

## Ryoji Noyori Prize for Masakatsu Shibasaki

The Ryoji Noyori Prize, which is sponsored by the Takasago International Corporation and administered by the Society of Synthetic Organic Chemistry, Japan (SSOCJ), has been awarded annually since 2002, when it was founded to commemorate Ryoji Noyori winning the 2001 Nobel Prize in Chemistry and the 60th anniversary of the SSOCJ. The winner of the 2012 prize is Masakatsu Shibasaki (Institute of Microbial Chemistry (BIKAKEN), Tokyo), who was honored for establishing the concept of cooperative asymmetric catalysis and the development of carbon–carbon bond-forming reactions with high atom economy, as well as the catalytic asymmetric synthesis of bioactive compounds. His Review on asymmetric catalysis was featured in the Jubilee Issue of *Angewandte Chemie* earlier this year,<sup>[1a]</sup> and he has also reported in *Chemistry—An Asian Journal* on catalytic asymmetric addition reactions.<sup>[1b]</sup> Shibasaki received his PhD in 1974 for work supervised by Shun-ichi Yamada at the University of Tokyo. From 1974–1977, he was a postdoctoral research associate with E. J. Corey at Harvard University, and from 1977–1983, he was associate professor in the group of Shiro Ikegami at Teikyo University. He joined the Sagami Chemical Research Center as group leader in 1986, and was made professor at Hokkaido University in the same year, and then at the University of Tokyo in 1991. He was appointed Director of BIKAKEN in 2010. Shibasaki is on the International Advisory Boards of *Angewandte Chemie* and *Chemistry—An Asian Journal*, and the Editorial Board of *Chemistry—A European Journal*.

## New Year Honours for Carol V. Robinson and Susan E. Gibson

Two British chemists were recognized in the New Year Honours List 2013.

**Carol V. Robinson** (University of Oxford) was created Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire (DBE) for services to science and industry. Robinson started her career at Pfizer Ltd., and studied at Canterbury College of Technology, Medway College of Technology, and the University of Wales. She carried out her PhD (awarded in 1982) with Dudley H. Williams at the University of Cambridge. After an MRC Training Fellowship at the University of Bristol (1982–1983) and a Postgraduate Diploma in Information Technology from the University of Keele (1991), she was a postdoctoral research fellow (1991–1995) and a Royal Society University Research Fellow (1995–2001) at the University of Oxford. In 2001, she was made Professor of Mass Spectrometry at the University

of Cambridge, and in 2006, she was awarded a Royal Society Research Professorship. In 2009, she returned to the University of Oxford, where she is Dr. Lee's Professor of Physical and Theoretical Chemistry. Robinson's research interests are in the use of mass spectrometry to study protein structure, function, and interactions. Her Communication on the conformations of protein p53 in the gas phase was published in the Jubilee Issue of *Angewandte Chemie*.<sup>[2]</sup> Robinson is also the recipient of the 2013 Anatrace Membrane Protein Award from the American Biophysical Society.

**Susan E. Gibson** (Imperial College London) was created Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for services to chemistry and science education. Gibson studied at the University of Cambridge, and was awarded her PhD in 1984 for work supervised by Stephen G. Davies at the University of Oxford. After research fellowships at the same institution (1984) and with Albert Eschenmoser at the ETH Zürich (1985), she started her independent career at the University of Warwick in 1985. She moved to Imperial College London in 1990, was appointed Daniell Professor of Chemistry at King's College London in 1999, and returned to Imperial College London as Professor of Chemistry in 2003. Gibson's research is focused on transition-metal-mediated reactions, particularly stoichiometric iron vinylketene and chromium arene chemistry, and catalytic palladium and cobalt chemistry. She has reported in the *European Journal of Organic Chemistry* on the synthesis and further reactions of gossonorol.<sup>[3]</sup> Gibson is on the Editorial Board of *Chemistry—A European Journal*.

## Clara Immerwahr Award for Jennifer K. Edwards

The Clara Immerwahr Award is presented annually to a young female researcher for outstanding work in the area of catalysis. The honor was founded in 2011 by the Cluster of Excellence UniCat, which is hosted by the Technische Universität Berlin, and comprises €15 000 to support a period of research at UniCat. The winner of the 2013 award is Jennifer K. Edwards (Cardiff University). Edwards studied at Cardiff University, where she received her PhD (supervised by Graham Hutchings) in 2006. She is currently a senior research fellow at the Cardiff Catalysis Institute. Edwards' research interests include the development of gold–palladium alloys for the synthesis of hydrogen peroxide, on which she has reported in both *Angewandte Chemie* and *ChemCatChem*.<sup>[4a,b]</sup>

### Featured ...



M. Shibasaki



C. V. Robinson



S. E. Gibson



J. K. Edwards



O.S. Wolfbeis

### Clemens Winkler Medal for Otto S. Wolfbeis

Otto S. Wolfbeis (University of Regensburg) has been awarded the Clemens Winkler Medal by the Analytical Chemistry Group of the Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker (GDCh; German Chemical Society) for his lifetime achievements in advancing analytical chemistry. He was also recently awarded the Hanuš Memorial Medal by the Česká společnost chemická (Czech Chemical Society) for his work in the field of chemical sensors and biosensors. Wolfbeis studied at the University of Graz, where he worked with Hans Junek for his PhD (awarded in 1972). He was a postdoctoral fellow with Ernst A. Koerner von Gustorf at the Max Planck Institute for Radiation Chemistry (currently MPI for Chemical Energy Conversion), Mülheim an der Ruhr, from 1972–1974, and with Ernst Lippert at the Technische Universität Berlin from 1976–1977. He started his independent career at the University of Graz in 1977, and was made Professor of Analytical and Interface Chemistry at the University of Regensburg in 1995. Wolfbeis and his research group are interested in topics including (bio)analytical chemistry, chemical (bio)sensors, and fluorescent probes. He has reported in *Chemistry—A European Journal* on a referenced dual pressure- and temperature-sensitive paint for digital color camera read out,<sup>[5a]</sup> and his Communication on fluorescent pH-sensitive nanoparticles was published in the Jubilee Issue of *Angewandte Chemie*.<sup>[5b]</sup>



T. Carell



K. Matyjaszewski

### Thomas Carell Elected to Board of Trustees of the Volkswagen Foundation

The Volkswagen Foundation (Volkswagen Stiftung) was founded in 1961 and is the largest private funding institute for research in Germany. This non-profit-making organization supports the humanities, social sciences, and science and technology in higher education and research. Seven new members were elected to the Board of Trustees in 2012, including Thomas Carell (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich), whose recent contributions to *Angewandte Chemie* include a Review on noncanonical nucleobases,<sup>[6a]</sup> and a Communication on the isotope-based analysis of modified tRNA nucleosides.<sup>[6b]</sup> Carell studied at the Universities of Münster and Heidelberg, and was awarded his PhD in 1993 for work supervised by Heinz A. Staab at the Max Planck Institute for Medical Research, Heidelberg. After postdoctoral work with Julius Rebek, Jr. at the Massachusetts Insti-

tute of Technology from 1993–1995, he moved to the ETH Zürich where he carried out independent research in the group of François Diederich and completed his habilitation in 1999. He was appointed Professor of Organic Chemistry at the University of Marburg in 2000, and moved to the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in 2004. Carell's research interests are in DNA hybrid materials, DNA damage and repair, and tRNA modifications. Carell is Co-Chair of the Editorial Advisory Board of *ChemBioChem*.

### And also in the News

**Krzysztof Matyjaszewski** (Carnegie Mellon University) is the recipient of the inaugural AkzoNobel North America Science Award, which is presented for outstanding contributions to chemistry and materials research conducted in the USA or Canada. Matyjaszewski was featured in this section when he won the ACS Award in Applied Polymer Science and the SCF Prix Franco-Polonais.<sup>[7]</sup>

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