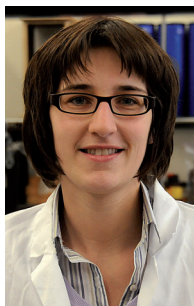


Featured ...

ADUC Prizes 2014



T. Gaich



V. H. Däschlein-Geßner



M. Sommer



K. Ray



F. D. Toste

The Arbeitsgemeinschaft Deutscher Universitätsprofessoren und -professorinnen für Chemie (ADUC; Association of German University Professors in Chemistry) awards up to three prizes annually to recipients who are not more than 33 years old and have not yet completed their habilitation. The winners of the 2014 prizes are Tanja Gaich (University of Hannover), Viktoria H. Däschlein-Geßner (University of Würzburg), and Michael Sommer (University of Freiburg).

**Tanja Gaich** studied at the Universities of Salzburg and Vienna, and worked with Johann Mulzer at the latter institution for her PhD (completed in 2009). After postdoctoral work with Phil S. Baran at The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla (2009–2010), she started her independent career at the University of Hannover, and has been supported by a Sofja Kovalevskaja Prize from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation since 2012. Her research is focused on the total synthesis of polycyclic natural products and methodology development to enable generalized access to structurally related natural product groups. Her recent contributions to *Angewandte Chemie* include a Minireview on the Witkop cyclization,<sup>[1a]</sup> and a report on the total synthesis of sarpagine alkaloids.<sup>[1b]</sup>

**Viktoria H. Däschlein-Geßner** studied at the Universities of Marburg and Würzburg, and obtained her PhD from the Technische Universität Dortmund in 2009 for work supervised by Carsten Strohmann. After postdoctoral research with T. Don Tilley at the University of California, Berkeley (2009–2010), she returned to Würzburg to work towards her habilitation. She was made junior research group leader funded by the Emmy Noether Program in 2012. Däschlein-Geßner's research interests involve organometallic and main-group metal chemistry with a focus on s-block metal compounds. Recent efforts have involved the application of carbenoid species and carbene complexes in bond-activation reactions and catalysis. She has reported in *Chemistry—A European Journal* on the formation of palladium carbene and thioetone complexes,<sup>[2a]</sup> and on methandiide as a non-innocent ligand in carbene complexes.<sup>[2b]</sup>

**Michael Sommer** studied at the University of Bayreuth, where he completed his PhD (supervised by Mukundan Thelakkat) in 2009. After postdoctoral work in Bayreuth, and with Wilhelm Huck at the University of Cambridge (2010–2012), he was made research group leader in the Department of Macromolecular Chemistry at the University of Freiburg. Sommer's research is centered on the synthesis and self-assembly behavior of a variety of conjugated and smart materials for use in organic

electronics and sensors. He is co-author of a report in *Angewandte Chemie* on the growth of poly(3-hexylthiophene) single crystals,<sup>[3a]</sup> and has reported in *Macromolecular Rapid Communications* on the simple synthesis of conjugated polymers.<sup>[3b]</sup>

Carl Duisberg Memorial Prize for Kallol Ray

Kallol Ray (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) is the winner of the 2015 Carl Duisberg Memorial Prize, which is awarded by the Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker (GDCh; German Chemical Society) to individuals under 40 years of age who do not hold a position as full professor. Ray was featured here when he was awarded the EurJIC–Wöhler Young Investigator Prize.<sup>[4a]</sup> He has recently reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on a low-spin cobalt(IV)-oxo complex.<sup>[4b]</sup>

Horst Pracejus Prize for F. Dean Toste

F. Dean Toste (University of California, Berkeley) is the recipient of the 2015 Horst Pracejus Prize. This honor is presented by the GDCh for achievements in the field of enantioselectivity or chirality. Toste, who was featured here when he won the Mukaiyama Award,<sup>[5a]</sup> has recently reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on the gold-catalyzed allylation of aryl boronic acids.<sup>[5b]</sup> He is also the recipient of the 2015 ACS Award for Creative Work in Synthetic Organic Chemistry.

Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize

The Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize is presented by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG; German Research Foundation), and comprises an award of up to 2.5 million Euros per awardee to allow outstanding scientists to broaden their research opportunities, employ talented co-workers, and be relieved of administrative duties. Eight awardees were announced in 2015, and we feature the three winners in the field of chemistry here.

**Hendrik Dietz** (Technische Universität München) was recognized for his research on DNA origami. Dietz was featured here when he won the Peter and Traudl Engelhorn Foundation Research Prize.<sup>[6a]</sup> He has recently reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on the preparation of pure and dense DNA origami solutions.<sup>[6b]</sup>

**Stefan Grimme** (University of Bonn) was honored for his seminal work in theoretical chemistry. Grimme was introduced here when he joined the Editorial Board of *Angewandte Chemie*,<sup>[7a]</sup> and he is also on the Editorial Advisory Board of *ChemistryOpen*. He has recently reported in *Chemistry—A European Journal* on Ge–N bond activation.<sup>[7b]</sup>

**Christian Hertweck** (Leibniz Institute for Natural Product Research and Infection Biology, Hans Knöll Institute (HKI), and University of Jena) was honored for his work on bioactive natural compounds. Hertweck studied at the University of Bonn and carried out his PhD (awarded in 1999) with Wilhelm Boland at the Max Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology, Jena. After postdoctoral research with Heinz G. Floss and Bradley S. Moore at the University of Washington, Seattle, he returned to the HKI as a junior research group leader, and completed his habilitation in 2006. He was subsequently made professor at the University of Jena and Head of the Biomolecular Chemistry Department of the HKI, where he was also made Deputy Director in 2008. Hertweck and his research group are interested in topics such as biosynthetic pathways of microbial secondary metabolism, symbiotic interactions, and the biosynthesis of natural products. His report on the biosynthesis of aspirochlorine was recently featured on the cover of *Angewandte Chemie*,<sup>[8a]</sup> and he has reported in *ChemBioChem* on the properties of an exopolysaccharide.<sup>[8b]</sup> Hertweck is on the Editorial Board of *ChemBioChem*. He is also the recipient of the 2014 Wilhelm Manchot Research Professorship from the Jürgen Manchot Foundation and the Chemistry Department of the Technische Universität München.

### Christina Moberg Elected President of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences

Christina Moberg (KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm) has been elected President of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, and will take office on July 1, 2015. Moberg, who is on the International Advisory Boards of *Angewandte Chemie*, *ChemPlusChem*, and the *European Journal of Organic Chemistry* was featured here when she was awarded the EuCheMS Lectureship.<sup>[9a]</sup> She has discussed chemistry in Sweden in an Editorial in *Angewandte Chemie*,<sup>[9b]</sup> and has recently reported in *ChemCatChem* on enantiomer recycling powered by carbon dioxide release.<sup>[9c]</sup>

### Yoshida Prize for Kuiling Ding

Kuiling Ding (Shanghai Institute for Organic Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences) has been awarded the inaugural Yoshida Prize by the International Organic Chemistry Foundation. This prize is awarded to honor organic chemists who are

active in Asian countries. Ding was featured here when he joined the International Advisory Board of *Angewandte Chemie*,<sup>[10a]</sup> and he is also on the Editorial or International Advisory Boards of the *Asian Journal of Organic Chemistry*, *Chemistry—A European Journal*, and *ChemPlusChem*. His latest contribution to *Angewandte Chemie* is a report on iridium-catalyzed asymmetric hydrogenation reactions.<sup>[10b]</sup>

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H. Dietz



S. Grimme



C. Hertweck



C. Moberg



K. Ding