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Synthesis and Application of Nano-Structured Metal Catalysts

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Curriculum Vitae

Laura Durán Pachón was born in Madrid, Spain, on the 3rd of October 1979. She obtained her M.Sc. degree in Chemistry at the Universidad de Alcalá, Spain. The last year of her undergraduate studies (academic course 2002-2003), she was granted an Erasmus fellowship to work in the group of Coordination and Bioinorganic Chemistry of Prof. Dr. J. Reedijk at the Universiteit Leiden, the Netherlands. The work developed there was focused on the synthesis of bi-functional catalyst based on a heterobimetallic complex of tungsten and zinc for the epoxidation of alkenes followed by the aminolysis of the resulting epoxides.

From March 2004 to March 2008 she worked as Ph.D. student in the group of Coordination Chemistry and Catalysis at the Universiteit van Amsterdam. The work presented in this thesis was performed under the direction of Prof. Dr. C. J. Elsevier and the supervision of Dr. G. Rothenberg, and funded by the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO). Part of the work presented in the fifth chapter was developed during two stays at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the Weizmann Institute for Sciences, Israel, in collaboration with the groups of Prof. Dr. D. Avnir and Prof. Dr. R. Naaman, respectively.

She has presented her research work several times at the NCCC (Netherlands Catalysis and Chemistry Conference). She has attended also different international workshops and conferences such as the ISHHC XII (International Symposium on relations between Homogenous and Heterogeneous Catalysis) in Florence, Italy. In 2006 she received a travel grant to attend the ORCS XXI (Conference on Catalysis of Organic Reactions) in Florida, USA.

From March 2008, she works as scientific researcher for the company Yellow Diesel B.V.

