

Dear colleagues,

The 12th Molybdenum and Tungsten Enzymes Conference, **MoTEC21**, originally planned to be held in the French Riviera, will finally be held as a virtual event from **September 27th to October 1st, 2021** due to the COVID-19 sanitary conditions around the world.

As an organizer, the most exciting part is undoubtedly the elaboration of the scientific program. This year, it has been designed to highlight experts who have made exceptional contributions to the field and to ensure a balance of topics and systems studied, as well as gender parity and the participation of young researchers. It is also an opportunity to invite researchers from other communities to feed each other. We thank each of them for their participation.

The conference will cover all fronts of molybdenum and tungsten enzymes research, including nitrogenases. We aim to provide all the attendees with the possibility to meet and discuss with peers topics ranging from synthesis of the related cofactors, enzyme structure and function, health and disease to environmental aspects. Invited and selected talks broadcast exclusively live, interactive online poster sessions, and many other innovative virtual tools will give most participants the opportunity to present their work at the conference.

The MoTEC meeting is characterized by an interactive and thrilling atmosphere, but how do we preserve that when we cannot meet physically? The MoTEC21 virtual meeting will offer a creative ground to participate in a human way until we can get back to normal again. To this end, an intuitive Gather platform will be used for poster sessions, meeting between young researchers and experts as well as for formal or informal discussions.

We are therefore pleased to be able to offer **MoTEC21** in a new, reimagined format to suit this extraordinary time of the COVID pandemic. I would like to warmly thank all those who made this edition possible: the organizing committee, the international committee as well as our sponsors, the IM2B and the FrenchBIC for the attribution of several grants to young researchers.

We are looking forward to meeting you at MoTEC21!

Axel Magalon

Chair of MoTEC2021