

Merck–Banyu Lectureship Award for Mamoru Tobisu

The Merck–Banyu Lectureship was established by Banyu Life Science Foundation International in 2004 in order to recognize outstanding achievements in creativity in synthetic organic chemistry by researchers in Japan who are less than 40 years of age. Mamoru Tobisu (Osaka University) is the winner of the 2012 award, and was honored for his work on the catalytic transformations of strong σ bonds. Tobisu received his PhD (supervised by Shinji Murai) from Osaka University in 2001. After working at the Takeda Pharmaceutical Company from 2001–2005, he returned to Osaka University as an assistant professor in the research group of Naoto Chatani. He is currently associate professor at the Center for Atomic and Molecular Technologies at Osaka University. Tobisu's research interests are in the development of catalytic reactions for the transformation of carbon–oxygen, carbon–cyano, and carbon–silicon bonds. He has reported in *Chemistry—An Asian Journal* on the catalytic arylation via cleavage of carbon–hydrogen bonds,^[1a] and in *Angewandte Chemie* on the synthesis of phenanthridine derivatives.^[1b]

Dreyfus Prize for R. Graham Cooks

R. Graham Cooks (Purdue University) is the winner of the 2013 Dreyfus Prize in the Chemical Sciences. This honor is given biennially to individuals who have distinguished themselves in a specific area of chemistry, and the 2013 prize was awarded for “the invention or development of instrumentation that has greatly advanced the chemical sciences”. Previous winners include George M. Whitesides (Harvard University) and Tobin J. Marks (Northwestern University). Cooks was highlighted in this section when he won the F. A. Cotton Medal.^[2a] His most recent contributions to *Angewandte Chemie* include Communications on accelerated carbon–carbon bond-forming reactions,^[2b] which was featured on a cover, and the metal-free functionalization of alkanes.^[2c]

Spiers Memorial Award for Joseph Wang

Joseph Wang (University of California, San Diego) is the winner of the 2013 Spiers Memorial Award, which is presented by the Royal Society of Chemistry for outstanding contributions to the field of a Faraday Discussion meeting. Wang was featured here when he was awarded the Breyer Medal.^[3a] His most recent contribution to *Angewandte Chemie* is on the propulsion of micrometer-sized particles by ultrasound-triggered vaporization.^[3b]

BASF Catalysis Award for Nicolai Cramer

The BASF Catalysis Award is presented to an outstanding young researcher at the biennial Heidelberg Forum of Molecular Catalysis. The winner of the 2013 award is Nicolai Cramer (École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne). Cramer, who was profiled here when he won the ORCHEM Prize,^[4a] moved from the ETH Zurich to his current position in 2010. He has reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on rhodium(III)-catalyzed directed reactions,^[4b] and the enantioselective arylation of cyclopropanes.^[4c]

Awarded ...



M. Tobisu



R. G. Cooks



J. Wang



N. Cramer

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- [3] a) *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, 124, 5124; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, 51, 5038; b) D. Kagan, M. J. Benchimol, J. C. Claussen, E. Chuluun-Erdene, S. Esener, J. Wang, *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, 124, 7637; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, 51, 7519.
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