

Awards, honours and appointments

Dr Martin Beyer as one of six outstanding junior scientists and scholars in Germany has received the Heinz Maier-Leibnitz Award of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) in 2003. This was decided by the DFG Executive Committee at its meeting on the 20th March. The award, endowed with 16,000 Euros for each of the scientists, has been jointly presented to them by DFG President Professor Ernst-Ludwig Winnacker and State Secretary Dr. Uwe Thomas of the Federal Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF) in Bonn on the 15th May. Named after former DFG President and nuclear physicist Heinz Maier-Leibnitz, the award is funded by the BMBF in recognition of the excellent research achievements of young scientists under the age of 33. The award winners were selected in a multistage selection process out of a total of 74 proposed candidates.

In Greece **Dr Theofanis Kitsopoulos** was awarded the 2003 Bodossaki Foundation Scientific Prize for his work in Basic Sciences.

Prof. C.A. de Lange from Amsterdam received a grant from the Ministry of Education, Science, Technology, Sports and Culture of Japan for a visiting professorship at the Institute for Molecular Science, Okazaki, Japan, in October-November 2003. During this period research on ultrafast phenomena in molecular species of atmospheric interest was carried out in collaboration with Prof. Toshinori Suzuki.

Prof. John M. Dyke from Southampton and **Prof. C.A. de Lange** from Amsterdam were appointed by the Chinese Academy of Sciences as co-chairmen of a committee to organize an international conference on Spectroscopy, Energetics, and Reaction Dynamics by Photoionization, Photoelectron, and Quantum Chemical Methods. The conference is to take place in Xian, China in 2005.

The selection committee of the Alexander von Humboldt-Foundation has decided to award a Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel Research Award to **Prof. Theofanis Kitsopoulos**. He is invited to spend his time in Germany in the laboratories of **Prof. Bondybey** in Garching, thus intensifying the collaborative activities within the Reactive Intermediates Network. The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation grants approximately 10 Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel Research Awards annually to young, top-flight scientists and scholars from abroad who are already recognized as outstanding researchers in their fields. The research award has been endowed by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research in recognition of their research achievements to date. The award winners are also invited to work on research projects of their own choice in cooperation with colleagues in Germany for periods of between six months and one year.