

HONOURS

- **Aderemi Oluyomi Kuku** (TWAS Fellow 1989) has been named in the inaugural class of Fellows of the American Mathematical Society (FAMS). The FAMS programme was devised to honour people who have made outstanding contributions to the advancement and communication of mathematics throughout their careers.



Aderemi Oluyomi Kuku

Born in Nigeria, Kuku was vice-president of the Science Association of Nigeria (1983-84) and academic secretary (physical sciences) of the Nigerian Academy of Science. He then served as president of the African Mathematical Union (AMU) (1986-95) and was professor of mathematics at the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) in Trieste, Italy (1995-2003).

Today he is William W.S. Claytor professor of mathematics at Grambling State University, Louisiana, USA, and remains a world leader in several aspects of algebraic K-theory and related mathematics, a field universally acknowledged as a unifying force for mathematical research. His research has produced groundbreaking results in non-commutative algebra, non-commutative number theory and non-commutative geometry. In his honour, members of the National

Mathematical Centre in his home country of Nigeria will organize a dedicated celebration, during the forthcoming 8th Pan-African Congress of Mathematicians, AMU Congress in Abuja, Nigeria (1-8 July 2013).

AWARDS

- **Syed Muhammad Qaim** (TWAS Associate Fellow 2001), a German national of Pakistani origin, has been honoured with the 'Golden Jubilee Award', a recognition bestowed by the international journal *Radiochimica Acta* to those members who have made lifetime contributions to the journal. The award was conferred during the 8th International Conference on Nuclear and Radiochemistry that took place in Como, Italy, last July. Qaim holds a BSc from Punjab University in Lahore, Pakistan, a PhD from Liverpool University, UK, and a DSc in applied nuclear chemistry from Birmingham University, also in the UK. He has been working at the Research Centre, Julich, Germany, since 1970, where he has been division leader since 1985. Qaim's work covers a broad spectrum of fields in chemical sciences such as nuclear chemistry, nuclear reactions, radiochemical techniques, nuclear data for application and radionuclides in medicine.



Syed Muhammad Qaim

CATALYST

- The first **CATALYST project regional workshops** were held in Giovinazzo, Bari, Italy, for the European Mediterranean region, and Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, for the Africa region in September and October, respectively. CATALYST is funded by the European Commission 7th Framework Programme (FP7) and is focused on 'Capacity Development for Hazard Risk Reduction and Adaptation'. TWAS is one of the seven partners of the consortium. The reassessment of the vulnerability of people and cities in the Mediterranean region, to better manage disaster risk – especially from climate extremes and earthquakes – was the focus of the first workshop (27-28 September). In Addis Ababa (10-11 October), experts discussed strategies to implement capacity development focused on the management of and adaptation to natural disasters and climate extremes in African urban settings. As cities continue to grow and become more densely populated, there is a need to share best practices and find low-cost/high-efficiency interventions that can help African communities better respond to anomalous climate-induced events such as drought, heavy rains, floods and earthquakes.

DFG-TWAS COOPERATION

- Young African scientists will have more chances to carry out research in Germany, thanks to a programme of cooperation recently endorsed by the *Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft* (DFG, the German Research Foundation) and TWAS. This programme stems from the desire that both DFG and TWAS have to cooperate with developing countries in



the spirit of worldwide responsibility. It also implements and strengthens North-South cooperation, in line with TWAS's mission.

Each year, TWAS and DFG will select 30 postdoctoral researchers from sub-Saharan Africa, who will work at one of the several hundred participating laboratories and research institutes in Germany. Each visit to Germany will last up to three months, with TWAS covering the travel costs while DFG provides a monthly stipend and research costs. The partnership which links TWAS and DFG began in 2010 with the provision of 10 cooperation visits per year and has since been further strengthened.



RECOGNITION

• **Ashok K. Vijh** (TWAS Associate Fellow 1987), an eminent electrochemist and professor at the *Centre Énergie Matériaux Télécommunications* at the *Institut National de la Recherche Scientifique* (INRS) in Montréal, Canada has been awarded the *Docteur Honoris Causa* by the INRS. Vijh, who holds a PhD in electrochemistry from the University of Ottawa, has been senior research fellow at the *Institut de Recherche d'Hydro-Québec* since 1973 and an untiring promoter of the role of science in society. His discoveries have changed the foun-



Ashok K. Vijh

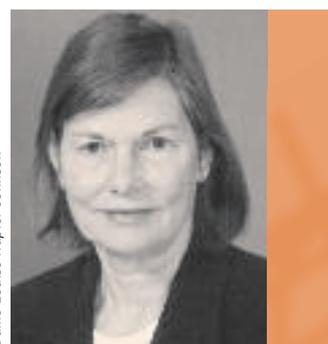
datations of electrochemistry. For example, he promoted a novel approach to several phenomena such as electrolysis, corrosion and the behaviour of semiconductors. In addition, he explored new avenues by applying his results to sectors such as energy, industry and the environment. Among the awards he has received in his career are the prize from the *Association Canadienne-Française pour l'Avancement des Sciences*, the Noranda award and a medal from the *Institut Canadien de la Chimie*.

IN MEMORIAM

• **Dame Louise Napier Johnson** (1940-2012), TWAS Associate Fellow 1999, passed away on 25 September 2012, in Cambridge, England, the day before her 72nd birthday. A biochemist and a pioneer in protein crystallography, Johnson graduated from the Royal Institution, London, took a degree in physics at University College London, and received her PhD from London's Royal Institution.

Johnson's first article was published in 1965, in *Nature*, and described the seminal work she had accomplished under David Phillips's supervision, solving the structure of the enzyme lysozyme by means of X-ray crystallography. The structure of lysozyme was only the second

protein structure to be determined after myoglobin (from muscles) in 1958 by John Kendrew. She was made David Phillips Professor of Molecular Biophysics at Oxford University from 1990 until 2007, when she retired. Indeed, the X-ray crystallography work she developed with David Phillips helped lay the foundations for modern structural biology research and pharmaceutical industry applications.



Dame Louise Napier Johnson

Among her other achievements, Johnson was instrumental in the development of Diamond, the UK's national synchrotron, and co-authored (with Tom Blundell) an influential textbook on protein crystallography. She was the wife of Abdus Salam (Nobel Prize in Physics, 1979), founder of both the International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) in Trieste, Italy (which now bears his name) and TWAS, which has its headquarters on the ICTP campus.