

Humboldt and Bessel Research Awards 2014–2015

Awarded ...



A. Brik



P. Diaconescu



S.-Y. Liu



P. Naumov

The Humboldt and Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel Research Awards are granted annually by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and allow scientists to spend a period of up to one year at a German host institution in order to collaborate on a research project. The Humboldt Research Awards are valued at €60 000 and are given to researchers whose work has had a major overall impact on the field. The Bessel Research Awards are valued at €45 000 and are given to internationally renowned scientists who completed their doctorates less than 18 years ago. All the Humboldt and Bessel Research Award winners from October 2014 to March 2015 in the field of chemistry are given in Table 1, and we highlight the awardees who are

Table 1: Humboldt and Bessel Award winners in chemistry 2014–2015.

Awardee	Host
Heather C. Allen (Ohio State University)	Martina Havenith-Newen (Ruhr-Universität Bochum)
Ashraf Brik (Technion–Israel Institute of Technology)	Roderich Süßmuth (Technische Universität Berlin)
Paula Diaconescu (UCLA)	Karsten Meyer (Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg)
Stefano Fabris (Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche)	Ulrich Herz (Technische Universität München)
Song-I Han (University of California, Santa Barbara)	Martina Havenith-Newen (Ruhr-Universität Bochum)
Shih-Yuan Liu (Boston College)	Alexander Pines (University of California, Berkeley)
Pance Naumov (New York University Abu Dhabi)	Holger Bettinger (University of Tübingen)
Bruce Parkinson (University of Wyoming)	Robert E. Dinnebier (Max Planck Institute for Solid-State Research, Stuttgart)
Warren E. Piers (University of Calgary)	Wolfram Jaegermann (Technische Universität Darmstadt)
Gustavo E. Scusera (Rice University)	Reiner Anwander (University of Tübingen)
Michinori Sugimoto (Kyoto University)	Matthias Robert Scheffler (FHI of the Max Planck Society, Berlin)
Peter Wipf (University of Pittsburgh)	Armando Studer (University of Münster)
Tehshik Peter Yoon (University of Wisconsin–Madison)	Carsten Bolm (RWTH Aachen)
Eugene R. Zubarev (Rice University)	Thorsten Bach (Technische Universität München)
	Markus Antonietti (Max Planck Institute for Colloid and Surface Chemistry, Potsdam)

associated with *Angewandte Chemie* and its sister journals as authors, referees, or board members.

Ashraf Brik was featured here when he won the Israel Chemical Society Excellent Young Scientist Prize.^[1a] His most recent contribution to *Angewandte Chemie* is a report on ubiquitinated and glycosylated H2B.^[1b] Brik is on the International Advisory Board of the *Asian Journal of Organic Chemistry*. He was also recently honored with the 11th Hirata Award, which was established in 2004 in memory of Yoshimasa Hirata (Nagoya University). This honor is presented to leading young scientists in the field of organic chemistry, who give an award lecture at Nagoya University.

Paula Diaconescu studied at the University of Bucharest and worked with Christopher Cummins at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for her PhD (awarded in 2003). After postdoctoral work with Robert H. Grubbs at the California Institute of Technology (2003–2005), she joined the faculty at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), where she is currently associate professor. Diaconescu and her group are currently interested in the design of reactive metal complexes with applications to small-molecule activation, organic synthesis, and polymer formation. She has reported in the *European Journal of Inorganic Chemistry* on P₄ activation by rare-earth-metal complexes.^[2]

Shih-Yuan Liu was recently featured in an Author Profile.^[3a] His most recent contribution to *Angewandte Chemie* is a report on the Diels–Alder reactions of 1,2-azaborines.^[3b]

Pance Naumov studied at the Ss. Cyril and Methodius University, Macedonia, and worked with Yuji Ohashi at the Tokyo Institute of Technology for PhD (completed in 2004). After a research fellowship at the National Institute for Materials Science, Ibaraki (2004–2007), he joined the faculty at Osaka University in 2007 and moved to Kyoto University in 2012. In the same year, he was made associate professor at the New York University Abu Dhabi. He is also on the external staff of Ss. Cyril and Methodius University. Naumov's research is at the intersection of materials chemistry and photochemistry, and focuses on using solid-state photochemistry to design smart materials. His report on photoinduced leaping of single crystals was featured on the cover of *Angewandte Chemie*.^[4]

Warren E. Piers was also featured in an Author Profile.^[5a] He has reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on selective hydrosilylation reactions.^[5b]

Michinori Sugimoto received his PhD (supervised by Yoshihiko Ito) from Kyoto University in 1993. He subsequently joined the faculty there, and was made professor in 2004. He was a visiting researcher with Gregory C. Fu at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology from 1998–1999.

Suginome's research focuses on the development of molecular functions and transformations, including new organoboron reagents and chirality-switchable helical macromolecules for applications in chiral catalysis and chiroptical materials. His most recent contribution to *Angewandte Chemie* is a report on helical poly(quinoxaline-2,3-diyl)s.^[6] Suginome is on the International Advisory Board of the *Asian Journal of Organic Chemistry*.

Tehshik P. Yoon studied at Harvard University, and carried out his masters degree (awarded in 1998) with Erick M. Carreira and PhD (awarded in 2002) with David W. C. MacMillan at the California Institute of Technology. After postdoctoral research with Eric N. Jacobsen at Harvard University (2002–2005), he started his independent career at the University of Wisconsin–Madison in 2005 and was made Professor of Chemistry there in 2013. Yoon's research program involves the use of visible-light-absorbing transition-metal catalysts in organic synthesis and the use of this strategy in the design of stereoselective photochemical transformations. He has reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on [2 + 2] photocycloadditions of 1,3-dienes.^[7]

Eugene R. Zubarev studied at Moscow State University and worked with Raisa V. Talroze at the Russian Academy of Sciences for his PhD (awarded in 1997). From 1997–2002 he was a postdoctoral research associate with Samuel I. Stupp, firstly at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and then at Northwestern University. In 2002, he joined the faculty at Iowa State University, and in 2005, he moved to Rice University, where he is currently associate professor. Zubarev's research involves areas including the chemistry and biomedical applications of nanomaterials, molecular self-assembly, organic–inor-

ganic hybrid compounds, nanocatalysts, and amphiphilic block polymers. He has reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on gold nanorods functionalized by cationic thiolate monolayers.^[8]

- [1] a) *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 1515; *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, *124*, 1545; b) M. Seenaiiah, M. Jbara, S. M. Mali, A. Brik, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2015**, DOI: 10.1002/anie.201503309; *Angew. Chem.* **2015**, DOI: 10.1002/ange.201503309.
- [2] W. Huang, P. L. Diaconescu, *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **2013**, 4090.
- [3] a) *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2015**, *54*, 726; *Angew. Chem.* **2015**, *127*, 736; b) R. J. Burford, B. Li, M. Vasilu, D. A. Dixon, S.-Y. Liu, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2015**, *54*, 7823; *Angew. Chem.* **2015**, *127*, 7934.
- [4] R. Medishetty, A. Husain, Z. Bai, T. Runčevski, R. E. Dinnebier, P. Naumov, J. J. Vittal, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2014**, *53*, 5907; *Angew. Chem.* **2014**, *126*, 6017.
- [5] a) *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 3514; *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, *124*, 3572; b) F. A. LeBlanc, W. E. Piers, M. Parvez, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2014**, *53*, 789; *Angew. Chem.* **2014**, *126*, 808.
- [6] Y.-Z. Ke, Y. Nagata, T. Yamada, M. Suginome, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2015**, *54*, 9333; *Angew. Chem.* **2015**, *127*, 9465.
- [7] A. E. Hurtley, Z. Lu, T. P. Yoon, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2014**, *53*, 8991; *Angew. Chem.* **2014**, *126*, 9137.
- [8] L. Vigderman, P. Manna, E. R. Zubarev, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 636; *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, *124*, 660.

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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.



W. E. Piers



M. Suginome



T. P. Yoon



E. R. Zubarev