

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

Welcome to the 2020.10 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 are sure you all agree that we miss the opportunity to catch up with friends and colleagues during conference season and learn about the newest research results coming out from our community. We hope that we can compensate a bit for that loss and that you will find the information provided useful and continue to support our society 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. Stay safe!

Change in Presidency

Prof. Vince Pecoraro (University of Michigan) took over the duties as the President of SBIC as of October 1, while Prof. Sue Berners-Price (Griffith University) has migrated into the role of Past-president. For Vince's vision for the society join our General Assembly on October 30, 2 pm US Pacific Daylight Time and look out for the January 2021 newsletter!



Election Results 2020

We congratulate Charlie Riordan for being re-elected as Treasurer of SBIC for another 4 years. Our new SBIC council members are Elizabeth New (University of Sydney) and Celine Marmion (Royal College of Surgeons, Dublin). Congratulations all!

The SBIC Council has appointed Hongzhe Sun to fill the position on Council held by Deborah Zamble for the remainder of her term 2018-2022.



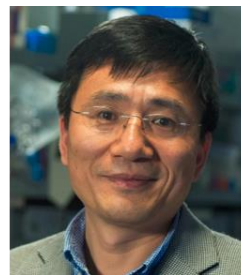
Elizabeth New
University of Sydney



Celine Marmion
Royal College of
Surgeons, Dublin



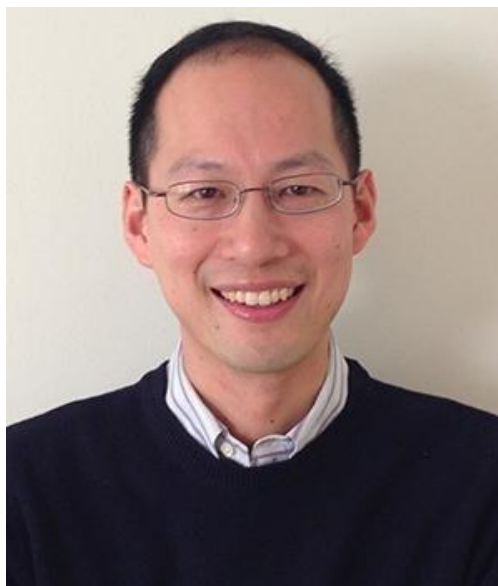
Charles Riordan
University of
Delaware



Hongzhe Sun
University of
Hong Kong

Annual General Assembly

Our annual [general assembly](#) will be held at **2 pm US Pacific Daylight Time on October 30, 2020**. Please check to see how this time conforms to your time zone. Our featured speaker will be Professor Christopher Chang of the University of California, Berkeley and the title of his 25 min presentation will be “*Transition Metal Signaling and Metalloallostery: Bioinorganic Chemistry Beyond Active Sites*”. Prof. Chang’s talk will be followed by questions and then presentations by Sue Berners-Price and Vince Pecoraro. They will detail the changes that have occurred to the society over the past year and exciting future initiatives that will be available to SBIC members. Because this event is part of the General Assembly, it is open only to SBIC members. Watch out for the invite and please join us by zoom



SBIC Early Career Award 2021

The SBIC Early Career Award 2021 is open for nominations! Check out [this link](#) for details.

We have a new Website!

We have been working hard in the last months with MCI and Memberclicks to get the new website up and running. And it is! Check out the SBIC page <https://sbic.memberclicks.net/> and provide any feedback by email to info@sbichem.org. Currently the content is accessible for everyone but some of it will move to the members-only area from January 1, 2021 – make sure that you renew your subscription for access! With the move from FASEB to MCI and Memberclicks, your SBIC communication will come

from sbic@memberclicks-mail.net. Make sure that you add the email address to your safe senders list in your email software.

Membership Dues 2021

Recognizing the fiscal and travel impacts of COVID-19 on our world and our Society, the former precluding in-person conferences, membership dues for 2021 are being reduced. Dues are simplified into two rate categories, representing a 25% discount for most members:

Regular members, **\$90 US**: one year membership includes online JBIC subscription

Student/low GDP/Emeritus members, **\$30 US**: one year membership includes online JBIC subscription

Watch out for the reminders to arrive in your inbox soon; SBIC is highly appreciative of your ongoing support!

AsBIC Awards 2020

The AsBIC Advisory Committee is pleased to announce the AsBIC 2020 awardees:

Graeme Hanson Early Career Researcher Award:

- Seungwoo HONG
- Taotao ZOU

AsBIC James Hoeschele Award:

- Mi Hee LIM
- Jun-Long ZHANG

AsBIC Outstanding Achievement Award (OAA):

- Zijian GUO

The 2020 AsBIC Award Lectures will be delivered via [Zoom](#) on October 26, 2020 at 3 pm in Guilin, China.

Conference Report EuroBIC-15 Webinar

Reykjavik, Iceland, was selected to be the 2020 destination for the EuroBIC conference. August is the warmest month in Iceland and also the month when the interior of Iceland is most accessible giving Conference participants the maximum number of choices if they wanted to see some of the Icelandic nature around the Conference dates. But these well-intentioned plans could not be put into practice.

The EuroBIC-15 Conference was scheduled to include eight Plenary speakers, 32 Keynote speakers, and over 200 oral presentation to take place in four parallel sessions. In addition there was ample space to accommodate all posters in the usual two poster sessions. Two EuroBIC Medalists were selected because the nomination committee felt both candidates were highly deserving this honor: Prof. Kallol Ray, Humbolt University-Berlin, and Prof. Aidan McDonald, Trinity College, Dublin.

However, then COVID-19 arrived. Registration was suspended in April as a precaution to monitor the progress of the COVID-19 pandemic, and then the Conference was cancelled in early June because of travel restriction imposed in many of the home countries of expected participants, and uncertainties regarding restrictions on meeting sizes.

Looking into other options, the Conference local committee worked with the EuroBIC meeting board to host a 2-day EuroBIC-15 Webinar instead, featuring most of the Plenary speakers and Kallol Ray as one of the EuroBIC Medal Awardees. The Webinar was hosted from the University of Zürich and Sigridur Suman, EuroBIC-15 Chair, and Eva Freisinger, EuroBIC Secretary, co-chaired the sessions. The lectures were scheduled to allow researchers from different time zones to attend and in total almost 300 scientists from all continents participated: Europe 144, North America 47, South America and Mexico 24, Asia 69 (with 48 from India), Australia and New Zealand 11, as well as one participant from South Africa. Many lecturers gave their permission to upload their talks to the [SBIC Youtube channel](#), which is deeply appreciated by the community. In addition, a Special Issue on the EuroBIC Webinar is scheduled to appear in the societies journal (*Journal of Biological Inorganic Chemistry*).

Speakers: Sylvestre Bonnet, Leiden, Netherlands; Sonja Herres-Pawlis, RTWH Aachen, Germany; Jens Müller, Westfälische Wilhelms Universität Münster, Germany; Eric Skaar, Vanderbilt University, TN, USA; Elizabeth Nolan, MIT, Boston, USA; Elizabeth New, Sydney University, Sydney, NSW, Australia; Gerard Roelfes, Groningen, Netherlands; Kallol Ray, Humbolt University Berlin, Germany; Stephane Menage, University Grenoble, France



Update on LABIC and ICBIC

While the decisions of venue, organizers and the decision to delay/cancel meetings rest with the local organizer and the respective governing IOCs, we would like to give you an update on the status of upcoming ICBIC, EuroBIC, LABIC and AsBIC meetings.

The [ICBIC 2021](#) Organising Committee advises that they are working full time on preparations for ICBIC 2021 in Adelaide and the plans for the upcoming Conference remain in place. While the organizers are optimistic that Adelaide will be a safe place to hold the Conference in July next year, they are also investigating options for delivery in a hybrid virtual/onsite format with the same dates.

LABIC is postponed to April 6-9, 2021. Check out the webpage for further updates <https://labic2020.org.uy/>.

SBIC recommends all its members to stay safe and to heed appropriate local and national advice on whether conference travel is essential in these challenging times. Ultimately, the loss of valued colleagues and friends is too high a price to pay for the scientific stimulation we all hold so dear.



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](#). Great to see how many bioinorganic chemists are recognized for the hard work and achievements – congratulations everyone!

- Great news for Jonathan Sessler (The University of Texas at Austin) who was selected as the recipient of the 2021 Ronald Breslow award.
- Congratulations to Tom Meade (Northwestern University) for his selection as the 2020 Gold Medal Award Winner of the World Molecular Imaging Society.
- Former ICBIC IOC secretary Ken Karlin (Johns Hopkins University) is the recipient of the ACS Award for Distinguished Service in the Advancement of Inorganic Chemistry.
- The ACS has awarded the Alfred Bader Award in Bioinorganic or Bioorganic Chemistry to former SBIC Council member Amy Rosenzweig (Northwestern University).
- Eszter Boros (Stony Brook University) was named a 2020 Moore Inventor Fellows.
- The Harry Gray Award for Creative Work in Inorganic Chemistry by a Young Investigator went to Smaranda C. Marinescu (University of Southern California).
- Congratulations to Peggy Carver who was appointed a Le Studium Research Fellow!
- And finally, our president Prof. Vincent Pecoraro (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor) has received the 2021 Le Studium Research Professorship Award. Both Peggy and Vince will be hosted by Professor Stéphane Petoud and Dr Svetlana Eliseeva at the Centre Biophysique Moléculaire in Orléans, France. Congratulations, Vince!



Jonathan Sessler
The University of
Texas at Austin



Tom Meade
Northwestern
University



Ken Karlin
Johns Hopkins
University



Amy Rosenzweig
Northwestern
University



Eszter Boros
Stony Brook
University



Peggy Carver
University of
Michigan



Vince Pecoraro
University of
Michigan



Smaranda C. Marinescu
University of Southern
California

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 until December 14. These articles have been selected by the journal Editor-in-Chief for their exceptional interest to members of the biological inorganic chemistry scientific community.

[Arsenic-induced neurotoxicity: a mechanistic appraisal](#)

Carla Garza-Lombó, Aglaia Pappa, Mihalis I. Panayiotidis, María E. Gonsebatt & Rodrigo Franco

[Radical SAM enzymes: surprises along the path to understanding mechanism](#) William Broderick & Joan Broderick

For your diary: Upcoming conferences supported by SBIC

- LABIC 7, April 6-9, 2021 in Montevideo, Uruguay - <http://www.labic2020.org.uy>
- ICBIC 20, July 18-22, 2021 in Adelaide, Australia (<https://www.icbic2021.org/>)
- 12th [International Copper Meeting](#), Sorrento, September 19-24, 2021.
- 2022 Gordon Research Conference – Metals in Biology (<https://www.grc.org/metals-in-biology-conference/2020/>)
- 2022 Gordon Research Conference – The Roles of Tetrapyrroles in Catalysis, Regulation, Metabolism and Disease (<https://www.grc.org/chemistry-and-biology-of-tetrapyrroles-conference/2020/>)

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 granted 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.

