

13TH STUDENTS' CONGRESS OF SCTM

2019 was the year “reserved” for another students' congress organized by the Society of Chemists and Technologists of Macedonia (SCTM). The congress is intended for students in their final year of bachelor's, master's or doctoral (PhD) studies in the field of chemistry and chemical engineering, not only from Macedonia but also from other foreign countries. For the 13th time since 1994 this congress is being organized every second year with exception of 2002, when it was postponed for one year.

The aim of all Students' Congresses of SCTM is to promote the exchange of ideas and results in all fields of chemistry, chemical engineering and related areas. In addition, it is intended to enroll bachelor students to the magic of the scientific research. Taking into consideration the quality offered by the plenary lecturers, the organizers and the presented work by the students, this congresses contribute to the development and growth of the scientific capacities, not only in Macedonia but in the entire region.

Until the deadline, 45 abstract were submitted. Three of the authors withdraw before the start of the congress and 4 didn't show. Finally, at the event that lasted from 19th to 21st of September 2019, 38 oral presentations were given. Participants from Serbia, Bulgaria and Romania were among the Macedonian students. Also, four plenary lectures and one invited were held by eminent experts in different fields:

- **Dr. Aleksandar Višnjevac**, Institut Ruđer Bošković, Zagreb, Croatia
- **Dr. Antonio M. Rodríguez García**, Department of IRICA, Facultad de Ciencias Químicas, Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha, Ciudad Real, Castile-La Mancha, Spain
- **Dr. Kai S. Exner**, Department of Physical Chemistry, Sofia, Bulgaria; Physical Chemistry Department Justus-Liebig-University Giessen, Giessen, Germany
- **Dr. Tina Skalar**, Faculty of Chemistry and Chemical Technology, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- **MSc. Peter Bolgar**, Department of Chemistry, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK.

The Congress took place at the Institute of Chemistry, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje in the lecture hall specially renewed for this event. At the opening, the president of the SCTM prof. Dr. Zoran Zdravkovski addressed the audience, followed by the president of the first congress scientific committee (in 1994) prof. Dr. Vladimir Petruševski, who shared his memories during the congress years.



Prof. Dr. Zoran Zdravkovski addressing the audience at the opening of the 13th Students' Congress of SCTM. (From left to right: asst. prof. Dr. Miha Bukleski - president of the scientific committee, prof. Dr. Zoran Zdravkovski - president of SCTM, MSc. Katarina Josifovska - president of the organizing committee).

The social aspect of these events is also important. Besides the individual socializing between the participants, SCTM organized a gala cocktail that took place in the Museum of the

City of Skopje. The event was entitled as “A stroll through the past”. The participants could enjoy a delicious food, nice Macedonian wine and music, amongst the priceless relics.



“A stroll through the past” - gala cocktail that took place in the Museum of the City of Skopje

... and all of these would have been impossible without the hardworking students from the Institute of Chemistry in Skopje (Daniel Nikolovski, Blagoja Budžakoski, Hristina Trišeska, Brankica Mijačeska).