Change of leadership at internationally renowned learned society

**Karsten Danielmeier appointed President of the GDCh**

**Katharina Uebele is the first young chemist to be elected to the position of Vice President**

Dr. Karsten Danielmeier, currently head of growth businesses in the Coatings and Adhesives Business Entity at [Covestro](http://www.covestro.com), will become president of the [German Chemical Society](https://en.gdch.de/) (GDCh) on January 1, 2022. With around 30,000 members, the society is one of the largest chemical scientific associations in the world. Danielmeier was elected as future president by the incumbent GDCh board at the board meeting on August 30, 2021. He will succeed Professor Dr. Peter R. Schreiner, who held this position for two years by turn and has now been elected as one of the Vice Presidents. The presidium is completed by GDCh board member and economic chemist Katharina Uebele. This is the first time that a young chemist has been elected as Vice President. Dr. Timo Fleßner, Bayer AG, was confirmed in his position as treasurer.

The new committee has a lot of plans for the next term of office. In particular, it wants to breathe even more life into the three guiding principles of the society with a focus on digitization, diversity and internationalization, and thus also continue the course it has taken in recent years to drive forward the modernization of the GDCh. "We can be truly proud of what the GDCh has achieved and what it represents, but we also want to support the changes in society and science and thus play an active role in shaping the future of the GDCh," Danielmeier emphasizes.

Karsten Danielmeier, born in Werl in 1967, studied at the University of Bonn where he received his doctorate in synthetic organic chemistry under Professor Dr. Eberhard Steckhan in 1995. The following year, he joined Bayer AG where he was active in numerous positions of increasing responsibility in raw materials research for coatings and adhesives in Germany and the United States. Most recently, he headed research for the Functional Films division in Leverkusen and was Senior Vice President for Research and Development in the Coatings, Adhesives, Specialties segment at Covestro from 2015 to 2021.

Danielmeier has been a member of the GDCh board since July 2020

and had previously served for several years on the scientific planning committee of the Coatings Chemistry division.

**About the German Chemical Society (GDCh):**

With around 30,000 members, the German Chemical Society is one of the largest chemical scientific societies in the world. It promotes scientific work, research and education as well as the exchange and dissemination of new scientific findings. The GDCh supports the creation of networks, transdisciplinary and international cooperation, and ongoing education and training in schools, universities, and professional settings. The GDCh has 27 divisions as well as 60 local sections.

**About Covestro:**

With sales of EUR 10.7 billion in 2020, Covestro is among the world’s largest polymer companies. Business activities are focused on the manufacture of high-tech polymer materials and the development of innovative, sustainable solutions for products used in many areas of everyday life. In doing so, Covestro is becoming fully circular. Its main customers are the automotive and transport industries, the construction industry, the furniture and wood processing industries, and the electrical, electronics, and household appliance industries. Other sectors include sports and leisure, cosmetics, healthcare and the chemical industry itself. As of the end of 2020, Covestro produces at 33 sites worldwide and employs around 16,500 people (converted to full-time positions).

**Forward-looking statements**

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