

The UK Royal Society of Chemistry has recently announced its 2012 prize winners. We congratulate all the awardees featured here, as well as **Hagan Bayley** (University of Oxford), who has won the 2012 Interdisciplinary Prize, and was featured in this section when he was elected to the Royal Society.^[1]

Harrison–Meldola Prizes

These prizes are awarded for the most meritorious and promising original investigations in chemistry that have been published by scientists who are 32 years old or less.

Michael J. Ingleson (University of Manchester) studied at the University of Bath, and was awarded his PhD in 2004 for work supervised by Andrew S. Weller. He was a postdoctoral researcher with Kenneth G. Caulton at Indiana University (2004–2005) and with Matthew Rosseinsky at the University of Liverpool (2006–2008), and currently holds a Royal Society University Research Fellowship at the University of Manchester. Ingleson's research group is interested in main-group and organometallic chemistry.^[2]

Tuomas P. J. Knowles (University of Cambridge) studied at the ETH Zurich and completed his PhD with Mark E. Welland and Christopher M. Dobson at the University of Cambridge in 2008. After postdoctoral work and a research fellowship at the same institution, he was appointed lecturer there in 2010. Knowles' research interests are in using physical techniques to study biomolecular systems.^[3]

Marina K. Kuimova (Imperial College London) studied at Moscow State University and received her PhD (supervised by Michael W. George) from the University of Nottingham in 2005. She is currently an EPSRC Career Acceleration Fellow at Imperial College London. Kuimova's research involves the use of imaging and spectroscopic techniques to study cell function and ultrafast processes in biomolecules.^[4]

Corday-Morgan Prizes

Up to three prizes are awarded annually for the most meritorious contributions to chemistry by researchers who are not more than 40 years old.

David K. Smith (University of York) studied at the University of Oxford, where he carried out his doctorate (awarded in 1996) with Paul D. Beer. From 1997–1999, he was a Royal Society European Exchange Fellow with François Diederich at the ETH Zurich, and in 1999, he started his independent career at the University of York, where he is currently professor. Smith's research interests are in dendrimer, supramolecular, and nanoscale chemistry.^[5]

Leroy Cronin (University of Glasgow) studied at the University of York, where he was awarded his doctorate (supervised by Paul H. Walton) in 1997. From 1997–1999, he was a research fellow with Neil Robertson at the University of Edinburgh, and from 1999–2000, he was an Alexander von Humboldt Fellow with Achim Müller at the University of Bielefeld. In 2000, he was appointed lecturer at the University of Birmingham, and in 2002, he moved to the University of Glasgow, where he is currently Gardiner Professor of Chemistry. Cronin's research involves understanding and controlling self-assembly and self-organization to develop functional (nano)molecular systems.^[6]

Polly L. Arnold (University of Edinburgh) studied at the University of Oxford and was awarded her doctorate (under the guidance of F. Geoffrey N. Cloke) in 1997 from the University of Sussex. She was subsequently awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to work with Christopher C. Cummins at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In 1999, she joined the faculty at the University of Nottingham, and in 2007, she moved to the University of Edinburgh, where she is currently Chair of Synthetic Inorganic Chemistry. Arnold's research is focused on synthetic chemistry, particularly of f-block metal systems, including innovative catalytic transformations and the activation of small, unreactive molecules.^[7]

Tilden Prizes

These prizes are awarded to mid-career scientists working in the UK for advances in chemistry.

Patrick R. Unwin (University of Warwick) studied at the University of Liverpool and completed his doctorate (supervised by Richard G. Compton) at the University of Oxford in 1989. After a research fellowship at the same institution, he was a NATO Fellow with Allen Bard at the University of Texas at Austin from 1990–1991. He joined the University of Warwick in 1992. Unwin's research involves the application of electrochemistry to the understanding of processes that occur at the micro- to nanoscale.^[8]

James R. Durrant (Imperial College London) studied at the University of Cambridge and carried out his PhD (awarded in 1991) under the supervision of Lord Porter and James Barber at Imperial College. Following postdoctoral positions at the same institution as well as in The Netherlands, he held a BBSRC Advanced Fellowship (1994–1999) in the Department of Biochemistry at Imperial College, and in 1999, he joined the staff of the Department of Chemistry, where he is currently Professor of Photochemistry. Durrant is interested in developing new chemical approaches to solar energy conversion.^[9]

Awarded ...



D. K. Smith



L. Cronin



P. L. Arnold



P. R. Unwin



J. R. Durrant



H. L. Anderson



T. M. Swager



A. K. Cheetham

Harry L. Anderson (University of Oxford) studied at the University of Oxford, and worked with Jeremy K. M. Sanders at the University of Cambridge for his PhD, which was awarded in 1990. After a research fellowship at the University of Cambridge, he carried out postdoctoral research with François Diederich at the ETH Zurich from 1993–1994, and subsequently joined the Department of Chemistry at the University of Oxford, where he is currently professor. Anderson's research involves the use of synthesis and supramolecular assembly to study structure–property relationships of systems, including nanorings, drugs for photodynamic therapy, and molecular wires.^[10]

Centenary Prizes

The Centenary Prize is awarded to scientists from overseas who are not only outstanding chemists but also exceptional communicators and allows them to give lectures in the British Isles. The 2012 Centenary Prizes were awarded to **Stephen G. Withers** (University of British Columbia) and **Craig Hawker** (University of California, Santa Barbara), who were recently featured in this section,^[11] and **Timothy M. Swager** (Massachusetts Institute of Technology; MIT). Swager studied at Montana State University and completed his PhD in 1988 with Robert H. Grubbs at the California Institute of Technology. From 1988–1990, he was a postdoctoral fellow with Mark S. Wrighton at MIT, and in 1990, he joined the faculty at the University of Pennsylvania. In 1996, he rejoined MIT, where he is currently John D. MacArthur Professor of Chemistry. Swager's research group is interested in supramolecular and materials chemistry, especially chemosensors, liquid crystals, and electronic polymers.^[12]

Nyholm Prize

The Nyholm Prize for Inorganic Chemistry is awarded for outstanding contributions to inorganic chemistry. The 2012 winner is **Anthony K. Cheetham** (University of Cambridge), who was honored for his “major contributions to the structural characterization of new and useful mixed metal oxide and framework materials”.^[13] Cheetham studied at the University of Oxford, where he was

awarded his doctorate (supervised by Sir Brian Fender) in 1971. After a research fellowship (1971–1974) with Sir Brian Fender and Bertram T. M. Willis at the University of Oxford and the Atomic Energy Research Establishment in Harwell, he remained at Oxford to start his independent career. In 1991, he moved to the University of California, Santa Barbara, and in 2007, he was appointed Goldsmith's Professor of Materials Science at the University of Cambridge.

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