

## J.-P. Behr Member of the Académie des Sciences

Jean-Paul Behr (Université de Strasbourg) has been voted a member of the Académie des Sciences (Paris). He studied at the University of Strasbourg, where he received his doctorate in supramolecular chemistry in 1973 under the supervision of the Nobel laureate J.-M. Lehn. In 1973/74, he was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Sheffield in the group of D. Chapman on membrane physics. Upon returning to France, he worked at the CNRS; in 1978, the University of Strasbourg made him professor of chemistry. He was named director of research by the CNRS in 1985, and in 1989 he was made director of the Institute for Genetic Chemistry at the University of Strasbourg. Between 1990 and 1995 he was a member of the board of the CNRS. In 2000 he received the Paul Ehrlich Prize and in 2001 the Pasteur Medal.

The research in his group “genetic chemistry” initially focused on DNA as a “supermolecule”. The group now predominantly works on drug delivery and uses galenic methods to deliver nucleic acids and proteins into the cells of animals. He is a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of *ChemBioChem*, in which he recently reported on the synthesis of cationic diblock oligonucleotides for improved hybridization with their complementary sequences.<sup>[1a]</sup> In *Angewandte Chemie*, he described the targeted organization of nanoscopic DNA particles coated with folic acid for gene delivery to cancer cells.<sup>[1b]</sup>

## ACS Florida Award for K. S. Schanze

The Florida section of the ACS presented Kirk S. Schanze (University of Florida, Gainesville) their Florida Award in May. They thus honor him for his work in the fields of organic and organometallic chemistry. Schanze specializes in optical, electronic, and macromolecular materials with adjustable properties. In a recent Review in *Angewandte Chemie*, he discussed the synthesis, photophysics, and possible applications of conjugated polyelectrolytes.<sup>[2a]</sup> In *Chemistry—A European Journal*, he reported on intramolecular transfer of triplet energy in donor–acceptor molecules that are held together by a crown ether group.<sup>[2b]</sup>

Schanze studied at the Florida State University in Tallahassee and completed his PhD in 1983 at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill under the supervision of D. G. Whitten. He worked as a

postdoctoral fellow in 1983/84 at the same university in the group of T. J. Meyer and 1984–86 as a Miller Fellow with K. Sauer and J. Clark at the University of California at Berkeley. In 1986, he took up a position as assistant professor at the University of Florida, where he was made associate professor in 1992 and professor of chemistry and director of the organic chemistry division in 1997.

## A. Boldyrev Receives ACS Utah Award

The Central Utah and Salt Lake sections of the ACS presented Alexander I. Boldyrev (Utah State University, Logan) with the ACS Utah Award 2008 in April. He is thus honored for his work on the conceptual basis of chemical bond theory and the development of concepts of aromaticity and antiaromaticity in clusters and inorganic solid-state structures. He recently reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on evidence for the nonplanarity of the carbon atom in  $\text{CB}_7$ -<sup>[3a]</sup> and in *ChemPhysChem* on aromaticity and antiaromaticity in silicon clusters.<sup>[3b]</sup>

Boldyrev studied at the University of Novosibirsk and completed his doctorate in 1978 at the State University of Moscow. In 1983, he moved to the Institute of Chemical Physics of the Soviet Academy of Sciences in Moscow and completed his habilitation there in 1987. In 1990, he carried out research with a Humboldt Fellowship at the University of Erlangen–Nuremberg under P. von R. Schleyer and was a visiting researcher at Utah State University from 1992. In 1999 he was made assistant professor; since 2005 he has been professor there, and from 2006 also at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City.

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## Awarded...



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K. S. Schanze



A. Boldyrev