Bert M. Weckhuysen Honored

Bert M. Weckhuysen (Utrecht University) is the winner of the 2017 **Tanabe Prize in Acid–Base Catalysis**, which was awarded at the 8th International Symposium on Acid–Base Catalysis in Rio de Janeiro, and has also been announed as the recipient of the 2018 **Robert B. Anderson Catalysis Award** by the Canadian Catalysis Division. Weckhuysen studied at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, where he completed his PhD (supervised by Robert Schoonheydt) in 1995. He subsequently carried out postdoctoral work with Israel Wachs at Lehigh University and Jack Lunsford at Texas A&M University, and from 1997–2000, was a research fellow at the Belgian National Fund for Scientific Research (NFSR). In 2000, he was made Professor of Inorganic Chemistry and Catalysis at Utrecht University, where has was appointed Distinguished Professor of the Faculty of Science in 2012. Weckhusen's research involves the development of in situ and operando spectroscopy and microscopy for studying catalytic solids under realistic reaction conditions. He has reported in *ChemCatChem* on methanol-to-olefins catalysts,[1a] and his work on probing zeolite crystal architectures was featured on the cover of *Chemistry—A European Journal*.[1b] Weckhuysen was Co-Chair of the Editorial Board of *ChemCatChem* from 2009–2016 and is currently on its International Advisory Board, and he is also on the Editorial Advisory Board of *ChemPhysChem*.

MRS Outstanding Young Investigator Award

The Materials Research Society (MRS) presents its Outstanding Young Investigator Award to scientists who have carried out excellent interdisciplinary work and who have the potential to become leaders in the field. The winners of the 2017 awards are **Jennifer A. Dionne** (Stanford University) and **James M. Rondinelli** (Northwestern University).

Jennifer A. Dionne studied at Washington University in St. Louis, and worked with Harry Atwater at the California Institute of Technology for her PhD (completed in 2009). After postdoctoral work with A. Paul Alivisatos at the University of California, Berkeley (2009–2010), she started her independent career at Stanford University in 2010. Dionne's research interests include the properties and applications of plasmonic and colloidal-nanocrystal-based materials. She is co-author of a report in *Advanced Optical Materials* on a broadband negative index metamaterial.[2]

James M. Rondinelli studied at Northwestern University, and was awarded his PhD in 2010 for work supervised by Nicola A. Spaldin at the University of California, Santa Barbara. From 2010–2011, he was an independent research fellow at the Argonne National Laboratory, and in 2011, he joined the faculty at Drexel University. In 2014, he moved to Northwestern University, where he is currently Fine Junior Professor of Materials and Manufacturing. Rondinelli is interested in theories for metal–insulator and ferroic phase transitions in complex oxides, and the design of compounds containing metals without inversion symmetry. He has reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on a beryllium-free deep-ultraviolet nonlinear optical material.[3]

VAAM Forschungspreis for Tobias J. Erb

Tobias J. Erb (Max Planck Institute (MPI) for Terrestrial Microbiology, Marburg) has been awarded the 2017 VAAM (Vereinigung für Allgemeine und Angewandte Mikrobiologie; General and Applied Microbiology) Forschungspreis (Research Prize). This honor, which is worth €10000, is awarded to early-career researchers for outstanding work in the field of microbiology. Erb carried out his doctorate (completed in 2009) at the University of Freiburg, and was a research fellow at the University of Illinois (2009–2011) and the ETH Zurich (2011–2012). He was a junior group leader at the ETH Zurich from 2012–2014, and was made group leader at the MPI for Terrestrial Microbiology in 2014. Erb's research involves the biochemistry and synthetic biology of microbial metabolism, and he was honored for his work on carbon dioxide fixation by bacteria. He has reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on carboxylating enoyl-thioester reductases.[4] Erb was one of the early-career researchers who received the Heinz Maier-Leibnitz Prize from the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Foundation) in 2016.

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Awarded ...

B. M. Weckhuysen

J. A. Dionne

J. M. Rondinelli

T. J. Erb