

Honorary Doctorate from the Weizmann Institute for H. Schwarz

Helmut Schwarz (Technical University Berlin) was awarded an honorary doctorate degree from the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot (Israel) in recognition of his contributions to scientific cooperation between Germany and Israel. Nobel Laureates A. Ciechanover, E. Wiesel, and the Israeli president S. Perez were also honored at the same ceremony. Schwarz previously received honorary doctorates from Hebrew University Jerusalem and the Technion in Haifa for his many years of successful collaboration. He is a founding member of the Berlin–Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and president of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.

After his apprenticeship as a chemical laboratory technician, Schwarz remained true to the TU Berlin for the rest of his career. After receiving his Ph.D. and completing his habilitation there with the natural chemist F. Bohlmann (1921–1991), he was named professor of mass spectrometry in 1978 and professor of organic chemistry in 1983. Schwarz has spent time as a visiting scientist in Switzerland, Israel, France, Japan, and Australia. His research is intimately connected to mass spectrometry and gas-phase chemistry. Among other things, he is interested in the activation of C–H and C–C bonds and the role of metals in catalysis. He recently reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on the activation of methane using oligomeric aluminum oxide.^[1a] In *Chemistry—A European Journal* he described the cyclometalation of platinum complexes in the gas phase.^[1b]

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Prizes for P. Seeberger

Peter H. Seeberger (Max Planck Institute of Colloids and Interfaces, Golm) received the Karl-Heinz Beckurts Prize 2008 and the Claude S. Hudson Award of the American Chemical Society for his work on carbohydrate chemistry. Seeberger studies oligosaccharides, which, among other things, are responsible for interactions between cells. Using a self-designed automated oligosaccharide synthesis machine, he was able to synthesize known pathogen glycans and to further the development of vaccine candidates for diseases such as leishmaniasis, malaria, AIDS, anthrax, and tuberculosis.

Seeberger studied chemistry at the University of Erlangen–Nuremberg and received his Ph.D. in 1995 with M. Caruthers (University of Colorado, Boulder). After a research stay with S. Danishefsky at the Sloan–Kettering Institute in New York, in 1998 he began his independent research career at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where

he was made professor in 2002. In 2003 we moved to the ETH Zurich as professor of organic chemistry. He was recently named director of the MPI in Golm. Seeberger is a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of *QSAR & Combinatorial Science*. He recently reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on the semisynthesis of a glycosylphosphatidylinositol-anchored prion protein^[2a] and in *Chemistry—A European Journal* on the automated solid-phase synthesis of protected oligosaccharides with β -mannosidic linkages.^[2b]

Hanus Medal for H. Hopf

Henning Hopf (Technical University Braunschweig) was recognized by the Czech Chemical Society with the Hanus Medal for his exceptional contributions to organic chemistry. After completing his doctoral studies in 1967 under H. L. Goering at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, Hopf worked as a postdoctoral fellow with H. Musso in Marburg and Karlsruhe and with H. M. Frey in Reading. He completed his habilitation in 1972 at the University of Karlsruhe and took up a position as professor at the University of Würzburg. In 1979 he moved to the TU Braunschweig. His research interests include carbohydrates^[3a] and cyclophanes.^[3b] In *Angewandte Chemie*, he recently discussed the significance of [2.2]paracyclophanes in polymer chemistry and materials science,^[3c] and together with R. Hoffmann, he asked what we can learn from molecules “in distress”, that is, in unusual geometries.^[3d] Hopf was actively involved in the reorganization of the European chemistry journals, and he was the chairman of the Editorial Board of the *European Journal of Organic Chemistry* from 2002 to 2004.

- [1] a) S. Feyel, J. Döbler, R. Höckendorf, M. K. Beyer, J. Sauer, H. Schwarz, *Angew. Chem.* **2008**, *120*, 1972; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, *47*, 1946; b) B. Butschke, M. Schlangen, D. Schröder, H. Schwarz, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2008**, *14*, 11050.
- [2] a) C. F. W. Becker, X. Liu, D. Olschewski, R. Castelli, R. Seidel, P. H. Seeberger, *Angew. Chem.* **2008**, *120*, 8338; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, *47*, 8215; b) J. D. C. Codée, L. Kröck, B. Castagner, P. H. Seeberger, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2008**, *14*, 3987.
- [3] a) H. Hopf, *Classics in Hydrocarbon Chemistry*, Wiley-VCH, Weinheim, **2000**; b) R. Gleiter, H. Hopf (Hrsg.), *Modern Cyclophane Chemistry*, Wiley-VCH, Weinheim, **2004**; c) H. Hopf, *Angew. Chem.* **2008**, *120*, 9954; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, *47*, 9808; d) R. Hoffmann, H. Hopf, *Angew. Chem.* **2008**, *120*, 4548; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, *47*, 4474.

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Awarded



H. Schwarz



P. Seeberger



H. Hopf