

# OMCOS 13

Geneva  
2005

## OMCOS 13, Geneva, July 17-21, 2005



In spring 2003, a letter informed us that the International Conference Centre Geneva, pre-reserved at very favorable conditions in 2001, would not be available in summer 2005 because of renovations. A frantic search ensued for a lecture hall capable of seating over 1000 participants with adjacent vast exhibition space and we finally contracted Expolac and the auditorium at the Hilton Hotel complex at a superb lake-front location. I remember distinctly the day when



I asked my co-chair Alex Alexakis to co-sign the contract. Inquiring what he had just signed I told him that it was a first of a series of contracts concerning the conference venue. The amount was 90'000 CHF – and more was to follow. Slightly taken aback by this information, he inquired on the state of our finances. To his credit he did not panic when told that we had no funds yet. No risk, no pain, no gain – the challenge was set. Early on we decided not to outsource the preparation of OMCOS 13 to a professional conference organizer – as this was the only way we could keep proper control of the operation and make OMCOS 13 affordable to participants in high-cost Geneva. The selection of speakers (with the help from the International advisory and the national scientific committee) was the easiest and most pleasant part. A good program is certainly an

important part for a successful international conference. It is by no means sufficient, however, and it is just the tip of the iceberg of conference organizing. Tasks were split up amongst the members of the local organizing committee and we did all, from fundraising to negotiation with caterers and technical contractors, from discussing reduced-rate room contingents in Hotels to week-passes of public transport, from arranging the 5000 m<sup>2</sup> space for exhibitors and scientific posters to finding and transporting a huge number of poster boards and to organizing an ample free beer and snack supply for poster parties,

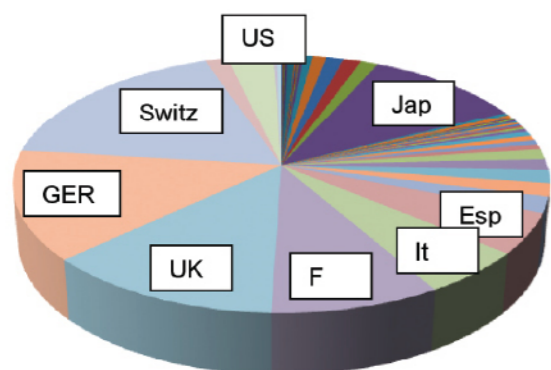
We neared capacity of the conference venue but were very happy to have ordered enough conference bags and poster boards. The bag filling stretched the patience of our otherwise enthusiastic students. Their good mood was restored on seeing the crowds at registration and the happy faces at the opening party on that very warm and sunny Sunday evening. The good weather lasted all through the week – with the exception of a short but violent thunderstorm with lightning that led to a brief powercut during Hisashi Yamamoto's lecture. The direct access from the conference center to the lake and the situation of the venue in the center of Geneva were much appreciated as were the excursions to the Mont-Blanc, to Chillon castle and to Gruyère.

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from correspondence with participants and exhibitors to putting together the book of abstracts and to organizing evaluation committees for poster prizes, and much, much more. By February 2005 all was set and over the following weeks the trickle of early registrations – every conference organizer is worried at that stage – swelled to a stream and became a torrent. Daily changes reached 3 digits and when the total count reached 1000, we knew we did not have to file for bankruptcy and we ordered more fancy food and wine for the opening party.







OMCOS-13 had a record number of nearly 1200 participants from 41 countries with an encouragingly high proportion of young scientists in attendance. Strong Asian participation at this conference reflected the outstanding level of research and leadership in this field from countries such as Japan, China, South Korea and Taiwan. Prof. Shengming Ma, from the Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry of the Chinese Academy of Science and the Department of Chemistry, Zhejiang University, China re-

ceived the OMCOS-13 Award (sponsored by the Yen Chuang Foundation and Springer Verlag). The prize was attributed for his creative research contributions in the field of transition metal catalyzed reactions of alkenes.

Apart from the OMCOS-13 Award lecture, there were 23 plenary lectures and 20 oral communications that dealt with aspects of reactivity and chemoselectivity of main group and transition metal organometallics. Stereoselectivity issues also figured prominently with a particular emphasis on asymmetric synthesis and catalysis. Mechanistic insights, new reagents for synthesis, new catalyst- and ligand-design and ligand-effects were other important topics. The OMCOS 13 program is reproduced below. For more detail see: *Pure Appl. Chem.* 2006, 78, 197-523 (<http://www.iupac.org/publications/pac/78/2/>). For write ups of OMCOS 13 see [1].

[1] a) Cumming, G. R. *Chimia* 2005, 59, 756. b) Machotta, A. B.; Oestreich, M. *Nachrichten aus der Chemie* 2005, 53, 1069

## OMCOS 13 IUPAC SYMPOSIUM ON ORGANOMETALLIC CHEMISTRY DIRECTED TOWARDS ORGANIC SYNTHESIS 17-21 JULY 2005 GENEVA

	Sunday 17 July	Monday 18 July	Tuesday 19 July	Wednesday 20 July	Thursday 21 July
08:15		Welcome + Opening remarks			
08:30		L1 Alois FUERSTNER	L8 Stephen L. BUCHWALD	L11 Erik M. CARREIRA	L19 Mark LAUTENS
09:15		L2 Varinder AGGARWAL	L9 Koichiro OSHIMA	L12 Simon WOODWARD	L20 Masaharu NAKAMURA
		OC1 Pauline CHIU	OC8 James TAKACS	OMCOS 14 announcement OC14 Naoto CHATANI	OC21 Christina MOBERG OC22 Christian BOCHET
10:15		Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break
10:45		L3 Masahiro MURAKAMI	OC9 King Kuok (Mimi) HUI OC10 Michel PFEFFER	L13 Dean F. TOSTE	L21 Kuiling DING
11:20		OC2 Pat GUIRY OC3 Pier-Giorgio COZZI OC4 Ivo STARY	OC11 Lutz ACKERMANN OC12 Diego PENA OC13 Akira YANAGISAWA	OC15 Rai Shung LIU OC16 Barbara MESSERLE OC17 Antonio MEZZETTI	L22 Cesare GENNARI L23 Carsten BOLM
12:05		L4 Louis S. HEGEDUS	L10 Eric N. JACOBSEN	L14 Mikiko SODEOKA*	Closing Remarks
12:50		Lunch and Poster Session	Lunch and Poster Session	Lunch and Poster Session	
14:00	Registration	L5 Jacques MADDALUNO	Free afternoon or Excursion	L15 Hélène LEBEL	
14:35		L6 Hisashi YAMAMOTO		L16 Bruce H. LIPSHUTZ	
15:20		OC5 Tamejiro HIYAMA OC6 Jonathan WILLIAMS OC7 Bernhard BREIT		OC18 Véronique MICHELET OC19 Bernd SCHMIDT OC20 Mauro PINESCHI	
16:05		Coffee Break		Coffee Break	
16:35		L7 Geneviève BALME		L17 Juan Carlos CARRETERO	
17:10		OMCOS Award lecture: Shengming MA		L18 Albert S. C. CHAN	
18:00	Welcome Reception	Poster Party			
19:00				Conference Banquet	
20:00					

\*Chemical Communications 40th anniversary lecture




## OMCO13 Invited Speakers / Titles

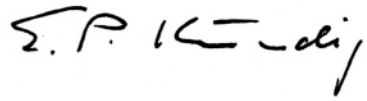
Varinder AGGARWAL (U Bristol, UK): New Ylide Reactions for Stereoselective Synthesis  
Geneviève BALME (U Lyon 1, France): Palladium-catalyzed Cascade- or Multicomponent-Reactions Leading to Functionalized Heterocyclic Compounds  
Carsten BOLM (RWTH Aachen, Germany): Catalyzed Enantioselective C-C-bond Formations  
Stephen L. BUCHWALD (MIT Boston, USA): Transition Metal-catalyzed Carbon-Carbon and Carbon-Heteroatom Bond-Forming Processes: Progress, Applications and Mechanistic Studies  
Erick M. CARREIRA (ETH Zurich, Switzerland): Studies in Catalysts for Synthesis  
Juan Carlos CARRETERO (U Autonoma de Madrid, Spain): Sulfenylphosphinoferrocenes: Novel Planar Chiral Ligands in Enantioselective Catalysis  
Albert S. C. CHAN (Hong Kong Polytech U, China): New Developments in Asymmetric Catalytic C-C Bond Formations  
Kuiling DING (Shanghai IOC, China): Development of Homogeneous and Heterogeneous Asymmetric Catalysts for Practical Enantioselective Reactions  
Alois FUERSTNER (MPI Kohlenf. Mülheim, Germany): Catalysis-Based Total Syntheses of Bioactive Natural Products  
Cesare GENNARI (U Milano, Italy): Ru-

and Rh-catalysed Reactions: Applications in Stereo- and Enantioselective Synthesis  
Louis S. HEGEDUS (Colorado State U, Ft. Collins, USA): Propargyl and Allenyl Organometallics in Synthesis  
Eric N. JACOBSEN (Harvard U, Cambridge, USA): New Asymmetric Catalytic Carbon-Carbon Bond Forming Reactions  
Mark LAUTENS (U Toronto, Canada): Metal Catalyzed Ring Formation and Ring Cleavage Reactions: New Methods and Synthetic Applications  
Bruce H. LIPSHUTZ (UC Santa Barbara, USA): New Technologies in Catalysis Using Base Metals  
Shengming MA (OMCOS 13 Award lecture, Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry and Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China): Transition Metal-Catalyzed Reactions of Allenes  
Jacques MADDALUNO (U Rouen, France): Atypical use of Chiral Lithium Amides in Asymmetric Synthesis  
Masahiro MURAKAMI (U of Kyoto, Japan): Torque Control by Metal-Orbital Interactions  
Masaharu NAKAMURA (U Tokyo, Japan): Catalytic Addition of Carbon Unit to Non-polar Alkenes  
Koichiro OSHIMA (U Kyoto, Japan): New Synthetic Reactions catalyzed by cobalt complex  
Mikiko SODEOKA (Tohoku U, Sendai, and Riken I, Tokyo, Japan): Acid-Base Catalysis

Using Chiral Palladium Complexes  
F. Dean TOSTE (UC Berkeley, USA): Rhenium and Gold-Catalyzed Additions to pi-Bonds  
Hisashi YAMAMOTO (U Chicago, USA): Designer Acid Catalysis for Organic Synthesis  
Simon WOODWARD (U Nottingham, UK): Dabbling with a Stable Organoaluminium Reagent



Alexandre Alexakis  
OMCOS-13 Co-chair



E. Peter Kündig  
OMCOS-13 Co-chair

The quality of the 620 posters that were on display during the entire conference was outstanding. This extraordinary poster session was highlighted with the Monday evening "poster party" and culminated in the awarding of 37 cash poster prizes. We are forever grateful to all who helped to make this event a success and wish all the best to future OMCOS organizers.

We end this short article with a few photos from a memorable OMCOS.





