



## Awarded...

### M. Brimble receives L'Oreal Unesco Award

The ninth L'Oreal Unesco Awards were announced in Paris recently. The aim of the awards is to honor the services of female researchers and to support women in science. This year the US\$100 000 award for the Asia-Pacific region went to New Zealand chemist Margaret Brimble for her contributions to the synthesis of complex natural products such as shellfish toxins.



M. Brimble

The synthesis of new aza-C-disaccharides was published recently in the *European Journal of Organic Chemistry*.<sup>[1]</sup>

Brimble received her PhD in 1985 from the University of Southampton and then returned to New Zealand as a lecturer at Massey University (Palmerston North). From there she moved to the University of Auckland (New Zealand) in 1993 before spending three years at the University of Sydney (Australia). She has worked in her current position as professor for organic and medicinal chemistry at the University of Auckland since 1998.

### D. W. C. MacMillan and K. Tanino receive Mukaiyama Awards

The Mukaiyama Award of the Japanese Society of Synthetic Organic Chemistry

for this year goes to David W. C. MacMillan (Princeton University, USA) and Keiji Tanino (Hokkaido University, Japan). MacMillan is also the recipient of an A. C. Cope Award for 2007.

MacMillan is a leader in the field of enantioselective organocatalysis and natural products synthesis. His research group reported an iminium catalyst for the coupling of aldehydes in *Angewandte Chemie*.<sup>[2]</sup> MacMillan studied at the Glasgow University (UK) and received his PhD in 1996 from the University of California in Irvine (USA) under the guidance of L. E. Overman. He undertook postdoctoral research in the group of D. A. Evans at Harvard University (Cambridge, USA) before beginning his independent research career in 1998 as an assistant professor at the University of California in Berkeley. In 2000 he moved to the California Institute of Technology, where he was promoted to professor in 2003. Last year he moved with his research group to Princeton University (New Jersey, USA), where he currently holds the A. Barton Hepburn Chair of Chemistry and is director of the Merck Center for Catalysis.



D. W. C. MacMillan

Tanino receives the Mukaiyama award for his contributions to the synthesis of natural products with polycyclic carbon skeletons by using carbocation and organometallic chemistry. Recent communications on both topics can be found in *Angewandte Chemie*.<sup>[3]</sup>

### Hackerman Award to P. G. Harran

Patrick G. Harran received the Norman Hackerman Award in Chemical Research for 2007. The US\$100 000 award is given annually by the Welch Foundation to scientists at universities in Texas who are 40-years old or

younger. Harran receives the award for his work in the area of synthetic organic chemistry. His notable achievements include the synthesis and structural elucidation of the rare marine natural product diazonamide A<sup>[4a]</sup> and the synthesis of Palau'amine alkaloids.<sup>[4b]</sup>

Harran completed his doctoral studies in 1995 under the supervision of F. E. Ziegler at Yale University and then spent two years as a postdoctoral fellow at Stanford University with P. A. Wender. In 1997 he became an associate professor at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center (Dallas), where he has held the Mar Nell and F. Andrew Bell Distinguished Chair in Biochemistry since 2005.



P. G. Harran

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