

Dear Members, Dear Scientific Advisors, Dear Colleagues, Dear Friends,

At the start of the New Year we are pleased to present to you our best wishes on behalf of the French Medicinal Chemistry Society, hoping that the new year brings you happiness, prosperity and success in all your endeavors, with as bonus a good health.

We take advantage of this message to give you a brief overview of past year's achievements:

- Our various scientific events have been a real success, and continue to represent opportunities of scientific exchange and business meetings for an international audience.
 - The 24th edition of the **Young Research Fellows Meeting (YRFM 2017)**, organized in **Châtenay-Malabry in February 2017**, confirmed to be an essential meeting place for our young talents, which will ensure our succession, as witnessed by the strong participation of over 300 young scientists
 - Our annual congress, the **53rd International Meeting of Medicinal Chemistry (RICT 2017)**, was organized **July 5th to 7th, 2017 in Toulouse** on the theme "*Drug discovery & selection*", and we have welcomed 406 participants coming from 36 countries. We have received very positive feedback from the participants on the excellent scientific level of the program.
 - A thematic day "**Chemical Biology, Contribution to Molecular Therapeutic Innovation: Conjugates and Drug Discovery Chemistry, new challenges for targeted therapies**" that was organized on **December 7th, 2017 in Paris**, that has allowed to provide insights in recent developments in the field of drug conjugates

The large participation of French and foreign researchers, both academic and industrial, witnesses that the SCT, through its scientific events, continues to meet the needs of the scientific community and that the quality of its events is recognized both nationally and internationally. We continue to work to ensure that our events are of the highest scientific quality and a true meeting place for our community.

- The University of Nice and the SCT jointly presented an application to organize the EFMC-ISMC meeting in September 2022, and had the great satisfaction of seeing their candidacy selected amongst 3 candidates. It was decided to combine in 2022 the RICT meeting with this prestigious European symposium
- The "Business Development" unit, created in 2015 under the auspices of Pascal George, with as mission to offer advice and assistance to SMEs and biotech companies, has further consolidated its activities, with several contacts and contracts with SMEs and valorization units such as the SATTs. The BusDev Unit has executed this year the first missions for foreign partners.

The year 2018 is already very rich in events, and we do sincerely hope to meet you at one of these:

- The 25th edition of the **Young Research Fellows Meeting (YRFM 2018)**, will take place between **5 and 7 March 2018 in Orléans**. The program of these days is rich and includes 5 plenary lectures, conferences of various prizewinners (Prix de la vocation) and oral communications.
- Our annual congress, the **54th International Meeting of Medicinal Chemistry (RICT 2018)**, will take place from **July 4th to 7th, 2018 in Strasbourg** on the theme "*Interfacing Chemical Biology and Drug Discovery*". The organization of the scientific program is already well advanced and 21 speakers of international reputation have already given their agreement. Among the themes selected, particular attention will be paid to the various new approaches developed in the field of GPCRs as therapeutic targets (www.rict2018.org).
- A thematic day in **November in Paris** around a theme of great interest to our community, with a first subject proposal "**Chemical Biology: Epigenetic Targets Beyond Oncology**". We remain open to any other proposal, knowing that we should establish an organizing committee by the end of February.

In order to adapt to the recent evolutions of the "Drug Discovery Chemistry", our society wishes today to reinforce the organization of its scientific council by appointing key academic and industrial leaders to animate our activities in the four main areas of our scope of interest:

- Chemical Biology
- Drug Discovery Chemistry & ADMET
- Biologics / Macromolecules
- Structural Biology, Biophysical Technologies & In Silico Predictive Models.

We will continue to orient and develop our activities in order to optimally meet the expectations of researchers, academic and industrial partners who have relied on us for several years.

Our approach can only be done with the help of its members and you will understand why the SCT needs your full support. Concerning the activities of our Society and our scientific events, you can find out more on our recently renewed website www.sct-asso.fr, and to join, go to <http://www2.sct-asso.fr>.

Our sincere gratitude go to all those who, through financial means or by their personal investment, contribute to our activities: the members of our scientific advisory board, our industrial and institutional sponsors, and last but not least all our colleagues for their effective and enthusiastic involvement in the life of the Society.

We look forward to meeting you all at our various scientific events and wish you all the best for this new year, both at a personal and professional level



Luc Van Hijfte
Président



Sébastien Papot
Vice-président