

Program

# SynOpen - Shenzhen University Lectures 2025

SynOpen



09:00-13:00 / 16 December 2025

Room A213, Shouzheng Building, Shenzhen University (Lihu Campus)

深圳大学丽湖校区守正楼 A213 室

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# Welcome to Shenzhen University

**Shenzhen University** (SZU) is committed to excellence in teaching, research and social service. Sticking to the motto of “self-reliance, self-discipline, self-improvement”, the University is dedicated to serving the Shenzhen Special Economic Zone (SEZ), demonstrating China’s reform and opening up and pioneering change in higher education.

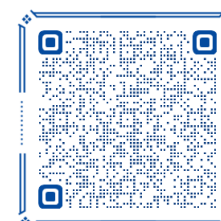
SZU, which is based in Shenzhen, China’s first Special Economic Zone and a key city in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area, is distinctively known as an Experimental University in higher education with its reforms in the sector acknowledged in Mainland China.

Established in 1983, SZU received support from top Chinese universities including Peking University, Tsinghua University and Renmin University of China in the founding of new schools. In the past decades, the University has undergone rapid growth and has become a comprehensive university with complete disciplines, top-ranked academic and research institutes and awe-inspiring faculty. SZU faculty members are engaged with teaching and research for the betterment of society. They are devoted to seeking solutions to pressing global challenges and promoting innovation.

SZU offers a wide array of undergraduate and graduate programs and provides students with an interdisciplinary and inclusive multicultural learning environment. Students in SZU enjoy the plenty resources and facilities of both the SEZ and the University, pursue academic excellence and discover new interests and opportunities in a fast-changing era.

SZU is an integral part of the SEZ, a thriving technology and innovation hub. With two campuses in Yuehai and Lihu, the University vigorously conducts leading researches in various fields and collaborates with high-tech enterprises in the community for technology transfer. SZU strives to provide a high-quality and effective education and develop in each SZU member the ability and passion to innovate and contribute to social progress and development, and encourages talented young people to start entrepreneurship in SZU. Our alumni including Tencent have founded dozens of innovative companies with significant influence.

SZU is accelerating its pace toward internationalization, providing a variety of global learning opportunities. The University has established partnerships with numbers of overseas universities to offer exceptional exchange programs, joint degree programs, research collaborations, and a variety of other forms of collaborations with international partners. Students from all over the world are welcomed in SZU. In the city noted for its urban vitality and natural beauty, students can explore the most attractive parts of China, pursue their passion and develop their interests, perspectives and abilities.



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# Welcome - Willkommen - Benvenuta- 欢迎

Dear colleagues,

Thieme is delighted to be co-organizing this series of Organic Chemistry Symposia brought to you by its journals *Synthesis*, *Synlett* and *SynOpen*, in collaboration with **Shenzhen University (Shenzhen)**, **South China University of Technology (Guangzhou)**, and **Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (Hong Kong)**. We would like to give special thanks to our hosts Professor Shou-Guo Wang, Professor Min Zhang, Professor Hugh Nakamura and Professor Jianwei Sun and their colleagues for agreeing to co-host the symposia series, where we are delighted to highlight research by leading scientists and editors representing our organic synthesis journals (*Synthesis*, *Synlett* and *SynOpen*), as well as by those from our host institutions and neighboring universities.

Thieme's chemical and bio sciences portfolio consists of 12 journals: *Synthesis*, *Synlett*, *SynOpen*, *Synfacts*, *Organic Materials*, *Planta Medica*, *Pharmacopsychiatry*, *Drug Research*, *Pharmaceutical Fronts*, *Chinese Medicine and Natural Products*, and the newly announced launch of open access journals, *Sustainability & Circularity Now* and *Therapeutics Now*. More details can be read on our website. In addition, Thieme also publishes databases such as *Science of Synthesis*, *Roempp* and *Pharmaceutical Substances*. We are a family-run publishing house, established in 1886, with headquarters based in Stuttgart, Beijing, New York, Rio de Janeiro, London, and Delhi. Our Editorial colleagues are proud to provide services to our authors, reviewers, readers, and editors from those offices.

We offer one of the fastest times from submission to first decision on manuscripts via our innovative peer review system called **Select Crowd Review**. This new method of peer review has proven to be fast, efficient, and fair. We would like to encourage postdocs and early career chemists to try this new method of peer review. We are also lucky to have one of the most high-profile networks of organic chemists in the world. We are very grateful to **Professor Xin Yuan Liu, Southern University of Science and Technology of China (SUSTech)**, for the introduction to his good friends in the region.

We are pleased to be joining colleagues from China to share our exciting ideas in research with this audience. Plus, we are delighted to have this opportunity to share our experiences of scientific publication, whether as authors or editors, so that we can understand more clearly how our journals can best serve the global scientific community. Our motto at Thieme is to support our community for "Better Health and Better Life".

We would like to thank all speakers, organizers, editors, and committee members especially our Editorial Board and Advisory Board members. We hope that all presentations will stimulate exchange of ideas, experiences, and potentially foster future research collaborations.

Welcome to what promises to be an exciting meeting!

**Kathleen Too**

Senior Vice President, Thieme Chemistry  
Managing Director, Thieme China



**Jeanne Andres**

Executive Publisher, Thieme Chemistry



**Yingxiao Cai**

Publisher Acquisitions, Thieme Chemistry



**Gordon Wilson**

Marketing Director  
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**Kevin Chang**

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# Agenda

Time	Program
09:00 – 09:15	<b>Welcome Remarks</b> Prof. Xin-Yuan Liu, Southern University of Science and Technology
09:15 – 09:30	<b>Thieme Presentation</b> Dr. Kathleen Too, SVP, Thieme Chemistry / Managing Director, Thieme China Dr. Jeanne Andres, Executive Publisher, Thieme Chemistry
<b>Chair</b>	<b>Prof. Shuo-Guo Wang, Shenzhen University</b>
09:30 – 10:10	<b>Cyclic Peptoids: from Structure to Properties</b> Prof. Irene Izzo, University of Salerno
10:10 – 10:50	<b>Asymmetric synthesis of chiral N-containing molecules via hydrogenation</b> Prof. Qin Yin, Shenzhen University of Advanced Technology
10:50 – 11:00	<b>Closing remarks</b> Prof. Xin-Yuan Liu, Southern University of Science and Technology
11:00 – 11:10	Photo Session
11:10 – 13:00	Lunch

# Symposium Presidents



PROFESSOR

**Xin-Yuan Liu**

Southern University of Science and Technology  
Associate Editor, Synthesis

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PROFESSOR

**Shouguo Wang**

Shenzhen University

Lab webpage:

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## Abstracts and Biographies



PROFESSOR

## Irene Izzo



Dipartimento di Chimica e Biologia “Adolfo Zambelli”/DCB  
University of Salerno, Italia

Irene Izzo received in 1994 a Magna Cum Laude degree in Chemistry from the University of Salerno where in the same year she began her PhD courses. She received her doctoral degree in Chemistry in 1998 from the University of Salerno. (Title of the thesis: "Synthesis of Biologically Active Marine Steroids and Cholestane Analogs. Thesis supervisor: prof. Guido Sodano). In 1998 she received a post-doctoral fellowship, working at University "Louis Pasteur" of Strasbourg (France) in the Laboratoire de Stéréochimie (E.C.P.M.), tutored by prof. Guy Solladié. From November 1999 to February 2006, she worked as assistant professor at the Department of Chemistry of the Faculty of Sciences of the University of Salerno. Since March 2007 she is Associate Professor at the Department of Chemistry and Biology “A. Zambelli” of the University of Salerno. From June 2008 to February 2009, she was a visiting scientist at Institute for Research in Biomedicine of Barcelona in the group of prof. Fernando Albericio. Since the academic year 2013-2014 she has been teaching in the second year of the “Chemistry and BioTechnology” (ChemBioTech Master) at the University of Strasbourg, organized by the École européenne de chimie, polymères et matériaux (ECPM) and the Strasbourg School for Biotechnology (ESBS). Since 2014 she has been the Internationalization Delegate and since 2022 the Equal Opportunities Delegate for the Department. In 2023 she became Associate Editor of SynOpen (Thieme). In November 2025, the Rector of University of Salerno appointed her as his Delegate for relations with the ADISURC (Campania Region University Education Agency). Her field of research is the total synthesis and semisynthesis of bioactive natural products (marine steroids and cyclopeptides mainly), and their analogues. She is also involved in the synthesis of artificial ion channels and more recently in the synthesis of peptidomimetics, in particular cyclic peptoids, oligomers of Nsubstituted glycine. She is author of 100 articles, 4 book chapters and more than 100 communications to national and international congresses.



Lab webpage:

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## Cyclic Peptoids: from Structure to Properties

Irene Izzo

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Macrocyclic compounds are highly effective tools in the field of supramolecular chemistry, with applications in numerous areas of research. An interesting, biologically-inspired subset of these are cyclic peptoids, which are macrocyclic oligomers of N-substituted glycines.<sup>[1]</sup> These peptidomimetics have demonstrated notable structural and physical characteristics, as well as significant promise as molecules capable of binding guests.<sup>[1][2]</sup>

A key benefit of this group of compounds is their modular nature, which facilitates the straightforward creation of extensive libraries of derivatives by altering the decorations on the backbone or the size of the ring.<sup>[2]</sup> In fact, cyclic peptoids with different cavity sizes have shown a remarkable capacity for binding cations.<sup>[2][3]</sup> We have discovered a wide range of applications for these compounds in recent years across diverse fields, including material chemistry<sup>[4]</sup> and catalysis.<sup>[5]</sup> They have also been employed as agents with biological activity<sup>[6]</sup> and as starting molecules for new azamacrocycles.<sup>[7]</sup>

More recently, we have pioneered a novel category of macrocycles that incorporates a triazole spacer within the backbone.<sup>[8]</sup> This presentation will outline the synthesis, characterization, properties, and applications of this adaptable class of macrocyclic compounds.

**Keywords:** peptidomimetics, macrocycles, ionophores, organocatalysis, multivalency

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PROFESSOR  
Qin Yin



Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Shenzhen University of  
Advanced Technology, Shenzhen, China

Qin Yin is now a tenured associate professor at Shenzhen University of Advanced Technology (SUAT). He received B.S. degree from Hunan Normal University in 2009 and PhD from Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry (with Prof. Shu-Li You) in 2014 and then carried out postdoc study at Technical University of Berlin (with Prof. Martin Oestreich) until 2017. After that, he was appointed as a research associate professor at the Southern University of Science and Technology until June 2021, and then he joined SUAT as a tenure-track associate professor. He was promoted to a tenured associate professor in July 2025. He is a recipient of Thieme Chemistry Journals Award (2023), and ChemComm Emerging Investigator (2025). His research interest focuses on asymmetric synthesis and drug discovery.

## Asymmetric synthesis of chiral N-containing molecules via hydrogenation

Qin Yin

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Chiral amines and N-heterocycles are among the most prevalent skeletons in biocative molecules. Among them, chiral primary amines exist not only in numerous marketed drugs but also serve as highly valuable synthetic intermediates for further fuctionalization. However, their synthesis has mainly relied on multi-step processes. On the other hand, chiral N-heterocycle structures have been increasingly applied in drug design. The creation of new N-heterocycle structures can largely expand the chemical space and promote the process of drug discovery, therefore, great demand on new N-heterocycle entities is foreseen. In the past several years, we have been working on the efficient syntheis of chiral primary amines via direct asymmetric reductive amination of ketones with ammonium salts using H<sub>2</sub> and applied it in the synthesis of API intermediates.<sup>1</sup> In addition, we have developed a new strategy of DKR-based asymmetric hydrogenation (AH) of N-heteroaromatics bearing a chiral substituent at the C2 position, which can produce novel N-heterocycles possessing endo- and exo-cyclic vicinal chirality. This method breaks through the limitations of previous asymmetric hydrogenation of N-heteroaromatics, which can only construct endo-cyclic chiral centers, and further expands the chemical space of chiral N-heterocycles.<sup>2</sup>

**Keywords:** chiral primary amines, N-heterocycles, reductive amination, asymmetric hydrogenation

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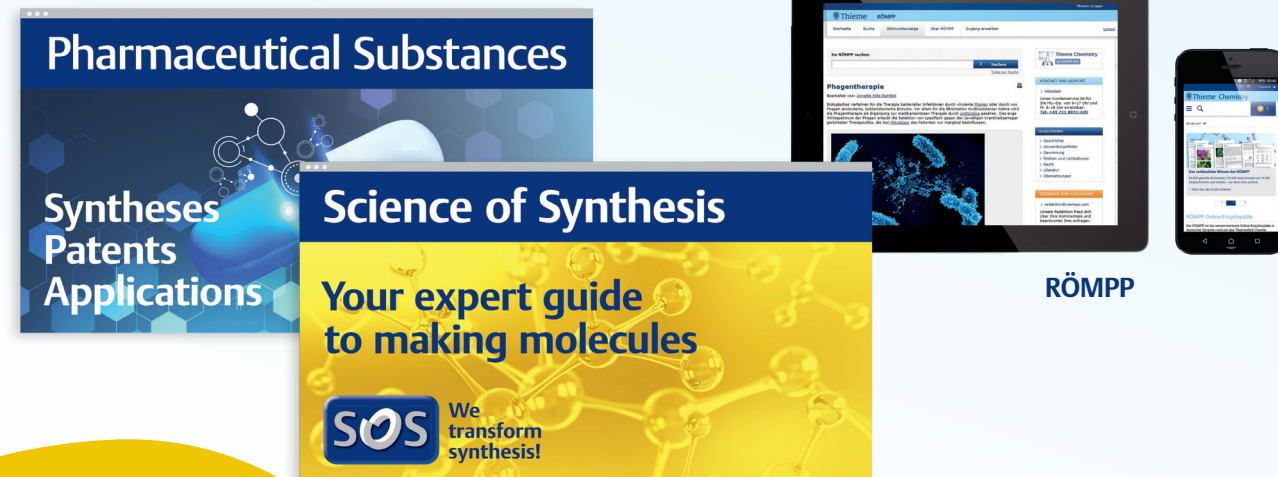


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