



UCLL
UNIVERSITY OF
APPLIED SCIENCES

International Chemistry week
Leuven, campus Gasthuisberg
March 17th – 21st, 2025



Monday March 17

10.00 - 11.00h	Introduction + ICOM's	006
11.00 - 12.00h	Polylactic acid: biobased and degradable plastic? - Synthesis, properties, application and recent innovations. [Prof. Dusselier]	006
12.00 - 13.00h	Lunch break	Cafeteria
13.00 - 13.30h	Introduction to the projects & labs (group sessions)	107b
13.30 - 16.00h	Getting to know each other on campus	107b
16.15 - 18.00h	Guided tour of the city of Leuven organized by students	Leuven
20.00	Getting to know each other@oude markt	Downtown Leuven

Tuesday March 18

09.00 - 11.00h	Project work on campus	Lab
11.00 - 12.00h	Synthesis of α , β -unsaturated carbonyl compounds [Prof. JP. Bouillon]	BMW 3
12.00 - 13.00h	Lunch break	Cafeteria
13.00 - 14.00h	Exercises on unsaturated carbonyl compounds	BMW 6
14.00 - 17.00h	Project work on campus	Lab
20.00	Activity organized by students	

Wednesday March 19

09.00 - 12.00h	Project work on campus	
12.00 - 13.00h	Lunch break	Cafeteria
13.00 - 17.00h	Project work on campus	
18.45 - 23.00h	Brewery Visit "Hof ten Dormael" departure from Leuven station bus platform 14.	Tildonk

Thursday March 20

11.00 - 12.00h	Chemical and ethical aspects of the thalidomide disaster [Dr. P. Uiterweerd]	GA2
12.00 - 13.00h	Lunch break	Cafeteria
13.00 - 14.00h	Crystal field theory [C. Femoni]	BMW 5
14.00 - 17.00h	Outlining the final presentation on campus	107b
20.00	Activity organized by students	

Friday March 21

09.00 - 12.00h	Final team presentation of the projects	006
12.00 - 13.00h	Lunch break	Cafeteria

Prof. Michiel Dusselier (Belgium)

Prof. Dr. Ir. **Michiel Dusselier** is the research group leader and since 10/2022 tenured as Associate Professor at KU Leuven. He has a MSc in Bioscience Engineering (KU Leuven, 2009) and studied in part at the Technische Universität München. He obtained his Ph.D. in 2013 under the guidance of Profs. Sels and Pierre Jacobs on the topic of tailoring catalytic routes toward lactic acid and biobased plastics, resulting in a patented new process, now sold to industry. In 2014–15, he performed postdoctoral work with Prof. Mark Davis at the California Institute of Technology, studying the synthesis of small-pore zeolites, the elusive GME zeolite and methanol conversion. Michiel co-founded the new **Center for Sustainable Catalysis and Engineering (CSCE)** in 2019. He is focusing on zeolite synthesis methods, reactor design, functional biodegradable plastics and heterogeneous catalysis (CO₂ activation). In particular, he is enthusiastic about elaborate synthesis-structure-activity relations and bottom-up catalyst design.



Prof. Jean-Philippe Bouillon (France)

Prof. Jean-Philippe Bouillon obtained his doctorate in organic chemistry in 1994 from the Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium), under the supervision of Professor H.G. Viehe. He then moved to France to carry out his first postdoctoral studies in the laboratory of Dr. Beugelmans at the Institut de Chimie de Substances Naturels (CNRS, Gif-Sur-Yvette). Then, he joined the Joseph Fourier University (LEDSS, Grenoble) to carry out his second postdoctoral studies in the laboratory of Dr. Greene. In 1996, he worked as a researcher at the CNRS in the group of Pr. C. Portella, at the University of Reims Champagne Ardennes. Since 2004, he has held a professorship at the **University of Rouen**, first in the "Separation Sciences and Methods" team (EA 3233) then in the COBRA laboratory (UMR 6014) in the "Synthesis of Fluorinated Biomolecules" group. His main research interests concern the development of new methodologies to access fluorinated "building blocks" (CF₃-alkenes, CF₃-acrylates and SF₅ derivatives) and fluorinated heterocycles for applications in medicinal chemistry.



Patrick Uiterweerd, PhD (Netherlands)

Patrick Uiterweerd, PhD, has been working at the Institute for Life Science & Technology since 2006. Currently, he's involved in the projects they carry out within the **Hanzehogeschool Groningen** institute as a university lecturer in organic chemistry and mathematics. His main task is to integrate these research projects into education. His expertise is organic chemistry and within that he attaches great importance to greening it. In addition, he's extremely interested in philosophy and likes to give lectures about it.



Prof. Cristina Femoni (Italy)

Prof. Cristina Femoni got her Degree cum laude in Industrial Chemistry on 11th November 1994 at Bologna University, Faculty of Industrial Chemistry. During her last year she spent three months within the ERASMUS project at Reading University (U.K.), Department of Inorganic Chemistry. On 23rd February 1999 she obtained her PhD in Chemical Sciences with a thesis on the synthesis and characterization of multivalent carbonyl clusters. During this period, she was visiting scientist at Liverpool University (UK), Department of Chemistry. Now she is Full Professor in General and Inorganic Chemistry at the **University of Bologna**. The main scientific interests and expertise, started during the Ph.D. period and matured further on, lie in the synthesis and characterization of high-nuclearity transition metal clusters stabilized by carbonyl ligands.

