

Frontiers in Biological Chemistry Lectureship Award for Sason Shaik

RSC Organometallic Award for Ilan Marek

Awarded ...



S. Shaik



Y. Apeloig



I. Marek



K. Maruoka

The Frontiers in Biological Chemistry Lectureship Award is given annually by the Max Planck Institute for Bioinorganic Chemistry, Mülheim an der Ruhr (Germany), to an outstanding bioinorganic chemist. The winner for 2012 is Sason Shaik (Institute of Chemistry and Director of the Lise Meitner–Minerva Center for Computational Quantum Chemistry at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel). Shaik studied at Bar-Ilan University (Israel) and received his PhD in 1978 from the University of Washington (USA) supervised by N. D. Epiotis. After a year of postdoctoral research with R. Hoffmann at Cornell University, Ithaca (USA), he was appointed as lecturer at Ben-Gurion University in 1979 and was promoted to professor there in 1988. He moved to the Hebrew University in 1992. He is a member of the Editorial Board of *The Israel Journal of Chemistry*. Shaik's research interests are in quantum chemistry, in particular aspects of the chemical bonding, structure, and reactivity of heme and nonheme enzymes, new bonding concepts, and the development of computational methods. He recently reported on C–H activation in oxo iron(IV) complexes^[1a] in *Angewandte Chemie* and the theoretical study of palladium-catalyzed cross-coupling reactions in *Chemistry—A European Journal*.^[1b]

Order of Merit for Yitzhak Apeloig

Yitzhak Apeloig (Technion–Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa) was awarded the Order of Merit (First Degree) of the Federal Republic of Germany in recognition of his important contributions, both as a scientist and as the President of the Technion (2001–2009), to the promotion and strengthening of the scientific collaboration between Israel and Germany. Apeloig received his PhD from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem in 1974. From 1974 to 1976, he carried out postdoctoral work with P. von R. Schleyer at Princeton University (USA) and in 1976, he joined the Department of Chemistry at the Technion, where he currently holds the Joseph Israel Freund Chair in Chemistry. He is co-director of the Lise Meitner–Minerva Center. Apeloig's research interests are in organosilicon chemistry and quantum chemistry, and his most recent Communications in *Angewandte Chemie* outline the isolation and characterization of 1,1-dimagnesio and 1,1-dizinc silanes^[2a] and silenolates.^[2b] He is on the Editorial Board of *The Israel Journal of Chemistry*.

The Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) has awarded its 2011 Organometallic Award to Ilan Marek (Schulich Faculty of Chemistry, Technion) for his development of organometallic methods for organic chemistry, in particular the enantioselective synthesis of quaternary aldol products and the stereoselective synthesis of important organic compounds. He has recently reported the metal-catalyzed ring-opening of alkylidenecyclopropanes^[3a] and the axial preference in allylation reactions for the formation of quaternary stereocenters^[3b] in *Chemistry—A European Journal*. Marek earned his Ph.D. with J. Normant at the Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris (France) in 1989, and carried out postdoctoral research with L. Ghosez at the Université catholique de Louvain in Louvain-la-Neuve (Belgium). In 1990, he joined the Université Pierre et Marie Curie as a CNRS researcher, and in 1997, he relocated to the Schulich Faculty of Chemistry at the Technion, where he is currently full professor. He has also held the Sir Michael and Lady Sobell Academic Chair since 2005. He is on the Advisory Boards of the *European Journal of Organic Chemistry*, *The Chemical Record*, and *Advanced Synthesis and Catalysis*, and the Editorial Board of *The Israel Journal of Chemistry*.

And also in the News ...

... Keiji Maruoka (Kyoto University) has been awarded the 2011 Medal of Honor with Purple Ribbon from the Japanese Government for his work in synthetic organic chemistry. Maruoka's academic achievements have been recently reported in our News section,^[4a] and further information can be found in his Author Profile.^[4b]

- [1] a) D. Janardanan, Y. Wang, P. Schyman, L. Que, Jr., S. Shaik, *Angew. Chem.* **2010**, *122*, 3414; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2010**, *49*, 3342; b) R. Meir, S. Kozuch, A. Uhe, S. Shaik, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2011**, *17*, 7623.
- [2] a) R. Dobrovetsky, D. Bravo-Zhivotovskii, B. Tumanovskii, M. Botoshansky, Y. Apeloig, *Angew. Chem.* **2010**, *122*, 7240; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2010**, *49*, 7086; b) R. Dobrovetsky, L. Zborovsky, D. Sheberla, M. Botoshansky, D. Bravo-Zhivotovskii, Y. Apeloig, *Angew. Chem.* **2010**, *122*, 4178; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2010**, *49*, 4084.
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- [4] a) *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, *122*, 5535; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 5423; b) *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, *124*, 600; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 580.

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