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Saxon Academy of Sciences and Humanities awards Matthias Beller the Wilhelm Ostwald Medal

Prof. Dr. Matthias Beller from the Leibniz Institute for Catalysis, LIKAT, in Rostock, was awarded the Wilhelm Ostwald Medal by the Saxon Academy of Sciences in Leipzig on Friday (12 April). Every year at its spring conference, the Academy honors a researcher for special scientific achievements, primarily in the natural and engineering sciences.

In his laudatory speech at the ceremony, Academy President Prof. Dr. Hans-Joachim Knölker praised Matthias Beller's contributions to homogeneous catalysis, for which the chemist has made "very important, fundamental and internationally acclaimed contributions".

At the interface between basic and application-oriented research, the results of his scientific work have enabled "new sustainable and therefore also environmentally friendly processes, which are often only made possible by catalytic reactions", said the Academy President. Among other things, this research plays a "major role" in the production of pharmaceuticals. Matthias Beller is "without a doubt one of the leading international chemists in the field of catalysis".

From 1998 until last autumn, Prof. Beller headed the Rostock Institute, which was accepted into the Leibniz Association under his aegis in 2003 and, according to his laudator, "gained a very high international reputation".

The Wilhelm Ostwald Medal is the highest scientific honor of the Saxon Academy of Sciences. The Academy established it in 1978 to mark the 125th birthday of the chemist and Nobel Prize winner Wilhelm Ostwald (1853-1932). Ostwald taught at the University of Leipzig and was a member of the Saxon Academy.



Prof. Dr. Matthias Beller, Head of Department „Applied Homogeneous Catalysis“ and member of the board.

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