

Novartis Early Career Award to David Y.-K. Chen and David A. Spiegel

The Novartis Early Career Award in Organic Chemistry is presented annually to outstanding researchers in the field of organic or bioorganic chemistry who are within ten years of starting an independent research career. The awardees for 2011 are David Y.-K. Chen (Seoul National University, South Korea) and David A. Spiegel (Yale University, USA).

David Chen studied chemistry at the University of Auckland, New Zealand, and completed his PhD with Ian Paterson at Cambridge University in 2001. After postdoctoral work with K. C. Nicolaou at The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, and working as senior research chemist at the Merck Research Laboratory, Rahway, Chen was appointed principal investigator of the Chemical Synthesis Laboratory@Biopolis, under the Agency for Science, Technology and Research, Singapore, in 2005. He was appointed Professor of Organic Chemistry at Seoul National University in 2011. Chen's research interests are in the synthesis and biological action of architecturally complex natural products, and he was recognized for his "great flair and creativity often devising elegant solutions to solve synthetic problems". He recently reported the synthesis of *ent*-nanolobatolide^[1a] in *Angewandte Chemie* and the synthesis of an advanced maoecrystal V core structure^[1b] in *Chemistry—A European Journal*.

David Spiegel attended Harvard University and was awarded his PhD in 2005 from Yale University under the supervision of J. Wood. After postdoctoral studies at Harvard University with S. L. Schreiber, he was appointed assistant professor at Yale University in 2007. His other recent awards include the Camille and Henry Dreyfus New Faculty Award and an Alfred P. Sloan Fellowship. Spiegel's research interests involve developing chemical methods for the synthesis of complex molecular targets for the treatment of human disease, and he was recognized for "his efforts to build an innovative and ambitious synthetic immunology program". He has reported the controlled

release of bioactive drugs and cellular encapsulation by micro- and nanopatterned surfaces.^[2]

And also in the News ...

... **Ferdi Schüth** (Director at the Max Planck Institute for Coal Research at Mülheim an der Ruhr) has been awarded the Hamburger Wissenschaftspreis 2011 by the Akademie der Wissenschaften in Hamburg for his work in the area of catalysis, in particular in the fields of hydrogen storage and biomass conversion. This award, which at €100 000 is the highest endowed research award of a German science academy, is donated by the Hamburgische Stiftung für Wissenschaften, Entwicklung und Kultur Helmut und Hannelore Greve. Schüth's achievements were recently reported in our News section.^[3]

... **Helmut Schwarz** (Technische Universität Berlin) was awarded the Blaise Pascal Medaille 2011 by the European Academy of Sciences for his achievements in the field of mass spectrometry and its application to solving problems in chemistry and biology. He will also be named the Wilhelm-Manchot-Forschungsprofessor 2012 at a special colloquium at the Technische Universität München. Schwarz, who has previously been featured in the News section,^[4a,b] was awarded the Bundesverdienstkreuz (Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany, the only general state decoration of the Federal Republic of Germany) in 2011.

- [1] a) H. M. Cheng, W. Tian, P. A. Peixoto, B. Dhudshia, D. Y.-K. Chen, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, *123*, 4251; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 4165; b) L. Dong, L. Deng, Y. H. Lim, G. Y. C. Leung, D. Y.-K. Chen, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2011**, *17*, 5778.
- [2] E. Stern, S. M. Jay, S. L. Demento, R. P. Murelli, M. A. Reed, T. Malinski, D. A. Spiegel, D. J. Mooney, T. M. Fahmy, *Adv. Funct. Mater.* **2009**, *19*, 2888.
- [3] *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, *123*, 8619; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 8469.
- [4] a) *Angew. Chem.* **2009**, *121*, 438; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2009**, *48*, 430; b) *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, *123*, 2013; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 1971.

DOI: 10.1002/anie.201108028

Awarded ...



D. Chen



D. Spiegel



F. Schüth



H. Schwarz