



Institute of
Chemical and
Engineering Sciences



NUS
National University
of Singapore

PUBLIC LECTURE

Hosted by SNIC in Partnership with NUS, ICES
(A*Star) and Science Centre Singapore (SCS)

<i>Date/Time/Venue</i>	<i>Title / Speaker / Host</i>
<p><i>Thursday, 18 March 2010</i></p> <p><i>Public Lecture: 3.30pm – 4.30pm</i> <i>Tea Break: 4.30pm – 5pm</i></p> <p><i>Lecture Theatre 31 (LT31), S16, Level 3, Faculty of Science, NUS, Lower Kent Ridge Road</i></p>	<p><i>“β-Peptides - a mystery tour from curiosity to synthesis to biomedical sciences”</i></p> <p><i>Professor Dieter Seebach</i> <i>ETH, Zürich, Switzerland.</i> <i>Host : Professor Andy Hor</i></p>

About the Speaker

Professor Dieter Seebach obtained his Honorary PhD from University of Montpellier, France, in 1989. He was a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard University before he joined the University of Giessen in Germany as a Professor of organic chemistry in 1971.



He joined ETH Zürich as a Professor of Chemistry in 1977. He has received many prestigious awards and prizes, including the Tetrahedron Prize for Creativity in Organic Chemistry. He has authored about 800 papers and supervised about 150 PhD students.

Abstract

The naïve question “what happens upon addition of a simple CH₂-group into each and every amino acid of a peptide or protein” side chains opens a door into a new world with similarities and, at the same time, fundamental differences of structures. The journey into this world was only possible by hard-core organic synthesis. It will be described how purely curiosity-driven research has led a synthetic chemist into biochemistry, biology and biomedicine where totally unpredictable results were obtained.

All are Welcome