



I. S. Choi

The author presented on this page has recently published his **10th article** in *Angewandte Chemie* in the last 10 years:

“Bioinspired, Cytocompatible Mineralization of Silica–Titania Composites: Thermoprotective Nanoshell Formation for Individual *Chlorella* Cells”: E. H. Ko, Y. Yoon, J. H. Park, S. H. Yang, D. Hong, K.-B. Lee, H. K. Shon, T. G. Lee, I. S. Choi, *Angew. Chem.* **2013**, 125, 12505–12508; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2013**, 52, 12279–12282.



The work of I. S. Choi has been featured on the back cover of *Angewandte Chemie*:

“Bioinspired Functionalization of Silica-Encapsulated Yeast Cells”: S. H. Yang, E. H. Ko, Y. H. Jung, I. S. Choi, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, 123, 6239–6242; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, 50, 6115–6118.

Insung S. Choi

Date of birth:	January 9, 1969
Position:	Professor of Chemistry and of Bio and Brain Engineering, Director of the Center for Cell-Encapsulation Research, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST)
E-mail:	ischoi@kaist.ac.kr
Homepage:	http://cisgroup.kaist.ac.kr
Education:	1991 BS, Seoul National University 1993 MS with Eun Lee, Seoul National University 2000 PhD with George M. Whitesides, Harvard University 2000–2001 Postdoctoral Fellow with Robert Langer, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Awards:	2003 Thieme Journal Award; 2003 Korean Chemical Society (KCS)–Wiley Young Chemist Award; 2004 Young Scientist Award (President Award); 2011 Collaborative Research Award, KAIST; 2012 Academic Achievement Award, KAIST; 2013 Chang Sae Hee Research Achievement Award, KCS
Research:	Cell–material interfaces; self-assembly; biomineralization; neurochemistry; chemical biology
Hobbies:	Reading (sci-fi) novels

I admire ... those who do what they really want to do.

I advise my students to ... read as many research articles as possible and get a big picture.

The secret of being a successful scientist is ... to follow one’s curiosity.

My science “heroes” are ... my advisors (E. Lee, G. M. Whitesides, and R. Langer).

If I had one year of paid leave I would ... write a sci-fi novel.

If I could be a piece of lab equipment, I would be ... a stopwatch.

The most important thing I learned from my students is ... the fact that people are all different.

My favorite painter is ... Claude Monet.

The natural talent I would like to be gifted with is ... a musical talent, such as perfect pitch.

My motto is ... “Be Happy!”

When I was eighteen I wanted to be ... a cartoonist.

If I could be described as an animal it would be ... Curious George (a cartoon monkey).

Chemistry is fun because ... it always makes us think.

In the future I can see myself ... raising a lot of rabbits in a field.

My 5 top papers:

1. “Pitch-Dependent Acceleration of Neurite Outgrowth on Nanostructured AAO Substrates”: W. K. Cho, K. Kang, G. Kang, M. J. Jang, Y. Nam, I. S. Choi, *Angew. Chem.* **2010**, 122, 10312–10316; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2010**, 49, 10114–10118. (Serendipity from a student’s diligence.)
2. “Biomimetic Encapsulation of Individual Cells with Silica”: S. H. Yang, K.-B. Lee, B. Kong, J.-H. Kim, H.-S. Kim, I. S. Choi, *Angew. Chem.* **2009**, 121, 9324–9327; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2009**, 48, 9160–9163. (Five years of hard work by one student.)
3. “In Vitro Developmental Acceleration of Hippocampal Neurons on Nanostructures of Self-Assembled Silica Beads in Filopodium-Size Ranges”: K. Kang, S.-E. Choi, H. S. Jang, W. K. Cho, Y. Nam, I. S. Choi, J. S. Lee, *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, 124, 2909–2012; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, 51, 2855–2858. (Work by one self-motivated student.)
4. “Electrochemically Driven, Electrode-Addressable Formation of Functionalized Polydopamine Films for Neural Interfaces”: K. Kang, S. Lee, R. Kim, I. S. Choi, Y. Nam, *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, 124, 13278–13281; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, 51, 13101–13104. (A student’s totally independent work from scratch.)
5. “Tertiary alcohol synthesis from secondary alcohols via C–H insertion”: E. Lee, I. S. Choi, S. Y. Song, *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.* **1995**, 321–322. (My first (and maybe last) synthesis paper.)

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