

## Awarded ...



D. Seidel



J. Hartig



M. Mann



P. Bruce



J. A. Lercher

## Carl Duisberg Memorial Prize for Daniel Seidel

The Carl Duisberg Memorial Prize is awarded annually by the German Chemical Society (Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker, GDCh) to a young researcher who has distinguished him or herself through original work. The winner for 2012 is Daniel Seidel (Rutgers University, USA), who was honored for the quality and originality of his work in the areas of organocatalysis and the activation of unreactive C–H bonds. Seidel studied at the University of Jena (Germany) and received his PhD (supervised by Jonathan L. Sessler) in 2002 from the University of Texas at Austin for work on expanded porphyrins; Seidel and Sessler published a Review on this topic in *Angewandte Chemie* in 2003.<sup>[1]</sup> After three years of postdoctoral research with David A. Evans at Harvard University, he started his independent career at Rutgers University in 2005. Seidel's research interests are in the development of new concepts for asymmetric catalysis and reactions that can generate complex structures from simple starting materials, in particular redox-neutral reaction cascades for C–H bond activation.

## Göttingen Academy of Sciences Chemistry Prize for Jörg Hartig

Jörg Hartig (University of Konstanz, Germany) received the 2011 Chemistry Prize from the Göttingen Academy of Sciences for his work on the chemical biology of nucleic acids, in particular RNA. Hartig studied at the University of Bonn, where he was awarded his PhD in 2003 for work supervised by Michael Famulok. From 2003–2005, he was a postdoctoral fellow with Eric T. Kool at Stanford University, and in 2006, he moved to the University of Konstanz, where he is currently Professor of Biopolymer Chemistry. Hartig and his research group are interested in the biochemistry and chemical biology of nucleic acids, in particular exploiting unusual nucleic acid functions such as catalytic activity and specific binding affinities to construct artificial switches of gene expression and for nanotechnological applications. He has reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on human telomeric quadruplex conformations<sup>[2a]</sup> and in *Chemistry—A European Journal* on stabilized G quadruplexes.<sup>[2b]</sup>

## Matthias Mann Honored with Three Prizes

Matthias Mann (Max Planck Institute of Biochemistry, Martinsried, Germany) has been named as the

recipient of the Ernst Schering Prize, as well as the Louis Jeantet Prize for Medicine, and the Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize of the German Research Foundation, which were shared with other awardees. Mann was recognized for his outstanding work in developing mass spectrometric techniques for protein analysis. Mann studied at the University of Göttingen (Germany) and received his doctorate from Yale University in 1988 supervised by John B. Fenn. After postdoctoral work with Peter Roepstorff at the University of Southern Denmark, he then spent six years as a group leader at the European Molecular Biology Laboratory, Heidelberg. He then returned to the University of Southern Denmark as Professor of Bioinformatics. In 2005, Mann was appointed director at the Max Planck Institute of Biochemistry. His research group is interested in addressing a wide range of biological questions using proteomic technology, as well as the development of this technology. Mann has published a Review on quantitative proteomics in *ChemBioChem*.<sup>[3]</sup>

## And also in the News ...

... **Peter Bruce** (University of St. Andrews, UK) was awarded the first AzkoNobel UK Science Award for his outstanding contributions to the fields of solid-state chemistry and physics, including work on nanostructured intercalation electrodes and polymer electrolytes for lithium-ion batteries. Bruce was recently highlighted in the News section when he received the Arfvedson Schlenk Prize.<sup>[4]</sup>

... **Johannes A. Lercher** (Technische Universität München, Germany) received the Robert Burwell Lectureship in Catalysis in recognition of "his contributions to our understanding of the interactions and transformations of molecules on solid catalysts through elegant combinations of physicochemical and kinetic analyses." Lercher was also recently featured in this section when he became a member of the Academia Europaea.<sup>[5]</sup>

- [1] J. L. Sessler, D. Seidel, *Angew. Chem.* **2003**, *115*, 5292; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2003**, *42*, 5134.
- [2] a) V. Singh, M. Azarkh, T. E. Exner, J. S. Hartig, M. Drescher, *Angew. Chem.* **2009**, *121*, 9908; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2009**, *49*, 9728; b) V. Singh, A. Benz, J. S. Hartig, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2011**, *17*, 10838–10843.
- [3] H. C. Eberl, M. Mann, M. Vermeulen, *ChemBioChem* **2011**, *12*, 224.
- [4] *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, *123*, 8619; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 8469.
- [5] *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, *123*, 9405; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 9238.

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