

2011 Royal Australian Chemical Institute National Awards

The Royal Australian Chemical Institute (RACI) honored several chemists in late 2011. We congratulate all the awardees and highlight some of our more frequent authors and referees here.

Thomas Maschmeyer (University of Sydney) was awarded the Applied Research Medal, which is presented annually to an RACI member who has contributed significantly towards the development of applied research. Maschmeyer completed his PhD with A. F. Masters at the University of Sydney in 1994. He subsequently worked as a postdoc with Sir J. M. Thomas at the Royal Institution of Great Britain, and became the Assistant Director of the Davy Faraday Laboratories there in 1997. In 1998, he was appointed professor at the Department of Applied Organic and Catalytic Chemistry at the Delft Institute of Chemical Technology. He returned to Australia as an ARC Federation Fellow in late 2003. Maschmeyer is on the Editorial Board of *ChemPlusChem* and the International Advisory Boards of *ChemCatChem* and *Zeitschrift für allgemeine und anorganische Chemie*. Maschmeyer's research interests are in active-site engineering of heterogeneous and homogeneous catalysts. He has discussed the catalytic aspects of light-induced hydrogen generation in water in *Angewandte Chemie*^[1a] and has reported on the catalytic properties of MoS₂ in *ChemCatChem*.^[1b]

John Bremner (University of Wollongong) received the RACI Distinguished Fellowship Award in recognition of his contributions both to chemistry and to the RACI. Bremner studied at the University of Western Australia and obtained his PhD (supervised by R. Warrener) from the Australian National University in 1968. After a Research Fellowship with J. D. White at Harvard University (USA), he returned to Australia in 1968 to a lectureship at the University of Tasmania. In 1992, he moved to the University of Wollongong. His research interests cover heterocyclic chemistry, natural products, and medicinal chemistry, including new types of anti-infective agents for the potential treatment of bacterial disease and malaria, and the development of new formulations for anticancer agents. He has reported on the therapeutic potential of dicationic peptoids in *Angewandte Chemie*.^[2]

Justin Gooding (University of New South Wales, UNSW) was awarded the H. G. Smith Memorial Prize. Gooding received his DPhil in physical chemistry from the University of Oxford (UK) in 1996 (working with R. G. Compton) and was a postdoctoral research associate at the Institute of Biotechnology, University of Cambridge (UK). In 1997, he joined UNSW, and after one year at Flinders University, he returned to UNSW and

was promoted to professor there in 2006. Gooding's research group is interested in the modification of surfaces for biosensors, bioelectronics, biomaterials, and the investigation of electron transfer. He has described the formation of self-assembled monolayers with norbornylogous bridges in *Chemistry—A European Journal*^[3a] and the properties of electrode–monolayer–nanoparticle systems in *ChemPhysChem*.^[3b]

Martina Stenzel (UNSW) was awarded the Le Fèvre Memorial Prize, which is presented to a researcher under the age of 40, for her work in polymer synthesis, in particular nanoparticle architectures for drug delivery. Stenzel studied at the University of Bayreuth (Germany) and received her PhD from the University of Stuttgart (Germany) in 1999 for work on macromolecular chemistry supervised by C. D. Eisenbach. After postdoctoral work at the UNSW working with T. Fane and T. Davis, she became professor there in 2012. She has held an ARC Future Fellowship since 2009. Stenzel's research covers the synthesis of complex polymer architectures and their use as drug carriers, and she has discussed the modification of polysaccharides through controlled/living radical polymerization grafting in a Review in *Macromolecular Rapid Communications*.^[4]

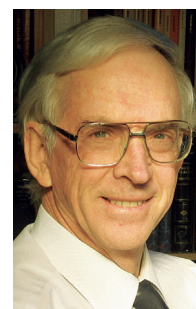
Margaret Brimble (The University of Auckland, New Zealand) received the Adrien Albert Award, which is given for sustained, outstanding research in the field of medicinal chemistry, related to biomolecular chemistry, for her "exceptional and sustained achievements in medicinal chemistry". Brimble studied at The University of Auckland and received her PhD from Southampton University (UK) in 1986. After working at Massey University (New Zealand), the University of California, Berkeley (USA), and the University of Sydney, she took up the Chair of Organic and Medicinal Chemistry at The University of Auckland in 1999. Brimble's research focuses on the synthesis of bioactive natural products as novel anticancer, antibacterial, and antiviral agents, the synthesis of alkaloids and peptidomimetics for the treatment of neurodegenerative disorders, and the synthesis of peptide and glycopeptide components for melanoma vaccines. She has reported on the total synthesis of paecilospirone in *Angewandte Chemie*.^[5a] and on the synthesis of 6,5-benzannulated spiroketals in the *European Journal of Organic Chemistry*.^[5b]

Richard Payne (University of Sydney) was awarded the Rennie Medal for "his outstanding contributions to synthetic organic chemistry and drug discovery". This award is presented to members of the RACI with less than eight years of professional experience since their most recent qualification. Payne studied at the University of Canterbury (New Zealand) and received his PhD

Awarded ...



T. Maschmeyer



J. Bremner



J. Gooding



M. Stenzel



M. Brimble



R. Payne

from the University of Cambridge in 2006 (supervised by C. Abell) supported by a Gates Cambridge Scholarship. After 18 months as a Lindemann Fellow supervised by C.-H. Wong at The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla (USA), he began his independent career as a lecturer in organic chemistry and chemical biology at the University of Sydney in 2008, and was promoted to senior lecturer in 2011. Themes in Payne's research group include the rational design, synthesis, and evaluation of new anti-infectives, the total synthesis of glycopeptides and glycoproteins of therapeutic interest, and the development of glycopeptide-based cancer vaccines. He has reported on self-adjuvanting multicomponent cancer vaccine candidates in *Angewandte Chemie*,^[6a] and on ene-yne-based inhibitors of type II dehydroquinase in *ChemMedChem*.^[6b]

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