

ACS Honors J. Nørskov for Creative Catalysis

The American Chemical Society (ACS) has awarded Jens K. Nørskov (Technical University of Denmark in Lyngby near Copenhagen; DTU) its Gabor A. Somorjai Prize for his creative catalysis research. He is thus recognized for his outstanding achievements in this area, and in particular for his work to develop a quantitative catalysis theory for reactions such as CO hydrogenation on surfaces. He recently reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on trends in catalysis of CO oxidation with nanoparticles,^[1a] and also on the role of the surface modification of palladium catalysts for selective acetylene hydrogenation.^[1b]

Nørskov studied chemistry and physics at the University of Aarhus and completed his doctorate in theoretical physics there in 1979 under B. I. Lundqvist. He then worked as a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Aarhus, at IBM in Yorktown Heights, NY (USA), and with the Danish catalyst manufacturer Haldor Topsøe. In 1987 he was made research professor at the DTU, and he has been professor for theoretical physics there since 1992. He has been a visiting researcher in the USA on numerous occasions, for example at the University of California in Santa Barbara and the University of Wisconsin in Madison. Nørskov is a member of the international advisory board of *ChemCatChem*, the new sister journal of *Angewandte Chemie*.

University of Copenhagen. He has been at the Carlsberg Laboratory since 1988, at present as professor and director of research. In 1996 he was named honorary professor by the DTU and in 2004 by the Pharmaceutical University in Copenhagen. Meldal is a member of the advisory boards of *QSAR & Combinatorial Science* and *ChemBioChem*.

K. Ohmori Receives Merck–Banyu Lectureship Award

Ken Ohmori (Tokyo Institute of Technology) has been awarded the Merck–Banyu Lectureship Award. Merck (USA) and the Banyu Life Science Foundation (Japan) thus honor him for his achievements in the synthesis of natural products with complex architectures using new approaches to the formation of highly functionalized polycyclic frameworks. He recently reported in *Chemistry—A European Journal* on a general synthetic procedure for benanomicin–pradimicin antibiotics^[3a] and in *Angewandte Chemie* on the regio- and stereo-controlled total synthesis of benanomicin B.^[3b]

Ohmori studied at Keio University and completed his doctorate in 1996 under S. Yamamura. He then took up a position with K. Suzuki at the Tokyo Institute of Technology as an assistant professor. In 2002, the Chemical Society of Japan honored him with a young researcher's prize; in 2007 he was made associate professor.

Awarded...



J. Nørskov



M. Meldal



K. Ohmori

ACS Peptide Prize to M. Meldal

The Ralph F. Hirschmann Award in Peptide Chemistry from the ACS was presented to Morten Meldal (Carlsberg Laboratory, Copenhagen) for his achievements in combinatorial, organic, and peptide chemistry in connection with the development of screening methods for drug development. Meldal is known in particular for the development of solid-phase syntheses with polyethylene glycol resins and for copper(I)-catalyzed azide–alkyne cycloadditions (click chemistry). A contribution in the *European Journal of Organic Chemistry* on the specific recognition of disaccharides in water by an artificial bicyclic carbohydrate receptor recently featured on the cover,^[2a] and in *Chemistry—A European Journal* he reported on the solid-phase synthesis of tetrahydro- β -carboline and tetrahydroisoquinolines by stereoselective intramolecular Pictet–Spengler reactions.^[2b]

Meldal studied chemical engineering at the Technical University of Denmark (DTU) in Lyngby and completed his doctorate in organic chemistry there in 1983 under the supervision of K. Bock. He worked as a postdoctoral fellow there, at the Medical Research Council Centre in Cambridge (England) with R. C. Sheppard, and at the

- [1] a) H. Falsig, B. Hvolbæk, I. S. Kristensen, T. Jiang, T. Bligaard, C. H. Christensen, J. K. Nørskov, *Angew. Chem.* **2008**, *120*, 4913; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, *47*, 4835; b) F. Studt, F. Abild-Pedersen, T. Bligaard, R. Z. Sørensen, C. H. Christensen, J. K. Nørskov, *Angew. Chem.* **2008**, *120*, 9439; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, *47*, 9299.
- [2] a) T. Reenberg, N. Nyberg, J. Ø. Duus, J. L. J. van Dongen, M. Meldal, *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2007**, 5003; b) F. Diness, J. Beyer, M. Meldal, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2006**, *12*, 8056; *Chem. Eur. J.* **2007**, *13*, 2169.
- [3] a) M. Tamiya, K. Ohmori, M. Kitamura, H. Kato, T. Arai, M. Oorui, K. Suzuki, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2007**, *13*, 9791; b) K. Ohmori, M. Tamiya, M. Kitamura, H. Kato, M. Oorui, K. Suzuki, *Angew. Chem.* **2005**, *116*, 3939; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2005**, *44*, 3871.

DOI: 10.1002/anie.200901584