Awarded ...

E. Zass

P. Knochel

T. Akiyama

M. Terada

M. T. Reetz

Gmelin–Beilstein Memorial Medal for Engelbert Zass

Engelbert Zass (ETH Zurich) has been awarded the Gmelin–Beilstein Memorial Medal by the Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker (GDCh; German Chemical Society). This honor is given for outstanding service to the chemical literature, information, or the history of chemistry, and Zass was recognized for his commitment to the area of chemical information, in particular with respect to chemical databases. Zass studied chemistry at the University of Cologne, and carried out his PhD (awarded in 1977) with Albert Eschenmoser at the ETH Zurich. After positions in the Organic Chemistry Laboratory at the ETH Zurich and the University of Zurich, he joined the Chemistry Information Center at the ETH Zurich in 1999. He has been Head of the Chemistry Biology Pharmacy Information Center there since 2003, and lecturer at the University of Bern since 1995. He has discussed the challenges for database construction in *Angewandte Chemie*.[1] Zass also received the 2011 CSA Trust Mike Lynch Award.

Nagoya Gold and Silver Medals

The Nagoya Gold Medal was established in 1995 and is awarded to an organic chemist for significant contributions to the field. The Silver Medal is presented to younger Japanese scientists whose work has had a major impact on the field of synthetic organic chemistry. Paul Knochel (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich) is the winner of the 2012 Gold Medal, and Takahiko Akiyama (Gakushuin University) and Masahiro Terada (Tohoku University) are the winners of the Silver Medal.

Paul Knochel studied at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Chimie in Strasbourg, and worked with Dieter Seebach at the ETH Zurich for his PhD (awarded in 1982). From 1982–1986, he was a chargé de recherche in the group of Jean-François Normant at the Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris, and from 1986–1987, he was a postdoctoral researcher with Martin F. Semmelhack at Princeton University. He joined the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, in 1988, and moved to the University of Marburg in 1992. He took up his current position in Munich in 1999. Knochel's research interests include the development of synthetic methods that use organometallic reagents and catalysts, with applications in asymmetric synthesis, heterocyclic chemistry, natural product synthesis, and materials chemistry. He has reported recently in *Angewandte Chemie* on the intramolecular copper-catalyzed carbomagnesation of alkynyl(aryl)thioethers.[2] Knochel, who also received the 2011 EROS Best Reagent Award, is on the International Advisory Board of *Chemistry—An Asian Journal* and on the Editorial Board of *ChemPlusChem*.

Takahiko Akiyama studied at the University of Tokyo, and received his PhD in 1985 for work supervised by Teruaki Mukaiyama. From 1985–1988, he worked as a research chemist at Shionogi Research Laboratories, and from 1988–1992, he was assistant professor at Ehime University. In 1994, he joined Gakushuin University, where he is currently full professor. Akiyama's research interests are in asymmetric reactions catalyzed by chiral Brønsted acids, metal-catalyzed transformations, and activation of C–F bonds.[3] His most recent report in *Angewandte Chemie* is on chiral phosphoric acid catalyzed transfer hydrogenation.

Masahiro Terada studied at the Tokyo Institute of Technology, and worked under the direction of Koichi Mikami for his PhD, which was awarded in 1991. He was assistant professor at the same institution from 1989–2001, and spent the years 1999–2000 as a postdoctoral fellow with Matthew D. Shair at Harvard University. In 2001, he moved to Tohoku University, where he is currently full professor. Terada's research is focused on the development of synthetic methods based on chiral Brønsted acid and base catalysts as well as transition-metal catalysts. He has recently reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on relay catalysis using a binary system.[4] Terada is on the Editorial Board of the *Asian Journal of Organic Chemistry*.

IKCOC Prize for Manfred T. Reetz

Manfred T. Reetz will receive the 2012 International Kyoto Conference on New Aspects of Organic Chemistry (IKCOC) Prize, which is awarded to a researcher who has made significant contributions to the field of organic chemistry. Reetz's career was highlighted in this section when he won the Otto Hahn and Tetrahedron Prizes[5a] and when he was awarded an honorary doctorate.[5b]

[1] D. Seebach, E. Zass, W. B. Schweizer, A. J. Thompson, A. French, B. G. Davis, G. Kyd, I. J. Bruno, *Angew. Chem.* **2009**, *121*, 9774; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2009**, *48*, 9596.

[2] T. Kunz, P. Knochel, *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, *124*, 1994; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 1958.

[3] A. Henseler, M. Kato, K. Mori, T. Akiyama, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, *123*, 8330; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 8180.

[4] M. Terada, Y. Toda, *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, *124*, 2135; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 2093

[5] a) *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, *123*, 10194; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 10018; b) *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, *124*, 2043; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *51*, 2003.

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