

## Priestley Medal for Mostafa El-Sayed

Mostafa El-Sayed (Georgia Institute of Technology) has been announced as the winner of the 2016 Priestley Medal, which is the highest honor that the American Chemical Society bestows. El-Sayed studied at Ain Shams University, Cairo, and worked with Raymond K. Sheline at Florida State University for his PhD. He subsequently carried out postdoctoral work with Richard Wolfgang at Yale University (1958–1959), Michael Kasha at Harvard University and Florida State University (1959–1960), and G. Wilse Robinson at the California Institute of Technology (1960–1961). In 1961, he joined the faculty at the University of California, Los Angeles, and in 1994, he moved to the Georgia Institute of Technology, where he is currently Regents' Professor and Julius Brown Chair. El-Sayed's research interests are based on nanoscience, including nanocatalysis, nanosensors, and nanomedicine (developing the use of gold nanorods for the photothermal treatment of cancer in animals).<sup>[1]</sup> El-Sayed is on the Editorial Board of *ChemPhysChem*.

## FPdGi Scientific Research Award for Samuel Sánchez Ordóñez

The Princess of Girona Foundation (FPdGi) presents several awards annually to "recognize the career of young people between 16 and 35 years old and an organization that has shown outstanding entrepreneurial capacity in innovative projects". Samuel Sánchez Ordóñez (Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems, Stuttgart, and Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia; IBEC) is the winner of the FPdGi Scientific Research Award 2015. Sánchez Ordóñez studied at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB), where he completed his PhD (supervised by Esteve Fàbregas-Martínez) in 2008. After a year on the faculty at the UAB, he joined the International Center for Young Scientists, National Institute for Materials Science, Tsukuba as an independent scientist mentored by Martin Pumera, and in 2010, he was made group leader at the Leibniz Institute for Solid State and Materials Research, Dresden. In 2013, he was appointed independent research group leader at the Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems, and since January 2015, he holds this position together with an ICREA research professorship at the IBEC. Sánchez Ordóñez and his group are currently interested in the development of nanobiodevices as smart drug-delivery systems and as new remediation systems for environmental applications, in particular self-powered micro- and nanorobots. He has recently published a Review on this topic in *Angewandte Chemie*.<sup>[2]</sup>

## FEMS Lwoff Award for Rudolf K. Thauer

Rudolf K. Thauer (Max Planck Institute for Terrestrial Microbiology, Marburg) is the winner of the 2015 FEMS Lwoff Award, which is presented by the Federation of European Microbiological Societies (FEMS) for "outstanding service to microbiology in Europe". Thauer studied at the Universities of Frankfurt and Tübingen, and carried out his doctorate (awarded in 1968) with Karl Decker at the University of Freiburg, where he subsequently completed his habilitation under the guidance of Kurt Jungermann in 1971. He was assistant professor in Freiburg from 1971–1972, and was on the faculty of the Ruhr-Universität Bochum from 1972–1976. From 1976–2005, he was Professor of Microbiology at the University of Marburg, and from 1991–2007, he was Director at the Max Planck Institute for Terrestrial Microbiology. Thauer's research interests are in the biochemistry, physiology, and ecology of anaerobic bacteria and archaea involved in the global methane cycle. He has published a Highlight in *Angewandte Chemie* on enzymatic C-methylation.<sup>[3]</sup> Thauer was on the Editorial Board of *Angewandte Chemie* from 2004–2011.

## And also in the News

**Eric N. Jacobsen** (Harvard University) is the winner of the 2015 Gustavus John Esselen Award for Chemistry in the Public Interest, which is presented by the Northeastern Section of the American Chemical Society. Jacobsen was featured here when he joined the International Advisory Board of *Angewandte Chemie*.<sup>[4]</sup> He is also on the International Advisory Boards of the *Asian Journal of Organic Chemistry* and *Chemistry—An Asian Journal*.

**Stefan Grimme** (University of Bonn) recently gave the Karl Ziegler Lecture at the Max Planck Institute for Coal Research, Mülheim. Grimme was introduced here when he joined the Editorial Board of *Angewandte Chemie*.<sup>[4]</sup> He is also on the Editorial Advisory Board of *ChemistryOpen*.

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- [3] W. Buckel, R. K. Thauer, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 10492; *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, *123*, 10676.
- [4] *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2014**, *53*, 38; *Angew. Chem.* **2014**, *126*, 40.

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## Awarded ...



M. El-Sayed



S. Sánchez Ordóñez



R. K. Thauer



E. N. Jacobsen



S. Grimme