

An important part of the Science Forum of the German Chemical Society (Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker, GDCh; to be held in Bremen this year from September 4th to 7th) is the presentation of awards for outstanding achievements in chemistry. We congratulate the following scientists who will receive these prestigious awards.

Arfvedson Schlenk Prize for Peter G. Bruce

The Arfvedson Schlenk Prize recognizes outstanding work in the area of lithium chemistry and is sponsored by the GDCh and the company Chem-etall. This year's prize is awarded to Peter Bruce (University of St Andrews, Scotland). His research interests include the synthesis and characterization of materials (extended arrays and polymers) with new properties or combinations of properties, and especially materials for new generations of energy conversion and storage devices (lithium batteries).^[1] Recent efforts from his group have focussed on the synthesis and understanding of nanoelectrodes for lithium ion batteries, including nanowire/nanotube intercalation anodes and mesoporous cathodes.

Baeyer Medal for François Diederich

The Adolf von Baeyer Medal is awarded to François Diederich (ETH Zurich, Switzerland). His broad range of research interests include molecular recognition^[2] and structure-based drug design, carbon-rich molecular architectures and optoelectronic materials, supramolecular chemistry on surfaces, and medicinal chemistry.

Diederich completed his PhD in 1979 at the University of Heidelberg (Germany) under H. A. Staab. He carried out postdoctoral research at the University of California in Los Angeles (USA, 1979–1981) with O. L. Chapman and at the Max Planck Institute for Medicinal Research in Heidelberg (1981–1985). After completing his habilitation in 1985 he returned to UCLA, and in 1992 he joined the ETH Zurich. Diederich serves on the advisory board of *Chemistry—A European Journal* and has been the chairman of the editorial board of *Angewandte Chemie* since 2004.

Karl Ziegler Prize for Hans-Joachim Freund

The Karl Ziegler Prize, which includes €50,000 and a gold medal, is the highest honor awarded by the GDCh and is awarded every two years. This year's prize goes to Hans-Joachim (Hajo) Freund (Director at the Fritz Haber Institute of the Max Planck Society (FHI), Berlin). His research interests are focused on the chemistry and physics of solid

surfaces, including the structure and dynamics of oxide surfaces.^[3a] Also, you can read his forthcoming Review in *Angewandte Chemie* on CO oxidation as model systems for heterogeneous processes.^[3b]

Freund studied physics and chemistry at the University of Cologne (Germany) and went on to his PhD there in 1978 under the guidance of G. Hohlneicher. In 1979, he joined the Physics Department at the University of Pennsylvania and Xerox Corporation (USA) as a postdoctoral researcher. He returned to Cologne in 1981 to complete his habilitation (1983). He then joined the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg and remained there until 1987, before he accepted a position at the Ruhr University Bochum (1987–1996). He has been a director at the FHI since 1996. Freund serves on the international advisory boards of *The Chemical Record* and *ChemCatChem* as well as the editorial advisory board of *ChemPhysChem*. Photo: M. Jacoby.

Andreas Pfaltz to give the Heilbronner Hückel Lecture

Together with the Swiss Chemical Society, the GDCh holds the annual Heilbronner Hückel Lecture, which will be given this year by Andreas Pfaltz (University of Basel). He is the first Swiss to be honored by presenting this lecture.

Pfaltz studied at the ETH Zurich and completed his doctorate there in 1978 under A. Eschenmoser. In 1978/79 he worked as a postdoctoral fellow at Columbia University (New York) with G. Stork. In 1980, he returned to the ETH and became a lecturer there (1987–1990). This was followed by appointments at the University of Basel (1990–1995) and the Max Planck Institute for Coal Research as its director (1995–1998). In 1999, he returned to the University of Basel to his current position as professor of chemistry. His research focuses on the development of catalytic methods for organic synthesis, with special emphasis on asymmetric catalysis.^[4] Pfaltz is a member of the editorial board of *Advanced Synthesis & Catalysis*.

Wöhler Prize for Ferdi Schüth

The Wöhler Prize for processes that conserve resources goes to Ferdi Schüth (Director at the Max Planck Institute for Coal Research at Mülheim an der Ruhr). His research involves the synthesis and characterization of inorganic materials with applications in heterogeneous catalysis.^[5] Relevant topics include CO oxidation and energy related conversions (i.e. methane activation, biomass conversion, and catalyzed hydrogen storage).

Schüth studied chemistry and law at the University of Münster, where he received his doctorate

Awarded ...



P. G. Bruce



F. Diederich



H.-J. Freund



A. Pfaltz



F. Schüth

in chemistry in 1988 under E. Wicke. In 1988/89, he was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Minnesota (USA) with L. D Schmidt. From 1989 to 1995 he worked on his habilitation in Mainz under K. Unger, and for five months in 1993 with G. D. Stucky at the University of California Santa Barbara. In 1995, he moved to Frankfurt University and then in 1998, he was appointed Director at the MPI for Coal Research. Schüth is a member of the advisory board of *Advanced Materials*.

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