Awarded...

G. W. Coates

B. D. Freeman

B. M. Stoltz

ACS Honors G. W. Coates for Creative Catalysis

The American Chemical Society (ACS) presented its Award for Affordable Green Chemistry, which aims to draw attention to the development of processes that are both environmentally friendly and economical, to Geoffrey W. Coates of Cornell University (USA). Coates, whose research group develops catalysts for the synthesis of polymers as well as low-valent compounds, recently reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on selectivity in the terpolymerization of epoxides with cyclic anhydrides and CO_2[1a] and on the catalytic synthesis of β_3-amino acid derivatives from α-amino acids.[1b]

Coates completed his doctorate in organic chemistry in 1994 at Stanford University under the supervision of Robert M. Waymouth on the stereoselectivity of metallocene-based Ziegler–Natta catalysts. He then was an NSF postdoctoral fellow with Robert H. Grubbs at the California Institute of Technology. In 1997 he moved as assistant professor to the Department of Chemistry at Cornell University, where he was made professor in 2002. He received the first Tisch University Professorship in 2008. Coates is a member of the International Advisory Board of *ChemCatChem*, the new sister journal of *Angewandte Chemie*.

ACS Polymer Prize for B. D. Freeman

The ACS Award in Applied Polymer Science this year went to Benny D. Freeman (University of Texas, Austin) for his research into the solubility and permeability of small molecules in polymers. The results of his investigations have an impact on the development of membranes and packaging materials. In *Angewandte Chemie* he recently described chlorine-tolerant polymers for the desalination of water.[2]

Freeman studied chemical engineering at North Carolina State University (USA). He completed his doctorate in 1988 under the supervision of Morton M. Denn and David S. Soane at the University of California in Berkeley on the influence of hydrostatic pressure on diffusion coefficients in polymer solutions. He had a postdoctoral year in Paris, where he worked with Lucien Monnerie and Liliane Bokobza. In 1989 he returned as assistant professor of chemical engineering to North Carolina State University, where was promoted to professor in 1997. In 2002 he moved to the University of Texas in Austin; there he is currently the Kenneth A. Kobe und Paul D. and Betty Robertson Meek & American Petrofina Foundation Centennial Professor for Chemical Engineering.

B. M. Stoltz Receives Elias J. Corey Award

The ACS recognizes the contributions of Brian M. Stoltz (California Institute of Technology, USA; Caltech) to synthetic organic chemistry with the presentation of the Elias J. Corey Award 2009. The Stoltz research group studies the formation of natural products with complex structures, from the development of a strategy to the realization of the required synthetic methods. Stoltz recently reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on catalytic enantioselective processes for the oxidation of chiral secondary alcohols [3a] and on the alkylation of substituted dioxanone enol ethers.[3b] In 2008, he discussed the biology and chemistry of zoanthamine alkaloids in a review.[3c]

Stoltz completed his doctorate in organic chemistry in 1997 under the supervision of John L. Wood (Yale University). From 1998 to 2000 he was an NIH postdoctoral fellow in the group of E. J. Corey (Harvard University), where he investigated the synthesis of steroidal natural products, amongst others. In 2000 he took up a position as assistant professor at Caltech. He was made associate professor in 2005, and since 2007 he has been the Ethel Wilson Bowles and Robert Bowles Professor for Chemistry.

[1] a) R. C. Jeske, J. M. Rowley, G. W. Coates, *Angew. Chem.* **2008**, *120*, 6130; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, *47*, 6041; b) C. M. Byrne, T. L. Church, J. W. Kramer, G. W. Coates, *Angew. Chem.* **2008**, *120*, 4043; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, *47*, 3979.

[2] H. B. Park, B. D. Freeman, Z.-B. Zhang, M. Sankir, J. E. McGrath, *Angew. Chem.* **2008**, *120*, 6108; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, *47*, 6019.

[3] a) D. C. Ebner, R. M. Trend, C. Genet, M. J. McGrath, P. O'Brien, B. M. Stoltz, *Angew. Chem.* **2008**, *120*, 6467; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, *47*, 6367; b) M. Seto, J. L. Roizen, B. M. Stoltz, *Angew. Chem.* **2008**, *120*, 6979; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, *47*, 6873; c) D. C. Behenna, J. L. Stockdill, B. M. Stoltz, *Angew. Chem.* **2008**, *120*, 2400; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, *47*, 2365.

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