Liebig Medal for Joachim Sauer

The German Chemical Society (GDCh) has awarded the 2010 Liebig Medal to Joachim Sauer (Humboldt University of Berlin). He received this prestigious medal for his pioneering theoretical work on understanding the structure of and chemical reactions on zeolites.[1a,b]

Sauer is very active in quantum and computational chemistry.[1c,d] He studied chemistry at the Humboldt University of Berlin and was awarded a doctorate in chemistry in 1972. He continued to do research there until 1977 when he joined the Academy of Sciences, Central Institute of Physical Chemistry in Berlin. Sauer held postdoctoral positions at the Heyrovský Institute (Prague) and the University of Karlsruhe (Germany). For a brief time (1990–1991) he was the Deputy Technical Director (Catalysis and Sorption) for BIOSYM Technologies, San Diego (USA). Sauer remained an advisor for BIOSYM until 2002. In 1992, he joined the Max Planck Society as Head of the Quantum Chemistry Group in Berlin. Since 1993 he has been a full professor of Physical and Theoretical Chemistry at the Humboldt University of Berlin. Sauer is a member of the advisory board of *ChemCatChem*. He is also a member of the Leoploldina (German Academy of Sciences) and was the 2009 winner of the Kolos Medal awarded by the University of Warsaw and the Polish Chemical Society.

Alfred Stock Memorial Prize for Matthias Driess

Every two years the Wöhler Society (the Inorganic Chemistry division of the GDCh) holds a series of lectures. This year the meeting took place in Freiburg im Breisgau (Germany) and at the event the Alfred Stock Memorial Prize of the GDCh was awarded to Matthias Driess (Technical University of Berlin). The award recognizes an outstanding chemist for experimental research in inorganic chemistry.

Driess studied chemistry at Heidelberg University and received his PhD from the same institution in 1988. After postdoctoral work with R. West (University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA) he returned to Heidelberg and completed his habilitation in inorganic chemistry (1993) and remained there as a lectured for a further three years. In 1996 Driess moved to the Ruhr University Bochum before joining the Technical University of Berlin in 2004 where he holds the position of Professor of Inorganic Chemistry. His research focuses on organometallic chemistry related to molecular models of heterogeneous catalysts, electron-transfer complexes, the synthesis of novel functional molecules based on heavy main group elements, and molecular precursors for nanoscale inorganic materials.[2] Previous honors include the Otto Klung Prize for Chemistry in 2000.

August Wilhelm von Hofmann Medal for C. N. R. Rao

The August Wilhelm von Hofmann Medal is one of the most prestigious international awards in chemistry and is presented by the German Chemical Society (GDCh). This year the recipient is C. N. R. Rao, who is honored for outstanding individual effort to build top-class research in India.

Chintamani Nagesa Ramachandra Rao completed his PhD at Purdue University (USA) and earned his DSc at the University of Mysore (India). From 1959 to 1994 he was a faculty member at the Indian Institute of Technology in Kanpur and at the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore, and since 1989 he has been associated with the J. Nehru Center for Advanced Scientific Research in Bangalore, where he is Linus Pauling Research Professor. His research interests center on the chemistry of materials. He has authored over 1000 research papers and edited or written 30 books in materials chemistry.[3] In 2005, he received the Dan David Prize for materials research and the first India Science Prize. Rao is a member of the International Advisory Board of *Chemistry—An Asian Journal*.

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DOI: 10.1002/anie.201005679

Awarded ...

J. Sauer
(Photo: van Ryck-agency (Vincent Leifer))

M. Driess

C. N. R. Rao