

Awarded ...



G. A. Ozin



S. Ashbrook



A. N. Khlobystov



S. T. Liddle



M. G. Kanatzidis



A. B. Chaplin

Royal Society of Chemistry Prizes and Awards 2015

The Royal Society of Chemistry has recently announced the winners of its 2015 prizes and awards. We congratulate all those who were honored, including **Amos B. Smith III** (University of Pennsylvania; Perkin Prize for Organic Chemistry),^[1] and feature a selection of the awardees. A second instalment will be published in a future issue.

The Centenary Prizes give overseas researchers opportunities to present lectures in the British Isles. The 2015 winners are **Chad A. Mirkin** (Northwestern University),^[2] **Jean-Marie Tarascon** (Collège de France),^[3] and **Geoffrey A. Ozin** (University of Toronto). Ozin studied at King's College London, and carried out his doctorate (awarded in 1967) with Ian R. Beattie at the University of Oxford. After a research fellowship with Beattie at the University of Southampton (1967–1969), he joined the faculty at the University of Toronto, where he remains to this day and is currently Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Materials Chemistry and Distinguished University Professor. Ozin's research interests are in nanochemistry, including solar cells, artificial photosynthesis, and the study of silicon nanocrystals. He has recently reported in *ChemSusChem* on ultrathin hematite films for water splitting.^[4]

The Corday–Morgan Prizes are awarded to individuals under the age of 40 for meritorious work.

Sharon E. M. Ashbrook (University of St Andrews) studied at the University of Oxford, where she completed her doctorate (supervised by Stephen Wimperis) in 2000. After postdoctoral research with Wimperis at the University of Exeter (2000–2002), she was a research fellow at the University of Cambridge (2002–2005). In 2005, she moved to the University of St Andrews, where she was made Professor in Physical Chemistry in 2013. Ashbrook's research program focuses on high-resolution multinuclear NMR spectroscopy to investigate structure, disorder, and dynamics in the solid state. She is co-author of a report in *Chemistry—A European Journal* on tellurium–tellurium spin–spin coupling.^[5]

Andrei N. Khlobystov (University of Nottingham) studied at Moscow State University and worked with Martin Schröder and Neil R. Champness at the University of Nottingham for his PhD (awarded in 2001). After postdoctoral research at the University of Oxford (2002–2004), he returned to Nottingham, where he is currently Professor of Nanomaterials and Director of the Nottingham Nanotechnology and Nanoscience Centre. Khlobystov is interested in areas such as carbon nanomaterials, nanocontainers, nanoreactors, and trans-

mission electron microscopy. He has recently reported in *Small* on the latter topic.^[6]

Stephen T. Liddle (University of Nottingham) studied at Newcastle University, where he was awarded his PhD in 2000 for work supervised by William Clegg. After postdoctoral work with Philip Bailey at the University of Edinburgh (2000–2001), he returned to Newcastle as a research fellow working in collaboration with Keith Izod (2001–2003). In 2004, he moved to the University of Nottingham as a research fellow with Polly L. Arnold. He subsequently joined the faculty there and was made Professor of Inorganic Chemistry in 2013. Liddle's research interests encompass metal–ligand multiple bonding, metal–metal bonding, small-molecule activation, electronic structure elucidation, and single-molecule magnetism of f-block-element complexes, with a particular focus on uranium. He is Editor of the recently published book *Molecular Metal–Metal Bonds*.^[7]

The De Gennes Prize is awarded for outstanding contributions in the area of materials chemistry, and **Mercouri G. Kanatzidis** (Northwestern University) is the recipient of the 2015 prize. Kanatzidis is featured in an Author Profile in this issue.^[8a] He has reported in the *European Journal of Inorganic Chemistry* on the flux crystal growth of LaPtGe₂.^[8b]

The Harrison–Meldola Memorial Prize is awarded to chemists under the age of 35 for promising original work.

Adrian B. Chaplin (University of Warwick) studied at Massey University and carried out his doctorate with Paul J. Dyson at the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne. He was subsequently a research fellow (2009–2011) with Michael C. Willis and Andrew S. Weller at the University of Oxford, and reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on rhodium-catalyzed regioselective hydroacylation reactions.^[9] He joined the University of Warwick in 2011. Chaplin's research involves the synthetic organometallic chemistry of late-transition-metal complexes.

Robert S. Paton (University of Oxford) studied at the University of Cambridge, where he obtained his PhD in 2008 for work supervised by Jonathan Goodman. He was a research fellow at Cambridge (2008–2009; with a period spent with Feliu Maseras at the ICIQ, Tarragona), and with Kendall N. Houk at the University of California, Los Angeles (2009–2010), and joined the faculty at the University of Oxford in 2010. Paton's research explores the structure and reactivity of organic compounds through computation, resulting in predictions of structures and catalysts, and collaborations with experimentalists. He has recently reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on a catalytic asymmetric desymmetrization reaction.^[10]

David O. Scanlon (University College London; UCL) studied at Trinity College Dublin, where he

worked with Graeme W. Watson for his PhD (awarded in 2011). After postdoctoral work in Dublin, he was a research fellow working in collaboration with Richard Catlow at UCL (2011–2013), and was made lecturer at UCL and the Diamond Light Source in 2013. Scanlon's research is focused on the rational design of materials for renewable energy applications, encompassing materials for photovoltaics and lithium-ion batteries. He has recently reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on Schottky defect formation in hybrid halide perovskites.^[11]

The Tilden Prizes are awarded to mid-career researchers under the age of 55 for advances in chemistry. **Leroy Cronin** (University of Glasgow)^[12] and **David Wales** (University of Cambridge) were also honored in this category.

Mark Bradley (University of Edinburgh) studied at the University of Oxford, where he completed his doctorate (supervised by Jack E. Baldwin) in 1989. After postdoctoral work with Chris Walsh at the Harvard Medical School (1989–1992), he started his independent career at the University of Southampton in 1992. He was made Professor of Chemical Biology at the University of Edinburgh in 2005. Bradley and his group are interested in polymer microarray technology, probes for in vivo optical imaging, and bioorthogonal chemistry. He has reported in *Chemistry—A European Journal* on photoluminescent carbon dots.^[13]

Yi Lu (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) is the winner of the Applied Inorganic Chemistry Award. Lu studied at Peking University, and worked with Joan S. Valentine at the University of California, Los Angeles, for his PhD (awarded in 1992). From 1992–1994, he was a postdoctoral research fellow with Harry B. Gray at the California Institute of Technology, and in 1994, he joined the faculty at the University of Illinois, where he is currently Jay and Ann Schenck Professor of Chemistry. Lu's research program includes functional metalloproteins, and the study and applications of DNAzymes and nanomaterials. He has reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on photocaged DNAzymes.^[14] Lu is on the International Advisory Board of *Chemistry—An Asian Journal*.

J. Stephen Clark (University of Glasgow) has been honored with the Bader Award, which is presented for outstanding work in organic chemistry. Clark studied at the University of Edinburgh and carried out his PhD (completed in 1988) with Andrew B. Holmes at the University of Cambridge. After postdoctoral work with David A. Evans at

Harvard University, he joined the faculty at the University of Nottingham in 1990. He was made Chair of Organic Chemistry at the University of Glasgow in 2006. Clark's research concerns the development of new synthetic transformations and novel strategies for the total synthesis of complex bioactive natural products. His latest contribution to *Angewandte Chemie* is a report on Brønsted acid promoted cascade reactions.^[15]

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- [7] *Molecular Metal–Metal Bonds* (Ed.: S. T. Liddle), Wiley-VCH, Weinheim, **2015**.
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International Edition: DOI: 10.1002/anie.201505213

German Edition: DOI: 10.1002/ange.201505213



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