



Dear **SBIC members, colleagues and friends,**

Welcome to the 2024.01 edition of our quarterly newsletter published by the Society of Biological Inorganic Chemistry (SBIC), which aims to keep you up to date with important developments in our society, award deadlines and other opportunities we are supporting! We provide you in this newsletter with the latest information from your society, and we hope that you will continue to support or join SBIC as a new member. We would also like to invite you to pass the newsletter on to your students and colleagues and if you have news to share, please get in touch.

### ***SBIC Elections Outcome***

The results of the SBIC Elections were announced in late 2023:

**President-Elect:** Hongzhe Sun (University of Hong Kong)

**Secretary:** Kara Bren (University of Rochester, USA)

**Councilors:** Wee Han Ang (National University of Singapore) and Jens Müller (Westfälische Wilhelms University Münster, Germany )

We thank the outgoing Secretary Christian Hartinger and outgoing Council members Kazuya Kukuchi and Stefano Ciurli for their outstanding service to SBIC and the community.

### ***SBIC Early Career Researchers Committee***

SBIC is pleased to announce the installation of a new committee called the Early Career Researchers (ECR) Committee whose charge is to identify and implement opportunities to advance the career development of individuals at the beginning, or during transitional periods, of their careers. The committee will be composed of 6 to 8 ECRs plus two members of the SBIC Council that will serve as liaisons to the committee and provide persistence to the group. The ECRs will be selected by the President with terms that will be for one or two years. In some cases, renewal for a second term can occur at the discretion of the President. Each ECR appointed to the committee must be an SBIC member; however, one may apply for this position prior to joining the society. As with all SBIC events, we strive for full representation of our members including race, gender, region and scientific diversity. ECRs may be students, postdocs, Assistant Professors, or anyone who considers themselves to be early in their career and/or in a career transition.

To apply for membership on the ECR committee, please include the following documents in an email to [info@sbichem.org](mailto:info@sbichem.org):

- 1) Your CV
- 2) A personal statement indicating why your circumstances would provide representation for the broad ECR community and how you feel you would be able to contribute both to career development of ECRs and also to the Society.
- 3) A letter of reference

These documents should be sent as a single pdf. The deadline to apply for these positions is April 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:59 pm UTC/GMT.

### ***SBIC Early Career Award***

Each year SBIC awards an early career member of our society with the **SBIC Early Career Award**. The SBIC Early Career Award is a valuable recognition of scholarly excellence in bioinorganic chemistry. SBIC Early Career Awardees receive a US\$2,000 prize and a commemorative plaque. The two most recent Awardees are invited to present an "SBIC Early Career Award Lecture" at the next ICBIC. Please follow this link [https://www.sbichem.org/sbic\\_awards](https://www.sbichem.org/sbic_awards) for more information including nomination procedures.

**DEADLINE: February 29, 2024, midnight UTC**

### ***New Content in the Educational Resources Section Alert***

Check out the new content on Metals in Medicine on the SBIC webpage. You will have to log into the members section for access.

We encourage you to visit our [educational resources webpage](#) where we have accumulated links to important pedagogical information and lectures to aid in teaching inorganic and bioinorganic chemistry. We will be uploading new content to this area over the next month which includes advanced lectures on metals in medicine, metalloprotein design and metal uptake and homeostasis. If you are an SBIC member, you also have access to members-only content which is continuously growing. Follow this [link](#)!

### ***Congratulations***

We are keen to profile the success of our SBIC members and highlight recent awards and accolades. If you have received an award or know of someone who has received recognition for their work, please email the information to Kara Bren ([kara.bren@rochester.edu](mailto:kara.bren@rochester.edu)). It is great to see how many bioinorganic chemists are recognized for the hard work and achievements – congratulations everyone!

**Louise Berben** (UC Davis) ACS National Award (for Organometallic Chemistry).

**Steven Boxer** (Stanford University) to Receive Biophysical Society's 2024 Founders Award.

**Joseph A. Cotruvo, Jr.** (Pennsylvania State University) received the Eli Lilly Award in Biological Chemistry from the ACS Division of Biological Chemistry.

**Johannes Karges** (Ruhr University of Bochum) was awarded the Life Sciences Bridge Award of the Aventis Foundation.

**Mi Hee Lim** (KAIST, Korea) was named a Fellow of the Korean Academy of Science and Technology (KAST).

### ***Journal of Biological Inorganic Chemistry (JBIC) highlights***

JBIC is the well-reputed journal of our society. Nils Metzler-Nolte is the Editor-in-Chief and in this role serves as a member of the SBIC Council. Nils always welcomes manuscripts with high impact results for publication in our journal. By submission of impactful articles to JBIC you demonstrate your active support of SBIC, our global learned society.

The JBIC Editor-in-Chief would like to thank all authors, reviewers, readers and generally the whole community for their support of The Journal in 2023 and looks forward to receiving get many exciting article submissions from the community in 2024!

Here are some of the paper highlights recently published in JBIC. Their full text is available free of charge for the next months. These articles have been selected by the journal Editor-in-Chief for their exceptional interest to members of the biological inorganic chemistry scientific community.

10.1007/s00775-020-01836-6

#### **A novel quinoline-based turn-on fluorescent probe for the highly selective detection of Al(III) and its bioimaging in living cells, plants tissues and zebrafish**

A fluorescent sensor for aluminium that works in a variety of biological environment is presented by Chinese colleagues.

10.1007/s00775-021-01914-3

#### **The role of hydrolysis in biological effects of molybdenum cluster with DMSO ligands**

The stability of drug candidates under biologically relevant conditions is such an important issue – and sooo often overlooked (or at least not reported) in papers in JBIC. So here, this is a classical study how biological effects change with hydrolysis of the “target” molecule. Worthwhile incorporating into your own research! Merry Christmas to all our authors, reviewers, and readers!

### ***Upcoming Conference: EuroBIC-17 – Münster, Germany***

The registration for EuroBIC-17 will open soon. The conference will take place from August 25–29, 2024, in Münster, Germany. Check out the conference webpage at [www.eurobic17.de](http://www.eurobic17.de) and follow at @EuroBIC-17 on X (formerly Twitter) for regular updates. Jens Müller, Sonja Herres-Pawlis and Nils Metzler-Nolte have compiled a compelling list of plenary, keynote and invited speakers reporting on all aspects of biological inorganic chemistry.

We invite you to contribute to the scientific success of EuroBIC-17 by submitting your abstracts for oral and poster presentations. The call for abstracts will close on April 5 (oral presentations) and May 19 (poster presentations), respectively, while early bird registration will be possible until April 28.

SBIC travel bursaries will be available for students and postdocs who are current members of the Society for Biological Inorganic Chemistry.



***Upcoming Conference: 9<sup>th</sup> EuChemS Congress, Dublin***

The Institute of Chemistry of Ireland is delighted to be hosting the 9<sup>th</sup> EuChemS Congress (ECC-9) in Dublin, Ireland, 7-11<sup>th</sup> July, 2024. The Congress has an exciting scientific programme which includes 8 world-leading plenary speakers (including 3 Nobel Laureates), invited lectures, oral communications, poster presentations as well as a number of mini-symposia. The Congress has 8 overarching themes one of which in particular 'Chemistry Meets Biology for Health' may be of special interest to the SBIC community. While the call for abstracts for oral communications is now closed, there is still an opportunity to submit abstracts for poster presentations. This call for poster abstracts opens on Monday, the 29<sup>th</sup> of January. This is an exceptional opportunity to showcase biological inorganic chemistry research and to engage with our wider scientific communities.

For further details, we kindly encourage you to visit the Congress website: <https://euchems2024.org/>

Key Dates:

Call for Posters Open: Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Early Bird Registration Deadline: Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Call for Posters Close: Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> May 2024

***Conference Highlights: The 13<sup>th</sup> International Vanadium Symposium, Lisbon***

The 13<sup>th</sup> International Vanadium Symposium was held in Lisbon from the 22-24 of November at the Gulbenkian Foundation. The event was held for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time in Lisbon, after the 6<sup>th</sup> edition, in 2008, and was chaired by Isabel Correia, from IST, University of Lisbon. 60 participants from 20 countries contributed to a great meeting. 59% of the participants were women and 27% were early career researchers (MSc. and PhD students).

Plenary talks were presented by Debbie C. Crans from Colorado State University, USA, Kotohiro Nomura from Tokyo Metropolitan University, Japan, and Annette Rompel from University of Vienna, Austria. 12 Invited Speakers and 21 Oral Lecturers shared their most recent results on vanadium, its uniqueness and diversity in applications.

The 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Vanadis Awards, honoring distinguished researchers in the area of Vanadium Science, were both presented in Lisbon. The recipients were Alison Butler from University of California, Santa Barbara, USA, and Dinorah Gambino, from Universidad de la República, Uruguay. They joined Debbie C. Crans, the 1<sup>st</sup> Vanadis Awardee in 2004, in the group of women recognized with this honor. The other awardees are: Dieter Rehder (2006), Toshikazu Hirao (2008), Vincent L. Pecoraro (2010), Israel E. Wachs (2012), João Costa Pessoa (2014), Ron Wever and Tamas Kiss (2016) and Armando Pombeiro (2018).

The 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> awardees have both developed research in the bioinorganic field; Alison Butler with main contributions in the field of vanadium haloperoxidases' reactivity, and Dinorah Gambino in the development of vanadium compounds for treatment of parasitic diseases. Congratulations to both.



**Left to right:** Debbie Crans, Alison Butler, Dinorah Gambino, and Isabel Correia

#### ***For your diary: Upcoming conferences***

- 9th EuChemS Congress, Dublin, Ireland, July 7-11, 2024. (<https://euchems2024.org/>)
- EuroBIC-17, Muenster, Germany, August 25-29, 2024.
- XXI Brazilian Meeting on Inorganic Chemistry (BMIC), the X Brazilian Meeting on Rare Earths (TR-2024), and the III Workshop on Theoretical Bioinorganic Chemistry (WTBC), Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais, Brazil, September 12-15, 2024. (<https://bmic2024.qui.ufmg.br>)
- AsBIC 11, Guilin, China, December 1-5, 2024.
- ICBIC-21, Long Beach, CA, July 26-31, 2025.
- EuroBIC-18, Groningen, The Netherlands, 2026
- ICBIC-22, York, UK, 2027.
- ICBIC-23, Jeju Island, South Korea, 2029.

**Call for applications for conference support**

SBIC financially supports international meetings on subjects related to Biological Inorganic Chemistry organized by members of our society. At many of these conferences, SBIC members will pay special, discounted registration fees and students and early career members may be eligible for travel awards.

In order to be eligible for conference support, the conference organizers need to be SBIC members. Applications need to be sent to the SBIC Treasurer [Charles G. Riordan](#). Please include a detailed conference program. Diversity in gender, age, race, ethnicity, geography, and research topics covering a broad range of biological inorganic chemistry is a prerequisite to obtain SBIC funding. Adequate representation from underrepresented groups, including women for Plenary and Keynote lectures in particular, and the program in general, must be demonstrated. A maximum of 2,000 US\$ for conferences or 3,000 US\$ for student workshops will be granted to non-BIC conferences. All SBIC financial support is exclusively given out as SBIC travel bursaries to be awarded to young researchers (PhD students and postdocs), being SBIC members, and the financial support by SBIC must be acknowledged.

For ICBC, AsBIC, EuroBIC and LaBIC, special funding rules apply. Please contact the SBIC Treasurer [Charles G. Riordan](#) for details.

National meetings and those organized by national chemical societies are not eligible for SBIC support, including Pacifichem Symposia.

**DEADLINES for applications:** March 1 and October 1 each year.

**Stay in touch with SBIC: Follow us on our Social Media channels!**

You have been included in this mailing list as a current member of the society or because you have attended a conference of the BIC series (ICBIC, EuroBIC, AsBIC, LABIC). If you would prefer not to receive this information, please let us know and we will remove your email address from the distribution list. If you would like to receive the latest SBIC news on your social media feeds, like us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/officialSBIC/>, or follow us on "X" (formerly Twitter) <https://twitter.com/sbicofficial/>.

