

Swiss Chemical Society Prizes

Bernd Giese (Universities of Basel and Fribourg) is the recipient of the 2012 Paracelus Prize, which is the highest honor of the Swiss Chemical Society and is awarded biannually to an internationally outstanding scientist. Giese is honored for "his pioneering work on stereoselective radical reactions in synthesis and his elaboration of the mechanism of electron-transfer processes in biopolymers." Giese studied at the Universities of Heidelberg, Hamburg, and Munich, and was awarded his PhD by the University of Munich in 1969 for work supervised by Rolf Huisgen. After two years working at BASF, he joined the University of Münster (Germany) in 1971, and moved to the University of Freiburg (Germany) in 1972, where he completed his Habilitation in 1976. Giese was made full professor at the Technische Universität Darmstadt (Germany) in 1977, and moved to the University of Basel in 1989, where he remained until his retirement in 2010. He has been guest professor at the University of Fribourg (Switzerland) since 2011. Giese has published 48 manuscripts in *Angewandte Chemie*, and he has most recently reported on long-distance electron transfer through peptides.^[1]

Nicolai Cramer (EPFL Lausanne) was awarded the Werner Prize for his work on metal-catalyzed C–C and C–H activation reactions. This prize is awarded annually to a scientist under the age of 40 for outstanding chemical research, and comprises CHF 10000 and a bronze medal. Cramer was recently featured in this section when he was awarded the ORCHEM Prize and the Bayer Science Award.^[2]

Ružička Prize for Ryan Gilmour

This Prize was established in 1957 in the memory of Nobel Laureate Leopold Ružička, and is awarded annually to a young researcher who has published exceptional work. Ryan Gilmour (ETH Zurich) was awarded the 2011 Ružička Prize for his work on the fluorine *gauche* effect and its application in asymmetric organocatalysis. Gilmour studied at the University of St. Andrews (UK) and was awarded his PhD (supervised by Andrew B. Holmes) from the University of Cambridge in 2006. He was a postdoctoral researcher with Alois Fürstner at the

Max Planck Institute for Coal Research (Mülheim an der Ruhr, Germany) from 2006–2007, and with Peter H. Seeberger at the ETH Zurich from 2007–2008. He was appointed Alfred Werner Assistant Professor of Synthetic Organic Chemistry at the ETH in 2008. Gilmour's research is centered on asymmetric synthesis, organofluorine chemistry, and the construction of small molecules that modulate biological processes. His recent contributions to *Angewandte Chemie* include a report on cyclopropyl iminium activation^[3a] and a Minireview on the effect of fluorine in organocatalysis on the conformation of the products.^[3b]

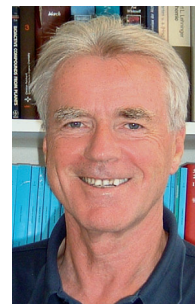
Erwin Schrödinger Gold Medal for John P. Maier

John P. Maier (University of Basel) received the Symposium on Atomic, Cluster and Surface Physics (SASP) Erwin Schrödinger Gold Medal for his contributions to molecular spectroscopy with applications to astrophysics, in particular his research on highly reactive radical and ionic carbon chains and rings. Maier studied at the University of Nottingham (UK) and received his doctorate in 1972 from the University of Oxford under the supervision of David W. Turner. In 1973, he moved to the University of Basel, where he is currently professor. Last year, Maier reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on the electronic spectra of benzylium and tropylium cations.^[4]

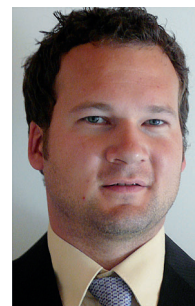
- [1] a) M. Wang, J. Gao, P. Müller, B. Giese, *Angew. Chem.* **2009**, *121*, 4296; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2009**, *48*, 4232; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2009**, *48*, 4232; b) J. Gao, P. Müller, M. Wang, S. Eckhardt, M. Lauz, K. M. Fromm, B. Giese, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, *123*, 1967; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 1926.
- [2] *Angew. Chem.* **2010**, *123*, 9507; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2010**, *49*, 9319; *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, *123*, 2013; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2010**, *49*, 1971.
- [3] C. Sparr, R. Gilmour, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, *123*, 8541; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 8391; L. E. Zimmer, C. Sparr, R. Gilmour, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, *123*, 12062; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 11860.
- [4] A. Nagy, J. Fulara, I. Garkusha, J. P. Maier, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, *123*, 3078; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 3022.

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Awarded ...



B. Giese



N. Cramer



R. Gilmour



J. P. Maier