



Awarded...

### Prelog Medal and Vits Prize to M. T. Reetz

Manfred T. Reetz (Max-Planck-Institut für Kohlenforschung, Mülheim/Ruhr, Germany) recently received the Prelog Medal from the ETH Zürich (Switzerland) and the Ernst Hellmuth Vits Prize

from the University of Münster (Germany) for his outstanding scientific achievements. Besides "evolution in the test tube", which was the subject of his Prelog lecture in Zürich, other focus areas of his research include chiral ligands for asymmetric transition-metal catalysis and supramolecular transition-metal catalysis. He recently discussed in *ChemBioChem*

what there is to learn about directed evolution from theoretical studies,<sup>[1a]</sup> and his Communication on enantioselective catalysis and analysis on a microchip was highlighted on the front cover of issue 15/2006 of *Angewandte Chemie*.<sup>[1b]</sup>

Reetz studied chemistry at Washington University in St. Louis (MO, USA) and at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor (USA). He completed his PhD in 1969 under the guidance of U. Schöllkopf at the University of Göttingen and then joined R. W. Hoffmann at the University of Marburg, where he completed his habilitation in 1974. In 1978 he accepted a position at the University of Bonn, and returned two years later to the University of Marburg. Reetz has been director of the Max-Planck-Institut für Kohlenforschung in Mülheim an der Ruhr since 1991. He is a member of the academic advisory board of *Advanced Synthesis & Catalysis* and has been an editorial board member of *Angewandte Chemie* since 2002.



M. T. Reetz

### J. Miller receives McGroddy Prize

One may think it unusual that a synthetic chemist would receive an award from the American Physical Society (APS). However, this is the case with the award of the James C. McGroddy Prize to Joel S. Miller (University of Utah, Salt Lake City). The prize is awarded in recognition of outstanding achievements in the development of new materials. Miller and his long-time research collaborator Arthur J. Epstein (Ohio State University, Columbus) will share the prize for their research on organic-based magnets. Miller's group have not only synthesized new materials but also discovered new magnetic phenomena. Issue 32/2006 of *Angewandte Chemie* included two reports from Miller's group discussing an organic room-temperature magnet containing tetracyanobenzene (TCNB) and hexacarbonylvanadate(−I)<sup>[2a]</sup> as well as the structure of [TCNB]<sub>3</sub><sup>2−</sup>, which contains fractionally charged tetracyanobenzene anions.<sup>[2b]</sup> His most recent communication on the cross-linked layered structure of a magnetically ordered tetracyanoethylene-iron complex is currently in press at *Angewandte Chemie*.<sup>[2c]</sup>



J. Miller

Miller completed his PhD in 1971 at the University of California in Los Angeles, then carried out postdoctoral studies at Stanford University, and held industrial positions at Xerox and DuPont, among others. In 1993 he was appointed a professor of chemistry at the University of Utah. Miller is a member of the advisory boards of *Advanced Materials* and *Chemistry – A European Journal* and a co-editor of the five-volume series "Magnetism: Molecules to Materials" (Wiley-VCH, 2001–2004).

### K. Muñiz honored in Strasbourg

The French national research agency, the ANR (Agence Nationale de Recherche), annually awards stipends (Chaires d'Excellence) of three-to-four-year duration to outstanding foreign scientists.

This year, Kilian Muñiz (Université Louis Pasteur, Strasbourg, France) is a recipient of such a stipend. His research is focused on the catalytic activation and transformation of nitrogen-containing groups as well as the diamination of alkenes. He recently described a defined homogeneous palladium catalyst for the mechanistically unprecedented reduction of azide bonds in *Angewandte Chemie*<sup>[3a]</sup> and a convenient and highly productive aminohydroxylation protocol employing an osmium diamine catalyst in *Advanced Synthesis & Catalysis*.<sup>[3b]</sup>

Muñiz studied chemistry at the Universities of Hannover (Germany) and Oviedo (Spain) as well as Imperial College London (UK). He completed his PhD in 1998 under the guidance of C. Bolm at the RWTH Aachen and then undertook postdoctoral research in the group of Chemistry Nobel Prizewinner R. Noyori. He then joined the University of Bonn, where he completed his habilitation in 2005. He accepted a professorship in Strasbourg in the same year.



K. Muñiz

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