Angewandte 50 Years International Edition Chemie

OMCOS Award for Frank Glorius

Frank Glorius (University of Münster, Germany) received the biannual OMCOS Award at the recent IUPAC International Symposium on Organometallic Chemistry Directed Towards Organic Synthesis (OMCOS) that was held in Shanghai, China. The award is given to young scientists who have made outstanding contributions in organometallic chemistry.

Glorius studied chemistry at the University of Hannover (H. M. R. Hoffmann), Stanford University (P. A. Wender), the Max Planck Institute for Coal Research and the University of Basel (A. Pfaltz), and Harvard University (D. A. Evans). In 2001, he began his independent research career at the Max Planck Institute for Coal Research, Mülheim an der Ruhr (his mentor was A. Fürstner) and was appointed associate professor at the University of Marburg in 2004. The Glorius group moved to the University of Münster in 2007. His research encompasses the design of sterically demanding N-heterocyclic carbenes,[1a] functional metal–organic frameworks, cross-coupling and C–H activation reactions, and (asymmetric) organocatalysis. Glorius is on the academic advisory board of *Advanced Synthesis & Catalysis* and has been featured in our Author Profile section.[1b]

Werner Prize for Xile Hu

The Werner Prize is given to promising young Swiss scientists or scientist working in Switzerland for their outstanding independent chemical research. This year, the Swiss Chemical Society gave its prize to Xile Hu (École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Swizerland) "in recognition of his excellent contributions to the discovery and development of selective and efficient cross-coupling and C–H activation reactions." The prize is shared with Reto Dorta (University of Zurich, Switzerland).

Hu studied at Peking University and earned his PhD from the University of California, San Diego in 2004 under K. Meyer. He did postdoctoral studies in the group of J. C. Peters at the California Institute of Technology (USA; 2005–2007). In 2007, he was appointed assistant professor of chemistry at the EPFL and began his own research group. His research interests include asymmetric catalysis, biomimetic chemistry, and electrocatalysis for H_2 production from water. Hu's recent publications in *Angewandte Chemie* outline cross-coupling reactions catalyzed by a nickel pincer complex[2a] and properties of the first five-coordinate, square-pyramidal Fe^{II} model complex that mimics the main structural features of the active site of [Fe]-hydrogenase.[2b]

And also in the news ...

… Matthias Driess (Technical University of Berlin, Germany) has received the 2011 Wacker Silicone Award for his "pioneering work on low-valent silicon compounds,[3a] which constitute promising building blocks in organosilicon chemistry and make it possible, for example, to produce catalysts that do not contain precious metals". The award includes €10,000 prize money and is one of the most prestigious international honors in silicon chemistry. Driess is the co-chairman of the new multidisciplinary journal *ChemPlusChem*, which publishes its first issue in 2012. His achievements were recently reported in our News section.[3b]

… Karl Gademann (University of Basel, Switzerland) was awarded the 2011 National Latsis Prize for "his achievements in the total synthesis of natural products of biological interest". This prize is given by the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) on behalf of the Latsis Foundation of Geneva and comes with an endowment of 100,000 Swiss Francs. Gademann's most recent Communication in *Angewandte Chemie* describes the total synthesis and biological evaluation of neurosteroids.[4a] His achievements were recently reported in our News section.[4b]

[1] a) A. T. Biju, M. Padmanaban, N. E. Wurz, F. Glorius, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, *123*, 8562; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 8412; b) *Angew. Chem.* **2010**, *122*, 854; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2010**, *49*, 842.

[2] a) O. Vechorkin, A. Godinat, R. Scopelliti, X. Hu, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, DOI: 10.1002/ange.201105964; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, DOI: 10.1002/anie.201105964; b) D. Chen, R. Scopelliti, X. Hu, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, *123, 5789; Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, 50, 5671; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 5671.

[3] a) M. Asay, S. Inoue, M. Driess, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, *123*, 9763; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 9589; b) *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, *123*, 600; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 576.

[4] a) C. K. Jana, J. Hoecker, T. M. Woods, H. J. Jessen, M. Neuburger, K. Gademann, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, *123*, 8577; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 8407; b) *Angew. Chem.* **2010**, *122*, 9221; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2010**, *49*, 9037.

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Awarded ...

F. Glorius

X. Hu

M. Drieß

K. Gademann