American Chemical Society 2015 National Award Winners

The American Chemical Society (ACS) has honored several outstanding scientists in its National Awards program. We feature some of the winners who are associated with *Angewandte Chemie* and its sister journals as authors and referees, and also congratulate those previously highlighted here: **Karl O. Christe** (University of Southern California; ACS Award for Creative Research and Applications of Iodine Chemistry),[1a] **Véronique Gouverneur** (University of Oxford; ACS Award for Creative Work in Fluorine Chemistry),[1b] **Geoffrey W. Coates** (Cornell University; ACS Award in Applied Polymer Science),[1c] **John T. Groves** (Princeton University; ACS Award in Inorganic Chemistry),[1d] **Thomas J. Colacot** (Johnson Matthey; ACS Award in Industrial Chemistry),[1e] **Mark E. Thompson** (University of Southern California; ACS Award in the Chemistry of Materials),[1f] **Gary A. Molander** (University of Pennsylvania; Herbert C. Brown Award for Creative Research in Synthetic Methods),[1g] **Paul A. Wender** (Stanford University; Arthur C. Cope Award),[1h] and **Jin-Quan Yu** (The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla; Elias J. Corey Award for Outstanding Original Contribution in Organic Synthesis by a Young Investigator).[1i]

Jacqueline K. Barton (California Institute of Technology)[2] is the recipient of the Priestley Medal, which is the highest honor of the ACS and is awarded for distinguished service to chemistry.

Kim R. Dunbar (Texas A&M University) is the recipient of the ACS Award for Distinguished Service in the Advancement of Inorganic Chemistry. Dunbar studied at Westminster College, Pennsylvania, and carried out her PhD (awarded in 1984) with Richard A. Walton at Purdue University. After postdoctoral research with F. Albert Cotton at Texas A&M University (1985–1986), she joined the faculty at Michigan State University in 1987. She moved to Texas A&M University in 1999. Dunbar's research is focused on structure–bonding relationships in molecular magnetic and conducting materials, and in metal-based drugs.[3]

William J. Evans (University of California, Irvine) is the recipient of the ACS Award in Organometallic Chemistry. Evans studied at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and worked with M. Frederick Hawthorne at the California Institute of Technology for his PhD (awarded in 1973). He undertook postdoctoral studies with Earl L. Muetterties at Cornell University (1973–1975), and began his independent career at the University of Chicago in 1975. He joined the University of California, Irvine, in 1982. Evans and his research group are interested in the chemistry of the lanthanoids, actinoids, yttrium, and bismuth.[4]

Larry E. Overman (University of California, Irvine) is the recipient of the Roger Adams Award in Organic Chemistry. Overman studied at Earlham College, Indiana, and worked with Howard W. Whitlock, Jr. at the University of Wisconsin–Madison for his PhD (awarded in 1969). After postdoctoral research with Ronald Breslow at Columbia University (1969–1971), he was appointed to the faculty at the University of California, Irvine. Overman's research interests are centered on the invention of new transformations and strategies in organic synthesis, the total synthesis of natural products and their congeners, and medicinal chemistry.[5]

Michael A. Marletta (The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla) is the recipient of the Alfred Bader Award in Bioinorganic or Bioorganic Chemistry. Marletta studied at the State University of New York at Fredonia, and received his PhD in 1978 for work supervised by George L. Kenyon at the University of California, San Francisco. After postdoctoral work with Christopher Walsh at MIT, he joined the faculty there in 1980. In 1987, he moved to the University of Michigan, and in 2001, he was appointed to the University of California, Berkeley. In 2011, he joined The Scripps Research Institute. Marletta's principal research interests lie at the interface of chemistry and biology, with an emphasis on the study of protein function and enzyme reaction mechanisms.[6]

Eric T. Kool (Stanford University) is the recipient of the Ronald Breslow Award for Achievement in Biomimetic Chemistry. Kool studied at Miami University, Ohio, and worked with Ronald Breslow at Columbia University for his PhD (awarded in 1988). From 1988–1990, he was a postdoctoral fellow with Peter B. Dervan at the California Institute of Technology, and in 1990, he started his independent career at the University of Rochester. In 1999, he moved to Stanford University. Kool's current research involves studying the properties and functions of RNA and DNA, with particular interest in RNA structures and modifications in vivo, and the development of chemical methods to detect, study, modulate, and mimic them.[7] He is on the Editorial Board of *ChemBioChem*.

Hilkka I. Kenttämaa (Purdue University) is the recipient of the Frank H. & Joe L. Franklin Award for Outstanding Achievement in Mass Spectrometry. Kenttämaa studied at Helsinki University, where she completed her PhD (supervised by Pekka Hirsjärvi) in 1986. She then joined Purdue University as a postdoctoral research associate (1986) and assistant research scientist (1987–1989) with R. Graham Cooks, and was subsequently appointed to the faculty there. Kenttämaa's research program includes the carbon-centered aromatic di- and polyradicals, and the development of mass spectrometric methods.[8]

Awarded ...

J. K. Barton

K. R. Dunbar

W. J. Evans

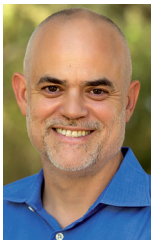
L. E. Overman

M. A. Marletta

E. T. Kool


H. I. Kenttämaa


T. R. Hoye


F. Romesberg


C. L. Perrin


J. G. Chen


M. Brookhart

Thomas R. Hoye (University of Minnesota) is the recipient of the Ernest Guenther Award in the Chemistry of Natural Products. Hoye studied at Bucknell University, Pennsylvania, and worked with R. B. Woodward at Harvard University for his PhD (awarded in 1976). He subsequently joined the faculty at the University of Minnesota. Hoye and his research group are interested in the development of new strategies for the total synthesis of natural products.[9]

Floyd Romesberg (The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla) is the recipient of the Nobel Laureate Signature Award for Graduate Education, which was awarded jointly with graduate student Denis Malyshev. Romesberg studied at Ohio State University and Cornell University, and received his PhD (supervised by David B. Collum) in 1994. He was subsequently a postdoctoral researcher with Peter G. Schultz at the University of California, Berkeley (1994–1998), and he joined the faculty at The Scripps Research Institute in 1998. Romesberg is interested in unnatural base pairs, the development of broad-spectrum antibiotics, protein dynamics, and DNA damage and repair.[10]

Charles L. Perrin (University of California, San Diego) is the recipient of the James Flack Norris Award in Physical Organic Chemistry. Perrin studied at Harvard College and Harvard University, and received his PhD (supervised by Frank H. Westenheimer) from the latter institution in 1963. After postdoctoral research with Andrew Streitwieser, Jr. at the University of California, Berkeley, he started his independent career at the University of California, San Diego, in 1964 and remains there to this day. Perrin's research interests are in molecular structure and in mechanisms of organic reactions, including malonic anhydrides, kinetic and equilibrium isotope effects, and the symmetry of hydrogen bonds.[11]

Jingguang G. Chen (Columbia University) is the recipient of the George A. Olah Award in Hydrocarbon or Petroleum Chemistry. Chen studied at Nanjing University, and carried out his PhD (awarded in 1988) with John T. Yates, Jr. at the University of Pittsburgh. From 1988–1989, he was a postdoctoral fellow with Harald Ibach at the Forschungszentrum Jülich, and from 1990–1998, he was a staff scientist at the Exxon Corporate Research Laboratory, New Jersey. He joined the faculty at the University of Delaware in 1998, and in 2012, he was made Thayer Lindsley Professor of Chemical Engineering at Columbia University, and also senior chemist at the Brookhaven National Laboratory. Chen's research program involves developing metal carbides and bimetallic alloys as catalysts and electrocatalysts, and investigating the structural and electronic properties of catalysts.[12]

Maurice Brookhart (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) is the recipient of the Gabor A. Somorjai Award for Creative Research in Catalysis. Brookhart studied at Johns Hopkins University, and worked with Saul Winstein at the University of California, Los Angeles, for his PhD (awarded in 1968). After postdoctoral work at the same institution (1968) and the University of Southampton (1968–1969), he started his independent career at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Brookhart's research interests include C–H bond-activation reactions for hydrocarbon conversion and dual-catalytic systems for alkane metathesis.[13]

[1] a) *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 10221; *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, *124*, 10367; b) *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 10763; *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, *123*, 10951; c) *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 9972; *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, *124*, 10112; d) *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 9214; *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, *124*, 9348; e) *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 6563; *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, *124*, 6667; f) *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 7630; *Angew. Chem.* **2014**, *124*, 7748; g) *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2014**, *53*, 1477; *Angew. Chem.* **2014**, *126*, 1501; h) *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2014**, *53*, 627; *Angew. Chem.* **2014**, *126*, 640; i) *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 576; *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, *123*, 600.

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