

## Humboldt and Bessel Research Awards

The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation has recently announced the latest recipients of the Alexander von Humboldt and Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel Research Awards, which allow outstanding international researchers to spend up to one year working on a long-term collaborative research project at a German research institution. We feature the recipients in the field of chemistry herein.

Humboldt Research Awards are valued at 60000 Euros and are given to scientists whose research has had a significant impact on their field of research.

**Anthony K. Cheetham** (University of Cambridge; hosted by Barbara Albert, Technische Universität Darmstadt) was featured here when he won the Nyholm Prize.<sup>[1a]</sup> He has recently reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on bond rearrangement and phase transformation in a metal-organic framework.<sup>[1b]</sup>

**Jeffrey A. Reimer** (University of California, Berkeley; hosted by Bernhard Blümich, RWTH Aachen) studied at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and carried out his PhD (awarded in 1980) with Robert Vaughan and Sunney Chan at the California Institute of Technology. After postdoctoral research with Marc Brodsky and Bruce Scott at the IBM Thomas J. Watson Research Center, he joined the faculty at the University of California, Berkeley, in 1982, and is currently Chair of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, Warren and Katharine Schlinger Distinguished Professor in Chemical Engineering, and C. Judson King Professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering. Reimer's research involves the application of NMR spectroscopy and imaging to materials research, including studying electron-nuclear interactions in semiconductors, and materials for gas separation. He has reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on CO<sub>2</sub> dynamics in metal-organic frameworks,<sup>[2a]</sup> and on ex situ NMR relaxometry of metal-organic frameworks.<sup>[2b]</sup>

**Timothy M. Swager** (Massachusetts Institute of Technology; hosted by Peter H. Seeberger, Max Planck Institute for Colloids and Interfaces) was featured here when he won the Centenary Prize.<sup>[1a]</sup> His most recent contribution to *Angewandte Chemie* is a report on the development of dithiolodithiole-containing conjugated materials.<sup>[3]</sup>

Bessel Research Awards are valued at 45000 Euros and are awarded to scientists who completed their doctorates less than 18 years ago and already have an outstanding track record.

**Takahiro Sasamori** (Kyoto University; hosted by Rainer Steubel, University of Bonn) studied at the University of Tokyo and was awarded his PhD

in 2002 for work supervised by Mizue Fujio and Norihiro Tokitoh at Kyushu University. After postdoctoral work with Norihiro Tokitoh at Kyoto University, he remained in the same group, where he is currently associate professor. Sasamori's research interests are in the synthesis of  $\pi$ -electron systems containing heavier main-group elements. He has reported in *Chemistry—A European Journal* on a 1-phospha-2-boraacenaphthene derivative,<sup>[4a]</sup> and in *Angewandte Chemie* on  $\pi$ -stacking of quasiplanar molecules in hole-transporting materials.<sup>[4b]</sup>

**Marcus Weck** (New York University; hosted by Rainer Haag, Freie Universität Berlin) studied at the University of Mainz and worked with Robert H. Grubbs at the California Institute of Technology for his PhD (awarded in 1998). After postdoctoral work with George M. Whitesides at Harvard University, he joined the faculty at the Georgia Institute of Technology. In 2007, he moved to New York University, where he is currently professor at the Molecular Design Institute and Department of Chemistry. Weck's research is focused on polymer chemistry and materials science, in particular supramolecular polymers. He has reported in *Chemistry—A European Journal* on dendrimer functionalization,<sup>[5a]</sup> and has recently discussed polymer-protein conjugates in a Feature Article in *Macromolecular Rapid Communications*.<sup>[5b]</sup> Weck is on the International Advisory Boards of *Macromolecular Rapid Communications* and *Macromolecular Chemistry and Physics*.

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- [4] a) A. Tsurusaki, T. Sasamori, N. Tokitoh, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2014**, *20*, 3752; b) A. Wakamiya, H. Nishimura, T. Fukushima, F. Suzuki, A. Saeki, S. Seki, I. Osaka, T. Sasamori, M. Murata, Y. Murata, H. Kaji, *Angew. Chem.* **2014**, *126*, 5910; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2014**, *53*, 5800.
- [5] a) T. P. Carberry, R. Tarallo, A. Falanga, E. Finamore, M. Galdiero, M. Weck, S. Galdiero, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2012**, *18*, 13678; b) D. E. Borchmann, T. P. Carberry, M. Weck, *Macromol. Rapid. Commun.* **2014**, *35*, 27.

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## Awarded ...



A. K. Cheetham



J. A. Reimer



T. M. Swager



T. Sasamori



M. Weck