

# HOLLAND RESEARCH SCHOOL OF MOLECULAR CHEMISTRY



ANNUAL  
REPORT

2022

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## General

This annual report presents an overview of the research and educational activities of the graduate research school 'Holland Research School of Molecular Chemistry' (HRSMC) during 2022. The University of Amsterdam legally represents the HRSMC. The research school was founded in 1994 and has been re-accredited by the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) in 1999, 2005 and 2012. The HRSMC is now in its fifth period 2019-2024. The HRSMC is a collaboration between top research groups of four Dutch Universities: the University of Amsterdam (UvA), the VU Amsterdam (VU), Leiden University (UL) and the Radboud University (RU).

The HRSMC harbours a powerhouse of expertise in Synthetic, Physical, and Theoretical Chemistry as well as Spectroscopy and Molecular Physics. This multidisciplinary character makes the School unique in the Netherlands and abroad; it allows it to operate in a broad field that addresses fundamental scientific problems but also challenges society currently faces in areas like sustainability, energy, and health.

This annual report presents a survey of the activities and achievements of the HRSMC, both educational and scientific, as well as the scientific achievements of the participating research groups.

As an interuniversity research school, the HRSMC has two main targets:

- A. to promote and facilitate research aimed at the three HRSMC research themes: (1) 'Synthesis, Characterisation, Properties and Reactivity of Molecules', (2) 'Physical Chemistry and Spectroscopy' and (3) 'Theoretical Chemistry'. The HRSMC board strives for coherence in the research activities of its members by promoting collaboration between the research groups and safeguarding complementarities with respect to infrastructure and expertise.
- B. to facilitate and provide a coherent, high-level educational programme to its PhD students, which offers a seamless connection to the Master degree programme. The primary aim is to teach PhD researchers to answer key questions in molecular science and to use their insights in a multidisciplinary approach.

The extensive educational programme (Schools, Courses and Symposia) offered by the HRSMC means that for all practical purposes the school takes care of the educational program of its PhD students and safeguards their progress. Importantly, the educational activities of the HRSMC are also accessible for (advanced) MSc students and thereby seamlessly connect to the undergraduate programs of the participating universities.

Besides organizing several educational activities, the HRSMC organized two application rounds within the Fellowship and PhD Mobility Programme.

Prof. dr. Wybren Jan Buma

Scientific Director of the HRSMC

# The Research Programme

The research program of the HRSMC is embedded in top research groups of the VU Amsterdam (VU), the University of Amsterdam (UvA), Leiden University (UL) and the Radboud University (RU). It is organized around three different research themes in molecular chemistry which complement and mutually reinforce each other.

## Theme 1: Synthesis, Characterisation, Reactivity and Properties of Molecules

This theme deals, among others, with the design, synthesis and characterization of new compounds, the development of new (bio)catalytic reactions, and the investigation of their mechanisms.



## Theme 2: Physical Chemistry and Spectroscopy

Theme 2 addresses the issue of experimentally uncovering the fundamental factors behind molecular properties through the interaction between light and molecular matter. Advanced spectroscopic techniques are employed to probe and utilize fundamental processes such as catalytic events, reaction mechanisms and dynamics, and energy and electron transfer.



## Theme 3: Theoretical Chemistry

Research within this theme is fully dedicated to understanding the structure of molecules and their chemistry from first principles. HRSMC's theoretical chemistry groups cover method and software development, computational chemistry, and the development of models and guiding principles for rational design of catalysts and sustainable processes. They are working on a broad range of time and length scales (atomic, molecular, supra-molecular, condensed-phase/membrane processes), naturally leading to a multi-scale approach of fundamental and applied theoretical chemistry.



# Overview of the Research Groups in 2022

Theme	Group (University, Institute) and Staff members
1	<b>Homogeneous, Supramolecular and Bio-Inspired Catalysis (UvA, HIMS)</b> Prof. dr. B. de Bruin, Prof. dr. J.N.H. Reek, Prof. dr. C.J. Elsevier, Dr. A.W. Ehlers, Dr. T.J. Mooibroek, Dr. Ir. J.I. van der Vlugt (guest appointment), Dr. S. Pullen
	<b>Functional Materials (UvA, HIMS)</b> Dr. S. Grecea
	<b>Heterogeneous Catalysis and Sustainable Chemistry (UvA, HIMS)</b> Prof. dr. G. Rothenberg, Dr. N. Yan, Dr. A. Garcia
	<b>Catalysis Engineering (UvA, HIMS)</b> Dr. N.R. Shiju
	<b>Synthetic Organic Chemistry (UvA, HIMS)</b> Prof. dr. J.H. van Maarseveen, Prof. dr. P. Timmerman, Dr. M.Á. Fernández-Ibáñez, Dr. S. Ingemann, Dr. J.C. Sloopweg
	<b>Biocatalysis (UvA, HIMS)</b> Prof. dr. F. Mutti
	<b>Flow Chemistry (UvA/HIMS)</b> Prof. dr. T. Noël
	<b>Industrial Sustainable Chemistry (UvA/HIMS)</b> Prof. dr. G.J.M. Gruter
	<b>Biomimetic and Biomolecular Chemistry (VU, AIMMS)</b> Prof. dr. T. Grossmann, Dr. S. Hennig, Dr. I. Drienovská
	<b>Synthetic Organic Chemistry &amp; Catalysis (VU, AIMMS)</b> Prof. dr. E. Ruijter, Dr. T. Hansen Prof. dr. ir. R.V.A. Orru (guest appointment)
	<b>Supramolecular and Biomaterials Chemistry (UL, LIC)</b> Dr. S.J. Wezenberg
	<b>Metals in Catalysis, Biomimetics &amp; Inorganic Materials (UL, LIC)</b> Prof. dr. E. Bouwman, Prof. dr. S. Bonnet, Dr. D.G.H. Hettterscheid

	<p><b>Synthetic Organic Chemistry (RU/IMM)</b></p> <p>Prof. dr. F.P.T.J. Rutjes, Dr. T.J. Boltje, Dr. M.C. Feiters</p>
2	<p><b>Molecular Photonics (UvA, HIMS)</b></p> <p>Prof. dr. A.M. Brouwer, Prof. dr. W.J. Buma, Prof. dr. S. Woutersen, Dr. ir. A. Pettrignani-Taube, Dr. R. M. Williams, Dr. H. Zhang</p> <p><b>Chemistry for Art Conservation (UvA, HIMS)</b></p> <p>Prof. dr. K. Keune</p> <p><b>Biophotonics and Medical Imaging (VU, LaserLaB)</b></p> <p>Dr. F. Ariese</p> <p><b>Cellular Metabolism (VU/AIMMS)</b></p> <p>Dr. S. Moco</p> <p><b>BioAnalytical Chemistry (VU, AIMMS)</b></p> <p>Prof. dr. A.M. Rijs, Dr. M. Bärenfänger</p> <p><b>PhotoConversion Materials (VU)</b></p> <p>Prof. dr. E.L. von Hauff, Dr. C. Ramanan, Dr. A. Baldi</p> <p><b>Biophysical Organic Chemistry (UL, LIC)</b></p> <p>Prof. dr. H.J.M. de Groot, Dr. Alia, Dr. F. Buda, Dr. G.J.A. Sevink</p> <p><b>Molecular Nano-Optics and Spins (UL, LION)</b></p> <p>Prof. dr. E.J.J. Groenen, Prof. dr. M. Orrit, Dr. P. Gast, Dr. M. I. Huber</p> <p><b>Laboratory Astrophysics and Astrochemistry (UL, LION)</b></p> <p>Prof. dr. H. Linnartz</p> <p><b>Surface Chemistry and Catalysis (UL, LIC)</b></p> <p>Prof. dr. M. Koper, Dr. W.T. Fu, Dr. I.M.N. Groot, Dr. D.G.H. Hetterscheid, Dr. L.B.F. Juurlink, Dr. R.V. Mom</p> <p><b>Bioelectrochemistry and Biocatalysis (UL, LIC)</b></p> <p>Prof. dr. L.J.C. Jeuken</p> <p><b>FELIX Laboratory (RU)</b></p> <p>Prof. dr. J. Oomens, Dr. J.M. Bakker, Dr. S. Brünken, Prof. dr. W.J. Buma (extraordinary professor)</p>

3

**Computational Chemistry (UvA, HIMS)**

Prof. dr. P.G. Bolhuis, Prof. dr. E.J. Meijer, Dr. B. Ensing, Dr. D. Dubbeldam, Dr. J. Vreede, Dr. I.M. Ilie

**Theoretical Chemistry (VU, EMS)**

Prof. dr. F.M. Bickelhaupt, Prof. dr. L. Visscher, Prof. dr. C. Fonseca Guerra, Prof. dr. P. Gori Giorgi, Dr. O. Gritsenko, Dr. K. J. H. Giesbertz, Dr. T.A. Hamlin, Dr. P. Vermeeren, Dr. A. Förster

**Biomolecular Simulation and Modeling (VU, EMS)**

Dr. D.P. Geerke

**Theoretical Chemistry (UL, LIC Energy & Sustainability)**

Prof. dr. G. J. Kroes, Dr. J. Meyer, Dr. M.F. Somers, Dr. A.L.M. Lamberts, Prof. C. Fonseca Guerra (extraordinary professor)

**Theory in Surface science and electrochemistry (UL, LIC)**

Dr. Katharina Doblhoff-Dier

**Theoretical Chemistry (RU)**

Prof. dr. ir. G.C. Groenenboom, Prof. dr. H.M. Cuppen, Prof. dr. F.M. Bickelhaupt (extraordinary professor)

# Research and Education

## HRSMC Course 'Understanding Molecular Simulation', Molsim 2022

January 10-21, 2022, online

## HRSMC Course 'Targeted Synthesis Challenges'

January 26, 2022, UvA

A total of 12 participants attended this very well evaluated course, of which six HRSMC members (VU: 3, UvA: 3) and 6 M.Sc. students (VU: 3, UvA: 3).

Organizers: Jan van Maarseveen (UvA), Eelco Ruijter (VU), Ineke Weijer (HRSMC), Laura Bastiaans (HRSMC), Rachel Scheffelaar (HRSMC)

## HRSMC Course 'Physical Methods in Inorganic Chemistry'

May 12 – 20, 2022, UvA Roeterseiland and Sciencepark/UL/VU

A total of 28 PhD students attended this course of which 19 HRSMC members (UvA: 9, UL: 12, TUD: 5, UU: 1, WUR: 1)

The invited speakers were Jörg Meyer (UL), Rik Mom (UL), Dennis Hetterscheid (UL), Marc Koper (UL), Ludo Juurlink (UL), Sylvestre Bonnet (UL), Freek Ariese (VU), Matthias Bickelhaupt (VU), Huub Kooijman, Fred Brouwer (UvA), Stefania Grecea (UvA), Bas de Bruin (UvA), Andreas Ehlers (UvA)

Organizers: Lies Bouwman (UL), Sylvestre Bonnet (UL), Bas de Bruin (UvA), Laura Bastiaans (UvA, HRSMC), Rachel Scheffelaar (UvA, HRSMC)

## HRSMC Course Molecular Modeling

April 5-29, 2022, VU Amsterdam

A total of 9 participants attended this course of which 7 HRSMC members and 2 M.Sc. students (UvA: 2, VU: 4, UL: 1, RU: 1, TUE: 1).

Lectures were held by F. M. Bickelhaupt, C. Fonseca Guerra, and Trevor A. Hamlin

## HRSMC/EPA Advanced Summer School on Photochemistry

14-17 July 2022, Noordwijk, The Netherlands

A total of 53 participants attended this school of which 25 HRSMC members (UvA: 10, UL: 11, VU: 4, RUG: 1, UU: 3, TUD: 1 other: 23).



Lectures were held by Timothy Noël (University of Amsterdam); Roberta Croce (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam); Roel van de Krol (Helmholtz-Zentrum Berlin); Roberto Etchenique (Universidad de Buenos Aires); Ilaria Ciofini ((PSL University Chimie ParisTech).

Organizers: Sylvestre Bonnet, Chair (UL); Fred Brouwer (UvA); Charusheela Ramanan (VU); Rachel Scheffelaar (HRSMC); Laura Bastiaans-Tomé (HRSMC); Brahim Bouichfar (HRSMC); Saskia Spruyt (UvA); Renate Hippert (UvA)

## **HRSMC/NIOK Summer School 'Advances Metal-Organic Chemistry and Catalysis'**

30 September – 3 October 2022, Noordwijk, The Netherlands

A total of 34 participants attended this school of which 27 HRSMC/NIOK members and 1 Class of Excellence student (UvA: 9, UL: 5, RU: 3, RUG: 3, UU: 9, WUR: 1, other: 7)

Lectures were held by Matthias Driess (Technische Universität Berlin); Inke Siewert (Georg-August-Universität Göttingen); Carole Duboc (Université Grenoble Alpes); Maurice van Gestel (Max-Planck-Institut für Kohlenforschung); Oliver Wenger (University of Basel).

Organizers: Bas de Bruin (University of Amsterdam), chairman; Sylvestre Bonnet (Leiden University); Andreas Ehlers (University of Amsterdam); Marc-Etienne Moret (Utrecht University); Dennis Hetterscheid (Leiden University); Edwin Otten (University of Groningen); Sonja Pullen (University of Amsterdam); Jana Roithova (Radboud University Nijmegen); Rachel Scheffelaar (HRSMC); Laura Bastiaans-Tomé (HRSMC/UvA); Brahim Bouichfar (HRSMC/UvA); Saskia Spruyt (HRSMC/UvA)

## **HRSMC Symposium**

11 November 2022, O|2 Labbuilding, VU Amsterdam

A total of 179 people attended the symposium.

Guest lecturer:

- Prof. Fernando P. Cossio (Universidad del País Vasco, Spain)

HRSMC staff lecturers:

- Prof. dr. S.A. (Sylvestre) Bonnet (Leiden University) – Theme 1
- Dr. C. (Charusheela) Ramanan (VU Amsterdam) – Theme 2
- Dr. D. (David) Dubbeldam (University of Amsterdam) – Theme 3

PhD lecturers:

- Vivi Sukowski (University of Amsterdam)
- Eva Meeus (University of Amsterdam)
- Elahe (Eli) Motaee (Leiden University)
- Nipon Dekka (Leiden University)
- Dani Rodrigues Silva (VU Amsterdam)

## The Dick Stufkens Prize 2022

The Dick Stufkens Prize 2022 for best PhD thesis of the Holland Research School of Molecular Chemistry (HRSMC) has been awarded to Dr Tessel Bouwens for her thesis 'Pseudorotaxane Strategies for Guiding Self-Assembly and the Application of Molecular Machinery in Photoelectrochemical Devices'. Bouwens, who is now a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Cambridge, obtained her doctorate with the qualification 'cum laude' from the University of Amsterdam on 15 September 2021.



In her thesis, Bouwens describes studies towards the understanding of self-assembly through non-covalent bond formation and the application of such supramolecular interactions to enhance the efficiency of electron transfer in photoelectrochemical cells. Selecting the winner from eight excellent candidates, the jury for the Dick Stufkens prize 2022 unanimously decided for Tessel Bouwens. The jury was impressed by the quality of her research and the width of her scientific approach. Her experimental production is considered remarkable, particularly in view of the limitations imposed by the corona measures. Her easy to read thesis testifies to an enterprising researcher, who operates independently already early in her career.

### [Pursuing her own research idea](#)

Bouwens' PhD research originated from her participation in the Excellence Program of the Holland Research School of Molecular Chemistry. At the time, this offered its students the opportunity to propose their own PhD research. Bouwens was among the few top students that saw their proposal awarded with a PhD fellowship. At its heart was the idea to enhance the efficiency of photoelectrochemical devices such as dye-sensitized solar cells by physically separating the charges and thus reducing electron-hole recombination. To achieve such physical separation, she proposed to use pseudorotaxane molecules that consist of a redox-active macrocyclic ring that can bind in a reversible, non-covalent fashion with a molecular thread. Connected to a molecular dye, these molecules could act as 'photoredox shuttles', carrying away the electrons generated by the dye and thus preventing recombination.

Demonstrating the viability of her idea turned out far from trivial. Her thesis shows how Bouwens successfully passed the many hurdles in an experimental 'tour-de-force'. She synthesized the building blocks of the photoredox shuttles and characterized these by spectroscopic and electrochemical techniques. She then implemented the supramolecular constructs into a solar cell, which required practical skills in materials science. This solar cell confirmed the concept, but its performance was limited. Inspired by natural photosynthesis, Bouwens continued to redesign the molecular components based upon her understanding of the supramolecular interactions, systematically further suppressing charge recombination and enhancing performance.

### [International recognition](#)

Bouwens' concept of integrating molecular machinery to enhance the efficiency of solar cells received international recognition. Her idea and first results were published already at an early stage as a communication paper in the renowned journal *Faraday Discussions*. Oral contributions followed at

multiple national and international conferences. While pursuing her initial idea in a practical sense, she also explored the role of supramolecular bond formation in the control of self-assembly on a more fundamental level. This is presented in the first part of her thesis, where Bouwens shows in various, original ways how the interaction of the thread and the ring can guide self-assembly. She incorporated this in two strategies based upon pseudorotaxane formation. In the first one the macrocyclic ring kinetically guides the self-assembly of so-called Fujita-type nanospheres where pseudorotaxane formation functions as catalyst. In the second strategy, ring binding influences the distribution of such nanospheres to guide the outcome of multi-ligand architectures and thereby the level of organisation obtained upon self-assembly.

## HRSMC Class of Excellence

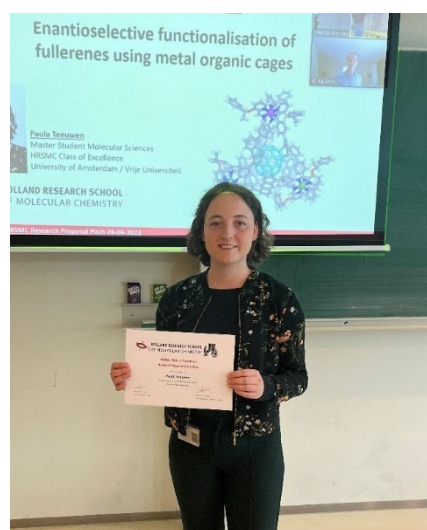
In September 2022 six (6) students started the HRSMC Class of Excellence. Three (3) students obtained their certificate this year after successfully graduating from the programme.

### Class of Excellence Pitch Prize 2022

On June 28, two students of the HRSMC Class of Excellence have defended their research proposal for a jury of HRSMC staff members and one member of the external advisory committee of the HRSMC. The research proposal is an obligatory part of the HRSMC Class of Excellence, a programme for excellent chemistry master students.

Although the jury explicitly remarked that both students gave an excellent pitch, they voted **Paula Teeuwen** as the winner of the pitch contest 2022. The jury was very much impressed by her pitch. It was indicated that she had also answered the questions of the jury members in great detail. They therefore decided to award her with the HRSMC Class of Excellence Pitch Prize.

The prize consists of a certificate and € 1500,- (for a contribution) to attend a conference or course/training or € 450,- free to spend.



# PhD Theses

Listed here are PhD theses with HRSMC group leaders as supervisor and/or co-supervisor. In 2022 9 HRSMC PhD certificates have been rewarded.

## University of Amsterdam

1/27/2022

### **Spherical coordination-based MnL2n assemblies: Construction, confinement, catalysis and bio application**

Author: E.O. (Oleksandrovič) Bobylev

Supervisor: J.N. H. Reek, B. de

Bruin

Co-supervisor: -

Group: Homogeneous and Supramolecular Catalysis

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



1/28/2022

### **Triplet state access in multi-component heavy atom free photosensitizers in photomedicine**

Author: D. (Dáire) J. Gibbons

Supervisor: A.M. Brouwer, S.

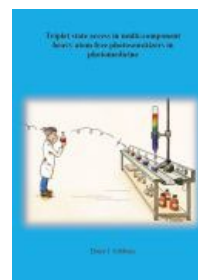
Leroy-Lhez

Co-supervisor: R.M. Williams, N.

Villandier

Group: Spectroscopy and Photonic Materials

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



3/10/2022

### **Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons: Laboratory infrared signatures of astrochemical evolution**

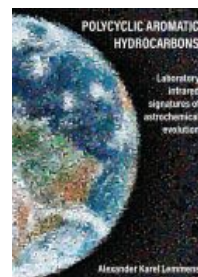
Author: A. (Sander) K. Lemmens

Supervisor: W.J. Buma, A.M. Rijs

Co-supervisor: -

Group: Molecular Spectroscopy

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)

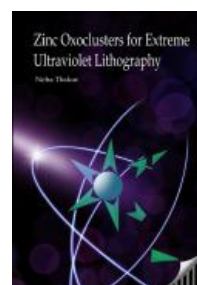


3/28/2022

### **Zinc oxoclusters for extreme ultraviolet lithography**

Author: N. (Neha) Thakur  
Supervisor: A.M. Brouwer  
Co-supervisor: S. Castellanos Ortega  
Group: Spectroscopy and Photonic Materials

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



4/20/2022

### **Redox mediation in dye-sensitized photoelectrochemical cells: Coupling solar-driven oxidative catalysis to fuel generation**

Author: D. (Didjay) F. Bruggeman  
Supervisor: J.N.H. Reek  
Co-supervisor: S. Mathew, R.J. Detz  
Group: Homogeneous and Supramolecular Catalysis

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)

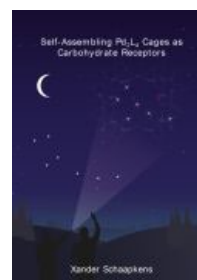


5/12/2022

### **Self-assembling Pd2L4 cages as carbohydrate receptors**

Author: X. (Xander) Schaapkens  
Supervisor: J.N.H. Reek  
Co-supervisor: T.J. Mooibroek  
Group: Homogeneous and Supramolecular Catalysis

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



5/30/2022

### **Pyrrole-based photosensitisers for photomedicine**

Author: Z. (Zoi) Melissari  
Supervisor: A.M. Brouwer, M.O. Senge  
Co-supervisor: R.M. Williams  
Group: Spectroscopy and Photonic Materials

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



6/30/2022

**Stepping stones in CO<sub>2</sub> utilization: Towards process development of oxalic and glycolic acid monomers**

Author: E. (Eric) O. Schuler

Supervisor: G.J.M. Gruter

Co-supervisor: N.R. Shiju

Group: Sustainable Chemistry Industrial

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



7/5/2022

**Mechanistic investigations of metal-catalyzed (poly)esterification reactions**

Author: L. (Lukas) A. Wolzak

Supervisor: M. Tromp, J.N.H. Reek

Co-supervisor: T.J. Korstanje

Group: Catalyst Characterisation

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



9/12/2022

**Iodonium ylides as alternative precursors for cobalt- and iron carbene radical transfer**

Author: R. (Roel) F.J. Epping

Supervisor: B. de Bruin

Co-supervisor: J.N.H. Reek

Group: Homogeneous and Supramolecular Catalysis

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



10/11/2022

**Novel strategies for transition metal catalysis in living cells**

Author: C. (Catriona) C. James

Supervisor: J.N. H. Reek, B. de

Bruin

Co-supervisor: -

Group: Homogeneous and Supramolecular Catalysis

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



10/19/2022

**Green, scalable and automated photochemistry in flow**

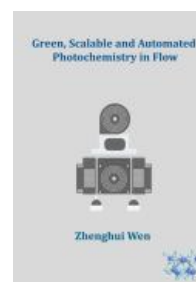
Author: Z. (Zhenghui) Wen

Supervisor: T. Noël

Co-supervisor: B. de Bruin

Group: HCSC+

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



10/20/2022

**Stepping stones in CO<sub>2</sub> utilization: Synthesis and evaluation of oxalic and glycolic acid (co)polyesters**

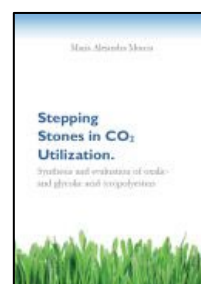
Author: M. (Maria) A. Murcia Valderrama

Supervisor: G.J.M. Gruter

Co-supervisor: R.J. van Putten

Group: Industrial Sustainable Chemistry

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



10/27/2022

**Synthesis of rigid biobased polyesters: Overcoming the low reactivity of secondary diols in polyester synthesis**

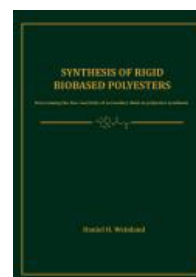
Author: D. (Daniel) H. Weinland

Supervisor: G.J.M. Gruter

Co-supervisor: R.J. van Putten

Group: Sustainable Chemistry Industrial

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



11/8/2022

**Unravelling self-assembled supramolecular constructs in catalysis with spectroscopic and computational methods**

Author: D. (David) A. Poole III

Supervisor: J.N. H. Reek

Co-supervisor: S. Mathew

Group: Homogeneous and Supramolecular Catalysis

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)

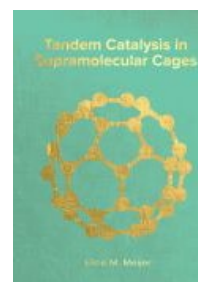


11/16/2022

**Tandem catalysis in supramolecular cages**

Author: E. (Eline) M. Meijer  
Supervisor: J.N. H. Reek, B. de Bruin  
Co-supervisor: -  
Group: Homogeneous and Supramolecular Catalysis

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)

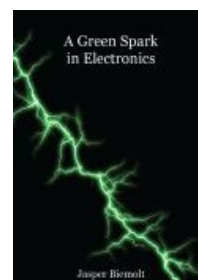


12/1/2022

**A green spark in electronics: Electrochemical innovations for a sustainable printed circuit board industry**

Author: J. (Jasper) Biemolt  
Supervisor: G. Rothenberg  
Co-supervisor: N. Yan  
Group: HCSC+

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)

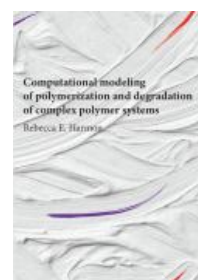


12/1/2022

**Computational modeling of polymerization and degradation of complex polymer systems**

Author: R. (Becca) E. Harmon  
Supervisor: P.D. Iedema, L.J. Broadbelt  
Co-supervisor: -  
Group: CC overig

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



12/2/2022

**Environmental biodegradability of hydrolysable polyesters from renewable resources**

Author: Y. (Yue) Wang  
Supervisor: G.J.M. Gruter  
Co-supervisor: R.J. van Putten, A. Tietema  
Group: Sustainable Chemistry Industrial

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)





VU Amsterdam

2/15/2022

**(Astro)Chemistry: From Molecules to Reactions**

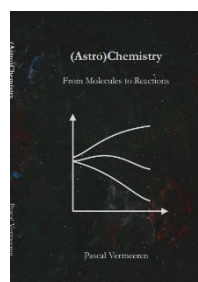
Author: P. (Pascal) Vermeeren

Supervisor: M. Bickelhaupt

Co-supervisor: T.A. Hamlin

Group: TC

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



3/15/2022

**Chasing my Mavericks: Stereoselective Allylations, Cascade Reactions and Total Synthesis of Natural Products**

Author: M. (Matteo) Faltracco

Supervisor: E. Ruijter

Co-supervisor: R. Orru

Group: OC

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



3/28/2022

**Designing Peptide-Derived Ligands that Target RNA**

Author: N. (Niall) M. McLoughlin

Supervisor: T. Grossmann

Co-supervisor: S. Hennig

Group: OC

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



11/23/2022

**Computational optimization of dyes for dye-sensitized solar cells**

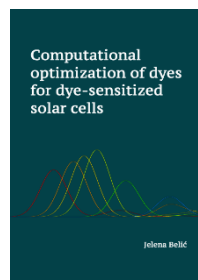
Author: J. (Jelena) Belić

Supervisor: L. Visscher

Co-supervisor: F. Buda

Group: TC

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



12/9/2022

**Many-Body Perturbation Theory with Slater Type Orbitals**

Author: A. (Arno) T.L. Förster

Supervisor: L. Visscher

Co-supervisor: K. Giesbertz

Group: TC

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



Leiden University

1/19/2022

**Insights into the mechanism of electrocatalytic CO<sub>2</sub> reduction and concomitant catalyst degradation pathways**

Author: S.J. (Stefan) Raaijman  
Supervisor: M.T.M. Koper  
Co-supervisor: G. Mul  
Group: Catalysis and Surface Chemistry

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



2/3/2022

**Electrocatalysis of CO<sub>2</sub>/CO interconversion and hydrogen evolution in bicarbonate buffers: from solution to interfacial reactions**

Author: G. (Giulia) Marcandalli  
Supervisor: M.T.M. Koper  
Co-supervisor: D.A. Vermaas  
Group: Catalysis and Surface Chemistry

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)

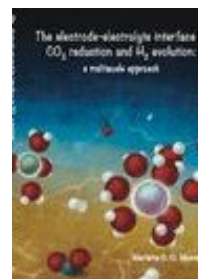


2/15/2022

**The electrode-electrolyte interface in CO<sub>2</sub> reduction and H<sub>2</sub> evolution: a multiscale approach**

Author: M. (Mariana) Cecilio de Oliveira Monteiro  
Supervisor: M.T.M. Koper  
Co-supervisor: López, N.  
Group: Catalysis and Surface Chemistry

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



3/3/2022

**Photoinduced processes in dye-sensitized photoanodes under the spotlight: a multiscale in silico investigation**

Author: J.P. (Jan Paul) Menzel  
Supervisor: H.J.M. de Groot  
Co-supervisor: F. Buda  
Group: Biophysical Organic Chemistry

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



4/20/2022

**CO<sub>2</sub> reduction on post-transition metals and their alloys: an industrial approach**

Author: D. (Davide) Pavesi  
Supervisor: M.T.M. Koper  
Co-supervisor: K.J.P. Schouten,  
G.J.M. Gruter  
Group: Catalysis and Surface Chemistry

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



6/8/2022

**Towards photocatalytic water splitting in homogeneous solutions using molecular metalloporphyrin photosensitizers and catalysts**

Author: C. (Chengyu) Liu  
Supervisor: E. Bouwman, S.A.  
Bonnet  
Co-supervisor: -  
Group: Metals in Catalysis, Biomimetics & Inorganic Materials

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)

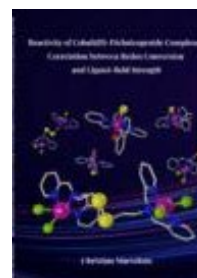


7/5/2022

**Reactivity of cobalt(II)-dichalcogenide complexes: correlation between redox conversion and ligand-field strength**

Author: C. (Christian) Marvelous  
Supervisor: G.J. Kroes  
Co-supervisor: C. Fonseca Guerra  
Group: Theoretical Chemistry

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)

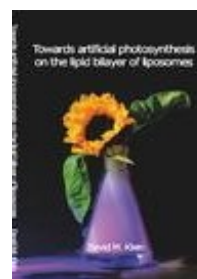


9/15/2022

**Towards artificial photosynthesis on the lipid bilayer of liposomes**

Author: D. (David) M. Klein  
Supervisor: A.M. Brouwer, S.A.  
Bonnet  
Co-supervisor: -  
Group: Metals in Catalysis, Biomimetics & Inorganic Materials

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



10/25/2022

**Nuclear quantum effects in solid water: new insights from computational modeling**

Author: S. (Soroush) Rasti  
Supervisor: G.J. Kroes  
Co-supervisor: J. Meyer  
Group: Theoretical Chemistry

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



12/1/2022

**Design of homogeneous water oxidation electrocatalysts**

Author: D. (Daan) den Boer  
Supervisor: E. Bouwman, D.G.H. Hettterscheid  
Co-supervisor:  
Group: Catalysis and Surface Chemistry

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



12/20/2022

**Observing what cannot be observed: computational electrochemistry from carbon to hydrogen**

Author: S. (Selwyn) R Hanselman  
Supervisor: M.T.M. Koper  
Co-supervisor: F. Calle Vallejo  
Group: Catalysis and Surface Chemistry

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



Radboud University

4/11/2022

**From peptide to aggregate: Advances in infrared action spectroscopy**

Author: S. (Sjors) Bakels

Supervisor: J. Oomens, A.M. Rijs

Co-supervisor:

Group: Molecular Structure and Dynamics

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



4/26/2022

**Infrared spectroscopy of ionized fullerene derivatives:  
The astrophysical implications of breaking symmetries**

Author: J. (Julianna) Palotás

Supervisor: J. Oomens

Co-supervisor: G. Berden

Group: Molecular Structure and Dynamics

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



5/6/2022

**Understanding Intricate Phenomena In Molecular Collisions:  
From quantum to classical theory**

Author: M. (Matthieu) Besemer

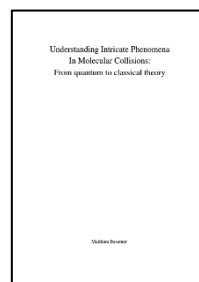
Supervisor: S.Y.T. van de

Meerakker, G.C. Groenenboom, A.  
van der Avoird

Co-supervisor: T. Karman

Group: Theoretical Chemistry

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



9/23/2022

**Development of substrate based inhibitors targeting human glycosylation**

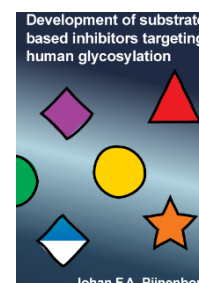
Author: J. (Johannes) F.A. Pijnenborg

Supervisor: F.P.J.T. Rutjes

Co-supervisor: T.J. Boltje

Group: Synthetic Organic Chemistry

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



11/10/2022

### **Altering the Glycome Using Sialomimetics**

Author: S. (Sam) J. Moons

Supervisor: F.P.J.T. Rutjes

Co-supervisor: T.J. Boltje

Group: Synthetic Organic Chemistry

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



12/16/2022

### **Epigenetics & Biomarkers. Exploring Modifications of Histone Tail Peptides & Novel biomarker discovery with Infrared Ion Spectroscopy**

Author: J. (Jona) Merx

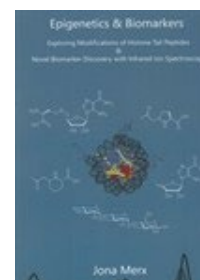
Supervisor: F.P.J.T. Rutjes

Co-supervisor: T.J. Boltje, J.

Mecinovic

Group: Synthetic Organic Chemistry

Link: [Read or download this thesis](#)



# Fellowship Programme

## 15<sup>th</sup> call – April 2022



**Dr. Sandra Marianne Lang**, Akademischer Rat (Privatdozent, permanent position), Ulm University, Institute of Surface Chemistry and Catalysis, Germany.

Hosted by Prof. dr. Anouk Rijs (VU), Dr. Joost Bakker (RU), Dr. Hans Elemans (RU).

Stay: 5 months



**Dr. Sara Realista**, Junior researcher at the University of Lisbon, Faculty of Sciences, Biosystems and Integrative Sciences (BioISI) and Centro de Química Estrutural (CQE).

Hosted by Dr. Stefania Grecea (UvA) and Dr. Dennis G.H. Hetterscheid (UL).

Stay: 4 months

## 16<sup>th</sup> call – October 2022

*No fellow grants this round.*

# PhD Mobility Programme

5<sup>th</sup> call – April 2022



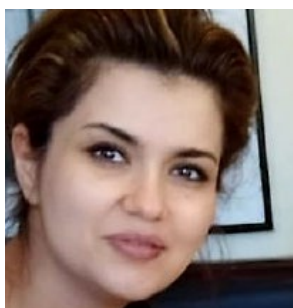
**Jan Sebastiaan Dominic Rodriguez** from the group of Dr. Rik Mom and Prof.dr. Marc Koper (LEI) has visited Dr. Adam Squires (University of Bath, Department of Chemistry, UK).

Stay: 2 months



**He Zhiyuan (Daniel)** from the group of Prof. Jarl Ivar van der Vlugt and Prof. Bas de Bruin (UvA) had visited Prof. Michael Neidig at the University of Rochester, Department of Chemistry, USA.

Stay: 4 months



**Selda Abyar** from the group of Prof. Sylvestre Bonnet and Dr. Sylvia Le Dévédec (UL) has visited Prof. Giovanni Mann (King's college London, Vascular biology & inflammation)

Stay: 2 months

6<sup>th</sup> call – October 2022



**Marlene Hoefnagel** from the group of Dr. Dennis Hetterscheid (UL) and Dr. Stefania Grecea (UvA) has visited Prof. Sascha Ott (Uppsala University, Sweden).

Stay: 5 months





**Iuliia Stroganova** from the group of Prof. Dr. Anouk M. Rijs (VU) has visited Prof. Dr. Tuomas P.J. Knowles (University of Cambridge, UK)

Stay: 2 months

## Financial Account 2022

Income		Expenses	
Contribution UvA 2022 - faculty <sup>1)</sup>	150000	Donation HIMS Institute <sup>1)</sup>	150.000
Contribution UvA 2022 - HIMS <sup>1)</sup>	150000	Personnel Costs	78.871
Photochemistry School (fee and sponsoring) <sup>2)</sup>	44425	Office and management costs incl. Annual report	1.200
AMOCC School (fee and sponsoring) <sup>2)</sup>	35595	Fellowship Programme	34.000
		Dick Stufkens PhD prize	2.623
		Photochemistry School	50314
		AMOCC School	40.537
		HRS MC Symposium (moved from 2021)	24.470
		HRS MC Symposium	11.024
		HRS MC Class of Excellence	1.307
		Courses	1.306
		Social Activity PhD Students	2.474
		Other	105
	<b>€ 380.020</b>		<b>€ 398.231</b>
Income minus Expenses	<b>€ -18.211</b>		

1. As of 2014, a new agreement between the VSNU (Association of universities in the Netherlands) and SODOLA (the Dutch network of accredited research schools in all fields of academic research) has become applicable for the funding of Research Schools. Based on this agreement, as of 2015, the HRS MC should get funding of 300 KEuro. Instead of 50 kEuro from the faculty and 5 kEuro from the HIMS Institute, the contribution of the faculty is raised to 150 kEuro and 150 kEuro for the HIMS Institute. As this increase for the HIMS Institute would strongly affect HRS MC affiliated research groups from the UvA/HIMS Institute, the HRS MC Board decided to donate 150 kEuro to the HIMS Institute.
2. The HRS MC is grateful to the John van Geuns foundation for its financial support for the HRS MC Synthesis School
3. In 2021 the balance had a positive outcome (+ € 48,910). This is caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, due to which some meetings and events were moved to 2022.

