

EuChemS Division of Organic Chemistry

Young Investigator Workshop 2026

July 10-11, 2026
Brussels



EuChemS Organic Chemistry

Solvay Institutes – Université libre de Bruxelles
Campus Plaine, Building NO, 5th level, Solvay Room.

DAY 1 — Friday July 10

08:30-08:50 **Arrival and registration**

08:50-09:00 **Opening remarks**

Session 1 — Chair: Adriaan Minnaard

- 09:00-09:25 **Milena Mlakić** (HR): *Multifunctional small-molecule design based on resveratrol for neuroprotection*
- 09:25-09:50 **Florian Glöcklhofer** (AT): *Conjugated macrocycles and macrocycle-based materials with concealed antiaromaticity*
- 09:50-10:15 **Thomas Heugebaert** (BE): *When flow photochemistry meets new, challenging process constraints*
- 10:15-10:40 **Maria Koyioni** (GR): *Synthesis and ring transformation of 1,2,3-dithiazoles*
- 10:40-11:10** **Coffee break**

Session 2 — Chair: Juri Timonen

- 11:10-11:35 **Márton Bojtár** (HU): *Rhodamine-based photocages for chemical biology*
- 11:35-12:00 **Charles C. J. Loh** (IE): *Leveraging non-classical σ -hole based noncovalent interactions in and Asymmetric Catalysis in Stereoselective carbohydrate synthesis*
- 12:00-12:25 **Gianluigi Albano** (IT): *Non-reciprocal chiroptical properties in 2D chiral organic thin films*
- 12:25-13:55** **Lunch (ULB Plaine Cafeteria)**

Session 3 — Chair: Bartholomäus Pieber

- 13:55-14:20 **Kazunori Nagao** (JP): *Development of organic electron donor catalysis*
- 14:20-14:45 **Audun Formo Buene** (NO): *From mediocre DSSCs to really fast skis*
- 14:45-15:10 **Manuel Nappi** (ES): *Nucleophilic photoactivation of CO₂ and carbonyls*
- 15:10-15:35 **Miguel Rivero-Crespo** (SE): *Multicatalysis for aerobic oxidations with Metal-Organic Frameworks*
- 15:35-16:00 **Becky Greenaway** (GB): *Automated high-throughput workflows for the synthesis and property screening of molecular organic materials*
- 16:00-16:30** **Coffee break**

Session 4 — Chair: Hennie Valkenier

- 16:30-16:55 **Minrui Xu** (Syensqo): *Functionalized Guar for Hair Care: Oxa Michael Grafting of Galactomannans and Performance Screening*
- 16:55-17:20 **Peter Viereck** (J&J): *Switchable and Ring-Selective Hydrogenation of Naphthyridine Isomers*
- 17:20-17:30 **Anne Nijs** — Wiley
- 17:30-17:40 **Georgios Arvanitakis** — Edinburgh Instruments

Travel to the city center of Brussels by metro, 19:30 Dinner at 'Le Roy d'Espagne' (Grand Place)

DAY 2 — Saturday July 11

Session 1 — Chair: Ludovic Troian-Gautier

- 09:00-09:25 **Samer Gnaim** (IL): *Transformative synthetic design through reactive intermediates control*
- 09:25-09:50 **Thomas Hansen** (NL): *Putting Together the Sweet, Sticky Bonds Between Carbohydrates*
- 09:50-10:15 **Petr Kovaříček** (CZ): *Lighting up reversible bonds*
- 10:15-10:40 **Ivana Sofrenić** (RS): *Recent advances in NMR methods for monitoring protein-ligand interactions*
- 10:40-11:10** **Coffee break**

Session 2 — Chair: Hennie Valkenier

- 11:10-11:35 **Stanislav Kalinin** (FI): *Synthetic strategies towards new glutarimide-based cereblon ligands for targeted protein degradation*
- 11:35-12:00 **Charalampos Pappas** (DE): *Phosphate-Driven Systems Chemistry*
- 12:00-12:25 **João Vale** (PT): *Total synthesis of (-)-agelastatin A*
- 12:25-12:35 **Illia Sharanov** — Thieme
- 12:35-14:00** **Lunch (Sandwiches)**

Session 3 — Chair: Adriaan Minnaard

- 14:00-14:25 **Christine Le** (CA): *Stereoselective Synthesis of Fluorinated Heterocycles Leveraging the Ambiphilic Reactivity of Difluorocarbene*
- 14:25-14:50 **Clément Chauvier** (FR): *Organoalkali-Catalyzed C–Si Cross-Couplings with N-tert-Butyl-N'-Silyldiazenes*
- 14:50-15:15 **Marc Garcia-Borràs** (ES): *Unlocking New-to-Nature Enzymatic Transformations Through Precision Confinement*
- 15:15-15:40 **Richard Liu** (US): *Altered Cross-Coupling Reactions for Synthetic Repurposing*
- 15:40-16:05 **Alexander Schuppe** (US): *New Avenues in Cyclase Phase Total Synthesis*
- 16:05-16:30 **Ali Deliz Liang** (CH): *Expanding the function of enzymes with genetic code expansion*
- 16:30-17:30** **Closing remarks**

Belgium beers tasting followed by a Barbecue at the UAE (ULB Plaine Campus)

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Local Organizing Committee:

Dr Hennie Valkenier, Université libre de Bruxelles

Dr Ludovic Troian-Gautier, Université catholique de Louvain

Mme Mélanie Vander Geeten, Université libre de Bruxelles

Mme Violaine Sizaire, Société royale de Chimie

Mme Isabelle Van Geet, International Solvay Institutes

