

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

We are pleased to provide the 2024.03 edition of our 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, conferences and symposia, and other opportunities in biological inorganic chemistry. We hope that you will continue to support SBIC by continuing as a member 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 by sending news to SBIC Secretary Prof. Kara Bren: kara.bren@rochester.edu.

***SBIC Governance Update***

We are pleased to welcome on board our new SBIC President, Prof. Hongzhe Sun (The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong), who assumes this position starting this month, and will serve through 2026. Hongzhe steps in as Prof. Clotilde Polcar (Ecole Normale Supérieure, PSL University, Paris, France) becomes our Past-President. We thank Clotilde for her outstanding leadership and service to the SBIC Community the past two years.

***SBIC Elections Outcome***

SBIC Elections took place in September – October 2024 with the following results:

**Council Seat – Europe:** Gerard Roelfes (University of Groningen, Netherlands)

**Council Seat – Asia/Australia:** Rachel Codd (University of Sydney, Australia)

**Treasurer:** Janet Morrow (University at Buffalo, USA).

We would like to thank our outgoing council members Celine Marmion (RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences, Ireland) and Elizabeth New (University of Sydney, Australia) and outgoing Treasurer Charlie Riordan for their years of dedicated service to SBIC.

***SBIC Early Career Researchers Committee***

We are delighted to announce that a new SBIC Early Career Researcher (ECR) Committee – A Professional Committee of SBIC Council that was established in August 2024.

The objectives of this Committee are as follows:

- Promoting networking, collaboration and career-building opportunities for SBIC ECRs by organizing and promoting events for them
- Fostering mentoring programs by connecting ECRs with senior researchers
- Supporting ECRs by providing a platform to promote available and upcoming positions
- Increasing ECR representation and participation at SBIC-related conferences, meetings, and other related events
- Advocating for the professional development of ECRs and provide a voice within SBIC governance
- Promoting diversity, equality, and inclusion within the ECR community

This new SBIC Council-approved ECR committee currently comprises one member from SBIC Council and 4 ECRs as follows:

*Professor Celine J. Marmion*, SBIC Council Member and Professor of Bioinorganic Chemistry, RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences, Ireland (inaugural chair)

*Dr. Marian Hebenbrock*, senior scientist, University of Münster (Germany)

*Victoria Müller*, doctoral candidate in Bioinorganic Chemistry, Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg, Germany

*Dr. Kushal Sengupta*, Alexander von Humboldt Postdoctoral Fellow and Group Leader (DeBeer Group), MPI-CEC, Germany

*Dr. Matthew P. Sullivan*, Lecturer (since 2024), School of Biological Sciences, University of Auckland

ECR membership includes ECRs at different career stages (lecturer, senior scientist, postdoctoral fellow, doctoral candidate due to graduate in 2024) with nationalities from Germany, India and New Zealand. Gender breakdown is as follows: 1 female and 3 male.

The ECR Committee was selected from applicants. The SBIC Council is now seeking 2-4 additional members to be added to this newly established SBIC ECR Committee, mindful of being as inclusive as possible. Our goal is for this committee to have representation from across the entire SBIC community, including but not limited to gender, underrepresented minority status, geographic location, and research area. We sincerely invite applications from ECRs who would like to be considered. 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 of 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 file. Preference will be given to applications received before December 31, 2024, but we will continue to consider applications on a rolling basis.

### **Educational Resources for SBIC Members**

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 year which includes for example advanced lectures on metalloprotein design. If you are an SBIC member, you also have access to members-only content which is continuously growing. Follow this [link](#)!

### **Congratulations**

We are happy to highlight recent awards and accolades earned by members of the bioinorganic community. If you have received an award or know of someone who has received recognition for their work in our field, 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!

**Frances Arnold** (Caltech, Pasadena, CA, USA): Priestly Medal of the American Chemical Society.

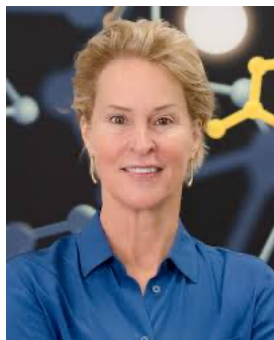
**Ivan Korendovych** (preceptor, Baylor University, Waco, TX, USA) and **Sagar Bhattacharya** (student, University of California at San Diego, USA): Novel Laureate Signature Award for Graduate Education in Chemistry.

**Johannes Rebelein** (Max Planck Institute for Terrestrial Microbiology, Marburg, Germany): 2024 Research Award of the Association for General and Applied Microbiology.

**Erwin Reisner** (University of Cambridge, UK): 2024 Tilden Prize for Chemistry.

**Maxie Roessler** (Imperial College, London, UK): 2024 Analytical Science early career prize: Joseph Black Prize.

**Wilfred A. van der Donk** (University of Illinois, Urbana, IL, USA): Alfred Bader Award in Bioinorganic or Bioorganic Chemistry.



**Arnold**



**Korendovych**



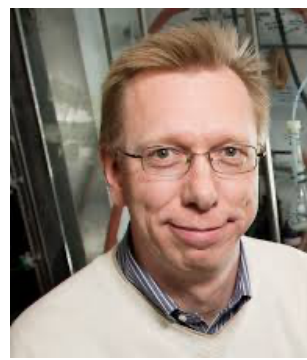
**Rebelein**



**Reisner**



**Roessler**



**van der Donk**

## Updates from the Journal of Biological Inorganic Chemistry (JBIC)

### 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, regardless of whether you are a member of SBIC or not!

Here are some of the paper highlights recently published in JBIC and 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.

### 2 / 2024

#### 10.1007/s00775-023-02005-1

New platinum (II) complexes based on schiff bases: synthesis, specification, X-ray structure, ADMET, DFT, molecular docking, and anticancer activity against breast cancer

A paper from Iranian colleagues describing all the necessary steps for characterizing a new anticancer drug candidate: Synthesis, full characterization including single crystal X-ray structure of the title compound, stability in solution, cytotoxicity, and (putative) target interaction. Exemplary!

#### 10.1007/s00775-023-02026-w

In vitro and in vivo accumulation of the anticancer Ru complexes [RuII(cym)(HQ)Cl] and [RuII(cym)(PCA)Cl]Cl

A fine paper by our new Associate Editor responsible for Special Issues!

### Call for JBIC Cover Art for 2025

JBIC is running a "JBIC Cover Competition" again throughout 2024: Corresponding authors of any paper published in JBIC in 2022 are invited and encouraged to make a suggestion for a cool JBIC cover art. The winning cover art will be shown on the cover of JBIC throughout 2025 (*i.e.* on eight issues of our journal), completely free of cost for the authors! The only condition is that the corresponding author is a member of SBIC. For suggestions and further information, please get in touch with JBIC Editor-in-Chief Nils Metzler-Nolte ([jbic-eic@rub.de](mailto:jbic-eic@rub.de)).

Deadline: November 30, 2024.

JBIC is looking forward to receiving your designs – so get creative everyone!



**For your diary: Upcoming conferences**

- International Society for Zinc Biology Meeting, December 1-6, 2024, Merida, Mexico. (<https://www.zinc-net.com/ISZB2024/>)
- AsBIC 11, Guilin, China, December 1-5, 2024.
- Bioinorganic Gordon Research Seminar, Ventura, CA, USA, January 17-20, 2025
- Gordon Research Conference (GRC) on Metals in Biology, Ventura, CA, USA, January 19-24, 2025. (<https://www.grc.org/metals-in-biology-conference/2025/>)
- CanBIC-9, Parry Sound, Ontario, Canada, May 20-24, 2025
- ICBIC-21, Long Beach, CA, USA July 26-31, 2025
- Gordon Research Conference (GRC) on Cell Biology of Metals, University of Southern Maine, August 3-8, 2025
- AsBIC-12, Jaipur, India, January 7-11, 2027
- 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 Janet Morrow ([jmorrow@buffalo.edu](mailto:jmorrow@buffalo.edu)). 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 ICBIC, AsBIC, EuroBIC and LaBIC, special funding rules apply. Please contact Janet Morrow for details.

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

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

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

Prof. Abhishek Dey, IACS, Kolkata is piloting a position managing the SBIC social media presence on X (formerly Twitter) and Facebook. 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/>. If you would like to advertise your events or anything biological inorganic chemistry-related, please email SBIC Secretary [Kara Bren](#) with all the relevant information.

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.

