

17th European Symposium on Fluorine Chemistry (17th ESFC) Paris, July 21-25, 2013

The 17th European Symposium on Fluorine Chemistry (17th ESFC – <http://www.17-esfc-paris2013.fr>) was held in Paris at *Faculté de Pharmacie* (Université Paris Descartes) from July 21-25, 2013 under the aegis of the *French National Network on Fluorine Chemistry – CNRS* ([hppt://www.reseau-fluor.fr](http://www.reseau-fluor.fr)). For our fluorine chemistry community, this place was a very special and historical landmark since in 1886, Henri Moissan isolated Fluorine in one of laboratories of the Faculty. To celebrate his memory, several exhibitions on Henri Moissan, his life and works, have been displayed during the symposium.

From a scientific point of view, the 17th EFSC was addressing to all topics of Fluorine Chemistry (Organic, Inorganic, Polymer, Biochemistry, Medicine and Material Sciences). It also covered several industrial aspects and the importance of fluorinated products in our daily life. For this event, researchers came from all over the world and more than 400 participants from 24 countries attended the symposium, giving rise to 123 oral communications and 173 posters. Two special events that occurred during the sessions must be highlighted:

- i) the first one concerns the Henri Moissan session at “*Maison de la Chimie*”. During this session, four last laureates of the Henri Moissan Prize were invited to present a lecture and Bernard Bigot, President of the Foundation of “*Maison de la Chimie*” introduced the laureate of the 2012 Prize (A. Tressaud from ICMCB-CNRS, Pessac – France);
- ii) the second one, focused on “*Fluorinated Materials for Energy conversion (FMEC II)*”, was held within the scientific sessions and allowed mixing all branches of Fluorine Chemistry involved in such topics: : molten salts, nuclear energy, Li-ion batteries, capacitors, functional polymers for fuel cells membranes, etc.

This year coincided also with the 75th anniversary of the discovery of polytetrafluoroethylene, PTFE (named Teflon[®] by DuPont) by the chemist Roy Plunkett in DuPont Laboratories, Wilmington, DE (USA). For this reason, and to encourage young talents to work on fluorine chemistry, DuPont sponsored an award, that has been presented during the Moissan session to Dr. S. Riedel (Freiburg University – Germany).

In addition, an “*Award of Best Poster on Sustainability*” sponsored by Solvay Specialty Polymers has been presented during the reception at Paris City Hall (5th District).

The organizers wish to warmly thank all the sponsors that contributed to the success of this symposium. We express also our gratitude to the members of the International Advisory Board and of the Local Organizing Committee for their active contribution during the preparation of the scientific program. And finally, we thank all participants who attended 17th ESFC and we do hope they enjoyed their stay in Paris.

Paris, September 10th, 2013

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