

Arthur C. Cope Scholar Awards

Awarded ...



O. Daugulis



J. N. Johnston



G. E. Keck



H.-w. Liu

The Arthur C. Cope Scholar Awards are administered by the American Chemical Society and sponsored by the Arthur C. Cope Fund. Ten scholars (in three age groups) in the field of organic chemistry are selected annually, and receive an unrestricted research grant of \$400000 as well as a certificate and prize money of \$5000. We feature some of the 2014 scholars here and also congratulate **Richard N. Armstrong** (Vanderbilt University), **Abigail G. Doyle** (Princeton University),^[1a] **Raymond L. Funk** (Pennsylvania University), **Seth Herzon** (Yale University),^[1b] **Benjamin List** (Max Planck Institute for Coal Research),^[1c] and **Tomislav Rovis** (Colorado State University),^[1d] some of whom have been already highlighted in this section.

Olafs Daugulis (University of Houston) studied at Riga Technical University, and carried out his PhD (awarded in 1999) with Edwin Vedejs at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. From 2000–2003, he was a postdoctoral associate with Maurice Brookhart at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and subsequently, he joined the faculty at the University of Houston. Daugulis and his research group are interested in the development of C–H functionalization methods, including the use of bidentate, monoanionic removable auxiliaries that promote transition-metal-catalyzed C–H functionalization, arynes in C–H bond functionalization, and ligands for transition-metal-catalyzed olefin polymerization. He has reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on the directed amination of arene C–H bonds.^[2]

Jeffrey N. Johnston (Vanderbilt University) studied at Xavier University, and completed his PhD (supervised by Leo A. Paquette) in 1997 at The Ohio State University. After postdoctoral work with David A. Evans at Harvard University, he started his independent career at Indiana University in 1999. He moved to Vanderbilt University in 2011, and is currently Stevenson Professor of Chemistry. Johnston's research interests are in the development of bifunctional Brønsted acid/base catalysts for the stereocontrolled formation of carbon–carbon and carbon–heteroatom bonds, in particular the efficient synthesis of peptides containing non-natural amino acids, by using solely enantioselective and catalytic methods. He has reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on the total synthesis of hapalindoles K, A, and G.^[3]

Gary E. Keck (University of Utah) studied at Bowling Green State University and worked with Howard E. Zimmerman at the University of Wisconsin-Madison for his PhD (awarded in 1975). He was a postdoctoral researcher with E. J. Corey at Harvard University from 1975–1977, and he then

joined the faculty at the University of Utah. Keck's research program is focused on the total synthesis of natural products with biological activity, including bryostatin chemistry. He has reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on C9-deoxy bryostatin 1,^[4a] and in *ChemBioChem* on the resemblance between bryostatin 1 and phorbol esters.^[4b]

Hung-wen (Ben) Liu (University of Texas at Austin) studied at Tunghai University and received his PhD from Columbia University in 1974 for work supervised by Koji Nakanishi. He carried out postdoctoral work with Christopher Walsh at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1981–1984), and then joined the faculty at the University of Minnesota. He moved to the University of Texas at Austin in 2000, and currently holds the George Hitchings Regent Chair in Drug Design in the College of Pharmacy and is also on the faculty of the Chemistry Department. Liu's research lies at the crossroads of chemistry and biology, and focuses on the elucidation of the chemical mechanisms of enzymes that catalyze mechanistically unusual steps in the biosynthetic pathways of natural products. He has reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on mechanistic studies of an IspH-catalyzed reaction,^[5a] and in *ChemBioChem* on dimethylallyl diphosphate isomerase catalysis.^[5b] Liu is on the International Advisory Board of *The Chemical Record*.

- [1] a) *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, *124*, 2591; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 2541; b) *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, *124*, 7748; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 7630; c) *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, *124*, 6416; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 6310; d) *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, *124*, 2863; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 2809.
- [2] L. D. Tran, J. Roane, O. Daugulis, *Angew. Chem.* **2013**, *125*, 6159; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2013**, *52*, 6043.
- [3] A. Chandra, J. N. Johnston, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, *123*, 7783; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 7641.
- [4] a) G. E. Keck, Y. B. Poudel, A. Rudra, J. C. Stephens, N. Kedei, N. E. Lewin, M. L. Peach, P. M. Blumberg, *Angew. Chem.* **2010**, *122*, 4684; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2010**, *49*, 4580; b) N. Kedei, E. Lubart, N. E. Lewin, A. Telek, L. Lim, P. Mannan, S. H. Garfield, M. B. Kraft, G. E. Keck, S. Kolusheva, R. Jelinek, P. M. Blumberg, *ChemBioChem* **2011**, *12*, 1242.
- [5] a) W.-c. Chang, Y. Xiao, H.-w. Liu, P. Liu, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, *123*, 12512; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 12304; b) J. Calveras, C. J. Thibodeaux, S. O. Mansoorabadi, H.-w. Liu, *ChemBioChem* **2012**, *13*, 42.

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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.