

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

Welcome to the 2022.03 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 Early Career Award 2022 – Amie Boal***

Congratulations to Amie Boal who is the winner of the SBIC Early Career Award 2022!

Amie is a Professor in the Chemistry and Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Departments at The Pennsylvania State University. Her work has advanced our understanding of the reaction mechanisms employed by diverse classes of metalloenzymes. Her research team has made important contributions to understanding outcome-dictating structural characteristics of enzymes in the non-heme-iron and radical SAM superfamilies and to elucidating the adaptive advantages in choice of metallocofactor assembly pathway in class I ribonucleotide reductases. Amie is a member of the Advisory Committee for the Division of Biological Chemistry in the American Chemical Society. In 2021, she received the Pfizer Award in Enzyme Chemistry from the American Chemical Society.



**Meet our new SBIC president**

I am deeply honored to have been elected the next SBIC president. I am looking forward to working with the SBIC officers, council and especially the Bioinorganic Chemistry Community and would like to introduce myself to the people who may not know my background.

After completing a Ph.D. focused on mimics of a metalloprotein at the Université de Paris-Saclay and Paris 5 universities, I was a post-doctoral fellow in the CEA working on high-field electron paramagnetic resonance spectroscopy to characterize complexes as spectroscopic surrogates of the Mn cluster from the oxygen evolving center in the photosystem II. I was then appointed an assistant professor at Université de Paris-Saclay, where I developed Mn-complexes that mimic the anti-oxidant protein manganese superoxide-dismutase (SOD). Since 2008, I have been a professor at the Ecole normale supérieure (ENS-PSL) in the Laboratoire des BioMolécules (ENS-PSL, PSL university, Sorbonne université, CNRS) where I lead a research group in inorganic cellular and biological chemistry (<https://ens-bic.fr/>). My main current interests are in the design and in-cell evaluation of metal complexes mimicking anti-oxidant metalloenzymes such as SOD or catalase. On the other hand, my group has initiated work on metal-based probes (or tags), including metal-carbonyl as multimodal bio-probes and organelle trackers that we have validated for non-conventional bio-imaging, in IR and X-fluorescence.

I have been strongly involved into service to the scientific community. Besides being at the SBIC council since 2020, I served as an editorial board member of the *Journal of Inorganic Biochemistry*, an advisory board member for *ACS Inorganic Chemistry* and as a former deputy science director (DAS) at the Institut de chimie (INC) in CNRS (Centre national de la recherche scientifique, France), where I was involved in promoting multidisciplinary research. Since 2020, I have been the dean of the sciences education Ecole normale supérieure, and, when not involved in managing the COVID response in the students community, I focus on bridging literature and science, both at the teaching and research level, echoing my own work with theater to popularize science.

Bio-inorganic chemistry is multidisciplinary in nature and I am strongly convinced of the importance of teaching multidisciplinary topics starting from the undergraduate level. Sharing videos of lectures, as my predecessor as SBIC president Vince Pecoraro has nicely initiated for SBIC, is a way to sensitize the youngest to the importance of the role of metal ions. It is in our best interest to continue to step forward, always further, crossing frontiers as a means always to enhance the quality and innovative character of our science.

To finish with, I wish to say, as I did at EURO-BIC in July, that I am quite proud to be part of a scientific community that puts gender questions ahead of scientific conferences. This has been done at the last ICBIC in Interlaken with the presentation by Paul Walton and this year at EURO-BIC with a debate and three testimonies. I think it is quite important to discuss these questions out loud and share both feelings and solutions that are explored all over the world.

*Clotilde Policar*



### ***AsBIC10 in Kobe, Japan***

The 10<sup>th</sup> Asian Biological Inorganic Chemistry Conference (AsBIC10) will be held at Kobe International Conference Center in Kobe, Japan, from November 28<sup>th</sup> to December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 in a full face-to-face format. The deadline for early bird registration and abstract submission is August 31<sup>th</sup> (<https://www.asbic10.net>).

For non-Japanese on-site participants, at present a VISA is required to enter Japan. It takes some time to obtain a VISA, so please start the process as soon as possible. You can find the procedure to enter Japan on our website (<https://www.asbic10.net>). We will hold the conference with our best efforts to combat COVID-19 infection.

SBIC Award for younger researchers: SBIC will support a part of travel expenses of younger researchers (students and postdoctoral fellows) depending on their country of origin. To apply, please submit a CV and a letter of acceptance from your supervisor with your abstract to the AsBIC10 office ([office@asic10.org](mailto:office@asic10.org)).

Poster Award for younger researchers: There will be several Poster Awards for younger researchers (students and postdoctoral fellows) provided by sponsors. To apply, please select 'Poster (Applicants for the poster award)' during the registration.

#### Award Lectures:

- AsBIC Outstanding Achievement Award Lecture
- James Hoeschele AsBIC Award Lectures
- Graeme-Hanson-AsBIC Early Career Researcher Award Lectures

Excursions: Two options for excursions are available, both include a Kobe Bay Cruise on the Royal Princess. One is for a Kobe Winery and the other for a Japanese Sake Brewery.

Banquet: The conference banquet will be held on Saturday evening, Dec.3 at Kobe Portpia Hotel (<https://www.portopia.co.jp/en/>)

**Accommodation:** We have secured rooms in several hotels in vicinity to the conference center - Kobe Portopia Hotel (5 stars, 3 min walk), Hotel Pearl City Kobe (4 stars, 5 min walk), Ariston Hotel Kobe (3 stars).

For further information, please visit our conference website at <https://www.asbic10.net>.

We are looking forward to welcoming all of you in Kobe!

*Shinobu Itoh and Yoshitsugu Shiro (on behalf of the AsBIC10 Organizing Committee)*



### ***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 [Christian Hartinger](mailto:Christian.Hartinger@sbic10.net). Great to see how many bioinorganic chemists are recognized for the hard work and achievements – congratulations everyone!

Congratulations to **Jonathan Sessler** (The University of Texas at Austin) who is the winner of the 2022 Dalton Division open award: Mond-Nyholm Prize for Inorganic Chemistry.

Congratulations to **Nick Farrell** (VCU) who was presented with the Institute of Chemistry of Ireland David Brown Award 2021.

**Elizabeth New** (Uni Sydney) won the RACI medical chemistry/medical biology award.

**Carole Duboc** (Université Grenoble Alpe) was awarded the Senior Researcher prize by the Coordination Chemistry Division of the French Chemical Society.

Congratulations to **Catherine Drennan** (MIT), who won the William C. Rose Award!

**Paul Donnelly** (The University of Melbourne) is the recipient of the 2022 Burrows Award from the Inorganic Chemistry Division of the Royal Australian Chemical Institute (RACI).

**Shirley Nakagaki** (Universidade Federal do Paraná) assumed the presidency of the Brazilian Chemical Society (Sociedade Brasileira de Química - SBQ) for a 2-year term.

**Patrick Gamez** (Universidad de Barcelona) has been elected President of the Spanish Association of Bio-inorganic Chemistry (AEBIN) for the next 4 years and will lead the association together with the other 4 directorate members Josefa Gonzalez (Vice-president), Vanesa Fernández (Secretary), Ana Pizarro (Treasurer) and Luca Salassa.

The **In-cell Organometallic Redox Catalysis Team** (University of Warwick and supported by scientists at Chimie ParisTech (PSL University), University of Zürich, Sun Yat-sen University, Heriot Watt

University and the Technische Universität Kaiserslautern) are the winners of the 2022 Dalton Division Horizon Prize.



**Elizabeth New**  
The University of Sydney



**Paul Donnelly**  
The University of Melbourne



**Cathy Drennan**  
MIT



**Carole Duboc**  
Université Grenoble Alpes



**Shirley Nakagaki**  
Universidade Federal do Paraná



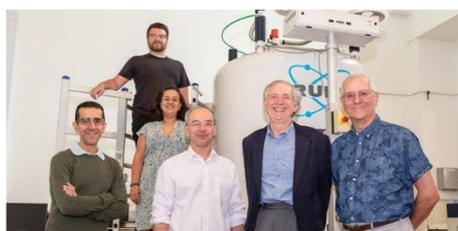
**Nick Farrell**  
Virginia Commonwealth University



**Patrick Gamez**  
Universida de Barcelona



**Jonathan Sessler**  
The University of Texas at Austin



**In-cell Organometallic Redox Catalysis Team**  
University of Warwick and collaborators

### ***Report from EuroBIC 2022 held in Grenoble***

The 16th conference of the Eurobic was held at the University of Grenoble, France, July 17-21, 2022. With 396 participants from 35 countries (including 34 new members), it was the first reunion of the bioinorganic community after the pandemic situation. The program, which referenced the latest cutting-edge research in chemistry at the interface of biology and chemistry, was appealing thanks to the plenary lectures from Elisabeth Nolan, Jana Roithova, Clotilde Policar, Nick Le Brun, Franc Meyer, Gerard Roelfes and Marc Fontecave and set the tempo for broad scientific discussions during the three parallel lecture sessions of which up to 45% of the session lectures were given by women. Special events made the flair of the conference: lectures by the 2020, 2021 and 2022 Eurobic Medal winners Kallol Ray, Aidan Mac Donald and Maxie Roessler, panel discussions on gender in science and integrity in science, and a meeting between young and experienced researchers. Nearly 260 Posters were also discussed in a lively atmosphere in two dedicated sessions.

*Stéphane Ménage and Carole Duboc (on behalf of the EuroBIC Organizing Committee)*



### **Call for a JBIC Cover Art for 2023**

JBIC is running a “JBIC Cover Competition” again throughout 2022: 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 2023 (*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, 2022.**

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

**JBIC** 2023  
Journal of  
Biological  
Inorganic  
Chemistry

*This could be your cover picture –  
for a whole year and for free!  
Send us your ideas!*

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

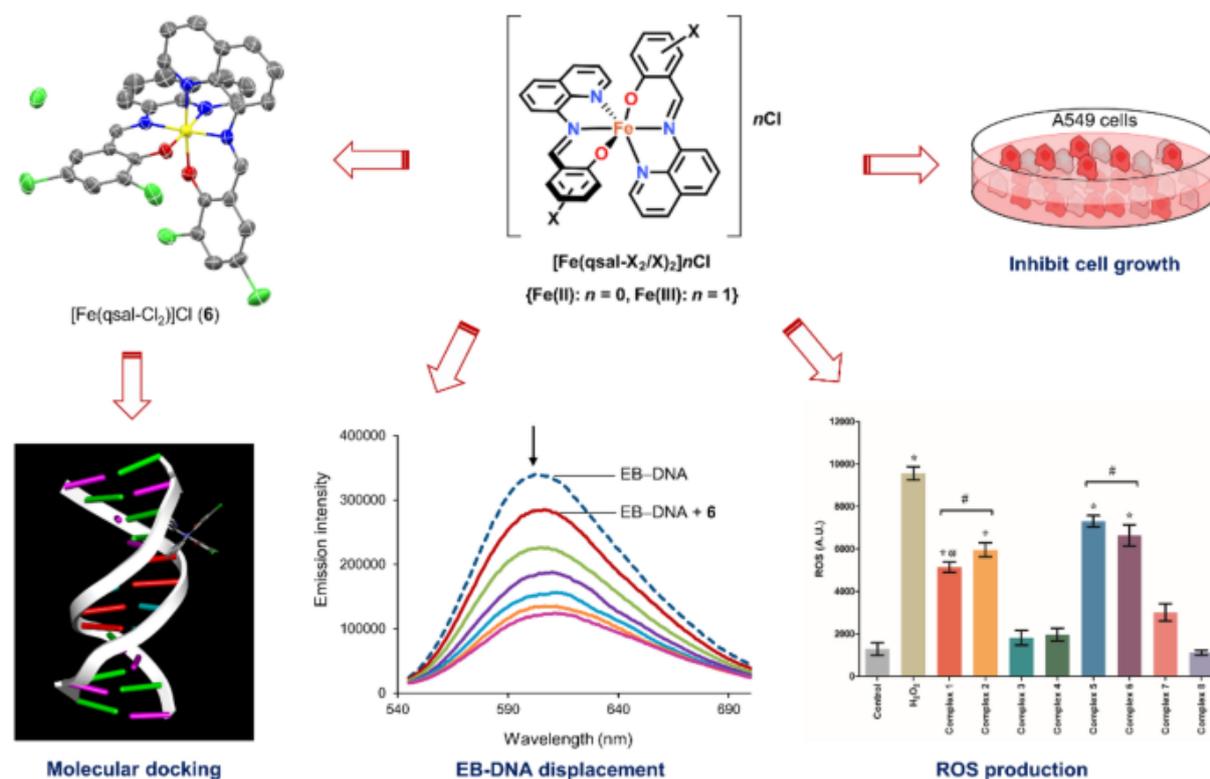
JBIC is the well-reputed journal of our society. Nils Metzler-Nolte is the Editor-in-Chief and in this role serves as a member of the SBIC Council. Nils always welcomes manuscripts with high impact results for publication in our journal. By submission of impactful articles to JBIC you demonstrate your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

Sutthida Wongsuwan, Jaruwan Chatwichien, Bussaba Pinchaipat, Sarawut Kumphune, David J Harding, Phimphaka Harding, Jaursup Boonmak, Sujittra Youngme, Ratanon Chotima

#### Synthesis, characterization and anticancer activity of Fe(II) and Fe(III) complexes containing N-(8-quinoly)salicylaldimine Schiff base ligands

This contribution is a collaboration involving researchers from Naresuan University and other universities from Thailand and highlights Fe anticancer compounds.



Sajjad Soltani, Kamran Akhbari

#### Cu-BTC metal–organic framework as a biocompatible nanoporous carrier for chlorhexidine antibacterial agent

Researchers from the University of Tehran describe the use of a Cu-based MOF as a carrier for antibacterial agents.



### For your diary: Upcoming conferences supported by SBIC

- 12<sup>th</sup> [International Copper Meeting](#), Sorrento, September 18–23, 2022.
- AsBIC 10, November 28–December 3, 2022, Kobe, Japan (<https://www.asbic10.net/>)
- LABIC-8, Chile, tentatively moved to April 2023
- 16th International Symposium on Applied Bioinorganic Chemistry, June 11 to 14, 2023, Ioannina, Greece. <https://isabc2023.com>
- ICBC 20, July 16–21, 2023, Adelaide, Australia ([www.icbic2023.org](http://www.icbic2023.org))
- The next International Symposium on Bioorganometallic Chemistry (ISBOMC21) will be held in Braunschweig in 2023 (<https://www.tu-braunschweig.de/en/pharmchem/isbomc21>)



### 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\$ (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 the SBIC Treasurer [Charles G. Riordan](#) 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!***

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 Twitter <https://twitter.com/sbicofficial/>. If you would like to advertise your events or anything biological inorganic chemistry-related, please email [Christian Hartinger](#) with all the relevant information.

