Berliner Wissenschaftspreis for Peter Hegemann

Peter Hegemann (Humboldt-Universität (HU) zu Berlin) has been awarded the 2015 Berliner Wissenschaftspreis (Berlin Science Prize). This honor, which comprises €40000 for the winner's institution, is presented by the Mayor of Berlin to support outstanding scientific research that represents a basis for the further economic development of the city. Hegemann's research is centered on molecular photobiology, and he was honored for his work on optogenetics. He has reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on channelrhodopsins.[1] Hegemann studied at the University of Münster and the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München (LMU), and carried out his PhD (awarded in 1984) under the supervision of Dieter Oesterhelt at the Max Planck Institute (MPI) of Biochemistry, Martinsried. After postdoctoral work with Kenneth W. Foster at Syracuse University (1985–1986), he established a research group at the MPI for Biochemistry, and completed his habilitation at the LMU in 1992. In 1993, he was made Professor of Biochemistry at the University of Regensburg, and in 2004, he moved to the HU Berlin, where he is currently Hertie Senior Professor for Neuroscience.

Clara Immerwahr Award for Rebecca L. Melen

Rebecca L. Melen (Cardiff University) is the recipient of the 2016 Clara Immerwahr Award. This honor is given annually by the Cluster of Excellence UniCat to an early-career female researcher, and provides €15000 to support a research stay at UniCat. Melen studied at the University of Cambridge, where she completed her PhD (supervised by Dominic S. Wright) in 2012. After postdoctoral work with Douglas W. Stephan at the University of Toronto (2012–2013) and an Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship with Lutz H. Gade at the University of Heidelberg (2013–2014), she started her independent career at Cardiff University in 2014. Melen's research involves the catalytic properties of main-group elements as alternatives to conventional transition-metal catalysts, with particular focus on frustrated Lewis pairs and main-group-element Lewis acids. She is co-author of a report in *Chemistry—A European Journal* on the reactions of $B(C_6F_5)_3$ with propargyl amides,[2a] and a Microreview in the *European Journal of Inorganic Chemistry* on 1,3-bis(2-pyridylimino)isoindolines.[2b]

Chemistry for the Future Solvay Prize for Ben L. Feringa

The Chemistry for the Future Solvay Prize is worth €300000 and is awarded biennially by the Solvay Group for "a major scientific discovery that could shape tomorrow's chemistry and help human progress". The winner of the 2015 prize is Ben L. Feringa (University of Groningen), who was honored for his work on molecular motors. Feringa studied at the University of Groningen, where he received his PhD in 1978 for work supervised by Hans Wynberg. After working at Shell, he returned to the University of Groningen in 1983, and was made Jacobus H. van't Hoff Distinguished Professor of Molecular Sciences in 2003. Feringa's research involves synthetic, supramolecular, and physical organic chemistry with a focus on dynamic molecular systems, in particular molecular switches and molecular motors, and photopharmacology. He is also interested in fundamental aspects of stereochemistry and homogeneous catalysis. He has reported in *Chemistry—A European Journal* on light-controlled histone deacetylase inhibitors,[3a] and in *Angewandte Chemie* on the loading of vesicles into soft amphiphilic nanotubes.[3b] Feringa is on the Academic Advisory Board of *Advanced Synthesis & Catalysis*.

And also in the News

Katharina Kohse-Höinghaus (University of Bielefeld) has been awarded the 2015 Giulio Natta Medal and Lecture Award by the Politecnico di Milano. This honor is presented annually for outstanding research in the areas of chemistry, materials, or chemical engineering. Kohse-Höinghaus was featured here when she was named one of the 2011 IUPAC Distinguished Women in Chemistry and Chemical Engineering.[4]

[1] J. Kuhne, K. Eisenhauer, E. Ritter, P. Hegemann, K. Gerwert, F. Bartl, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2015**, *54*, 4953; *Angew. Chem.* **2015**, *127*, 5037.

[2] a) R. L. Melen, M. M. Hansmann, A. J. Lough, A. S. K. Hashmi, D. W. Stephan, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2013**, *19*, 11928; b) D. C. Sauer, R. L. Melen, M. Kruck, L. H. Gade, *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **2014**, 4715.

[3] a) W. Szymanski, M. E. Ourailidou, W. A. Velema, F. J. Dekker, B. L. Feringa, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2015**, *21*, 16517; b) P. M. Erne, L. S. van Bezouwen, P. Štacko, D. J. van Dijken, J. Chen, M. C. A. Stuart, E. J. Boekema, B. L. Feringa, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2015**, *54*, 15122; *Angew. Chem.* **2015**, *127*, 15337.

[4] *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 10763; *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, *123*, 10951.

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Awarded ...


P. Hegemann


R. L. Melen


B. L. Feringa


K. Kohse-Höinghaus