

Academia Sinica Press Release

Academician Yuan Tseh Lee was Awarded 2008 Othmer Gold Medal by CHF

The Chemical Heritage Foundation (CHF) announced on Feb. 4, 2008 that Academician of Academia Sinica Yuan Tseh Lee, Nobel laureate in chemistry (1986), will receive the 2008 Othmer Gold Medal. The award ceremony and the annual Othmer Gold Medal luncheon will open the seventh annual Heritage Day on Thursday, May 15, 2008. This full day of awards and honors marks the 11th annual presentation of the Othmer Gold Medal.

The Chemical Heritage Foundation established the Othmer Gold Medal in 1997 to honor outstanding individuals who have made multifaceted contributions to our chemical and scientific heritage through outstanding activity in such areas as innovation, entrepreneurship, research, education, public understanding, legislation, or philanthropy.

The President and CEO of CHF Prof. Thomas R. Tritton said, “ Lee persevered in education, excelled in research, and earned one of humankind’s highest honors—the Nobel Prize in Chemistry. Following three successful decades in America, he returned to Taiwan, taking a leadership role in education reform and better relations with China.”

Academician Lee received the Nobel Prize in 1986 along with Dudley R. Herschbach and John C. Polanyi for their contributions to the study of the dynamics of chemical reactions. Their research contributed to the field of reaction dynamics by allowing the study of complex reaction mechanisms beyond the capability of previous methods.

Academician Yuan Tseh Lee was born on 19 November 1936 in Hsinchu, Taiwan. He received a B.S. from the National Taiwan University, an M.S. from Tsinghua University, and a Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley. In 1967 Lee joined the Harvard University group working on molecular beam experiments under Dudley Herschbach. After being appointed assistant professor at the University of Chicago in 1968, Lee rapidly made his laboratory the North American capital of molecular beam study.

Academician Lee has received numerous awards and honors, including the 1986 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, the U.S. National Medal of Science, the Faraday Medal and Prize from the Royal Chemical Society of Great Britain, and the Jawaharlal Nehru Birth Centenary Medal from the Indian National Science Academy. He has

also been awarded the Ernest O. Lawrence Award of the U.S. Department of Energy, the Harrison Howe Award, and the Peter Debye Award of Physical Chemistry from the American Chemical Society.

He is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a foreign member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, the Göttingen Academy of Sciences, the Indian Academy of Sciences, the Korean Academy of Science and Technology, the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences, the Japanese Academy, and the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

In 1980 Prof. Lee became a member of the Academia Sinica and took Presidency from 1994-2006 at same institute. He is also a member of the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World, and the Pontifical Academy of Sciences. He is now Distinguished Research Fellow of the Institute of Atomic and Molecular Sciences Jointly Appointed by the Genomics Research Center at Academia Sinica. Academician Lee received 34 honorary doctoral degrees from universities around the world.

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中央研究院新聞稿

李遠哲院士榮獲美國化學傳統基金會(CHF)

2008 年奧斯瑪 (Othmer Gold Medal) 獎章

美國化學傳統基金會(The Chemical Heritage Foundation, CHF)日前宣布,本院李遠哲院士榮獲該基金會 2008 年奧斯瑪獎章(Othmer Gold Medal)。這個重要的國際學術機構將在今年 5 月 15 日年度表彰大會中,頒授李遠哲院士第 11 屆奧斯瑪獎章之崇高榮譽。

位於美國費城的化學傳統基金會具有 28 年歷史,創會宗旨在保存與促進科學發展,基金會以收藏世界一流化學與分子科學相關文物為著名。包括具有歷史意義的實驗器具、善本書、科學繪畫,以及知名科學家手稿等等。

基金會為紀念本世紀身兼工程師、發明家、慈善家、編輯、顧問於一身的傑出科學家奧斯瑪教授(Donald Othmer, 1904-1995),而於 1997 年設立奧斯瑪獎章,旨在表揚對於推動化學教育、推廣化學知識、促進相關化學法規等範疇,具有卓著貢獻之全球專家學者。

基金會主席兼執行長崔頓(Prof. Thomas R. Tritton)於聲明中指出,榮獲 1986 諾貝爾化學獎的李遠哲院士對教育極為堅持與熱心,自身的研究亦十分傑出。在美國成功奮鬥 30 年後,他返回台灣,貢獻於教育改革及促進台海兩岸關係。

李遠哲院士 1936 年出生於新竹,1959 年台灣大學化學系畢業,1961 年獲清華大學原子科學研究所碩士後赴美深造,並於 1965 年獲得美國柏克萊加州大學化學博士。1967 年,他加入哈佛大學赫胥巴克教授(Dudley Herschbach)的實驗室,成功建造了交叉分子束儀器(crossed molecular beam apparatus)。此重要工具的成功研發,為化學反應的研究開拓了新的里程碑。

李遠哲院士目前擔任本院原子與分子科學研究所及基因體研究中心合聘之特聘研究員,他在專業研究、教育、學術行政上均表現卓越,榮獲頒致無數獎章及榮譽。除了 1986 年獲得諾貝爾獎之外,還曾獲得美國國家科學獎章、英國皇家化學學會法拉第獎、美國化學學會的哈里遜·豪獎、彼得·德拜物理化學獎、美國能源部勞倫斯獎,以及印度科學院尼赫魯百年誕辰獎章等。

同時,他是中央研究院、美國藝術與科學學院、第三世界科學院、梵帝岡宗座科學院的院士,美國國家科學院、德國哥廷根科學院、德國馬克斯普朗克研究院、韓國科學與技術學院、印度國家科學院、瑞典皇家工程科學院的海外院士,以及日本科學院、匈牙利科學院的榮譽院士。全球已有 34 所大學頒授李遠哲院士榮譽博士學位。

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