

Merck–Banyu Lectureship Award for Jun Takaya

The Merck–Banyu Lectureship Award is sponsored and administered by Merck Research Laboratories and Banyu Life Science Foundation International, and is presented to Japanese researchers under the age of 40 for achievements in the field of synthetic organic chemistry. The winner of the 2014 award is Jun Takaya (Tokyo Institute of Technology; Tokyo Tech), who was recognized for his work in the development of multifunctional ligands for transition-metal catalysts. Takaya carried out his PhD (awarded in 2004) with Nobuharu Iwasawa at Tokyo Tech. After postdoctoral research with John F. Hartwig at Yale University, he returned to Iwasawa's group at Tokyo Tech, where he is currently associate professor. Takaya's research interests are in the development of new transition-metal complexes and their utilization in synthetic chemistry to achieve new molecular transformations. He has reported in *Chemistry—A European Journal* on the generation of acylcobalt species,^[1a] and on the mechanism of β -hydrogen elimination and hydrometalation at palladium.^[1b]

New Members of the Bavarian Academy of Sciences and Humanities

The Bavarian Academy of Sciences and Humanities recently elected several new members, including **Matthias Rief** (Technische Universität München), who was featured here when he was elected to the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina,^[2] and **Todd B. Marder** (University of Würzburg). Marder studied at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and worked with M. Frederick Hawthorne at the University of California, Los Angeles, for his PhD (awarded in 1981). From 1981–1983, he carried out postdoctoral research with F. Gordon A. Stone at the University of Bristol, and from 1983–1985, he was a visiting research scientist at DuPont, Delaware. In 1985, he started his independent career at the University of Waterloo (Canada), and in 1997, he was made Professor and Chair of Inorganic Chemistry at the University of Durham (UK). In 2012, he moved to the University of Würzburg, where he is currently Professor and Chair of Inorganic Chemistry. Marder's research interests are in synthetic chemistry and homogeneous catalysis, including the synthesis and properties of organometallic, metalloboron, organoboron, and organic compounds. He has reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on conjugated thienylboranes,^[3a] and in *Chemistry—A European Journal* on donor-(π -spacer)-acceptor triarylboron compounds.^[3b]

Heinz Maier-Leibnitz Prize

The Heinz Maier-Leibnitz Prize is awarded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG; German Research Foundation) to recognize the outstanding work of young researchers and assist them in advancing their scientific careers, and comprises a sum of €20000. Ten young scientists have been recently announced as winners of the 2015 awards, including **Pavel Levkin** (Karlsruhe Institute of Technology), who was featured here when he won the Ewald Wicke Prize,^[4a] and has recently reported in *Advanced Materials* on UV-triggered polymerization.^[4b]

And also in the News

Two scientists in the field of analytical chemistry were recently recognized. **Günter Gauglitz** (University of Tübingen) has been awarded the Clemens Winkler Medal by the Analytical Chemistry Division of the Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker (GDCh; German Chemical Society). Gauglitz was featured here when he was honored with the GDCh Carl Duisberg Memorial Plaque.^[5] **Detlef Günther** (ETH Zurich) has received the Emich Plaque from the Österreichische Gesellschaft für Analytische Chemie (Austrian Society of Analytical Chemistry). Günther was highlighted here when he was elected to the Leopoldina.^[2] He is the co-author of a chapter on laser ablation inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry in the *Handbook of Spectroscopy*, which is edited by Günter Gauglitz and David S. Moore.^[6]

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- [2] *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2014**, *53*, 12671; *Angew. Chem.* **2014**, *126*, 12881.
- [3] a) X. Yin, J. Chen, R. A. Lalancette, T. B. Marder, F. Jäkle, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2014**, *53*, 9761; *Angew. Chem.* **2014**, *126*, 9919; b) Z. Zhang, R. M. Edkins, J. Nitsch, K. Fücke, A. Eichhorn, A. Steffen, Y. Wang, T. B. Marder, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2015**, *21*, 177.
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- [5] *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 12929; *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, *124*, 13103.
- [6] "Laser Ablation Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry (LA-ICPMS)": B. Hattendorf, D. Günther in *Handbook of Spectroscopy: Second, Enlarged Edition* (Eds.: G. Gauglitz, D. S. Moore), Wiley-VCH, Weinheim, **2014**.

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Featured ...



J. Takaya



M. Rief



T. B. Marder



P. Levkin



G. Gauglitz



D. Günther