

FEATURE

The 46th Annual Meeting of the Brazilian Chemical Society had “Chemistry: Linking Sciences and Neutralizing Inequalities” as its Theme

The 46th Annual Meeting of the Brazilian Chemical Society (46th RASBQ) was held from May 28 to 31, 2023, in the city of Águas de Lindóia, SP, Brazil, and welcomed approximately 1500 participants. The theme of this meeting was “Chemistry: Linking sciences and neutralizing inequalities”. With this theme, the Brazilian Chemical Society (SBQ) proposed to the participants several reflections on the various inequalities existing in society and how the sciences, especially chemistry, can contribute to reduce them. This meeting also celebrated 100 years of important theories in chemistry, natural sciences, and related areas.

“The 46th RASBQ is taking place following the declaration by the World Health Organization (WHO) that the COVID-19 pandemic has cooled down. Therefore, this event is very large because the chemical community answered the call for registration and many registrations were made. We had many sponsors, many of them participating with stands, and our exhibitors were very excited. What I feel in this meeting is a positive atmosphere. From the feedback I have received, all participants are very excited and enjoying the event”, explained Shirley Nakagaki Bastos, Full Professor in the Department of Chemistry at the Federal University of Paraná (UFPR) and president of the SBQ.

The event’s opening conference entitled “Irradiating light and directing electrons: Interfaces in science for the construction of a sustainable world” was given by Maria Valnice Boldrin Zanoni, Full Professor at the Institute of Chemistry, São Paulo State University (UNESP). In this conference, Prof. Zanoni presented an overview of the advances made in the use of electrochemistry/photo(electro)chemistry as a tool to respond to universal problems, such as those listed in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) proposed by the United Nations (UN). The transversal advance of this knowledge has allowed the holistic study of emerging contaminants in water and the development and application of versatile methods for detection, (eco)toxicological analysis, and treatment methods for removing these compounds from water.



The opening conference presented by Prof. Dr. Maria Valnice Boldrin Zanoni. Photo: SBQ.

The 46th RASBQ was held at the Hotel Monte Real Convention Center in Águas de Lindóia (SP, Brazil), which has more than 5,000 m² of modern and multifunctional space, excellent for performing the numerous activities that have always characterized the RASBQ. Thus, students, professors, and researchers in the area of chemistry and related areas, coming from all regions of Brazil, in addition to foreign guests and participants, had the opportunity to gather and celebrate the advances in chemistry and related areas.

SBQ at Secondary School

One of the important events that occurs during the RASBQ is "SBQ at Secondary School", which provides participants from secondary schools with scientific knowledge and experiments that demonstrate how important chemistry is for sustainable development and how much it continuously contributes to improving people's lives.



Students paying attention to the experiments conducted during "SBQ at Secondary School". Photo: SBQ.

Flash Poster Presentation Session

In the Flash Poster Presentation session, previously selected students from different areas of chemistry were challenged to present a summary of their poster. The students presented their work objectively, without exceeding the 2 minutes available.



Participants interacting in the poster presentation session. Photo: SBQ.

6th Edition of the Brazilian Women in Chemistry Award

The American Chemical Society (ACS) in partnership with the SBQ offer the Brazilian Women in Chemistry Award. In its sixth edition, this award encourages gender equality in chemistry and related fields and recognizes the contribution of women to science. Transgender women and non-binary people can also be nominated for this award.

The Brazilian Women in Chemistry Award has three categories

Emerging Leader: This award recognizes the achievements of a young scientist or chemist. The candidate must be up to 40 years old or not have completed their doctorate more than 10 years ago. The winner was Professor **Joyce Kelly Rosário da Silva** from the Federal University of Pará (UFPA).

Leader in Industry: This award honors a woman working in the chemical, pharmaceutical, or biotechnology industries whose research and creative innovations have generated discoveries that have contributed to commercial success and the benefit of society. The winner was **Aline Machado de Castro** from Petrobras.

Academic Leader: This award recognizes a woman with consolidated work in academia whose contribution to scientific research in chemistry has had a global and social impact. The winner was Professor **Evelin Andrade Manoel** from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ).



The winners of the Brazilian Women in Chemistry Award.
Photo: Brazilian Academy of Sciences (ABC).

Tribute Session

A tribute session was also held during the 46th RASBQ, in which awards were given to science personalities in Brazil. The following were awarded: the Simão Mathias Medal, the *Journal of the Brazilian Chemical Society* Medal, the “Química Nova” Award for Young Authors, the *Virtual Journal of Chemistry* Award, the QNInt Jailson Bittencourt de Andrade Award, the PubliSBQ Angelo da Cunha Pinto Award, the SBQ Innovation Fernando Galembeck Award, the Young Researcher Award from the Royal Society of Chemistry and RASBQ, the Vanderlan da Silva Bolzani Award, the Oswaldo Luiz Alves Award, and the Hans Viertler Award.

To learn more about the honored researchers and the award winners, please visit <http://www.s bq.org.br/46ra/pagina/sessao-homenagens.php>.

Exhibition Area

In addition to the knowledge, experiences, and information exchanged, the participants had the opportunity to attend the exhibition held by the sponsoring companies. Some of the companies present included: Agilent, Allcrom, Bruker, dpUnion, Metrohm, Nova Analítica, PerkinElmer, Thermo Fisher, Shimadzu, and Tescan do Brasil.



Booths for some companies that were present at the 46th RASBQ exhibition. Photo: SBQ.

Source: SBQ