

Sofja Kovalevskaja Award

The Humboldt Foundation has presented Sofja Kovalevskaja Awards to several top-ranking junior researchers. This award provides the winners with five years of funding to conduct innovative research in Germany. Among the chemistry awardees for 2010 are Lapo Bogani, Gustavo Fernández, and Shigeyoshi Inoue.

Lapo Bogani is based at the University of Stuttgart and his host is M. Dressel. Bogani plans to develop highly sensitive equipment with which the magnetization processes of a single molecule or atom can be observed.^[1a] His project will endeavor to answer fundamental questions about the behavior of single magnetic atoms and improve ultra-sensitive magnetic sensing. This challenging project will be carried out in collaboration with M. Dressel, J. Wrachtrup, and K. Kern. Recently, Bogani produced the first hybrid nanostructures of carbon nanotubes and a single molecule magnet,^[1b] and last year his work featured on the cover of *Advanced Materials*.^[1c] Bogani studied at the University of Florence, where he received his doctorate in 2006 under R. Sessoli and D. Gatteschi (member of the International Advisory Board of *Angewandte Chemie*). Between 2006 and 2008 he held a Marie Curie Individual Scholarship at the Institute Néel, Grenoble (France) where he worked with W. Wernsdorfer. He has been at the University of Stuttgart since 2009. Other awards include the Burgen Scholarship Award of the Academy of Europe (2009) and the National Prize of the Italian Chemical Society (SCI) for the best Italian PhD thesis in chemical physics (2006).

Gustavo Fernández is based at the University of Würzburg and his host is F. Wuerthner. Fernández will explore how certain oligomers organize in water and how they react to external stimuli such as metal ions or light. His project is directed at making "smart materials", whose properties can be tuned for new applications as sensors in biomedicine. Other interests include the study and characterization of supramolecular architectures based on dye aggregates, self-assembly in aqueous media, and the investigation of supramolecular multicomponent systems based on π -conjugated scaffolds.^[2a,b] His research was featured on the cover of *Angewandte Chemie* in 2008.^[2c] Fernández received his PhD in 2009 from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid under N. Martín and L. Sánchez. His PhD thesis was recognized with the European Young Chemist Award in 2008. He has worked at the University of Würzburg since 2009.

Shigeyoshi Inoue is based at the Technical University of Berlin and his host is M. Driess. His research project focuses on the synthesis, characterization, and reactivity of novel compounds containing heavier Group 14 elements. The principle target will be transition metal complexes containing silicon–metal triple bonds that will be used for small molecule activation and catalysis. Inoue studied chemistry at the University of Tsukuba (Japan) and obtained his PhD there in 2008 under the direction of A. Sekiguchi. He became a JSPS Research Fellow in 2005, Humboldt Postdoctoral Research Fellow in 2008, and a JSPS Postdoctoral Fellow for Research Abroad in 2009. His broad scientific interests include silicon, organometallic, and transition metal chemistry.^[3]

And also in the news ...

... Eric N. Jacobsen (Harvard University) has been awarded the 2010 Ryoji Noyori Prize for his many important contributions to the field of asymmetric synthesis. The prize is given annually in honor of Noyori (winner of the 2001 Nobel Prize in Chemistry) and includes a medallion as well as \$10,000 prize money. Jacobsen's academic achievements have been recently reported in our News section.^[4]

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- [2] a) R. D. Costa, G. Fernández, L. Sánchez, N. Martín, E. Ortí, H. J. Bolink, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2010**, 16, 9855; b) S. S. Gayathri, M. Wielopolski, E. M. Pérez, G. Fernández, L. Sánchez, R. Viruela, E. Ortí, D. M. Guldi, N. Martín, *Angew. Chem.* **2009**, 121, 829; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2009**, 48, 815; c) G. Fernández, E. M. Pérez, L. Sánchez, N. Martín, *Angew. Chem.* **2008**, 120, 1110; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, 47, 1094.
- [3] a) C. Präsang, M. Stoelzel, S. Inoue, A. Meltzer, M. Driess, *Angew. Chem.* **2010**, 122, 10199; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2010**, 49, 10002; b) S. Enthaler, B. Eckhardt, S. Inoue, E. Irran, M. Driess, *Chem. Asian J.* **2010**, 5, 2027; c) W. Wang, S. Inoue, S. Yao, M. Driess, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2010**, 132, 15890.
- [4] *Angew. Chem.* **2010**, 122, 7785; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2010**, 49, 7621.

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Awarded ...



L. Bogani



G. Fernández



S. Inoue



E. N. Jacobsen