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1989-1990 Donald J. Cram  University of California, Los Angeles
1990-1991 Richard R. Ernst  Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule, Zürich
1991-1992 Thomas A. Steitz  Yale University
1992-1993 K. Barry Sharpless  Scripps Research Institute
1993-1994 Rudolph A. Marcus  California Institute of Technology
1994-1995 Phillip A. Sharp  Massachusetts Institute of Technology
1995-1996 Martin Rodbell  National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences
1996-1997 John D. Roberts  California Institute of Technology
1997-1998 F. Sherwood Rowland  University of California, Irvine
1998-1999 Jean-Michel Savéant  Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique
1999-2000 David A. Tirrell  California Institute of Technology
2000-2001 Alastair Ian Scott  Texas A&M University
2001-2002 Amos B. Smith III  University of Pennsylvania
2002-2003 Lawrence J. Marnett  Vanderbilt University
2003-2004 Robert S. Langer  Massachusetts Institute of Technology
2004-2005 Thomas R. Cech  Howard Hughes Medical Institute
2005-2006 Joseph M. DeSimone  University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
2006-2007 Rolf Thauer  Max Planck Institute for Terrestrial Microbiology
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Nelson J. Leonard Distinguished Lecturer 2014

Steven Chu
Stanford University
William R. Kenan Professor of Physics and Molecular & Cellular Physiology

The Energy and Climate Challenge:
WE NEED A FEW GREAT CHEMISTS!

September 10, 2014

4:00 p.m.
Ballroom, Alice Campbell Alumni Center
601 S. Lincoln Avenue, Urbana, IL
Reception immediately following lecture in the Atrium
Steven Chu

Steven Chu is the William R. Kenan, Jr., Professor of Physics and Molecular & Cellular Physiology at Stanford University. His research spans atomic and polymer physics, biophysics, biology, biomedicine and batteries. He shared the 1997 Nobel Prize in Physics for the laser cooling and trapping of atoms.

From January 2009 until April 2013, Dr. Chu was the 12th U.S. Secretary of Energy and the first scientist to hold a cabinet position since Ben Franklin. During his tenure, he began ARPA-E, the Energy Innovation Hubs, the Clean Energy Ministerial meetings, and was tasked by President Obama to assist BP in stopping the Deepwater Horizon oil leak. Prior to his cabinet post, he was director of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Professor of Physics and Molecular and Cell Biology at UC Berkeley, the Theodore and Francis Geballe Professor of Physics and Applied Physics at Stanford University, and head of the Quantum Electronics Research Department at AT&T Bell Laboratories.

Dr. Chu is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Philosophical Society, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the Academia Sinica, and is a foreign member of the Royal Society, the Royal Academy of Engineering, the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and the Korean Academy of Sciences and Technology. He has been awarded 24 honorary degrees, published more than 250 scientific papers, and holds 10 patents.

Nelson J. Leonard

This lecture series is made possible by the Nelson J. Leonard Distinguished Lecturer Fund, established in 1986 by the late Mrs. Louise Leonard, Eli Lilly and Company, the Monsanto Company, Organic Syntheses, Inc., and Professor Leonard’s colleagues and students. At the time of his retirement in 1986, Professor Leonard had been at the University of Illinois for 44 years, directed 120 graduate students, and published over 400 papers.

Professor Leonard received his B.S. from Lehigh in 1937, a B.Sc. from Oxford in 1940, a Ph.D. from Columbia in 1942, and a D.Sc. from the University of Oxford in 1983. He also received three honorary doctoral degrees.

Internationally acclaimed for his skill in organic synthesis, his work answered questions of fundamental importance to biochemistry and life processes. He invented fluorescent probes and dimensional probes of enzyme-coenzyme binding sites and DNA double-helical cross sections.

He received many honors including the ACS award for Creative Work in Synthetic Organic Chemistry (1963), the Medal for Creative Research in Synthetic Organic Chemistry of the Chemical Manufacturers Association (1970), the Roger Adams Award in Organic Chemistry (1981), the first Creativity Award, University of Oregon (1994), and the first Paul G. Gassman Distinguished Service Award, Division of Organic Chemistry, American Chemical Society (1994). He was a member of the National Academy of Sciences, a foreign member of the Polish Academy of Sciences, a fellow and past vice-president of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a member of the American Philosophical Society, and an honorary member of the Pharmaceutical Society of Japan.

At the time of his passing in the fall of 2006, Professor Leonard was a Faculty Associate in Chemistry at the California Institute of Technology.

Gifts in support of the lecture fund may be directed to: University of Illinois Foundation, Attn: Nelson J. Leonard Distinguished Lectures Fund - 1305 W. Green St., Urbana, IL 61801, or find the Giving Contacts at www.chemistry.illinois.edu/giving/contacts.html