

## Special issue: Proceedings of 31st International Symposium on Chirality, Bordeaux, 2019

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The 31st International Symposium on Chirality— Chirality 2019, held in Bordeaux, France, from 14 to 17 July 2019, was a great success with the participation of 340 scientists from 28 countries. The symposium started with two short courses given by four renowned professors on “Chiroptical Spectroscopy Methods for Structural Analysis of Chiral Molecules” (G. Longhi and P. Polavarapu) and “Materials” (A. Palmans and G. Markovich). During the following 3 days, we had wonderful invited Plenary and Keynote lectures for which 40% were women lecturers, as well as 58 oral lectures and two poster sessions (162 posters). Very lively discussions and exchanges between the researchers were also observed. We were very happy to have Prof. Larry Nafie who received the Chirality Medal for his seminal contributions to the development and application of vibrational optical activity (VOA). This year, we also had special presentations on “Enantioseparations” honoring some of the founders of the Chirality conferences. We are extremely grateful to the generous academic and industrial sponsors and to the local organizing committee without whom this event would not have been possible.

During the symposium, with the great participations from BioTools, Organic Biomolecular Chemistry Journal, INITIO European project, and Association Française de Cristallographie, six poster prizes have been awarded to the following PhD students and post-doctorants: Hinako Okutsu (Nagoya University, Japan), Kakali Santra (Weismann Institute, Israel), Benjamin Martial (Laval University, Canada), Caoimhe Bond (Queen's University Belfast, UK), Ghislaine Vantomme (Eindhoven University, The Netherlands), and Flavia Pop (University of Angers, France).

We do hope that all the participants appreciated the friendly atmosphere, the social program (French cuisine, Bordeaux wine Chateau, Beautiful city center, and so forth) and that we could soon welcome all of them back in Bordeaux!

We are very proud of this special virtual issue with eight very high-quality articles by experts in chirality related domains embracing (i) a minireview from our Chirality Medal winner (L. Nafie), (ii) a tribute to Bill Pirkle (C. Welch), and articles on (iii) chiral encaged Verkade's Superbases (A. Martinez), (iv) chiral supra-molecular assemblies in polymer matrices (H. Jintoku),

(v) computational aspects of ROA (P. Bour),

(vi) hierarchical expression of chirality in aggregates (R. Oda), (vii) autocatalytic chiral amplification effects (M. Amedjkouh), and (viii) solid-state synthesis of chiral cyclodipeptides (A. Zehnacker).