

SNIC Honorary Life Fellow Award 2011

Professor K. C. Nicolaou

Professor K. C. Nicolaou studied chemistry at the University of London. In 1972, he completed his postdoctoral appointments at Columbia University under Professor T. J. Katz followed by Harvard University in 1973–1976 under Nobel Laureate Professor E. J. Corey. He then joined the faculty at the University of Pennsylvania, where he rose through the ranks to become the Rhodes–Thompson Professor of Chemistry.

In 1989, he accepted the joint appointments at the University of California, San Diego, where he is Professor of Chemistry, and The Scripps Research Institute, where he is the Chairman of the Department of Chemistry. He holds the Darlene Shiley Chair in Chemistry and the Aline. W. and L. Skaggs Professorship in Chemical Biology.

Professor Nicolaou has received numerous awards and honors for his scientific work and holds eight honorary degrees. He is also the author or co-author of over 550 scientific articles, reviews, and book chapters, 79 patents (56 issued, 23 pending), and three books, the most recent entitled 'Classics in Total Synthesis' (1996) co-authored with Erik Sorensen and 'Classics in Total Synthesis II' (2003) with Scott Snyder.

In 1995, he accepted the appointment by A*STAR to head the Chemical Synthesis Laboratory (CSL) at Biopolis under the prestigious Visiting Investigator Programme (VIP). His work in Biopolis has significantly raised the global visibility of chemistry in Singapore and nurtured many synthetic chemists for the industry and academia.

It was his advice that led to the birth of the Industry-SNIC Joint Awards in Chemistry three years ago. For two consecutive years from 2009, he chaired the evaluation panel of the GSK-SNIC Joint Award in Organic Chemistry.

In recognition of his significant contributions to the development of total synthesis in chemistry, and services to the chemistry community in Singapore, SNIC has the honour to confer the SNIC Honorary Life Fellow Award to Professor K. C. Nicolaou.