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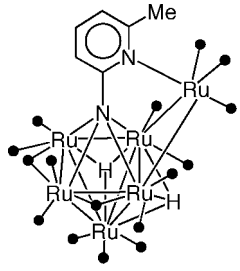
Editor's Page

Introduction to the Review by Cabeza and García-Álvarez in This Issue of *Organometallics*

The molecule featured on the cover is a hexanuclear ruthenium cluster complex, $Ru_6(\mu_3\text{-}H)_2(\mu_5\text{-}\kappa^2\text{-ampy})(\mu\text{-}CO)_2(CO)_{14}$ (**1**, where H_2ampy = 2-amino-6-methylpyridine), with a basal-edge-bridged square-pyramidal structure. It is a member of this interesting class of polynuclear ruthenium clusters, studied very originally and productively by Professor Javier A. Cabeza, the senior author of the present review, and his students at the University of Oviedo in Spain since 2000, whose reactivity has been studied in greatest breadth. The preparation of **1**, which involves the ligand-induced fusion of two Ru_3 clusters, is simply effected (as described in Cabeza, J. A.; del Río, I.; García-Álvarez, P.; Miguel, D.; Riera, V. Inorg. Chem. 2004, 43, 5450): a xylene solution of $Ru_3(CO)_{12}$ and 2-amino-6-methylpyridine in a 2:1 molar ratio was heated at reflux for 1 h, during which time the orange color of the ruthenium carbonyl changed to dark brown. A simple workup gave **1** in 77% yield as a dark brown, almost black solid from which X-ray-quality crystals could be obtained. The reactions of **1** are very interesting and quite varied, and they have led to some fascinating transformations and structures, as the many figures in this review graphically show.



1 (● = CO)

Professor Cabeza (b. 1958, in Soria, Spain) studied chemistry at the University of Zaragoza and carried out his doctoral research on polynuclear complexes of rhodium and iridium under the guidance of Professor Luis A. Oro. After he received his Ph.D. degree in 1983, he spent two postdoctoral years in England at the University of Sheffield with Professor Peter M. Maitlis, carrying out research on the organometallic chemistry of osmium. Subsequently, he returned to Zaragoza, where he began independent research on ruthenium carbonyl clusters. In 1987, he was appointed Profesor Titular of Inorganic Chemistry at the University of Oviedo, where since 2005 he has been a "Catedrático" (i.e., full professor) of Inorganic Chemistry. During his 20+ years at Oviedo, Professor Cabeza has directed a very active, innovative, and productive research program on the chemistry of transition-metal cluster complexes and homogeneous catalysis, with emphasis on organometallic clusters of ruthenium. He has been president of the Organometallic Chemistry Group of the Spanish Royal Society of Chemistry since 2002.

Pablo García-Álvarez, the coauthor of the present review, also is a native of Spain. He obtained his Ph.D. degree from the University of Oviedo in 2006 with doctoral research carried out under the guidance of Professor Cabeza. At present he is at the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow as a postdoctoral collaborator of Professor Robert E. Mulvey.

Our thanks are due to Professor Arnold L. Rheingold for the cover figure.

Dietmar Seyferth
Editor

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