DECHEMA Prize for Rolf Müller

In 2010 the DECHEMA Prize of the Max Buchner Research Foundation was awarded to Rolf Müller (Saarland University, Saarbrücken). The prize includes an endowment of €20,000. Müller receives this prize for his research on biologically active natural products that are used by myxobacteria, which are ground-dwelling microorganisms, to produce and develop new pharmaceuticals.[1]

Müller studied pharmacy at the University of Bonn, where he received his doctorate in 1994 under E. Leistner and did further postdoctoral studies there in 1995. After a research fellowship with H. G. Floss at the University of Washington in Seattle (1996–1997), Müller returned to Germany as a junior group leader at the Society for Biotechnological Research GBF in Braunschweig. In 2002, he earned his habilitation with T. Hartmann at the Braunschweig University of Technology. Müller is Professor of Pharmaceutical Biotechnology at Saarland University (since October 2003) and is also director of the Saarbrücken branch of the Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research (HZI; since 2009). Müller is a member of the editorial advisory board of *ChemBioChem and ChemMedChem*. Other honors include the Phönix Pharmacy Research Award (2001 and 2007) and the DECHEMA Award for Natural Products Research (2002).

CRSI Medal for Ayusman Sen

The Chemical Research Society of India (CRSI) Medal for 2011 has been awarded to Ayusman Sen (Pennsylvania State University, USA). This award is given to chemists of Indian heritage who work outside India. The themes of Sen's research include homogeneous and heterogeneous catalysis, environmental chemistry, antimicrobial polymer chemistry, and nanotechnology.[2]

Sen studied chemistry in India at the University of Calcutta and the Institute of Technology (Kanpur). In 1978, he received his PhD from the University of Chicago under the guidance of J. Halpern and did postdoctoral work at the California Institute of Technology with J. E. Bercaw. In 1979, he started his independent research career at Penn State University, between 2004 and 2009 he was head of the chemistry department, and is currently the Distinguished Professor of Chemistry there. Sen is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (2005) and was awarded an Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellowship (1984–1988).

And also in the news ...

… Keisuke Suzuki (Tokyo Institute of Technology) has been awarded the 2011 Medal of Honor with Purple Ribbon from the Japanese Government for his work in synthetic organic chemistry. This award is given to those who have made very important contributions to the fields of academia, the arts, and technological development. Suzuki's academic achievements have been recently reported in our News section.[3]

Helmut Schwarz (Technical University of Berlin) has been awarded an honorary doctorate from the ETH Zurich. This prestigious honor is traditionally bestowed on only a few of the most outstanding researchers from around the world. Schwarz receives this honor for use of the mass spectrometer as a chemical laboratory and establishing organometallic chemistry in the gas phase. Look out for his forthcoming Review in *Angewandte Chemie* on "Chemistry with Methane".[4]

Nicolai Cramer (École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Switzerland) has received a Bayer Early Excellence in Science Award. This award is presented to talented young scientists in the early stages of their academic careers. Cramer is acknowledged for in-depth development of new catalytic organometallic reactions for activation of carbon–hydrogen and carbon–carbon bonds. Cramer's academic achievements have been recently reported in our News section.[5]

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[2] Y. Hong, M. Diaz, U. M. Córdova-Figueroa, A. Sen, *Adv. Func. Mater.* **2010**, *20*, 1568; W. Yang, A. Sen, *ChemSusChem* **2010**, *3*, 597; S. Sundararajan, S. Sengupta, M. E. Ibele, A. Sen, *Small* **2010**, *6*, 1479; V. Sambhy, B. R. Peterson, A. Sen, *Angew. Chem.* **2008**, *120*, 1270; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, *47*, 1250.

[3] *Angew. Chem.* **2010**, *122*, 7785; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2010**, *49*, 7621.

[4] H. Schwarz, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, DOI: 10.1002/ange.201006424; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, DOI: 10.1002/anie.201006424.

[5] *Angew. Chem.* **2010**, *122*, 9507; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2010**, *49*, 9319.

DOI: 10.1002/anie.201007707

R. Müller

A. Sen

K. Suzuki

H. Schwarz

N. Cramer