CNRS Silver and Bronze Medals 2014

The French Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS; National Centre for Scientific Research) has recently honored several scientists with silver and bronze medals. We feature some of them here.

Jean-François Carpentier (Université Rennes 1) and **David Quéré** (ESPCI Paris Tech and École Polytechnique) have been awarded silver medals, which are presented for high-quality work that is both nationally and internationally recognized. Carpentier studied at the École Nationale Supérieure de Chimie de Lille, and carried out his PhD (awarded in 1992) with André Mortreux at the Université Lille 1. After postdoctoral work at the Commissariat à l'énergie atomique et aux énergies alternatives (CEA; French National Agency for Nuclear Energy), he joined the CNRS as a researcher at the Université Lille 1 in 1993, and spent the year 1997–1998 as a research associate with Richard F. Jordan at the University of Iowa. He was made Professor of Chemistry at the Université Rennes 1 in 2001. Carpentier's research interests are in the organometallic chemistry of Group 2–6 and 12–14 elements for polymerization catalysis and homogeneous catalysis, including hydroelementation reactions, for the synthesis of fine chemicals. He has reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on yttrium complexes as ring-opening polymerization catalysts.[1] Carpentier is on the Editorial Boards of *Chemistry—A European Journal* and the *European Journal of Inorganic Chemistry*.

Bronze medals are awarded to encourage promising early-career researchers. As well as the awardees featured below, **Jalal Ghilane** (Université Paris Diderot) was also honored in this category.

Géraldine Dantelle (École Polytechnique, Palaiseau) worked with Michel Mortier and Daniel Vivien at the Laboratoire de Chimie da la Matière Condensée de Paris, Université Marie et Pierre Curie, for her PhD, which was awarded in 2006. She subsequently carried out postdoctoral work with G. Andrew D. Briggs at the University of Oxford (2006–2008), and with Jean-François Roche at the Laboratoire de Photonique Quantique et Moléculaire, École Normale Supérieure, Cachan (2008–2009), and joined the CNRS as a chargée de recherche at the École Polytechnique in 2009. Dantelle's research is focused on inorganic light-emitting materials, in particular lanthanide-doped oxide nanoparticles. She has reported in *Advanced Optical Materials* on luminescent sol–gel films.[2]

Renaud Nicolaÿ studied at the École Supérieure de Chimie Organique et Minérale and the Université Pierre et Marie Curie, and was awarded PhD degrees supervised by Patrick Hémery at the latter institution in 2008, and also by Krzysztof Matyjaszewski at Carnegie Mellon University in 2009. After postdoctoral work with E. W. Meijer at the Technische Universiteit Eindhoven, he was made maître de conférences in the Laboratoire Matière Moll et Chimie at the ESPCI Paris Tech in 2010. Nicolaÿ's research involves macromolecular engineering, with particular emphasis on the design and development of dynamic organic and hybrid materials, such as vitrimers. He has recently discussed dispersible carbon nanotubes in a Concept article in *Chemistry—A European Journal*.[3]

Yann Pellegrin (Université de Nantes) was awarded his PhD in 2004 for work supervised by Ally Aukauloo at the Université Paris-Sud 11. From 2004–2007, he was a postdoctoral researcher with Robert J. Forster and Tia E. Keyes at the National Centre for Sensor Research, Dublin City University, and in 2007, he was made a CNRS chargé de recherche in the group of Fabrice Odobel at the Université de Nantes. Themes of Pellegrin's research include artificial photosynthesis and dye-sensitized solar cells, and he has reported on the latter topic in *ChemSusChem*.[4]

Fabrice Pointillart (Université Rennes 1) studied at the Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris, where he worked with Michel Verdaguer and Cyrille Train for his PhD (awarded in 2005). From 2005–2007, he was a postdoctoral researcher with Dante Gatteschi and Roberta Sessoli at the Università degli Studi di Firenze, and in 2007, he was made a CNRS chargé de recherche at the Institut des Sciences Chimiques de Rennes, Université de Rennes 1. Pointillart's research is focused on molecular multifunctional materials involving tetrathiafulvalene-based ligands, such as the ferromagnetic dysprosium complex that he reported in the *European Journal of Inorganic Chemistry*.[5]

David Touboul (Institut de Chimie des Substances Naturelles; ISCN) studied at the École Normale Supérieure de Cachan, and was awarded his PhD (supervised by Olivier Laprévote and Alain Brunelle) by the Université d'Evry Val d'Essone in 2006. He was subsequently a postdoctoral researcher with Renato Zenobi at the ETH Zurich, and he joined the CNRS as a chargé de recherche in 2008. He has contributed a chapter on laser-assisted mass spectrometry to the *Handbook of Spectroscopy*.[6]

Albrecht Kossel Prize for Roland Lill

Roland Lill (University of Marburg) is the recipient of the inaugural Albrecht Kossel Prize, which has been established by the Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker (GDCh; German Chemical Society) to recognize achievements in the field of biochemistry. Lill studied at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München (LMU), where he was awarded his PhD (supervised by Wolfgang Wintermeyer and

Featured ...

J.-F. Carpentier

G. Dantelle

R. Nicolaÿ

Y. Pellegrin

F. Pointillart

D. Touboul

R. Lill

P. R. Wich

F. M. Bickelhaupt

Hans Georg Zachau) in 1985. After postdoctoral research at the LMU (1986–1987) and with William T. Wickner at the University of California, Los Angeles (1987–1989), he returned to the LMU as Senior Research Assistant with Walter Neupert and completed his habilitation in 1995. In 1996, he moved to the University of Marburg, where he was made full professor in 2008. Lill's research interests are in the biosynthesis of iron–sulfur clusters (which he has discussed in a Minireview in *ChemBioChem*[7]) and their insertion into proteins in eukaryotic cells.

Innovation Prize in Medicinal/Pharmaceutical Chemistry for Peter R. Wich

Peter R. Wich (University of Mainz) has been awarded the Innovation Prize in Medicinal/Pharmaceutical Chemistry, which is presented jointly for outstanding research in the field by the Medicinal Chemistry Division of the GDCh and the Pharmaceutical/Medicinal Chemistry Division of the Deutsche Pharmazeutische Gesellschaft (DPhG; German Pharmaceutical Society). Wich studied at the University of Würzburg, where he worked under the supervision of Carsten Schmuck for his PhD (awarded in 2009). From 2009–2012, he carried out postdoctoral research with Jean M. J. Fréchet at the University of California, Berkeley, and in 2012, he was made assistant professor at the University of Mainz. His research is currently centered on the development of dynamic biomaterials in the form of multifunctional and biocompatible polymer platforms for the delivery of small-molecule drugs, proteins, and DNA/RNA. He has reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on enzyme inhibition with tetravalent ligands.[8]

F. Matthias Bickelhaupt Elected to the Royal Holland Society of Sciences and Humanities

F. Matthias Bickelhaupt (Vrije Universiteit (VU) Amsterdam and Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen) has been elected to the Koninklijke Hollandsche Maatschappij der Wetenschappen (KHMW; Royal Holland Society of Sciences and Humanities). Bickelhaupt studied at the VU Amsterdam and carried out his PhD (awarded in 1993) at the Universiteit van Amsterdam with Nico M. M. Nibbering and Evert Jan Baerends. From 1993–1997, he was a postdoctoral researcher with Paul von Ragué Schleyer (then at Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg), Tom Ziegler (University of Calgary), Roald Hoffmann (Cornell University), and Evert Jan Baerends (VU Amsterdam). From 1997–1999, he undertook his habilitation at the University of Marburg, and in 1999, he joined the faculty at the VU Amsterdam, where he is currently full professor. He was also made extraordinary professor at the Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen in 2012. Bickelhaupt is interested in developing chemical theories and methods for rationally designing molecules, nanostructures, and materials as well as chemical processes toward these compounds, based on quantum mechanics and advanced computer simulations. He has reported in *ChemPhysChem* on computational studies of rhodium-catalyzed reactions,[9a] and in *ChemistryOpen* on E2 versus S_N2 competition.[9b] Bickelhaupt is on the editorial or advisory boards of *Chemistry—An Asian Journal*, *Chemistry—A European Journal*, and *ChemistryOpen*.

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[9] a) L. Orian, M. Swart, F. M. Bickelhaupt, *ChemPhysChem* **2014**, *15*, 219; b) L. P. Wolters, Y. Ren, F. M. Bickelhaupt, *ChemistryOpen* **2014**, *3*, 29.

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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.