

# International Institute for Carbon-Neutral Energy Research



## Powering the Future Internationalizing Research – PART III of V

**P. Sofronis**

*Kyushu University*

*University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

**November 7, 2013**

**New Value Chains and the Rise of Open Innovation in Asia**  
**Stanford University**



**KYUSHU UNIVERSITY**

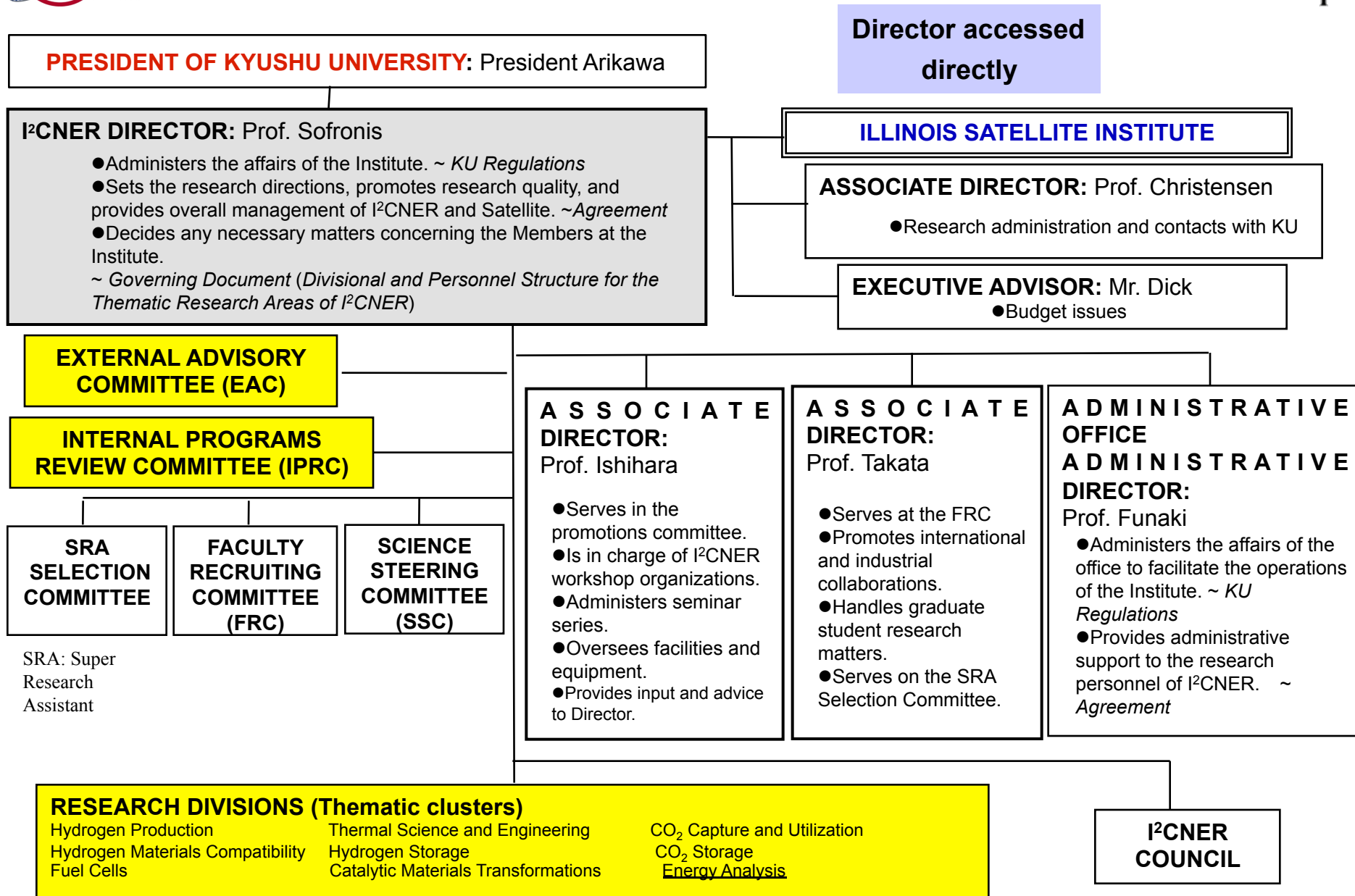


World Premier International  
Research Center Initiative



**ILLINOIS**  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

# I²CNER Structure



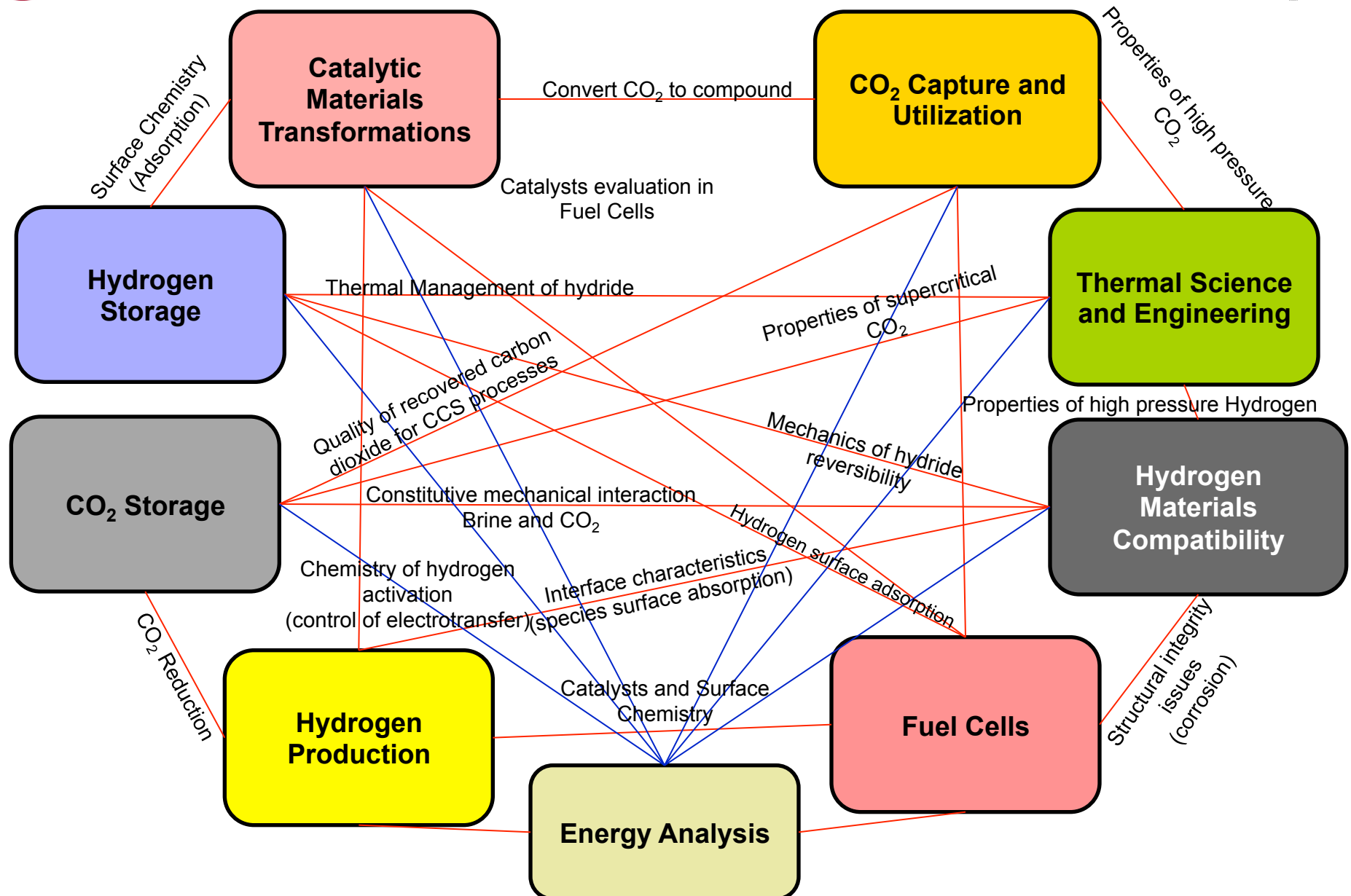
## ■ Members

- Prof. Ronald Adrian, Arizona State University, USA (Chair)
- Dr. Deborah Myers, Argonne National Laboratory, USA (Vice-Chair)
- Dr. Robert Finley, Illinois State Geological Survey, USA
- Prof. Reiner Kirchheim, University of Gottingen, Germany
- Prof. Robert McMeeking, University of California, USA
- Dr. Kevin Ott, Los Alamos National Laboratory
- Prof. Tetsuo Shoji, Tohoku University, JAPAN
- Dr. George Thomas, Sandia National Laboratories/EERE Office of US DOE, USA

## ■ Institute was reviewed on February 1, 2012 and May 30, 31, 2013

## ■ Implementation of recommendations





Division interactions and interdisciplinary fusion research

# 26 Principal Investigators

(as of October 1, 2013)

## ■ Hydrogen Production



ISHIHARA  
Tatsumi



ADACHI  
Chihaya



TAKAHARA  
Atsushi



SAKAI  
Ken



KILNER  
John

## ■ Hydrogen Storage



AKIBA  
Etsuo



HORITA  
Zenji

## ■ Hydrogen Materials Compatibility



SOMERDAY  
Brian



SOFRONIS  
Petros



SUGIMURA  
Joichi



TAKAKI  
Setsuo



KIRCHHEIM  
Reiner

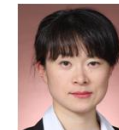


ROBERTSON  
Ian

## ■ Catalytic Materials Transformations



OGO  
Seiji



YAMAUCHI  
Miho



KATSUKI  
Tsutomu

## ■ Fuel Cells



SASAKI  
Kazunari



NAKASHIMA  
Naotoshi



TULLER  
Harry



GEWIRTH  
Andrew

## ■ CO<sub>2</sub> Capture and Utilization



FUJIKAWA  
Shigenori



KUSAKABE  
Katsuki

## ■ Thermal Science and Engineering



TAKATA  
Yasuyuki



ZHANG  
Xing

## ■ CO<sub>2</sub> Storage



TSUJI  
Takeshi



CHRISTENSEN  
Ken





**Miho Yamauchi**

Catalytic Materials Transformations  
WPI Principal Investigator  
Kyushu University



**Chao-Nan Xu**

Hydrogen Materials Compatibility  
WPI Visiting Professor  
National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology



**Maki Matsuka**

Hydrogen Production  
WPI Associate Professor  
Kyushu University



**Ping Chen**

Hydrogen Storage  
WPI Professor  
Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics(China)



**Akari Hayashi**

Fuel Cells  
WPI Associate Professor  
Kyushu University



**Nicola Perry**

Fuel Cells  
WPI Postdoc  
Kyushu University



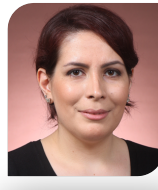
**Junko Matsuda**

Hydrogen Storage  
WPI Assistant Professor  
Kyushu University



**Jennifer Rupp**

Fuel Cells  
WPI Associate Professor  
Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich



**Hoda Emami**

Hydrogen Storage  
WPI Postdoc  
Kyushu University



**Helena Tellez Lozano**

Hydrogen Production  
JSPS Postdoctoral Fellow  
Imperial College London

## Visiting Female Students from Illinois



● **Kelly Nygren & May Martin**

June - August 2011  
Visited Hydrogen Structural Materials Div.



● **Molly Jhong**

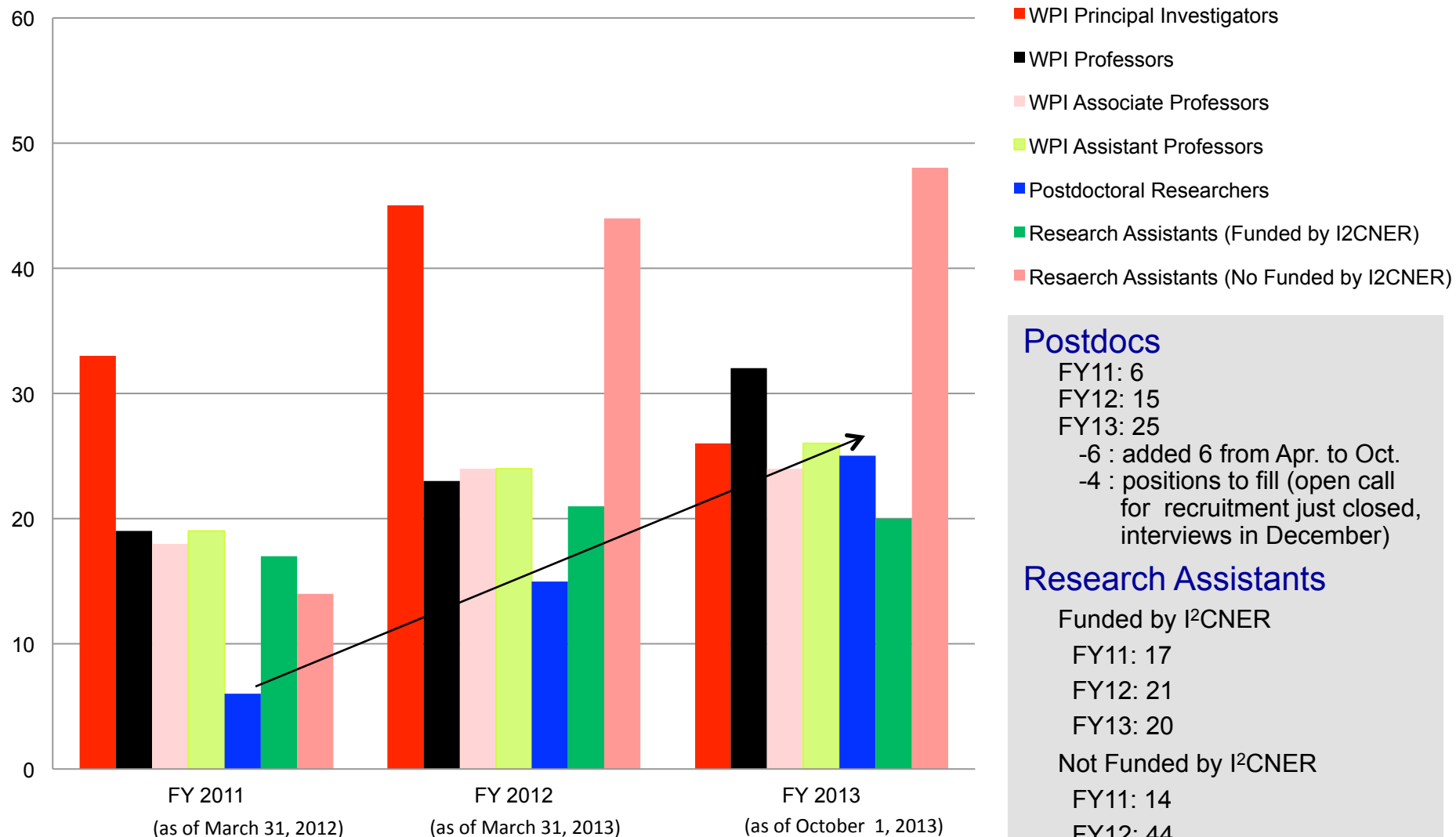
January & June 2012  
Visited CO<sub>2</sub> Separation & Concentration Div.  
and Fuel Cells Div.



● **Kelly Nygren & Megan Emigh**

June - August 2013  
Visited Hydrogen Materials Compatibility Div.

18/152 = 11.6%



■ Total number of researchers: 155 (128 Kyushu, 27 Illinois)  
 ■ Non-Japanese: 72 or 46%

## Postdocs

FY11: 6  
 FY12: 15  
 FY13: 25  
 -6 : added 6 from Apr. to Oct.  
 -4 : positions to fill (open call for recruitment just closed, interviews in December)

## Research Assistants

Funded by I²CNER

FY11: 17  
 FY12: 21  
 FY13: 20

Not Funded by I²CNER

FY11: 14  
 FY12: 44  
 FY13: 48



# I²CNER Researchers ~ Breakdown

( a s o f O c t o b e r 1 , 2 0 1 3 )

WPI Title	Total (*Non-Japanese)	Kyushu	Illinois
PI	26 ( 9)	24	2
Prof	32 (14)	26	6
Assoc Prof	24 ( 5)	23	1
Asst Prof	26 ( 8)	24	2
Other (faculty)	2 ( 1)	1	1
Post doc	25 (20)	23	2
RA	20 (15)	7	13
Total	155 (72)	128	27

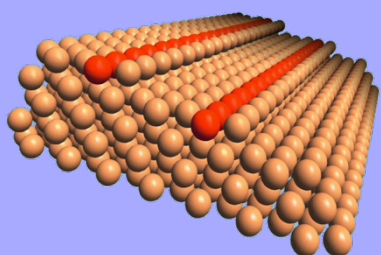
- Non-Japanese :  $72/155 = 0.464$  (46%)
- Female researchers:  $18/155 = 11.6\%$

# Research

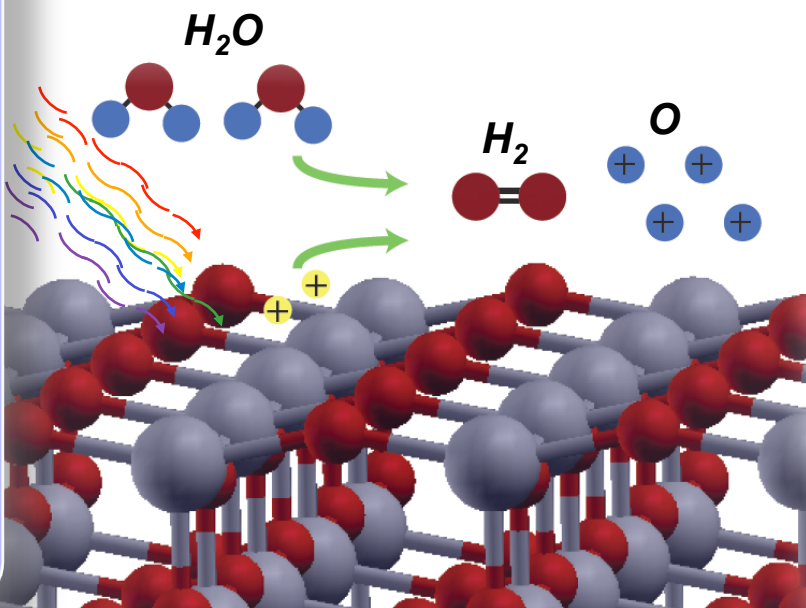
# Photocatalytic Hydrogen Production

## International Approach

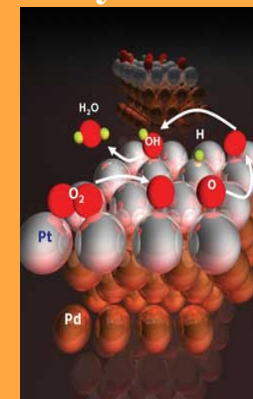
### Understanding Surfaces & Interfaces in Photocatalysis



Takahara, Staykov,  
Ertekin, Hagiwara,  
Martin, Rockett

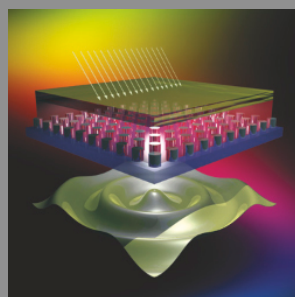


### Probing Catalytic Activity in Devices



Ishihara, Sasaki,  
Gewirth, Hagiwara,  
Takahara, Hayashi,  
Ogo, Rauchfuss

### New Materials for Light Absorption and Charge Separation



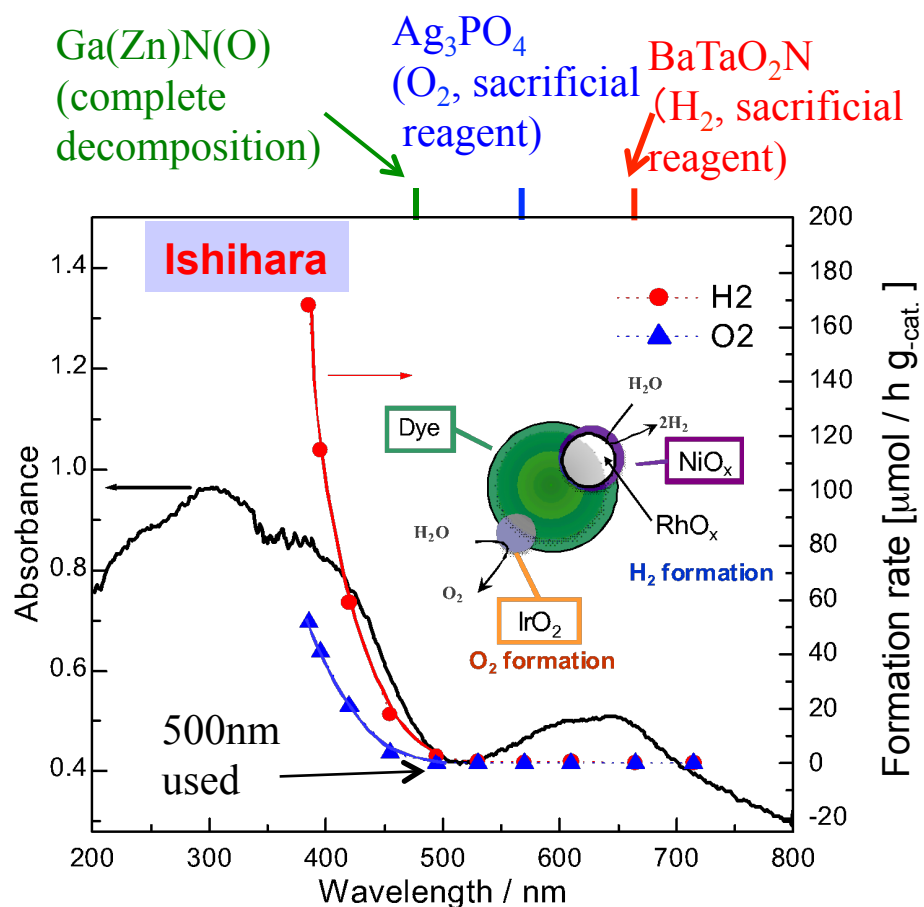
Ishihara, Adachi,  
Hayashi, Hagiwara,  
Martin, Ertekin,  
Gewirth



**Roadblock:  $H_2$  production efficiency using visible light is less than 0.1%**

Roadblock:  $H_2$  production efficiency using visible light is less than 0.1%

- Achieved promising 2.7% efficiency at 420nm with combination of organic dye and GaN (ZnO)

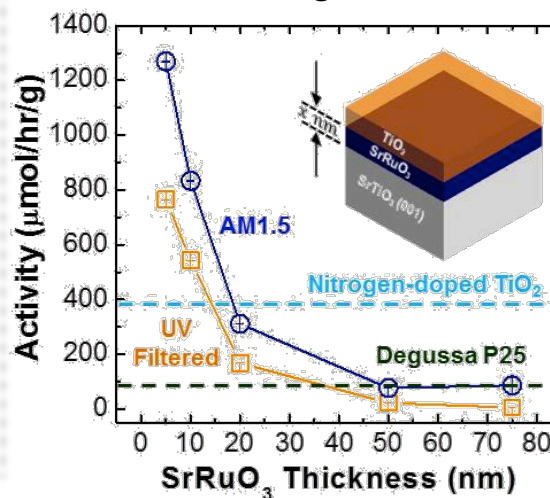
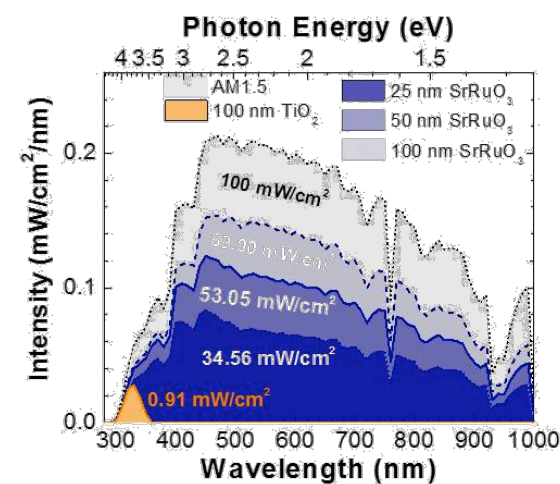


Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.,13, 18031 (2011)

- Novel oxide heterostructures enable efficient absorption of 75X more sunlight than  $TiO_2 \rightarrow$  higher efficiency

$SrRuO_3$  absorbs strongly across the visible regime  $\rightarrow$  better utilization of sunlight

Hot-carrier injection into  $TiO_2$  give rise to strong catalysis under AM1.5 light



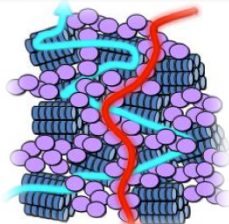
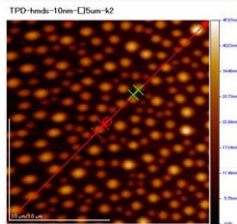
**Martin**

Under review at *Nature Materials*

**Our Goal**  
Solar cell (ex.11%)  
X  
Steam electrolyzer  
(90%)  
=10%

- Low-cost: Organic materials
- Large area and flexibility
- Energy savings for production
- Large absorption coefficient
- Unlimited molecular design

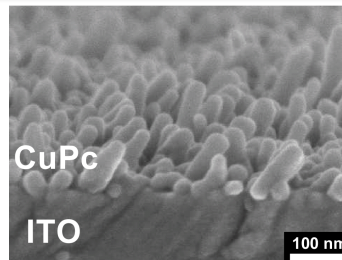
**I) Control of Nano-sized Grain Morphology**  
(PCE=4.1%)



Nanocrystal growth and improved performance of small molecule bulk heterojunction solar cells composed of a blend of chloroaluminum phthalocyanine and C70  
**Appl. Phys. Exp. 3, 121602 (2010)**

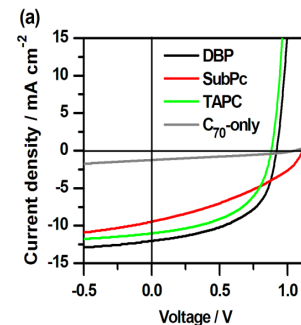
Highly efficient bulk heterojunction photovoltaic cells based on C<sub>70</sub> and tetraphenyldibenzoperiflanthene  
Yan-qiong Zheng; William J Potscavage Jr.; Takeshi Komino; Masaya Hirade; Junji Adachi; Chihaya Adachi  
**Appl. Phys. Lett., 102, 143304, (2013)**

**II) Preparation of Nano-pillars**  
(PCE=1.2%)



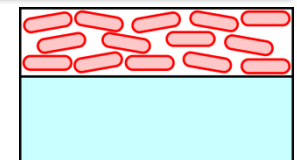
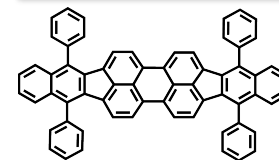
Formation of Organic Crystalline Nanopillar Arrays and Their Application to Organic Photovoltaic Cells  
**Appl. Mat. Int. 3, 80-83, (2011)**  
**Top 10 Most Read Articles**

Using photovoltaics to push hydrogen production from water to higher efficiencies



**IV) Bulk hetero-junction with high purity materials**  
(PCE=7.0%)

**III) Control of Molecular Orientation**  
(PCE=6.3%, V<sub>oc</sub>=5.89 V)



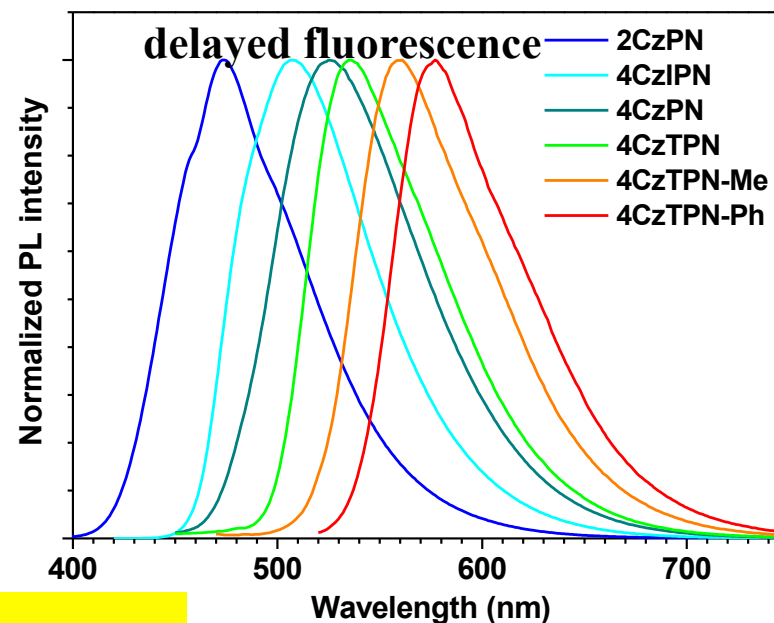
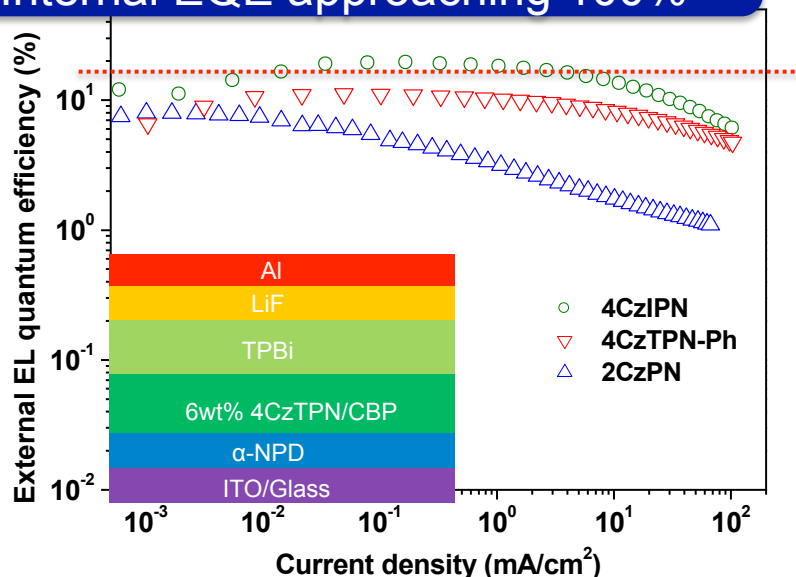
Very high open-circuit voltage of 5.89 V in organic solar cells with 10-fold-tandem structure  
**Appl. Phys. Lett. 100, 243302 (2012)**

Small molecular organic photovoltaic cells with exciton blocking layer at anode interface for improved device performance  
**Appl. Phys. Lett., 99, 153302 (2011)**  
**Top 20 Most Downloaded Articles**

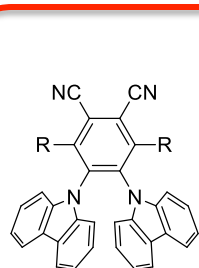


Achieved: External EQE~20%,  
Internal EQE approaching 100%

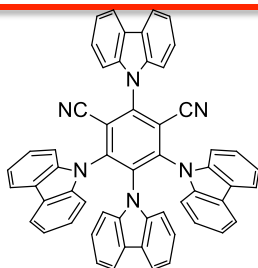
"Excellent demonstration of fusion research"  
"Technological developments in energy conservation areas"



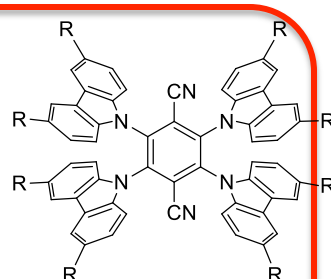
A new class of organic electroluminescent molecules in which the energy gap between singlet and triplet excited states is minimized by design



4CzPN: R = carbazoyl  
2CzPN: R = H



4CzIPN



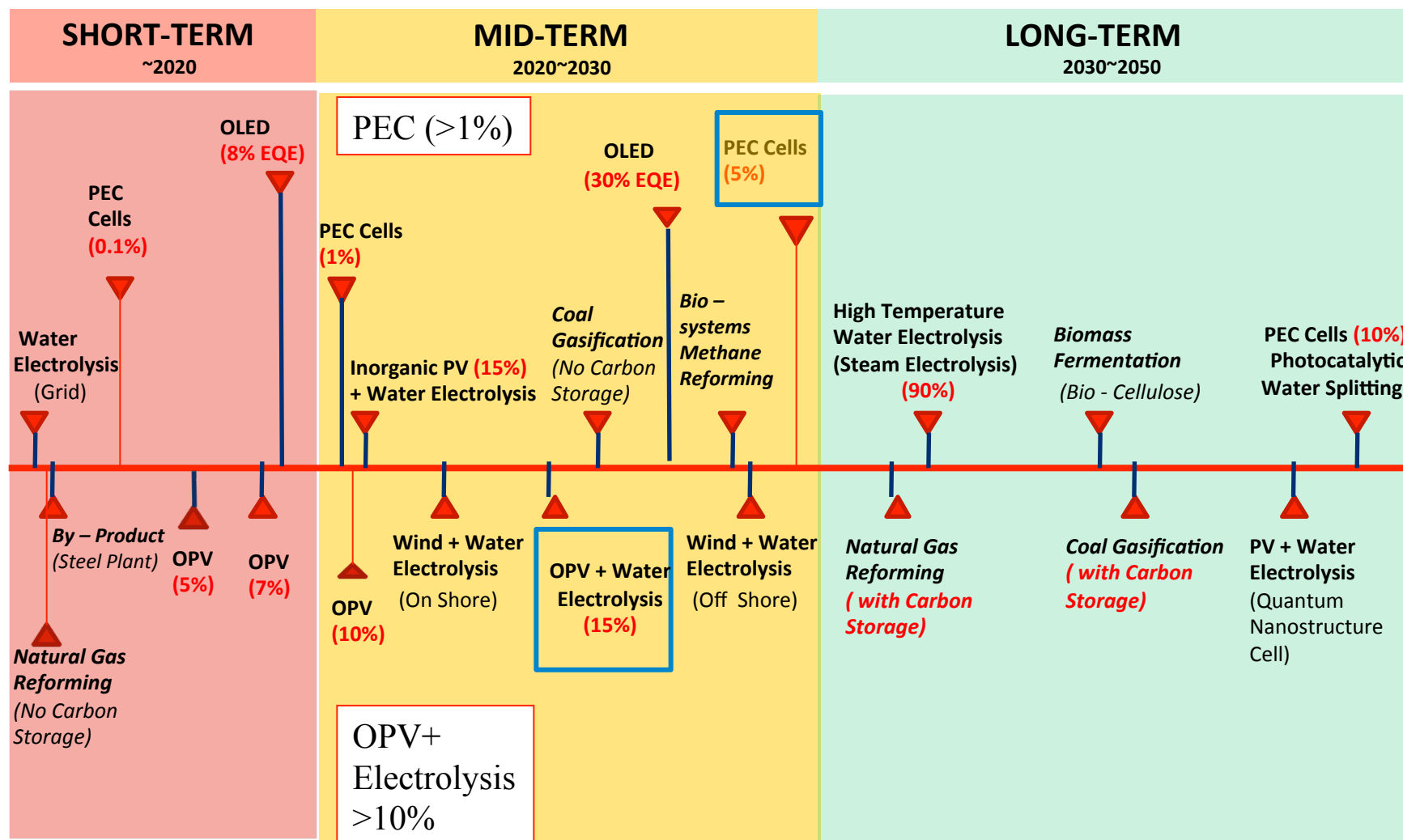
4CzTPN: R = H  
4CzTPN-Me: R = Me  
4CzTPN-Ph: R = Ph



Dicyanobenzene derivatives

H. Uoyama et al., Nature 492, 234-238 (2012)





Boxed research targets are high priority  
*Italics indicate a non-I²CNER research theme*

# Electrochemomechanics: Reducing the Chemical Expansion Coefficient in Ceria by Addition of Zirconia 16

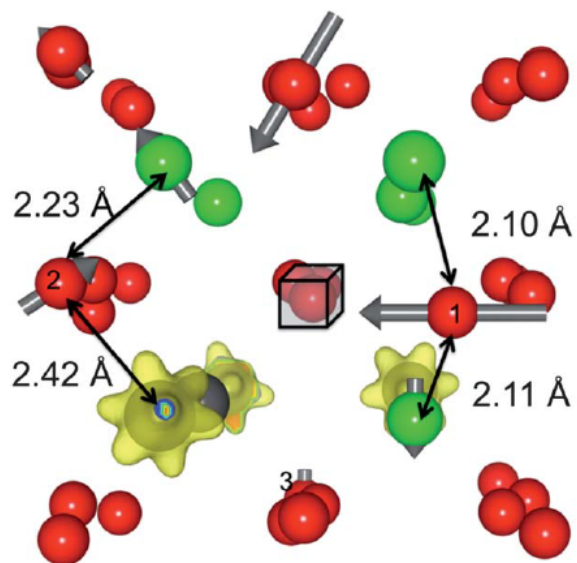
Advanced electrode materials for SOFCs exhibit large changes in oxygen content (“breathing” of  $O_2$ )

➡ This deleterious chemical expansion results in poor SOFC durability!! ← *Roadmap target*

Bottleneck: Poor understanding of atomistic mechanism = lack of guidance to ↓ chemical expansion

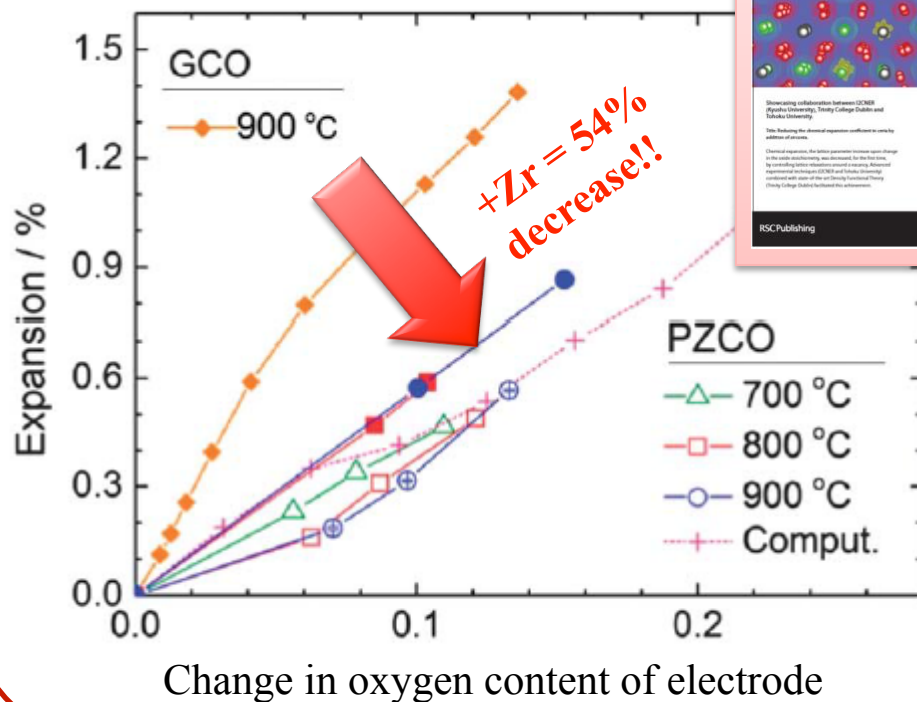
**Discovery:** Expansion from the larger size of the reduced cation after an oxide ion is removed from the lattice vs contraction by the oxygen vacancy left behind

## Computational Insight

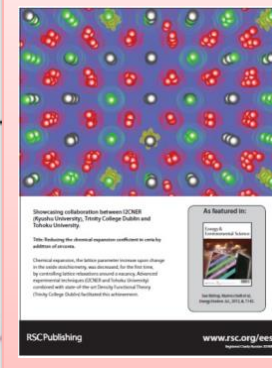


S. R. Bishop et al., *Energy and Environmental Science*, 6 (2013) 1142

## Experimental Validation



*Back cover highlight!*



**Discovery:** smaller cations allow larger relaxations around the O vacancy