



### Awarded ...

Since 2004, Mitsui Chemicals, Inc., has presented prizes biannually to young researchers in recognition of their outstanding achievements in the field of catalysis. The Mitsui Chemicals Catalysis Science Award endowed with 5 million Japanese yen (€30 000) is awarded to researchers aged 45 years or under (Hou und Fu), while their Award of Encouragement with a cash prize of 1 million yen (€6000) is awarded to researchers aged 35 years or younger (Terao und Chan). The prizes will be presented on March 14 on the occasion of the 3rd Mitsui Chemicals International Symposium on Catalysis Science (<http://www.mitsui-chem.co.jp/e/technomics2007.htm>).

### Z. Hou

Zhaomin Hou is the director of the organometallic chemistry laboratory at RIKEN, the Japanese Institute of Physical and Chemical Research. He completed his PhD at Kyushu University (1989) and then carried out postdoctoral research first at RIKEN and then with D. Stephan at the University of Windsor (Canada, 1991–1992). Hou is recognized for his work on organometallic complexes of the rare-earth metals, which he has used to develop regio- and stereoselective (co)polymerizations of a wide range of olefins and dienes. He has recently reported in



Z. Hou

*Angewandte Chemie* on organolanthanide complexes as catalytic systems for the living polymerization and copolymerization of isoprene and butadiene.<sup>[1]</sup>

### G. C. Fu

Gregory C. Fu is a professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT; Cambridge, USA). He completed his BSc studies there in 1985, then joined D. Evans at Harvard University to study for his PhD (1991), and later worked with R. H. Grubbs (Chemistry Nobel Prize 2005) at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena as a postdoctoral researcher. He joined the MIT as an assistant professor in 1993 and was appointed Professor of Chemistry in 1999. Fu is honored for his work on planar-chiral asymmetric catalysts and coupling reactions. He recently reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on the catalytic asymmetric synthesis of tertiary alkyl chlorides.<sup>[2]</sup> Fu is an academic advisory board member for *Advanced Synthesis & Catalysis*.



G. C. Fu

### J. Terao

Jun Terao (Osaka University) is awarded for his work on anionic transition-metal complexes of olefins, which catalyze carbon–carbon coupling and addition reactions. He describes the copper-catalyzed cross-coupling of Grignard reagents with primary alkyl halides and the effect of 1-phenylpropyne in this issue of *Angewandte Chemie*.<sup>[3]</sup> Terao completed his PhD in 1999 at Osaka University with N. Sonoda and N. Kambe and subsequently carried out postdoctoral research with T. Takahashi (Hokkaido University) and H. L. Anderson (University of Oxford). He



J. Terao

then returned to Osaka as an assistant professor. Terao has also been announced as the recipient of the Merck-Banyu Lectureship Award (2006).

### M. C. W. Chan

Michael C. W. Chan is an assistant professor at the City University of Hong Kong. He completed his PhD in 1995 at Durham University (UK) with V. Gibson. He then joined C.-M. Che at the University of Hong Kong as a postdoctoral researcher and was appointed Assistant Professor there in 1998. Chan is honored for his work on the importance of weak attractive interactions between polymers and ligands in olefin polymerization processes. His report on neutron and X-ray diffraction and spectroscopic investigations of intramolecular C–F...F–C contacts in polyolefin catalysis as a model for weak attractive polymer–ligand interactions in issue 9/2006 of *Chemistry – A European Journal* was highlighted on the front cover.<sup>[4]</sup>



M. Chan

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- [4] M. C. W. Chan, S. C. F. Kui, J. M. Cole, G. J. McIntyre, S. Matsui, N. Zhu, K.-H. Tam, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2006**, *12*, 2399.

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