

Fakultät für Naturwissenschaften  
**Institut für Chemie**



lädt ein

gemeinsam mit der Gesellschaft  
Deutscher Chemiker  
zum

**Vortrag**  
von Herrn

**Prof. Warren  
Piers**

University of Calgary  
Department of Chemistry

am: 13. Oktober 2023  
um: 16:00 Uhr  
WO: im Raum 1/232

**Achtung!**  
**Dieser Vortrag**  
**findet freitags statt.**

**“Molybdenum  
Complexes for  
Ammonia Activation:  
Mechanisms of  
Hydrogen Production  
and N-N Bond  
Formation.”**

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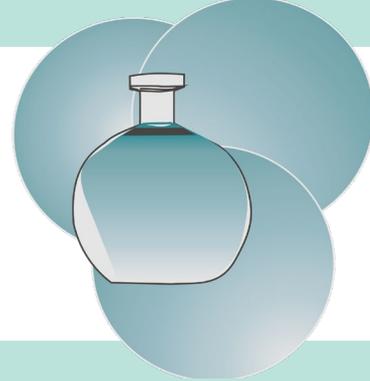
Die kleine Kaffeerrunde vor dem Vortrag beginnt  
um 15:30 Uhr im Raum 1/232.  
Das Mitbringen von eigenen Trinkgefäßen ist  
erwünscht.

Gäste sind herzlich willkommen!



TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT  
IN DER KULTURHAUPTSTADT EUROPAS  
CHEMNITZ

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## **Prof. Warren Piers**

University of Calgary  
Department of Chemistry



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Deutscher Chemiker

### **“Molybdenum Complexes for Ammonia Activation: Mechanisms of Hydrogen Production and N-N Bond Formation.”**

Ammonia oxidation catalyzed by molecular compounds is of current interest as a potentially carbon free source of dihydrogen. Two key processes in this complex reaction are the activation of N-H bonds through coordination induced bond weakening at transition metal centers and N-N bond formation from various  $MNH_n$  ( $n = 0-2$ ) intermediates. In this talk, we report the substantial N-H bond weakening in coordinated ammonia *via* reaction with low valent Mo complexes of a diborate pentadentate ligand system. Spontaneous loss of hydrogen atoms from  $(B_2Pz_4Py)Mo(II)-NH_3$  at room temperature to produce  $H_2$  and the dinuclear  $\mu$ -nitrido compound  $(B_2Pz_4Py)Mo-N-Mo(B_2Pz_4Py)$  is observed upon coordination to Mo. Mechanistic details are supported through the experimental observation and characterization of terminal amido, imido and nitrido complexes. Density functional theory computations provide support for a proposed mechanism for the stoichiometric conversion of  $(B_2Pz_4Py)Mo(II)-NH_3$  to one equivalent of  $NH_3$  to  $H_2$  and the dinuclear  $\mu$ -nitrido, revealing the role of these bridging nitrido species in potential ammonia oxidation catalytic schemes. Conditions that avoid these thermodynamic sinks and encourage N-N bond formation through bimolecular coupling of terminal MoN derivatives will also be discussed.