oral Communications and 645 poster presenters.



The scientific programme covered **advances in drug discovery in major therapeutic areas**, including bacterial and viral infections, diseases of the brain, heart, and respiratory system, fibrotic diseases, and cancer. EFMC-ISMIC 2024 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 carbohydrate-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, **Dr Luc Van Hijfte** (Symeres, The Netherlands) and the Symposium Chair, **Prof. Roberto Di Santo** (Sapienza University of Rome, Italy). Hosted at the Palazzo Dei Congressi, it provided yet another historical stage to host the various Awards ceremonies and the EFMC Honorary Fellows ceremony.

The patient testimonial, given by one of the attendees, **Mr Jacob Bradbury** (University of Oxford, United Kingdom) and a testimonial given by the former President (1996-1998) of the European Federation for Medicinal chemistry and Chemical biology (EFMC), **Dr Jan-Claude Muller**, were two vibrant reminders of the importance of medicinal chemistry and chemical biology, and its impact on healthcare - setting the tone for an inspiring meeting.



Dr Laurent Meijer (Perha Pharmaceuticals, France), **winner of the Nauta Pharmacochimistry Award for Medicinal Chemistry and Chemical Biology**, delivered a lecture entitled "From Sea to Pharmacy: Marine Biology & Drug Development Adventures". **Prof. Yimon Aye** (EPFL, Switzerland), **winner of the Klaus Grohe Prize**, followed by a talk entitled "Lightening the Burden: Illuminating Precision Influencers of Innate Electrophile Signaling for Functional Drug Discovery".



Several musical interludes by a trio composed by Riccardo Balsamo (piano), Leonardo Spinedi (violin) and Fabio Serani (tenor) delighted the audience with a mix of arias covering movie soundtracks by Italian composers such as Ennio Morricone, as well as classic Opera masterpieces by Puccini and Verdi.

In the following four days, the participants attended a busy programme of 2 award lectures, 4 plenary lectures, 6 prize lectures, 26 themed sessions, two plenary first-time disclosures sessions, company workshops, and poster sessions. Among the presented posters, ten were awarded an EFMC Best Poster Prize. Ten young scientists were also awarded a free subscription to the event by the EFMC.



Amongst the many highlights of the programme were the award lectures by **Prof. Stuart Conway** (UCLA, United States) and **Prof. Véronique Gouverneur** (University of Oxford, United Kingdom), plenary lectures by **Prof. David MacMillan** (Princeton University, United States), **Dr Emma Parmee** (Johnson&Johnson, United States), and the 2024 IUPAC-Richter Prize Lecture by **Prof. Craig Crews** (Yale University, United States). The closing lecture was delivered by **Dr Mike Hann** (GSK, United Kingdom).

Several networking opportunities were offered, and the exhibition gathered 62 exhibitors, to whom we are thankful for their support. To conclude the event in (Roman) style, the symposium banquet was hosted at Villa Miani - a truly magnificent venue overlooking scenic gardens and offering a breathtaking view of Rome. After dinner, the guests were invited to enjoy a dance party until late in the night.



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 “The City on the Rhine” for the **XXIX EFMC International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ISMC 2026)**, which will take place on **September 6-10, 2026 in Basel, Switzerland**.

EFMC Honorary Fellows Ceremony 2024

The **EFMC Honorary Fellows** 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 2024 ceremony took place during the XXVIII EFMC International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ISMC 2024), held in Rome, Italy on September 1-5, 2024. The ceremony was hosted by **Dr Luc Van Hijfte** (EFMC President).



THE LIFE-LONG TITLE OF EFMC HONORARY FELLOWS WAS GIVEN TO

Dr Yves P. Auberson *Novartis, Switzerland*

Prof. Anders Karlén *Uppsala University, Sweden*

Prof. Katarzyna Kiec-Kononowicz *Jagiellonian University, Poland*

Dr Antoni Torrens *ABAC Therapeutics, Spain*

The 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 can be found [here](#).

EFMC Short Course 2024 - Report

The **18th edition of the EFMC Short Course**, themed around **“Transformative Approaches in Medicinal Chemistry, with Applications in Cancer Research”**, took place in the picturesque setting of Castle Oud-Poelgeest, in the Netherlands on April 21-24, 2024. Twenty-two enthusiastic participants engaged in this intensive course.

With Prof. Mike Waring (*Newcastle University, United Kingdom*) and Dr Hannah Stewart (*Newcastle University, United Kingdom*) as organisers, the course gathered an additional seven speakers. Over two and a half days, Dr Frederic Berst & Dr Christoph Dumelin (*Novartis, Switzerland*), Dr Gerjan De Bruin (*Acerta Pharma, The Netherlands*), Dr Maria Duca (*University of Côte d’Azur, France*), Dr Christopher Johnson (*Astex Pharmaceuticals, United Kingdom*), Dr Patrizio Mattei (*F. Hoffman-La Roche, Switzerland*) and Prof. Mario Van der Stelt (*University of Leiden, The Netherlands*) followed one another to present their research on Transformative Approaches in Medicinal Chemistry.

Participants expressed great appreciation for the Course, praising the presentations for their engaging style and the ample opportunities for questions and interaction between

the speaker and the audience. The course received an impressive average rating of 4.5/5. Beyond the academic content, the event was further enhanced by its enchanting venue – a historic castle in the heart of Leiden. Attendees spoke highly of their stay, enjoying the unique setting. To encourage networking, the programme featured a social dinner on Sunday, April 21, and a walking tour of Leiden on Monday, April 22. Evenings came alive with informal gatherings at the Castle Bar, where participants had the chance to connect and share memorable moments.

Would you like to attend the next edition? The 19th EFMC Short Course will be organised by Prof. Gérard Van Westen (*University of Leiden, The Netherlands*), supported by the Local Organiser, Prof. Laura Heitman (*University of Leiden, the Netherlands*). The course will focus on **“Artificial Intelligence and Medicinal Chemistry: Developments, Limitations, and Applications”** and will be held in Oegstgeest, the Netherlands, on April 6-9, 2025.

More info on

www.efmcshortcourses.org



SHORT COURSE

19th EFMC Short Course on Medicinal Chemistry

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY: DEVELOPMENTS, LIMITATIONS, AND APPLICATIONS

April 6-9, 2025
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

The quick rise of Artificial Intelligence has spread to all facets of our society. However, the synergy between medicinal chemistry and computer aided drug discovery long predates the current AI era. Moreover, history dictates this new tool to likely be a synergistic addition to drug discovery rather than a revolutionary replacement of existing methods. Think of a computational co-pilot to the scientist. As more and more scientific data is becoming public and more and more computing power becomes available the application of AI in drug discovery offers exciting new opportunities. The course will cover the breath of AI and Medicinal chemistry including advanced methods, new developments, and tools available for medicinal chemists.

Course Organiser

Prof. Gerard VAN WESTEN
(Leiden University, Leiden, The Netherlands)

Local Organiser

Prof. Laura HEITMAN
(Leiden University, Leiden, The Netherlands)

EFMC Awards 2024 - 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 2024.

The awards have been conferred at the occasion of the Opening Ceremony of the XXVIII EFMC International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ISMC 2024), which took place in Rome, Italy on September 1-5, 2024.

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.

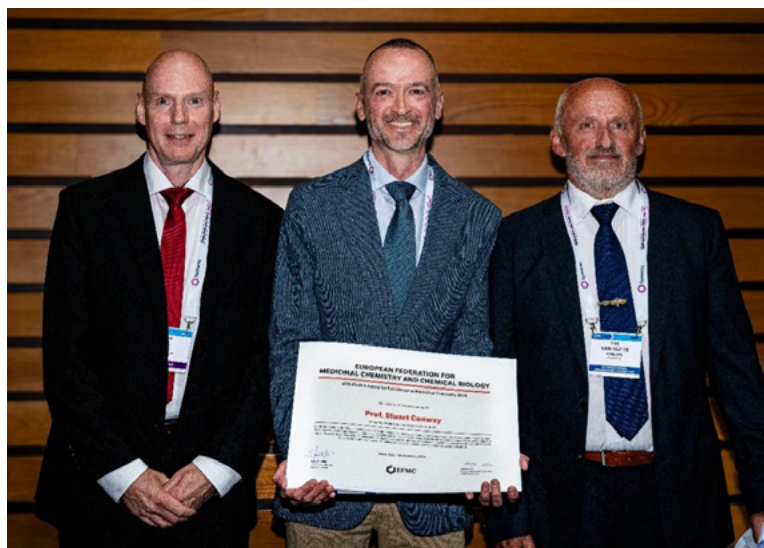
Dr Laurent Meijer (Perha Pharmaceuticals, France) received his award from Dr Luc Van Hijfte (EFMC President), Prof. Henk Timmerman (W. Th. Nauta Foundation for Pharmacochemistry) and Dr Andele Nauta (W. Th. Nauta Foundation for Pharmacochemistry), before delivering a lecture entitled **From Sea to Pharmacy: Marine Biology & Drug Development Adventures**.



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. Stuart Conway (University of California, Los Angeles, United States) received his award from both Dr Luc Van Hijfte (EFMC President) and Dr Adrian Hall (UCB). He delivered a lecture entitled **Bringing Bump-and-Hole to Molecular Glues: the Development of Orthogonal Imid-Degron Pairs**.



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. Véronique Gouverneur (University of Oxford, United Kingdom) received his award from both Dr Luc Van Hijfte (EFMC President) and Dr Josep Jr. Prous (Prous Institute). She delivered a lecture entitled **Fluorine Chemistry for Drug Discovery**.



EFMC Prizes 2024

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. Rebecca Buller** (*Zhaw School of Life Science and Facility Management, Switzerland*) as the winner of the **2024 EFMC Prize for a Young Medicinal Chemist or Chemical Biologist in Academia**. **Dr Martin Empting** (*Helmholtz-Institute for Pharmaceutical Research Saarland, Germany*) and **Prof. Elisabeth Rexen Ulven** (*University of Copenhagen, Denmark*) have been recognised as the most meritorious runners-up.



Dr Samuele Cazzamalli (*Philochem AG, Switzerland*) won the **2024 EFMC Prize for a Young Medicinal Chemist or Chemical Biologist in Industry**. **Dr Ranganath Gopalakrishnan** (*AstraZeneca, Sweden*) and **Dr Zoe Henley** (*GSK, United Kingdom*) have been recognised as the most meritorious runners-up.

The 2024 Prize ceremony has been hosted at the occasion of the XXVIII EFMC International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ISMC 2024), which took place in Rome, Italy on September 1-5, 2024.

More information about the call for 2025 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 2024.



The selection committee designated **Dr Raphael Steimbach** (*Servier*) as the **winner of the 2024 EFMC-YSN PhD Prize, sponsored by Selvita**. **Dr Jennifer Müller** (*ETH Zürich*) has been designated as the most meritorious runner-up. Following a decision from the jury, an extraordinary honorary mention was also given to **Dr Sébastien Depienne** (*Ghent University*).

More information about the 2025 EFMC-YSN PhD Prize
is available on www.efmc.info/ysn-phd-prize.

PRIZES

FOR A YOUNG MEDICINAL CHEMIST OR CHEMICAL BIOLOGIST IN ACADEMIA

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

The **Prize** is given annually to a young medicinal or chemical biologist (≤ 12 years after PhD), and consists of a diploma, € 2.500 and an invitation to give a short presentation at the **X EFMC International Symposium on Advances in Synthetic and Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ASMC 2025)** | August 31 to September 4, 2025.

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 recognize an outstanding young medicinal chemist or chemical biologist working in Industry within Europe.

The **Prize** is given annually to a young medicinal or chemical biologist (≤ 12 years after PhD), and consists of a diploma, € 2.500 and an invitation to give a short presentation at the **X EFMC International Symposium on Advances in Synthetic and Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ASMC 2025)** | August 31 to September 4, 2025.

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, 2025

See www.efmc.info/prizes for full details

EFMC-YMCS 2024 - Report

The **11th EFMC Young Medicinal Chemists' Symposium** took place in the historical Sapienza University, immediately following the XXVIII EFMC International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ISMC 2024). Over the course of two busy days, a record number of 245 attendees gathered to foster vivifying discussions and scientific insights. The symposium's programme for this year featured two distinguished keynote lectures, 24 oral presentations by invited prize winners from national young medicinal chemist meetings across Europe, 2 prize lectures and 20 flash poster presentations.

The symposium began on Thursday, September 5, with a warm welcome from the chairs, Dr Isabella Romeo (Magna Graecia University, Italy) and Prof. Michele Mari (University of Urbino, Italy). Prof. Kelly Chibale (University of Cape Town, South Africa) provided the audience with his opening lecture, **"Cell-Based Medicinal Chemistry Optimization of Phenotypic Hits in Malaria Drug Discovery"**, before leaving the stage to the competition between the oral communications, and the first set of flash poster presentations.

Wrapping up the first day, the highly attended poster session got off to a rocky start but concluded with a collaborative agreement to address the issues the following day. Attendees were then encouraged to head straight to the networking reception, complete with pizzas and spritz. The next day, everyone returned to discover a very unusual stage for a poster session, the outer courtyard of the Faculty of Pharmacy, blessed with sunny Roman weather.

The second day of the conference commenced with a stimulating Career Panel Discussion, organised by the EFMC-YSN, featuring early-career talents from both industry and academia. The best oral communication contest resumed over the course of the day, as well as the second set of flash poster presentations before closing with an inspiring lecture by Dr Sabine Hadida (Vertex Pharmaceuticals, United States) on the **"Discovery of CFTR Modulators for the Treatment of Cystic Fibrosis"**.

The conference was also the stage for **two prize lectures**: The 2024 EFMC-YSN PhD Prize, awarded to Dr Raphael Steimbach (Servier, France) and the 2024 Symeres PhD Prize for Excellence in Chemistry in Life Sciences Research, received by Dr Jana Volaric (Imperial College London, United Kingdom).

Throughout the event, networking was at the heart, with a welcome reception and networking event offered by the EFMC-YSN, as well as two poster sessions showcasing more than 150 posters.

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE: AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

The Award Ceremony recognised the following champions:

■ Mr Thomas Corner

Yale University, United States

received the **EFMC-YMCS Presentation Prize**, sponsored by the EFMC, for his presentation on "Structure-Guided Optimisation of N-Hydroxythiazole-Derived Inhibitors of Factor Inhibiting Hypoxia-Inducible Factor- α ".

■ Mr Matthew Rosenberg

Uppsala University, Sweden

was awarded with the **EFMC-YMCS Public's Choice Prize**, sponsored by Roche, for his presentation on "From Anti-inflammatory to Antibiotic? Progress towards Novel Antibiotics against *C. difficile*".

Additionally, three deserving participants received the EFMC-YMCS Best Poster Prizes, sponsored by Chemistry Europe:

■ Poster 012: Ana Andrea Escobar Peña

Complutense University of Madrid, Spain

■ Poster 040: Javier Sánchez-Corral

University of Barcelona, Spain

■ Poster 138: Alex McClarron

The Institute for Cancer Research, United Kingdom

We extend our sincerest gratitude to all the committee members, speakers, sponsors, exhibitors, and, most importantly, the participants for their invaluable support. We look forward to meeting all of you in Porto, Portugal, for the 12th EFMC Young Medicinal Chemists' Symposium ([EFMC-YMCS 2025](#)), set to take place on **September 4-5, 2025**.



EFMC-YMCS
Young Medicinal
Chemists' Symposium
Porto, Portugal
September 4-5, 2025



12th EFMC Young Medicinal Chemists' Symposium

The EFMC Young Medicinal Chemists' Symposium is an initiative jointly organised by the European Federation for Medicinal chemistry and Chemical biology (EFMC) and the EFMC Young Scientists Network (YSN). This Symposium, organised in connection with EFMC-ASMC 2025, 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

Programme

The Programme of the 12th EFMC Young Medicinal Chemists' Symposium will include:

Keynote lectures given by inspiring Early Career Researchers in the field

"National Highlights" talks given by invited prize winners from national young medicinal chemist's and chemical biologists' meetings in Europe

Oral communications & 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)

Committee

Symposium Chair

Dr Diana RESENDE

(CIIMAR - Interdisciplinary Centre of Marine and Environmental Research, Portugal)

Organising Committee

Dr Tilly BINGHAM

(GIO Therapeutics, Switzerland)

Dr Sean MCKENNA

(Leiden University, The Netherlands)

Dr Thomas CORNER

(Yale University, United States)

Dr Ivo DIAS

(University of Porto, Portugal)

Ms Noemi MARTINEZ CONDE

(University of Barcelona, Spain)

Mr Brieuc MATAGNE

(LD Organisation, Belgium)

Deadlines

April 30, 2025

FLASH POSTER SUBMISSIONS & EARLY-BIRD REGISTRATION

July 8, 2025

POSTER SUBMISSIONS

More information and on-line registration available on

www.efmc-ymcs.org

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

National Adhering Organisations

Below you can find the list of the 31 National Adhering Organisations composing the European Federation for Medicinal chemistry and Chemical biology (EFMC). More information can be found on the EFMC website:

<http://www.efmc.info/adhering-organisations-european-medicinal-chemistry>

Austria	Austrian Chemical Society, Medicinal Chemistry Section
Belgium	Société Royale de Chimie (SRC), Medicinal Chemistry Division Medicinal and Bioorganic Chemistry Division of Royal Flemish Chemical Society (KVCV)
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Organization Pharmaceutical Research Institute
Croatia	Croatian Chemical Society, Section of Medicinal/Pharmaceutical Chemistry
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	Chemical Biology group of the French Chemical Society (SCF-ChemBio) Société de Chimie Thérapeutique (SCT)
Germany	German Pharmaceutical Society, Section of Pharmaceutical/Medicinal Chemistry Division of Medicinal Chemistry of the German Chemical Society (GDCh)
Greece	Hellenic Society of Medicinal Chemistry
Hungary	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 (Divisione di Chimica Farmaceutica - Società Chimica Italiana, DCF-SCI)
Lithuania	Lithuanian Chemical Society
Poland	Polish Society of Medicinal Chemistry
Portugal	Division of Medicinal Chemistry of the Portuguese Chemical Society
Russia	The D.I. Mendeleev Russian Chemical Society, Medicinal Chemistry Section
Serbia	Serbian Chemical Society, Division of Medicinal Chemistry
Slovenia	Section for Medicinal Chemistry of the Slovenian Pharmaceutical Society
Spain	Spanish Chemical Biology Group of the Royal Spanish Society of Chemistry (RSEQ) Sociedad Española de Química Terapéutica
Sweden	Swedish Pharmaceutical Society
Switzerland	Swiss Chemical Society, Division for Medicinal Chemistry & Chemical Biology (DMCCB)
The Netherlands	Division Medicinal Chemistry & Chemical Biology, Royal Netherlands Chemical Society (KNCV-MCCB)
Turkey	Turkish Association of Medicinal and Pharmaceutical Chemistry
United Kingdom	Society for Medicines Research The Biological and Medicinal Chemistry Sector (BMCS) of the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC)

Notes

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