



Macro Group UK Young Researchers Medal Winners 2005



The 2005 award is made to **Dr Peter Cormack**. Peter studied at the University of Strathclyde for his BSc and PhD degrees, the latter under the guidance of Dave Sherrington and Barry Moore on the topic of design and synthesis of monodisperse liquid crystalline peptides and polymers. In 1996 he moved to the Melville Laboratory for Polymer Synthesis at Cambridge University where, together with Joachim Steinke, he carried out research into synthesis of hyperbranched polymers. A year later he moved to Lund University in Sweden to work on molecularly-imprinted polymers with Professor Klaus Mosbach, initially as a

Post-Doctoral Fellow within the Department of Pure and Applied Biochemistry and latterly as Vice-Director of Research in the Center for Molecular Imprinting and Molecular Recognition. In September 1998 he returned to Strathclyde to take up an ICI-sponsored Lectureship in Polymer Chemistry and in 2004 was promoted to Senior Lecturer in Polymer Chemistry. Peter's research places emphasis on materials design and synthesis, and is driven by a desire to develop useful, functional materials. He has become particularly well known for his work on molecular imprinting, especially for the synthesis of molecularly-imprinted polymer microspheres and their use as stationary phases in supercritical fluid chromatography and as selective sorbents in environmental analysis and bioanalysis. Nevertheless, his research interests are much broader and include branched and dendritic macromolecules, liquid crystals, controlled polymer synthesis, supramolecular chemistry, catalysis, biomaterials, and polymers for molecular diagnostics. He has a substantial portfolio of independent and collaborative research funded through several grants from EPSRC, industry and the EC. His research already has yielded well over 50 papers and articles in journals and books, and he is increasingly being invited to present his work at important conferences. Hence, award of the 2005 Macro Group UK Young Researchers Medal is thoroughly deserved and we look forward to a further blossoming of Peter's research in the coming years.
