

### Boudart Award for James A. Dumesic

In June 2011, James Dumesic (University of Wisconsin, Madison) will receive the Michel Boudart Award from the North American Catalysis Society and the European Federation of Catalysis Societies. The award is given for his work involving transformations of biomass-derived molecules.

Dumesic studied chemical engineering at the University of Wisconsin, and in 1974 he obtained his PhD from Stanford University, working under M. Boudart. In 1976, after postdoctoral stays in France, Denmark, and Russia, he joined the Chemical Engineering Faculty at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, where he is the Steenbock Chair of Engineering. His research group is currently studying the fundamental and applied aspects of catalytic processes involved in the conversion of biomass feeds into fuels and chemicals.<sup>[1]</sup> Dumesic is on the editorial boards of *ChemSusChem* and *ChemCatChem*. He has received several honors in the field of catalysis and chemical engineering, including the William H. Walker Award (2009).

### Hector Research Award for A. Stephen K. Hashmi

Stephen Hashmi (University of Heidelberg) is among one of the three recipients of the Hector Research Award for 2010. He has been recognized for his pioneering work on homogeneous gold catalysis and receives €150,000.

Hashmi studied chemistry at the Ludwig Maximilians University of Munich, where he received his PhD in 1991 under G. Szeimies. He then did postdoctoral work at Stanford University with B. M. Trost. This was followed by postdoctoral work in Berlin, Frankfurt, and Vienna with his habilitation in 1998 at the University of Frankfurt with J. Mulzer. After a brief period in Australia and a professorship at the University of Marburg, Hashmi was appointed to the University of Stuttgart in 2001, before joining the University of Heidelberg in 2007. His research focuses on developing new methodology and the mechanistic study of homogeneous gold catalysis<sup>[2a]</sup> as well investigation of enantiomerically pure pallada- and platina-cycles.<sup>[2b]</sup> Other honors for Hashmi include the ORCHEM Prize of the GDCh (2002).

### Bessel Research Award for Ajayan Vinu

The Alexander von Humboldt foundation has awarded the Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel Research Award for 2010 to Ajayan Vinu (National Institute for Materials Science (NIMS), Japan). Vinu has made a tremendous contribution in the field of

materials and their application in adsorption, separation, and catalysis.<sup>[3]</sup>

He has been working as a senior researcher at NIMS since 2006 and Vinu completed postdoctoral studies as an International Young Scientist Fellow at the same institute (2004–2006). He also did research at the University of Kaiserslautern (Germany) under the guidance of M. Hartmann (2001–2003). Although he started his PhD at the Anna University (Chennai, India) under the guidance of V. Murugesan, he carried out most of his doctoral research at the University of Kaiserslautern and graduated in 2003. Other honors include the Australian Future Fellowship Award (2010).

### Recently announced ...

Chun-Li Bai has been appointed President of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. Bai obtained his PhD in 1985 from the Institute of Chemistry of the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing. After a postdoctoral stay at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena (USA), he returned to China in 1987. During 1991–1992, he was a visiting professor in Japan at the University of Tohoku in Sendai. Bai is interested in the development of new scanning probe microscopes for surface analysis. He reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on the mass production and high photocatalytic activity of ZnS nanoporous nanoparticles, and in *ChemPhysChem* on the effect of polarity on co-adsorbed molecular nanostructures of substituted phthalocyanine and thiol molecules.<sup>[4]</sup> During his recently completed term as President of the Chinese Chemical Society, Bai was instrumental in launching *Angewandte Chemie's* sister publication *Chemistry–An Asian Journal*; he serves on the international advisory boards of both journals and *Advanced Materials*.

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### Awarded ...



J. A. Dumesic



A. S. K. Hashmi



A. Vinu



C.-L. Bai