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## 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the School of Engineering and Architecture of Fribourg (HEIA-FR)

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This year, on the 14<sup>th</sup> of January 2021 the School of Engineering and Architecture (HEIA-FR)<sup>[1]</sup> celebrated its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary. To celebrate, many interactive events are organized from February to September 2021.

### 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Activities<sup>[2]</sup>

In July 2021, the Chemistry Department will be honored to organize different activities dedicated to a large audience from 4 to 99 years old, including the following:

- A Chemistry Show to demonstrate the magical, artistic and scientific side of this beautiful science (3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of July 2021).
- Fun Experiments that will be conducted in many parts of the Canton involving young people (from 6 to 16 years old, approximately). A booklet summarizing all the experiments will be edited (including an electronic version available on the website), including video capsules and challenges on social networks.
- A one hour Radio Show on Radio Fribourg / Freiburg discussing the link between chemistry and food will be broadcast on the 14<sup>th</sup> of July 2021.

Many other interesting happenings, covering a wide range of the school's activities, are available and summarized on a dedicated website: <https://125.heia-fr.ch>

### ChemTech<sup>[3]</sup>

The Institute of Chemical Technologies (ChemTech) is one of the ten research institutes at the HEIA-FR. The institute has three main areas of activities: chemical process development, flow chemistry, and characterization technologies. The researchers at ChemTech are specialized in technology transfer from fundamental research-based molecular innovations to the implementation of optimized industrial processes. Our collective applied-research activities bring solutions not only to the chemical and pharmaceutical industry, but also to other industries (medtech, mechanical, food, etc.). The primary innovation theme investigated at ChemTech is the intensification of chemical processes. Using advanced skills in chemistry and molecular characterization, process development and scale-up, as well as chemical engineering, automation and control, the researchers at ChemTech focus on creating safer, environmentally cleaner and more sustainable processes and products.



Main research focus areas of ChemTech

### Chemistry Department

Fribourg has a long history of professional education dating back to 1896, when the first vocational school opened with a class of 12 apprentice mechanics and stonecutters. Almost 120 years later, in 2015, the 1'000-student milestone was reached for the first time. The HEIA-FR is a renowned and dynamic center for higher professional education and training, as evidenced by the steady growth of its student body. The School offers a wide range of interdisciplinary study programs combining theory and practice.

The Chemistry Department was founded in 1974, and offers both a Bachelor's degree in chemistry, as well as a Master of Science HES-SO in Life Sciences, with an orientation in Chemical Development and Production. In these both programs, the emphasis is on chemical process development on a scale ranging from the milligram to the ton, as well as on the precise characterization of materials and products. The teaching team is made up of 13 professors teaching in the fields of characterization, synthesis and chemical engineering. The linguistic diversity is clearly an advantage that makes graduates stand out in the job market. In this frame, the bachelor's degree is offered in bilingual (French/German), in addition of the French-only version, while the Master program is given in English.

In 2021, the chemistry department counts 75 bachelor students, 35 master students, 33 technical staff and 14 apprentices. The Chemistry Department is certified by the EUR-ACE<sup>®</sup> European label.

[1] <https://heia-fr.ch>

[2] <https://125.heia-fr.ch>

[3] <https://www.heia-fr.ch/fr/recherche-appliquee/instituts/chemtech>

