

Canadian Society for Chemistry Awards 2015

The Canadian Society for Chemistry (CSC) has honored several outstanding scientists in its 2015 awards scheme. We feature the awardees who are more frequent authors for *Angewandte Chemie* and its sister journals.

Michael A. Kerr (University of Western Ontario) is the recipient of the Alfred Bader Award, which is given for excellent work in organic chemistry. Kerr studied at the University of Waterloo and worked with Marcus Tius at the University of Hawaii for his PhD (awarded in 1991). After postdoctoral research with K. C. Nicolaou at The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla (1991–1993), he began his independent career at Acadia University, Nova Scotia. In 1999 he moved to the University of Western Ontario, where he is currently Professor of Chemistry. Kerr's research focuses on the development of new methods related to heterocyclic chemistry and the application of these methods to the total synthesis of complex targets. He has reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on the synthesis of tetrasubstituted pyrroles from donor–acceptor cyclopropanes.^[1]

Dmitrii F. Perepichka (McGill University) is the winner of the Award for Research Excellence in Materials Chemistry. Perepichka received his PhD (supervised by A. F. Popov) from the Academy of Science of Ukraine in 1999, and carried out postdoctoral research with Martin R. Bryce at the University of Durham (1999–2001) and with Fred Wudl at the University of California, Los Angeles (2001–2002). In 2003, he started his independent career at the Institut National de la Recherche Scientifique/Université de Québec, and in 2005, he moved to McGill University, where he is currently full professor. Perepichka's current research is focused on the area of organic electronic materials, which includes synthesis of novel conjugated molecules and polymers, their self-assembly and reactions on crystalline surfaces, their interaction with nanomaterials, and their applications in molecular and thin-film electronics. His report on polymorphism in thienothiophene–thiazolothiazole organic semiconductors was recently featured on the cover of *ChemPhysChem*.^[2]

Andrei K. Yudin (University of Toronto) has been honored with the Bernard Belleau Award, which is awarded for contributions to the field of medicinal chemistry. Yudin studied at Moscow State University and carried out his PhD (awarded in 1996) with George A. Olah and G. K. Surya Prakash at the University of Southern California. After postdoctoral research with K. Barry Sharpless at The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla (1996–1998), he joined the faculty at the University of Toronto in 1998, and is currently Professor of

Chemistry. Yudin's research program includes organic synthesis, synthetic methodology, and biologically active macrocycles, in particular the development and applications of amphoteric molecules. He has reported in *Chemistry—A European Journal* on macrocyclic peptide scaffolds.^[3]

André Beauchemin (University of Ottawa) is the recipient of the Boehringer Ingelheim Research Excellence Award, which is presented for research in medically relevant organic or biophysical chemistry. Beauchemin was featured here when he won an AstraZeneca Excellence in Chemistry Award.^[4a] He has recently reported in *Chemistry—A European Journal* on a cascade synthesis of aminohydantoins.^[4b]

Laurel L. Schafer (University of British Columbia) has been honored with the Clara Benson Award, which is presented to female recipients in recognition of their outstanding contributions to chemistry. Schafer studied at the University of Guelph, and worked with David J. Berg at the University of Victoria for her PhD (awarded in 1999). After postdoctoral work with T. Don Tilley at the University of California, Berkeley (1999–2001), she joined the faculty at the University of British Columbia in 2001, and is currently professor. Schafer's research specializes in organometallic catalysis for organic synthesis, including investigations on reaction kinetics and mechanisms. She has reported in the *Zeitschrift für anorganische und allgemeine Chemie* on zirconium precatalysts for the intramolecular hydroamination of aminoalkenes.^[5]

Janine Mauzeroll (McGill University) is the winner of the Fred Beamish Award, which is presented for work in analytical chemistry that has potential for practical applications. Mauzeroll studied at McGill University, and worked with Allen J. Bard at the University of Texas at Austin for her PhD (completed in 2004). From 2004–2005, she was a postdoctoral researcher with Jean-Michel Savéant and Damien Marchal and subsequently temporary lecturer at the Université Paris Diderot (Paris 7), and in 2005 she joined the faculty at the Université du Québec à Montréal. She was also adjunct professor at Concordia University from 2006–2011. She moved to McGill University in 2012. Mauzeroll and her research group are interested in topics such as bioelectrochemistry, electrochemical probe development, the corrosion of magnesium alloys, and lithium ion batteries. She has reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on micro-electrochemical surface patterning.^[6]

Derek A. Pratt (University of Ottawa) is the winner of the Keith Fagnou Award, which is given for outstanding research in organic chemistry. Pratt studied at Carleton University, Ottawa, and carried out his PhD (awarded in 2003) with Ned A. Porter at Vanderbilt University, Nashville. From 2003–

Awarded ...



M. A. Kerr



D. F. Perepichka



A. K. Yudin



A. Beauchemin



L. L. Schafer



J. Mauzeroll



D. A. Pratt



C.-J. Li



M. Murugesu



D. M. Perrin

2005, he was a postdoctoral researcher with Wilfred A. van der Donk at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and in 2005, he started his independent career at Queen's University. He moved to the University of Ottawa in 2010, and is currently associate professor, Canada Research Chair, and Director of Graduate Studies in Chemistry. He has recently reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on a biomimetic synthesis of resveratrol dimers.^[7]

Chao-Jun Li (McGill University) is the recipient of the R. U. Lemieux Award, which is presented for achievements in organic chemistry. Li carried out his PhD (awarded in 1992) under the supervision of Tak-Hang Chan and David N. Harpp at McGill University, and was a postdoctoral fellow with Barry M. Trost at Stanford University from 1992–1994. He started his independent career at Tulane University in 1994, and he moved to McGill University in 2003. He is currently a Canada Research Chair in Green Chemistry and also E. B. Eddy Chair Professor at McGill University. Li's research involves the development of green chemistry for organic synthesis, including Grignard-type reactions in water, alkyne–aldehyde–amine coupling, and cross-dehydrogenative-coupling reactions. He has recently reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on the rhodium(I)-catalyzed dimerization of aromatic acids.^[8]

Muralee Murugesu (University of Ottawa) has been recognized with the Strem Chemicals Award for Pure or Applied Inorganic Chemistry. Murugesu studied at the Université Paris Diderot and the University of East Anglia, and was awarded his PhD in 2002 for work supervised by Annie K. Powell at the University of Karlsruhe. After postdoctoral research with George Christou at the University of Florida (2002–2005) and Jeffrey R. Long and Stanley B. Prusiner at the University of California, Berkeley and San Francisco, respectively (2005–2006), he joined the faculty at the University of Ottawa in 2006 and is currently full professor and University Research Chair in Nanotechnology. Murugesu's research is directed towards the design and development of nanomaterials for applications in molecular electronics and energy storage. He has reported in the *European Journal of Inorganic Chemistry* on mercury(II) coordination polymers.^[9]

David M. Perrin (University of British Columbia) is the winner of the Teva Canada Limited Biological and Medicinal Chemistry (BMC) Lectureship Award. Perrin studied at the University of

California, Berkeley, and worked with David S. Sigman at the University of California, Los Angeles for his PhD (awarded in 1995). From 1995–2000, he was a postdoctoral fellow with Claude Hélène at the Laboratoire de Biophysique, Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, and in 2000, he joined the faculty at the University of British Columbia, where he is currently full professor. Perrin's interests in bioorganic chemistry extend broadly to new protein-mimicking nucleic acid catalysts, ribozymology, the synthesis of peptide natural products, and using boronic acids to capture [¹⁸F]fluoride in water for the one-step labeling of biomolecules for PET imaging. His report on the latter topic was featured on a cover of *Angewandte Chemie*.^[10]

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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.