

## CNRS Silver and Bronze Medals 2016

The French Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS; National Center for Scientific Research) has honored several outstanding scientists. We feature some of the awardees in the field of chemistry here.

Silver medals are awarded for original, quality, and important research that is recognized on both the national and international levels.

**Didier Bourissou** (Université Paul Sabatier, Toulouse) studied at the École Normale Supérieure, Paris and the Université Pierre et Marie Curie (Paris 6), and carried out his PhD (completed in 1998) with Guy Bertrand at the Laboratoire de Chimie de Coordination de Toulouse. He was appointed CNRS chargé de recherche at the Université Paul Sabatier in 1998, and is currently directeur de recherche in the Laboratoire Hétérochimie Fondamentale et Appliquée and also associate professor at the École Polytechnique, Palaiseau. Bourissou's research interests concern new bonding situations and reactivity patterns arising from the interplay between transition metals and main-group elements (ambiphilic ligands, noninnocent pincer complexes, and unusual behavior of the coinage metals). He is also interested in biodegradable polymers (ring-opening polymerization, organic and dual catalysis, drug-delivery systems). His recent contributions to *Angewandte Chemie* include a Review on organogold chemistry,<sup>[1a]</sup> and a report on agostic interactions in a gold(III) complex.<sup>[1b]</sup>

**Catherine Picart** (Grenoble INP; Grenoble Institute of Technology) studied at the Grenoble INP, and worked with Jean-Michel Piau and Patrick Carpentier for her PhD (awarded by the Université Joseph Fourier, Grenoble, in 1997). After postdoctoral work with Dennis Discher at the University of Pennsylvania (1998), she joined the faculty at the Université Louis Pasteur, Strasbourg, in 1998, and moved to the Université de Montpellier in 2004. She was made professor at the Grenoble INP in 2009 and currently leads the Laboratoire des Matériaux et du Génie Physique. Picart and her group are interested in the development of instructive materials for applications in musculoskeletal engineering and cancer therapeutics. She has published a Review in *Advanced Healthcare Materials* on layer-by-layer films for biomedical applications,<sup>[2a]</sup> and has discussed layer-by-layer assemblies for cancer treatment and diagnosis in *Advanced Materials*.<sup>[2b]</sup> Picart is on the Editorial Advisory Board of *Advanced Healthcare Materials*.

Bronze medals are awarded to encourage younger researchers whose initial work has already proved to be successful. In addition to the awardees featured below, who have published their work in

*Angewandte Chemie* and its sister journals, **Thierry Mora** (École Normale Supérieure, Paris), **Marc Dussauze** (Université de Bordeaux), and **Frédéric De Geuser** (Grenoble INP) were also honored with bronze medals.

**Estelle Métay** (Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1) studied at the Université de Nantes and completed her PhD (supervised by Jean-Yves Nédélec and Eric Léonel) at the Université Paris Diderot (Paris 7) in 2005. She subsequently carried out postdoctoral research with Ei-ichi Negishi at Purdue University (2005–2006) and with Marc Lemaire at the Institut de Chimie et Biochimie Moléculaires et Supramoléculaires, Université Claude Bernard (2007–2009), and was made chargée de recherche there in 2009. Métay's main research interests concern the application of organic and organometallic catalysis to green chemistry, in particular the development of new safer and cleaner reagents for the reduction of different organic functional groups, and the valorization of biosource derivatives. She is co-author of reports in *ChemCatChem* on the conversion of glycerol to alternative solvents,<sup>[3a]</sup> and in *Chemistry—A European Journal* on the assembly of viologen radicals.<sup>[3b]</sup>

**Grégory Nocton** (École Polytechnique, Palaiseau) studied at the Université de Reims Champagne-Ardenne, and worked with Marinella Mazzanti at the Commissariat à l'énergie atomique et aux énergies alternatives (CEA), Grenoble, for his PhD (completed in 2009). From 2009–2011, he was a postdoctoral fellow with Richard A. Andersen at the University of California, Berkeley, and the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, and in 2011, he was made chargé de recherche in the Laboratoire de Chimie Moléculaire at the École Polytechnique. Nocton's research is focused on electron-transfer studies in organolanthanide complexes containing redox noninnocent ligands, as well as the activation of small molecules. He is co-author of reports in *Angewandte Chemie* on a nickel(III) complex bearing a tetradentate phosphalene ligand,<sup>[4a]</sup> and in *Chemistry—A European Journal* lanthanide complexes containing N,O-donor tripodal ligands.<sup>[4b]</sup>

**Vincent Fourmond** (Aix-Marseille Université) studied at the École Normale Supérieure, Paris and carried out his PhD (completed in 2007) with Winfried Leibl at the CEA Saclay. He subsequently carried out postdoctoral work with Christophe Léger at the Laboratoire de Bioénergétique et Ingénierie des Protéines, Marseille (2007–2009) and with Vincent Artero at the CEA Grenoble (2009–2011), and he was made chargé de recherche in the Laboratoire de Bioénergétique et Ingénierie des Protéines, Marseille, in 2011. Fourmond's research involves use of kinetic techniques to study redox bioenergetic metalloenzymes of inter-

## Awarded ...



D. Bourissou



C. Picart



E. Métay



G. Nocton



V. Fourmond



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H. F. Sleiman



I. Aprahamian

est in the context of energy storage (i.e., the production of  $H_2$  and reduction of  $CO_2$ ). He has reported in *Chemistry—A European Journal* on nickel-containing CO dehydrogenase.<sup>[5]</sup>

### Izatt–Christensen Award for Hanadi F. Sleiman

Hanadi F. Sleiman (McGill University, Montréal) has been announced as the winner of the Izatt–Christensen Award, which is sponsored by IBC Advanced Technologies and will be presented in July 2016 at the International Symposium on Macrocyclic and Supramolecular Chemistry (ISMSC) in Seoul. Sleiman studied at the American University of Beirut, and worked with Lisa McElwee-White at Stanford University for her PhD (awarded in 1990). From 1994–1996, she carried out postdoctoral work with Jean-Marie Lehn at the Université Louis Pasteur, Strasbourg, and in 1998, she joined the faculty at McGill University, where she is currently Professor of Chemistry and Canada Research Chair. Sleiman's research program involves supramolecular chemistry and DNA nanotechnology, including DNA cages and nanotubes, and sequence-controlled polymers and DNA nanostructures. She has reported in *Chemistry—A European Journal* on the binding of platinum(II) phenanthroimidazoles to G-quadruplexes,<sup>[6a]</sup> and her report on sequence-defined polymers appended to DNA was featured on the cover of *Angewandte Chemie*.<sup>[6b]</sup> Sleiman is on the Editorial Advisory Board of *ChemBioChem*.

### Cram Lehn Pedersen Prize for Ivan Aprahamian

The Cram Lehn Pedersen Prize is also presented at the ISMSC and is awarded for outstanding research in the area of supramolecular chemistry by scientists who are within ten years of receiving their PhD. The winner of the 2016 prize is Ivan Aprahamian (Dartmouth College, New Hampshire). Aprahamian studied at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, where he worked with Mordecai Rabinovitz and Tuvia Sheradsky for his PhD (completed in 2005). From 2005–2008, he carried

out postdoctoral research with J. Fraser Stoddart at the University of California, Los Angeles, and in 2008, he joined the faculty at Dartmouth College. Aprahamian's research is focused on hydrazone-based functional materials such as switches, fluorophores and sensors. He has reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on the use of a hydrazone molecular switch to manipulate liquid-crystal properties,<sup>[7a]</sup> and in *ChemPlusChem* on metal coordination and isomerization of a hydrazone switch.<sup>[7b]</sup>

- [1] a) M. Joost, A. Amgoune, D. Bourissou, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2015**, *54*, 15022; *Angew. Chem.* **2015**, *127*, 15234; b) F. Rekhroukh, L. Estévez, C. Bijani, K. Miqueu, A. Amgoune, D. Bourissou, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2016**, *55*, 3414; *Angew. Chem.* **2016**, *128*, 3475.
- [2] a) C. Monge, J. Almodóvar, T. Boudou, C. Picart, *Adv. Healthcare Mater.* **2015**, *4*, 811; b) X. Q. Liu, C. Picart, *Adv. Mater.* **2016**, *28*, 1295.
- [3] a) M. Sutter, W. Dayoub, E. Métay, Y. Raoul, M. Lemaire, *ChemCatChem* **2013**, *5*, 2893; b) C. Kahlfuss, E. Métay, M.-C. Duclos, M. Lemaire, A. Milet, E. Saint-Aman, C. Bucher, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2015**, *21*, 2090.
- [4] a) T.-P.-A. Cao, G. Nocton, L. Ricard, X. F. Le Goff, A. Auffrant, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2014**, *53*, 1368; *Angew. Chem.* **2014**, *126*, 1392; b) J. Andrez, G. Bozoklu, G. Nocton, J. Pécaut, R. Scopelliti, L. Dubois, M. Mazzanti, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2015**, *21*, 15188.
- [5] M. Merrouch, J. Hadj-Saïd, L. Domnik, H. Dobbek, C. Léger, S. Dementin, V. Fourmond, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2015**, *21*, 18934.
- [6] a) K. J. Castor, Z. Liu, J. Fakhoury, M. A. Hancock, A. Mittermaier, N. Moitessier, H. F. Sleiman, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2013**, *19*, 17836; b) T. G. W. Edwardson, K. M. M. Carneiro, C. J. Serpell, H. F. Sleiman, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2014**, *53*, 4567; *Angew. Chem.* **2014**, *126*, 4655.
- [7] a) X. Su, S. Voskian, R. P. Hughes, I. Aprahamian, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2013**, *52*, 10734; *Angew. Chem.* **2013**, *125*, 10934; b) M. L. Croteau, X. Su, D. E. Wilcox, I. Aprahamian, *ChemPlusChem* **2014**, *79*, 1214.

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In this section, we report on various awards for chemists who are closely connected with *Angewandte Chemie* and its sister journals as authors, referees, or board members.