

Wieland Prize for S. V. Ley

The Heinrich Wieland Prize for outstanding achievements in the synthesis and activity of natural products, which is named after the German Nobel Laureate in Chemistry for 1927, has been presented annually since 1964; since 2000 it has been sponsored by Boehringer Ingelheim. The recipient for 2009 is Steven V. Ley (University of Cambridge, UK), whose work covers the total synthesis of more than 120 compounds. His synthesis of the insecticide azadirachtin after 22 years' work aroused much interest in *Angewandte Chemie*;[1a-d] an improved synthesis also appeared in that journal.[1e]

Ley completed his doctorate in 1972 at Loughborough University (UK). He worked as a post-doctoral fellow for two years with L. Paquette at Ohio State University in Columbus, and then with D. Barton at Imperial College in London. In 1975, he was made lecturer there, and during the next 14 years rose to head of the chemistry department. In 1992, he was made professor at Trinity College, Cambridge, and a Commander of the British Empire in 2002 after serving as President of the Royal Society of Chemistry. Ley is a member of the editorial and advisory boards of *Chemistry—A European Journal*, *ChemBioChem*, *ChemMedChem*, and *Advanced Synthesis & Catalysis*.

Purple Ribbon for E. Nakamura

Eiichi Nakamura (University of Tokyo) was awarded the Medal with Purple Ribbons (Shiju Housho) of the Japanese Government, an award for science, technology, the arts, and sport. Nakamura, who was involved in the founding of *Chemistry—An Asian Journal* and is on its International Advisory Board, is honored for his contributions to organic synthesis.[2a] His research involves organometallic intermediates in catalysis, mechanisms of important syntheses, carbon cluster complexes in materials and nanoscience, and tailored clusters in biology. He recently reported in *Angewandte Chemie*, for which he is also a member of the International Advisory Board, on bi- and trinuclear fullerene[70] complexes,[2b] and in *Chemistry—An Asian Journal* on photoconductivity in self-assembling monolayers of penta(aryl)[60]fullerene phosphonic acid.[2c]

Nakamura studied at the Tokyo Institute of Technology and received his doctorate there in 1978 under I. Kuwajima. Thereafter he worked with G. Stork at Columbia University (New York). In 1980 he became assistant professor at the Tokyo Institute of Technology, where he was made professor in 1993. Since 1995, he has been professor of chemistry at the University of Tokyo. He has also received the Silver Nagoya Medal (2001), the Prize

of the Chemical Society of Japan (2003), and an Alexander von Humboldt Prize (2006).

Otto Hahn Prize for S. W. Hell

Stefan W. Hell (Max Planck Institute (MPI) for Biophysical Chemistry, Göttingen) received the Otto Hahn Prize, which is presented by the City of Frankfurt, the Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker (German Chemical Society, GDCh), and the German Physical Society. Using stimulated emission depletion microscopy, Hell was able to overcome the Abbe resolution limit for optical microscopes. In 2006, he had received the Innovation Award of the Federal President of Germany. He recently reported in *ChemPhysChem* on fluorescence nanoscopy with molecular two-photon switches using a continuous-wave laser[3a] and in a contribution that was featured on the cover of *Chemistry—A European Journal* on rhodamine spiroamides for the multicolor fluorescence nanoscopy of single molecules.[3b]

Hell studied physics and completed his doctorate in 1990 at the University of Heidelberg under the supervision of S. Hunklinger. In 1991–93, he worked at the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL) in Heidelberg; thereafter, he spent time at the University of Turku (Finland, 1993–96) and the University of Oxford (1994). In 1996 he completed his habilitation at the University of Heidelberg. Since 1997, he has carried out research at the MPI in Göttingen, where he was made director in 2002. Since 2003 he has also led the high-resolution optical microscopy section at the German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ) in Heidelberg.

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Awarded...



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E. Nakamura



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