



Awarded...

C. Bertozzi receives Ernst Schering Prize

The Ernst Schering Foundation has awarded the Ernst Schering Prize annually since 1992 for outstanding achievement in all areas of fundamental biological, medical, and chemical research.



C. Bertozzi

This year the prize was awarded to Carolyn Bertozzi (University of California, Berkeley) for her work in chemical glycobiology, namely, research into the function of sugar moieties attached to proteins. Bertozzi studied chemistry at Harvard University, and received her PhD in 1993 with M. Bednarski at the University of California in Berkeley. After a research stay with S. Rosen's group at the University of California in San Francisco, she was assistant professor and since 1996 has been professor at the University of California in Berkeley. Furthermore, she heads groups at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and since 2000 has also taught at the University of California in San Francisco. In 2005 she was elected as a member of the US National Academy of Sciences.

Bertozzi's work deals with the glycosylation of cell surfaces in various stages of disease, and in particular of cancer and bacterial infection, and the application of these results in diagnosis and therapy. Furthermore, her group

develops nanotechnology-based methods to investigate cell function and diagnosis, building bridges between chemistry and biology by studying molecules and biological processes in their natural surroundings. She recently discussed sulfate metabolism in mycobacteria in a Minireview in *ChemBioChem*, and reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on making carbon nanotubes biocompatible by attaching glycosylated polymers as models for natural mucins. In a Concept article in *Chemistry—A European Journal*, she presented the synthesis of glycopeptide mimetics.^[1]

Excellence in Chemistry: M. Movassaghi and K. Scheidt

AstraZeneca annually awards a prize to outstanding researchers at North American universities in the field of synthetic, mechanistic, and bioorganic chemistry. This year, Mohammad Movassaghi (Massachusetts Institute of Technology, MIT) and Karl A. Scheidt (Northwestern University) were the recipients of the Excellence in Chemistry Award.

Movassaghi studied at the University of California in Berkeley and gained his PhD in 2001 working in the group of A. G. Myers at Harvard University. He subsequently worked as a postdoctoral fellow with E. N. Jacobsen. Since 2003 he has been assistant professor at MIT. The central themes of his research are the synthesis of complex natural products, the development of new reactions for organic synthesis, and the investigation of their mechanisms. Of particular interest are biologically active substances, C–C bond formation, and nucleophilic and Lewis acid catalysis. Movassaghi recently reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on the total synthesis of the tryptophan alkaloids (–)-calycanthine, (+)-chimonanthine, and (+)-folicanthine,^[2a] as well as on stereoselective intermolecular [3+3] cycloadditions of cyclic enamines and enones.^[2b]



M. Movassaghi

Scheidt studied at the University of Notre Dame, Indiana, and received his PhD in 1999 at the Indiana University in Bloomington with W. R. Roush. He then carried out postdoctoral work with D. A. Evans at Harvard University. Since 2002 he has been assistant professor at the Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. His two main research areas are the development of new reactions and synthetic methods, such as catalysis with Lewis bases, and bioorganic chemistry—in particular the synthesis of complex natural products. He recently discussed naturally occurring pyrrolidinyl spirooxindoles as the inspiration for developing therapeutic agents^[3a] in *Angewandte Chemie* and reported on catalytic enantioselective reactions of silyloxallenes, which are analogous to α -acylvinyl anions.^[3b]



K. Scheidt

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