

IUPAC - RICHTER PRIZE - 2020

This year marks the eighth occasion of the IUPAC-Richter Prize, which was established in 2005 by IUPAC (International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry) and Richter PLC.

The prize is awarded to an internationally recognized scientist, preferably a medicinal chemist, whose activities or published accounts have made an outstanding contribution to the practice of medicinal chemistry or the discovery of one or more new drugs.

Awarded biannually, the awardee is announced by IUPAC following nominations and the decision of an independent international Selection Committee. According to the rules of the prize the awardee is expected to give two lectures, one in Europe and one in the United States, at international symposiums on medicinal chemistry. The lecture in which the prize is awarded occurs alternatively in Europe and in the United States. The awardee receives \$ 10 000, which is sponsored by Richter PLC, and a plaque, which is presented by IUPAC.

The Chair of the current international Selection Committee is Dr. Janos Fischer (IUPAC). The jury members are Dr. Yves Auberson (Switzerland), Dr. Jonathan Baell (Australia), Dr. Helmut Buschmann (Germany), Dr. Wayne Childers (USA), Dr. Kazumi Kondo (Japan), Dr. David Rotella (USA), Dr. Gerd Schnorrenberg (Germany), Dr. Mike Waring (UK) and Dr. Patrick Woster (USA). The Chair coordinates the work of the Selection Committee and the members of the Selection Committee cast their vote for their choice of awardee.

The IUPAC-RICHTER Prize is recognized internationally, as demonstrated by a high number of nominations of successful and internationally renowned scientists in drug research. The process of deciding who among the many deserving nominees receives the award is always difficult.

An overview of the IUPAC-Richter awardees is provided below:

2006 : Malcolm FG Stevens (UK)



discovery of temozolomide for the treatment of glioblastoma multiforme

2008 : Jan Heeres (Belgium)



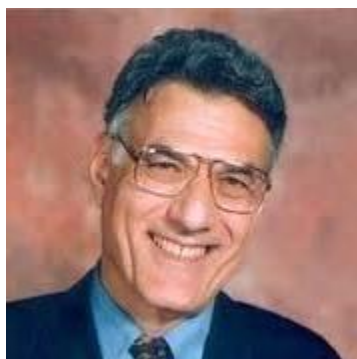
discovery of ketoconazole and several similar antifungal drugs

2010 : Arun Ghosh (USA)



discovery of darunavir for the treatment of AIDS

2012 : Stephen Hanessian (Canada)



Chiron Approach for the synthesis of chiral compounds

2014 : Helmut Buschmann (Germany)



discovery of tapentadol, a new analgesic drug

2016 : Michael Sofia (USA)



discovery of sofosbuvir for curing hepatitis C

2018 : Peter Grootenhuis (USA)



discovery of lumacaftor and ivacaftor for the treatment of cystic fibrosis

2020 : John Macor (USA)



discovery of eletriptan and rimegepant for the treatment of migraine

Eleven nominations were received for the 2020 IUPAC-Richter prize. John Macor has been selected as awardee of the 2020 IUPAC-Richter Prize in recognition of his research work affording new drugs for the treatment of migraine. The acceptance lecture will be held in Basel, Switzerland in September 2020 at the XXVI European Federation of Medicinal Chemistry International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ISMC) and a second lecture at the 37th ACS National Medicinal Chemistry Symposium to be held in New York (June 28-July 1).

Janos Fischer

Chair, Selection Committee