

# Featured ...



N. L. Abbott



M. Flytzani-Stephanopoulos



N. J. Halas



J. L. Hedrick



R. G. Bergman

## New Members of the National Academy of Engineering

The US National Academy of Engineering recently elected a number of new members and foreign associates. We feature four of them here.

**Nicholas L. Abbott** (University of Wisconsin-Madison) studied at the University of Adelaide and carried out his PhD (awarded in 1991) with Daniel Blankschtein and T. Alan Hatton at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. After postdoctoral work with George Whitesides at Harvard University (1991–1993), he joined the faculty at the University of California, Davis in 1993. He moved to the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1998, and is currently John T. Sobota and Magdalen L. Sobota Professor in the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering, and Director of the Wisconsin Materials Research Science and Engineering Center. Abbott's research interests are focused on colloidal and interfacial phenomena, including fundamental issues related to the origins of colloidal interactions and the application of chemically tailored interfaces in chemical and biological sensors, biomedical devices, and separation processes. He has reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on liquid crystal chemical sensors.<sup>[1]</sup>

**Maria Flytzani-Stephanopoulos** (Tufts University) studied at the National Technical University, Athens, and the University of Florida, and was awarded her PhD in 1978 for work supervised by Lanny D. Schmidt at the University of Minnesota. She subsequently worked at the California Institute of Technology and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and in 1994, she moved to Tufts University, where she is currently Robert and Marcy Haber Endowed Professor in Energy Sustainability. Flytzani-Stephanopoulos and her research group are interested in the rational design of heterogeneous catalysts, in particular advanced nanomaterials for the treatment of fuel gas. She has reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on Pt/TiO<sub>2</sub> catalysts,<sup>[2a]</sup> and in *ChemSusChem* on hydrogen production by the dehydrogenation of formic acid.<sup>[2b]</sup>

**Naomi J. Halas** (Rice University) studied at La Salle College and Bryn Mawr College, and carried out her PhD (awarded in 1987) with Daniel Grischowsky at the IBM Thomas J. Watson Research Center. From 1987–1989, she was a postdoctoral researcher at AT&T Bell Laboratories, and in 1989, she started her independent career at Rice University, where she is currently Stanley C. Moore Chair of Electrical and Computer Engineering. Halas' research is centered on plasmonic nanostructures. She has reported in *Angewandte*

*Chemie* on plasmonic nanoshell arrays,<sup>[3a]</sup> and has discussed functional plasmonic materials in a Review in *Advanced Materials*.<sup>[3b]</sup>

**James L. Hedrick** (IBM Almaden Research Center) was featured here when he won the Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Award. His most recent contribution to *Angewandte Chemie* is a report on antimicrobial and biofilm-disrupting hydrogels.<sup>[4]</sup>

## Welch Award for Robert G. Bergman

Robert G. Bergman (University of California, Berkeley) is the recipient of the 2014 Welch Award. The award, which is presented by the Welch Foundation and has a value of \$300 000, is given for "important chemical research contributions which have had a significant, positive influence on mankind", and Bergman was recognized for his "pioneering work in alkane activation and mechanisms of organometallic reactions". Bergman was recently featured here when he won the George A. Olah Award in Hydrocarbon or Petroleum Chemistry.<sup>[5a]</sup> His most recent contribution to *Angewandte Chemie* is a report on the gold(I)-catalyzed sulfinylation of aryl boronic acids.<sup>[5b]</sup>

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In this section, we report on various awards for chemists who are closely connected with *Angewandte Chemie* and its sister journals as authors, referees, or board members.