

International Society of Heterocyclic Chemistry

2025 Newsletter



Message from the President

As this year draws to a close, I want to extend my heartfelt greetings to all ISHC members. The end of the year invites reflection, but it also opens the door to new possibilities. I sincerely hope that 2026 will be a year marked by peace, well-being, and success for each of you.

As the new ISHC President, I have had the chance to see firsthand the strength of our community. In 2025, I have been impressed by the hard work of our Executive Committee and the editors of *Progress in Heterocyclic Chemistry*. Thanks to their efforts, we are improving how we connect with one another and how we share the many scientific achievements of our global membership.

As we look ahead, I invite you not only to renew your membership but also to help us grow by encouraging colleagues, who are engaged in heterocyclic chemistry, to join the ISHC. A strong and active membership is the foundation of our mission and the catalyst for future initiatives.

May the coming year bring you inspiration in your research, satisfaction in your collaborations, and joy in all aspects of life.

Message from the Secretary

It has been a pleasure and a privilege to continue serving as Secretary of the Society over the past year. It has also been great fun connecting with so many of you virtually as you submit abstracts for inclusion in our monthly Bulletin – please do keep them coming!

I am also very happy to circulate any relevant opportunities, whether postdoctoral positions or faculty vacancies, to the wider membership.

My sincere thanks go to our new President, Antonio, and to all committee colleagues for their ongoing support, enthusiasm, and collaboration.

And finally, a gentle reminder to renew your membership for the coming year – we very much value your continued involvement in the Society.

30th ISHC Congress

19-24 July 2026, São Carlos, Brazil

<https://ishc-brazil2026.com/>

Registration now open!



Join us from July 19–24, 2026, at USP São Carlos, Brazil, for an exciting international meeting that brings together researchers from around the world to explore the latest advances and ideas in heterocyclic chemistry, featuring cutting-edge presentations, networking opportunities, and scientific excellence in a beautiful university setting. For the first time in its history, the traditional congress of the International Society of Heterocyclic Chemistry will be held in Latin America, marking a milestone for the region's growing scientific community.

The event will bring together leading scientists in synthetic and medicinal chemistry to present recent and creative advances in molecular design, catalysis, and the synthesis of complex heterocyclic systems and natural products. The program will feature new catalytic and radical-based strategies, as well as sustainable and photochemical methods that expand the chemist's toolkit for efficient molecular and heterocycle construction.

Several talks will highlight the development of stereoselective transformations, novel organocatalytic approaches, and modern redox processes that enable precise control over molecular and heterocyclic architecture. These advances reflect the growing emphasis on efficiency, selectivity, and environmental responsibility in synthetic chemistry.

In addition to methodological innovation, the event will explore the interface between chemistry and biology, showcasing how carefully engineered molecular scaffolds contribute to new discoveries in imaging, photodynamic therapy, and drug development. Collectively, the discussions will emphasize creativity, new methods in synthesis, sustainability, and translational potential as driving forces of contemporary chemical research.

Located in the heart of São Paulo state, São Carlos is a small, yet lively university city recognized for its strong research tradition and welcoming atmosphere. Known as Brazil's "Capital of Technology," it blends innovation with a touch of nature, offering great restaurants, cozy cafés, and nearby areas for eco-tourism and outdoor exploration. With its vibrant academic environment and relaxed charm, São Carlos provides an inspiring backdrop for this landmark international scientific gathering.

2026 ISHC AWARDS: CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The following three Society awards are currently open for nominations, with Awards being presented at the 30th Congress in Brazil, where the recipients will also present a lecture.

2026 ISHC E. C. TAYLOR SENIOR AWARD

The ISHC senior award, renamed to honour E. C. Taylor in 2013, was established to give recognition to truly outstanding heterocyclic chemists. The award consists of a \$3,000 honorarium, coach-class airfare and local accommodations for the biennial ISHC Congress. The Awardee will present an award lecture and shall receive a plaque.

2026 ISHC A. R. KATRITZKY JUNIOR AWARD

This award was established to recognize up and coming members of the heterocyclic community who have made outstanding contributions to the field. The award was named after Alan Katritzky to honour his many and recognized contributions to the field. The Award consists of a \$1,000 honorarium, standard/coach-class airfare and local accommodations for the biennial ISHC Congress. The Awardee will present an award lecture and shall receive a plaque.

2026 ISHC INDUSTRIAL AWARD

This award was established in 2015 to recognize members of the heterocyclic community in industry who have made outstanding contributions to the field. The Awardee will present an award lecture at the biennial ISHC Congress and receive a plaque. Travel and registration cost will be provided by the awardee's company.

Full details of all three awards are on the ISHC website and were also circulated to the membership.

Completed nominations should be sent to the Secretary by **15th January 2026**.

Obituary

During the year we were sad to lose a major figure in heterocyclic chemistry:

Girolamo (Gilmo) Cirrincione, chair of the 20th congress in Palermo in 2005 died in September 2025 at the age of 77.

X / Twitter

Full details about the Society can always be found on the ISHC website, brilliantly maintained by Alan Aitkin. <http://www.ishc-web.org/>

For the latest news and updates from the Society, you can now follow us on X (formerly known as Twitter). Just search for @ishc1967



If you have any other ideas or suggestions as to how to reach out to members and potential new members through social media platforms, please let the Secretary know.

The ISHC Bulletin

You can enjoy regular abstracts of the latest research published by ISHC members, thanks to the ISHC Bulletin, put together by our Secretary, Adrian Dobbs. All ISHC members are warmly encouraged to contribute to the ISHC Bulletin by sending abstracts of peer-reviewed papers (no ASAPs or “in press” items) that have appeared within the last four months to ishc@surrey.ac.uk. This remains an excellent way to showcase your research to our international community.

As submissions have become a little less frequent recently, the Bulletin will now be circulated every other month, or whenever there are sufficient contributions to make a strong issue. If you are a member and are not currently receiving the Bulletin, please do get in touch with Adrian as well.

Progress in Heterocyclic Chemistry (PHC) Update

Volume 37 of Progress in Heterocyclic Chemistry, edited by R. Alan Aitken and Justin M Lopchuk, is now available to members *via* the [ISHC website](http://www.ishc-web.org/). Chapters of the PHC 37 are written by leading researchers in their field and provides a systematic survey of the relevant material reported in literature in 2024 enabling academics, industrial chemists and advanced students to keep up to date with developments in heterocyclic chemistry.

Current Committee

Please find below details of the current Executive and an update on members of the advisory board.

Executive:

President: Antonio Burtoloso

Past President: Teresa Pinho e Melo, Artur Silva

Secretary: Adrian Dobbs

Treasurer: Frederick Luzzio

Publicist: Alan Aitken

Advisory:

The Committee would very much like to welcome the following to the advisory board and thank them for the help and enthusiasm:

EUROPE

Prof. Wim Dehaen (KU Leuven, Belgium)

Prof. Till Opatz (Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz, Germany)

SOUTH AMERICA

Prof. Giuliano Clososki (USP)

Prof. Cristiano Raminelli (unifesp)

NORTH AMERICA

Prof. James (Jim) Leahy (University of South Florida)

Prof. Jonathan Sheerer (College of William and Mary)

Prof. Anita Mattson (Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI))

OCEANIA

Prof. Vinh Nguyen (UNSW Sydney)

ASIA

Prof. Jianwei Sun (The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology)

Prof. Taiki Umezawa (Hokkaido University)

Prof. Takahiro Suzuki (Hokkaido University)

INDUSTRIAL

Dr. Jeffrey Kuethe (Merck & Co. Inc.)

Dr. Kevin P. Cole (Lilly Research Laboratories)

The Committee would also like to extend its sincere thanks to all those stepping down from the Advisory Committee, for your hard work over many years: Simon Blakey, Christian Melander, Hidetoshi Tokuyama, Jason Smith, and Peter Meier.