



IYCN

THE INTERNATIONAL
YOUNGER CHEMISTS
NETWORK
NEWSLETTER

January 2019, Issue 6



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Upcoming Events and Activities in 2019

17 to 20 March	Bremen, Germany	14th EYCN Delegate Assembly
20 to 23 March	Bremen, Germany	21st JCF Frühjahrssymposium (Spring Symposium) and 2nd European Young Chemists' Meeting
31 March to 4 April	Orlando, FL, USA	257th ACS National Meeting & Exposition
5 to 12 July	Paris, France	2nd IYCN General Assembly & 50th IUPAC General Assembly & 47th IUPAC World Chemistry Congress



IYCN

Support Wanted

Do you or your organization/company want to support IYCN and its progress?

Please contact us via the following e-mail address:
iykn@iupac.org.

We are searching for financial support for travel awards and poster/oral-presentation awards.

Thank You to Our Sponsors

[International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry \(IUPAC\)](#)

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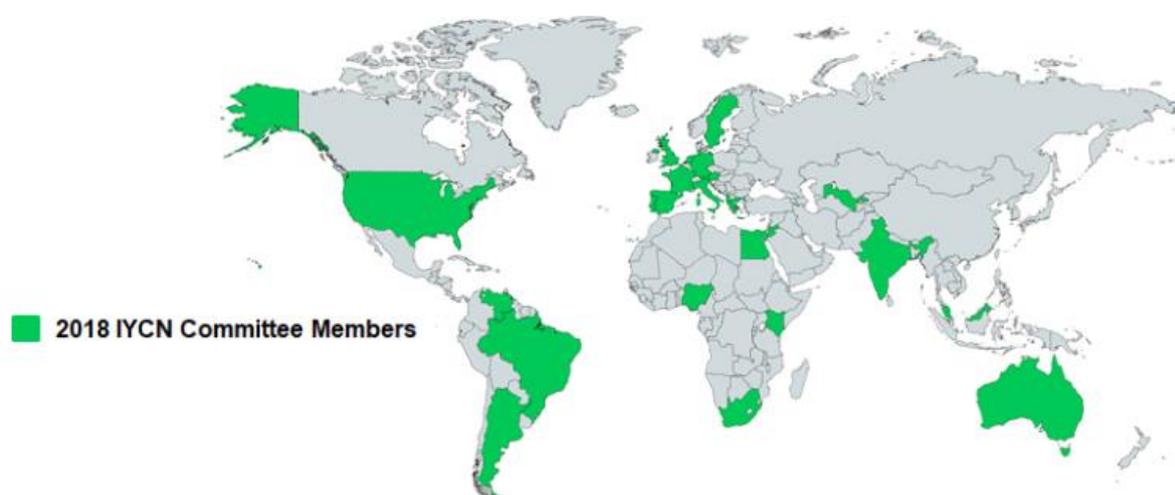
[ACS Committee on International Activities](#)

[Royal Netherlands Chemical Society \(KNCV\)](#)

Chair's Message 2018

Dear IYCNers,

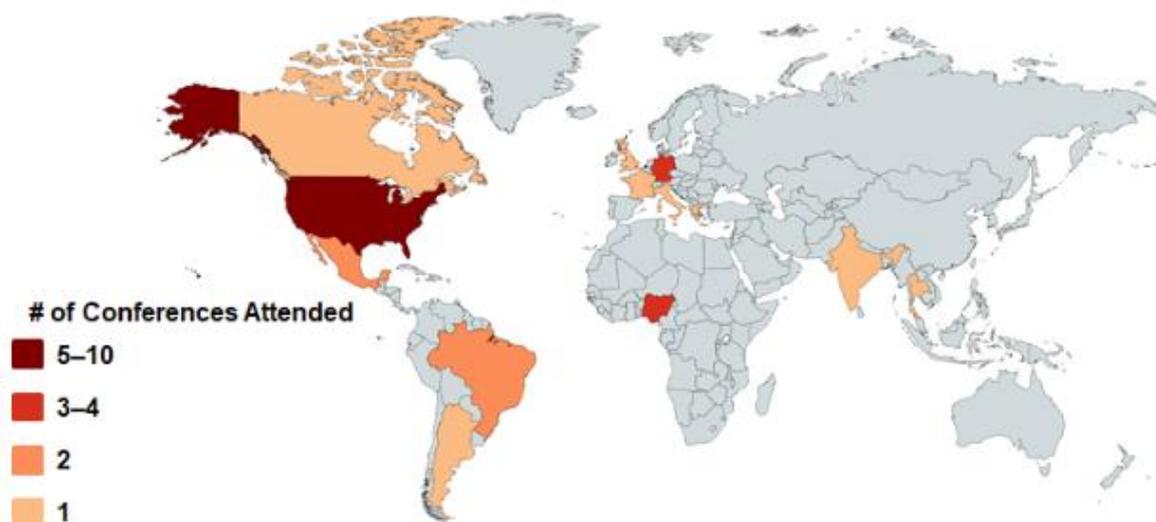
I hope this message finds you well! As we wrap up one year and start another, I want to take a moment and reflect on all the accomplishments of IYCN for 2018. We had a rocky start with an incomplete board in early 2018. Nevertheless, we recovered quickly and I'm proud to say that currently we have representatives from 25 countries of 6 continents in our committee of 45 members shown in green in the map below. These relentless volunteers come from diverse backgrounds such as graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, early career scientists, and faculties and they have worked countless hours collectively to ensure the existence of IYCN. I thank you all for your hard work and efforts in building and sustaining this network.



World map with currently active members in IYCN (green colored countries).

IYCN has several subcommittees such as Governance, Finance, Social Media, Conference Presence and Public Outreach. Each team has been outstanding in achieving their goals for 2018. You might have seen us in person or virtually at conferences in US, South America, Europe, Africa, and/or limited parts of Asia as shown in the map below. We would like to be active in all of the gray areas, and I strongly encourage you to reach out to us if you are interested in representing IYCN at a conference near you.

The Social Media team has been phenomenal in building our online presence which currently includes 164 LinkedIn followers (50% increase from 2017), 670 Twitter followers (345%), 612 Facebook followers (250%). The Public Outreach team is working on rolling out an experiment competition in 2019 under the theme of Climate Change. We intend to translate the top 3 winning experiments into multiple languages (especially in underrepresented countries), so stay tuned as there is more information to come for this project and we could definitely use your help. The Governance team has been consistently working on our Bylaws, which we intend to approve as first order of business for 2019. They are also gearing up to host the first IYCN general assembly (GA), which will be taking place during IUPAC in Paris 2019.



World map with conferences IYCN was present in 2018 and number of conferences attended by color code

The Finance team has been working on ensuring funds for our events and would like to thank our generous sponsors such as Royal Netherlands Chemical Society (KNCV), German Chemical Society (GDCh), International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC), American Chemical Society (ACS), Schrödinger industry, Chemicals Abstracts Service (CAS) and the Pearson publishing group. If you are interested in supporting our events, please do not hesitate to reach out. Any financial help would be greatly appreciated.

Additionally, I would like to highlight and thank our webmaster (Gaby), secretary (Fatima), and vice chair (Lori) for their countless efforts in helping shape IYCN. Special thanks go to our floating advisors Maarten, Michael, Christine, Richard, Fabienne and Lynn for their continuous support towards IYCN.

I am grateful to have been a part of such an incredible team of people in 2018, and I am hopeful that together we will accomplish even greater tasks in 2019! I look forward to continuing to work with all of you!

Thank you again for all your support!

Best wishes to all of you and your families,

Evi Llabani

IYCN is at the Kuala Lumpur Engineering Science Fair (KLESF): The Fair 2018, Malaysia

The International Younger Chemists Network (IYCN) was proud to collaborate with the American Chemical Society (ACS) Malaysia International Chemicals Chapter for the first time to hold an outreach science exhibition booth at the Kuala Lumpur Engineering Science Fair (KLESF): The Fair 2018. The fair was held from 2nd to 4th November 2018 at the MINES International Exhibition and Convention Centre (MIECC), Selangor, Malaysia. IYCN is one of the partners in the ACS Festival Chemistry Grant 2018, which was awarded to the ACS Malaysia Chapter.



KLESF 2018 fair



Dr. Chan (far left) with participants who were displaying their chromatography flowers' patterns

and is well-attended by primary and secondary school students, particularly from the central region of Malaysia. It is held to encourage more students to take up STEM-based education pathways and careers, which has dwindled dramatically in the recent years. The turn-out this year was very large with more than 100 schools participating.

The ACS Malaysia Chapter-IYCN booth was led by Dr. Eric Chan Wei Chiang, who is the current Outreach

The KLESF2018 was organized by ASEAN Academy of Engineering and Technology (AAET), Tunku Abdul Rahman University College (TARUC), University Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR), Malaysian Industry- Government Group for High Technology (MIGHT), and The Institution of Engineers Malaysia (IEM). It is held annually and is one of the biggest, free-admission STEM outreach events in Malaysia



Volunteers were ready for the volcanic balloons demonstration.

Science Leader in the ACS Malaysia Chapter. The team was assisted by other ACS members and university students from the central region who offered their energy and time voluntarily. Some of the experiments carried out included chromatography flowers and volcanic balloons that received a positive response from the students. This event marks the beginning of the collaboration between IYCN and ACS Malaysia Chapter and we hope to co-host many more activities in the future.



Demonstration of coloring mixing experiment using osmosis

Hooi-Ling Lee (hlee@usm.my) and Eric Chan Wei Chiang

(Ref. <https://www.klesf.net/klesf-the-fair-2018-introduction/>)

New Website URL and LinkedIn Page

Dear IYCN followers,

By the end of the month (01/2019) the current LinkedIn account will be closed. We have created an IYCN LinkedIn company page instead of a personal profile to promote our network. If you still want to receive our updates and news please follow us on the following link <https://www.linkedin.com/company/iycn/>

Furthermore, the URL for our website has changed. You can find us now under the following address: <https://www.iycnglobal.com/>

We will be happy to have you with us!

IYCN – Up and Coming in South Africa

IYCN recently had the opportunity to give a short presentation at the 29th Catalysis Society of South Africa (CATSA) Conference held from the 11th-14th of November 2018 at the Legend Gold and Safari Resort, Limpopo, South Africa. This has been the first introduction of IYCN in South Africa, and interest from both senior academics as well as students was obtained. IYCN's hope is to foster further interest in southern African countries over the next few years and to continue to grow within Africa.

Bianca Leigh Davids



Bianca presenting IYCN with a short presentation during the 29th Catalysis Society of South Africa Conference



IUPAC's Periodic Table of Younger Chemists

In celebration of the 100th anniversary of IUPAC and the International Year of the Periodic Table, IUPAC and IYCN announce the creation of a [Periodic Table of Younger Chemists](#). Beginning in July 2018 and ending in July 2019 at the World Chemistry Congress and IUPAC General Assembly, we will honor a diverse group of 118 outstanding younger chemists from around the world.

The nominations are currently open, so do not hesitate to use this opportunity to nominate a worthy candidate. All nominations must be submitted via the [on-line form](#).

In the last issue, we informed you about the 9th to 33rd awardees. In the meantime 16 further young chemists have been awarded: Oliver Jones (Ir, RMIT University Melbourne, Australia), Rebekah Duffin (Rh, Monash University, Australia), Aubrey Paris (K, Princeton University, USA), Saima Shabbir (Na, Institute of Space Technology Islamabad, Pakistan), Thibault Cheisson (Ca, University of Pennsylvania, USA), Dmitriy Berillo (B, University of Brighton, UK), Fun Man Fung (F, National University of Singapore), Rachel Hevey (I, University of Basel, Switzerland), Elisa Orth (Cr, Federal University of Paraná, Brazil), Gabriela Desireé Tormet-González (Be, University of Campinas, Brazil), Guihua Yu (V, University of Texas Austin, USA), Naoaki Yabuuchi (Nb, Yokohama National University, Japan), James Gardner (Ta, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden), Ilja Voets (Pd, Eindhoven University of Technology, Netherlands), Martine Abboud (Ce, University of Oxford, UK) and Juris Meija (Os, National Research Council of Canada).

We are excited about these ongoing elections and intend to keep you updated about the upcoming elections via our newsletter and social media channels.

Sebastian Weber

IYCN at Merck-Elsevier Young Chemists Symposium in Rimini

The Young Group of the Italian Chemical Society (SCI Giovani) organized the 18th edition of their annual meeting with more than 200 attendees. Together with Claudia Bonfio we promoted IYCN by distributing flyers and talking with people about our missions.

For this purpose, we also organized a speed-networking game where every participant picked up a random element showing on the other side of the card the IYCN logo. All the people who chose elements that belonged to the same Periodic Table Group gathered in different areas of the room and had the chance to get to know each other.

Through this game we were able to give IYCN more visibility and, who knows, maybe we also set the foundation for some future meaningful collaboration!

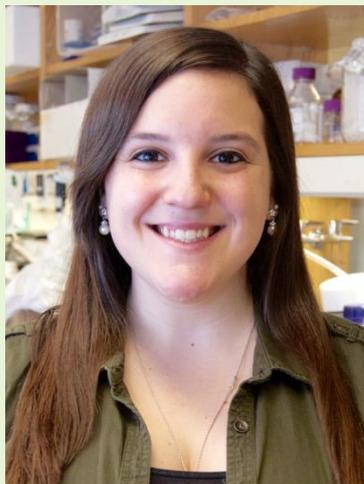
Finally, special thanks to the past SCI-Giovani board who supported and helped us in promoting IYCN.

Marta Da Pian



Impressions from the Merck-Elsevier Young Chemists Symposium in Rimini

Active Members in IYCN



Caitlyn L. Mills received a B.S. in Chemistry and B.S. in Forensic Science from the University of New Haven (West Haven CT, USA) in 2012. She is currently in her final year in the PhD program at Northeastern University (Boston, MA USA) in Chemistry and Chemical Biology. Her research is in protein function annotation using computation to predict protein function and testing these predictions biochemically, thus bridging the gap between chemical biology and computational chemistry.

Selected Awards:

- SciFinder Future Leaders Program, selected participant (2017)
- PhRMA Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship in Informatics (2015-2017)

Sub-committee/Position: Conference Presence Team



Marcel Denny received his B.Sc. in Chemistry in 2016 at the University of the West Indies, and currently he is pursuing his MPhil/PhD degree in organic synthesis. His research focuses on making analogues of natural products and assessing their biological activities. He believes that chemistry is exciting and he spreads his love for chemistry through numerous outreach activities at his university.

Selected Awards:

- 2015-2016 Wilfred Chan Award for Organic Chemistry while doing his B.Sc.
- 2016 Diamond Status in the Chemistry Honour Society while doing his B.Sc.

Sub-committee/Position: Public Outreach Team



Maximilian A. Springer received his B.Sc. in Chemistry in 2015 and his M.Sc. in Chemistry in 2018 from Leipzig University, Germany. Currently, he is PhD student at Helmholtz-Zentrum Dresden-Rossendorf under supervision of Prof. Thomas Heine. He is active in the German Chemical Society (GDCh) and Member of the Social Media Team of the International Younger Chemists Network (IYCN).

Selected Awards:

- 2015: DAAD RISE worldwide scholarship for a 2-month stay at Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, Canada
- 2015: Prize for the best student of the year in Analytical Chemistry at Leipzig University, awarded by the German Chemical Society (GDCh)
- 2016: DAAD ISAP fellowship for a 6-month stay at Monash University, Melbourne, Australia

Sub-committee/Position: Social Media Team



Tony kinoti Murithi A recent graduate of Chemistry from University of Nairobi – Kenya, with in-depth knowledge in Medicinal Chemistry and Drug Discovery. His research interests involve applying computer simulation techniques to understand fundamental processes that produce high quality and accurate nanoparticle systems.

Sub-committee/Position: Finance Team

IYCN Executive Board



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