

Humboldt Research Award for Peter F. Leadlay

The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation awarded its 2011 Research Award to Peter Leadlay (University of Cambridge) to carry out research with R. Süßmuth at the Technische Universität Berlin. The award, which is valued at €60 000, is presented in recognition of outstanding research achievements and allows the recipient to carry out research at a German host institution. Leadlay studied at the University of Oxford, and was awarded his doctorate (with J. Knowles) in 1974. After postdoctoral studies at ETH Zürich (with D. Arigoni) and independently at Oxford, he moved to Cambridge in 1979 and was appointed Professor of Molecular Enzymology in the Department of Biochemistry in 1999. Leadlay's research interests are in the genetics, biochemistry, enzymology, and engineering of natural product biosynthesis. He recently reported on lankacidin biosynthesis^[1a] in *ChemBioChem*, and work on polyether biosynthesis is the subject of his latest Communication in *Angewandte Chemie*.^[1b]

Izatt–Christensen Award for Andrew Hamilton

The 2011 Izatt–Christensen Award was presented to Andrew Hamilton (University of Oxford) for his contribution to the fields of molecular recognition in both organic and biological chemistry. The award is given annually at the International Symposium for Macrocyclic & Supramolecular Chemistry to honor outstanding research in these areas. Hamilton studied at Exeter University, and after a masters degree at the University of British Columbia, completed his PhD in 1980 under Sir A. Battersby at the University of Cambridge. After postdoctoral work at the Université Louis Pasteur, Strasbourg (with J.-M. Lehn), he was appointed as assistant professor at Princeton University in 1981. He moved to the University of Pittsburgh in 1988 and to Yale University in 1997, where he was Provost from 2004 to 2008. Hamilton was admitted as Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford in 2009. He was elected Fellow of the Royal Society in 2004 and Member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2010. Hamilton's research interests are in the application of molecular recognition to problems in organic and biological chemistry, including hydrogen-bonding and π -

stacking interactions, protein surface recognition, proteomimetics, and enzyme inhibition. His most recent Communications in *Angewandte Chemie* covered amyloid inhibition^[2a] and the conformations of hydrogen-bonded diphenylacetylenes.^[2b]

And also in the news ...

... The Laboratory of Organic Chemistry, ETH Zürich awards the Prelog Medal and Lectureship annually to honor the outstanding contribution of Vladimir Prelog to Swiss science. This year's winner is Alois Fürstner, who received the award for his major contributions to organic chemistry. Fürstner was introduced in the News section^[3a] when he joined the Editorial Board of *Angewandte Chemie* in 2011, and reported the total synthesis of tularin C in his latest Communication.^[3b]

... Melanie S. Sanford (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor) has been awarded a MacArthur Fellowship by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. Fellows are selected based on their creativity, track record and promise for important future advances, and potential for future creative work, and each Fellow receives \$500 000 in unrestricted funds over five years. Sanford's career has been previously highlighted in our News section,^[4a] and she recently reported the reactivity of a PdOAc₂/pyridine catalyst in the acetoxylation of unactivated aromatic C–H bonds.^[4b]

- [1] a) J. S. Dickschat, O. Vergnolle, H. Hong, S. Garner, S. R. Bidgood, H. C. Dooley, Z. Deng, P. F. Leadlay, Y. Sun, *ChemBioChem* **2011**, 12, 2408; b) M. Tosin, L. Smith, P. F. Leadlay, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, 123, 12136; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, 50, 11930.
- [2] a) I. Saraogi, J. A. Hebda, J. Becerril, L. A. Estroff, A. D. Miranker, A. D. Hamilton, *Angew. Chem.* **2010**, 122, 748; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2010**, 49, 736; b) I. M. Jones, A. D. Hamilton, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, 123, 4693; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, 50, 4597.
- [3] a) *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, 123, 38; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, 50, 38; b) K. Lehr, R. Mariz, L. Leseurre, B. Gabor, A. Fürstner, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, 123, 11575; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, 50, 11373.
- [4] a) *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, 123, 827; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, 50, 9581; b) M. H. Emmert, A. K. Cook, Y. J. Xie, M. S. Sanford, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, 123, 4693; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, 50, 9409.

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Awarded ...



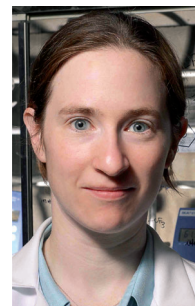
P. F. Leadlay



A. D. Hamilton



A. Fürstner



M. S. Sanford