ICIQ

Institut Català d'Investigació Química

2011

Seminar Program

Av. Països Catalans, 16, Campus Sescelades (St. Pere i St. Pau), Tarragona. Tel. 977920200

"From alpha-arylation to acyclation – How to control the regiochemistry of the Heck reaction?"

Prof. Jianliang Xiao

University of Liverpool (United Kingdom)

Friday 25th March, 2011. ICIQ Auditorium, 12 p.m.

Professor Jianliang Xiao received his B.Sc in chemical engineering at the Northwest University in Xian in 1982. This was followed by a M.Sc in catalytic engineering with Profs Chi Wu and JunYu Wang at the Research Institute of Petroleum Processing in Beijing. Feeling a chemistry background would benefit his then interest in heterogeneous catalysis, he went to the University of Alberta for a PhD in organometallic chemistry under Prof. Martin Cowie. After a two-year postdoctoral appointment with Prof. Richard J. Puddephatt, he joined the ERATO Molecular Catalyst Project as a Researcher to learn homogeneous catalysis under Prof. Noyori (Noble Laureate 2001). In 1996, he took up a Principal Scientist position at the Leverhulme Centre for Innovative Catalysis in the University of Liverpool. He was appointed to a Lectureship in the Chemistry Department in 1999; this was followed by promotion to Reader and then full Professor in early 2005. He is now Professor of Catalysis.

Research Profile:

Homogeneous catalysis is concerned with the design, assembly and understanding of novel molecular architectures that act as catalysts for sustainable synthesis of fine chemicals, pharmaceuticals and agrochemicals. It is the theme of our research, where the focus is placed on discovering and developing novel catalytic methodologies to enable faster, more selective, more productive and greener organic synthesis. We devise molecular architectures and engineer the catalytic systems for target reactions, and we do this by an integrated approach harnessing chemistry ranging from organometallics through synthetic organic chemistry to physical/computational chemistry, and by close collaborations with leading pharmaceutical and chemical organisations.