Welch Foundation Awards for David A. Evans and Oleg Ozerov

The Welch Foundation is one of the oldest and largest sources of private funding for chemical research in the US. Each year, it sponsors two awards for outstanding research.

David A. Evans (Harvard University) has won the 2012 Welch Award, which is worth $300000, for "breakthroughs in creating complex molecules to fight disease". Previous recipients include Harry B. Gray (2009) and George M. Whitesides (2005). Evans studied at Oberlin College, Ohio, and received his PhD (supervised by the late Robert E. Ireland; see Obituary in Issue 27 of 2012) from the California Institute of Technology in 1967. In the same year, he joined the faculty at the University of California, Los Angeles. In 1974, he returned to the California Institute of Technology, and in 1983, he moved to Harvard University, where he is currently Abbot and James Lawrence Research Professor. His group succeeded in many seminal total syntheses of natural products, and many novel synthetic methods were developed by them. Evans attracted many PhD students and postdocs who now hold important positions in academy and industry. His most recent publication in *Angewandte Chemie* was on the total synthesis of (+)-azaspiracid-1.[1]

Oleg Ozerov (Texas A&M University) has been announced as the winner of the 2012 Hackerman Award in recognition for his work in organometallic chemistry and its applications in catalysis and energy storage. This prize is valued at $100000 and is presented to early-career researchers working in Texas. Previous winners include Jason H. Hafner (2011). Ozerov studied at the Russian Academy of Sciences, and completed his PhD in 2000 under the supervision of Folami T. Ladipo at the University of Kentucky. From 2000–2002, he was a postdoctoral associate with Kenneth Caulton at Indiana University Bloomington. In 2002, he started his independent career at Brandeis University, Massachusetts, and in 2009, he was appointed professor at Texas A&M University. Ozerov's research focuses on synthetic organometallic chemistry and its applications in catalysis in general, and oxygen production in particular. He has reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on the synthesis and properties of metallaboratranes,[2a] and in *Chemistry—A European Journal* on phosphorus(III) cations stabilized by a PNP pincer ligand.[2b]

Wöhler Prize for Paul T. Anastas

The Wöhler Prize is awarded by the German Chemical Society (Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker, GDCh) for contributions to the development and realization of sustainable chemistry. The 2012 prize, which is worth €7500, was awarded to Paul T. Anastas (Yale University) for his groundbreaking research and exceptional engagement in the field. Anastas studied at the University of Massachusetts at Boston and received his PhD from Brandeis University. He worked in the White House Office of Science and Technology from 1999–2004, and was Director of the Green Chemistry Institute, Washington D.C., from 2004–2006. He is currently Director of the Center for Green Chemistry and Green Engineering at Yale University, where he is Theresa and H. John Heinz III Professor in the Practice of Chemistry for the Environment. He has written a Viewpoint in *ChemSusChem* on green chemistry,[3a] and is Editor of the *Handbook of Green Chemistry*.[3b]

[1] a) D. A. Evans, L. Kværnø, J. A. Mulder, B. Raymer, T. B. Dunn, A. Beauchemin, E. J. Olhava, M. Juhl, K. Kagechika, *Angew. Chem.* **2007**, *119*, 4777; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2007**, *46*, 4693; b) D. A. Evans, T. B. Dunn, L. Kværnø, A. Beauchemin, B. Raymer, E. J. Olhava, J. A. Mulder, M. Juhl, K. Kagechika, D. A. Favor, *Angew. Chem.* **2007**, *119*, 4782; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2007**, *46*, 4698.

[2] a) S. Bontemps, G. Bouhadir, W. Gu, M. Mercy, C.-H. Chen, B. M. Foxman, L. Maron, O. V. Ozerov, D. Bourissou, *Angew. Chem.* **2008**, *120*, 1503; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, *47*, 1481; b) D. E. Herbert, A. D. Miller, O. V. Ozerov, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2012**, *18*, 7696.

[3] a) P. T. Anastas, *ChemSusChem* **2009**, *2*, 391; b) *Handbook of Green Chemistry* (Ed.: P. T. Anastas), Wiley-VCH, Weinheim, **2010** (Vol. 1–6), **2012** (Vol. 7–9).

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Awarded ...

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