

Qatar Foundation Research Division is pleased to announce the Sixth Lecture in the **Qatar Foundation Distinguished Lecture Series**

Professor Robert H. Grubbs

Nobel Laureate in Chemistry 2005

California Institute of Technology, USA

“Sputnik, Chemistry and Metathesis”

Date: Wednesday, January 20, 2010

Time: 9:30 am – 12:15 pm

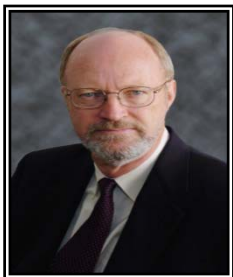
Venue: Lecture Hall 238-Texas A&M, Qatar Foundation, Doha

The **Qatar Foundation Distinguished Lecture Series** involves a lecture by a Nobel Laureate who speaks on a niche area of science that affects our daily lives. The lecture is followed by a discussion session with the speaker.

Admission is free and reservation is on first come first served basis. To register and /or learn more about the Qatar Foundation Distinguished Lecture Series please visit www.qf-researchdivision.org/distinguished/.

For additional information contact us by emailing DLS.info@qf.org.qa or call +974 454 0522

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF PROFESSOR ROBERT H. GRUBBS



American chemist Robert Grubbs received the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 2005 following his outstanding work on the “development of the metathesis method in organic synthesis”. The prize was shared with his colleagues, Professor Richard R. Schrock and Professor Yves Chauvin. Currently, he serves as the Victor and Elizabeth Atkins Professor of Chemistry at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, California.

Professor Robert Howard Grubbs was born on 27 February 1942 in rural Kentucky, USA. He earned his BS and MS degrees in chemistry from the University of Florida, in 1963 and 1965, respectively. In 1968 he obtained his Ph.D. from Columbia University, New York. Upon completing his PhD, Professor Grubbs served as a National Institutes of Health Postdoctoral Fellow at Stanford University in 1968-69. In 1978 he went to Caltech with full tenure as a professor, and has been the Victor and Elizabeth Atkins Professor of Chemistry since 1990.

The main focus of Professor Grubbs’s research group is on metathesis, an organic reaction in which two molecules exchange fragments under the influence of a catalyst. The end result is a custom-built molecule that has specialized properties. Professor Grubbs developed powerful new catalysts for metathesis which enabled industry to produce plastics and drugs more efficiently and with less hazardous waste. For this breakthrough, Robert H. Grubbs was awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 2005 as it represents a great step forward for ‘green chemistry’, reducing potentially hazardous waste through smarter production.

In addition to the Nobel Prize, Professor Grubbs has received many prestigious awards, including the Alfred P. Sloan Fellow (1974-76), Camille and Henry Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar Award (1975-78), Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship (1975), American Chemical Society(ACS) Benjamin Franklin Medal in Chemistry (2000), ACS Herman F. Mark Polymer Chemistry Award (2000), ACS Herbert C. Brown Award for Creative Research in Synthetic Methods (2001), and the Tolman Medal (2003). He was elected to the National Academy of Sciences (1989), Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (1994), the Honorary Fellowship of the Royal Society of Chemistry (2006) and Fellows of the American Chemical Society

ABOUT DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES

The QF distinguished lecture series is an ongoing event to invite renowned scientists to share their experiences through lectures and to provide opportunities for local scientists to approach them for potential research collaborations.

Typically, a Nobel Laureate is invited to give a lecture about his work giving scientists in Doha insight about his work and chance to gain from his/ her expertise.

The Distinguished Lecture Series are part of QF Research Division mission to create a knowledge-based society in Qatar by introducing students, scientists and the public to globally renowned research achievements.

For more information about Distinguished lecture series past events, kindly visit:

http://www.qf-researchdivision.org/distinguished/past_lectures.php

RESEARCH, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AT QATAR FOUNDATION

Research is an essential component in Qatar Foundation's strategy to make Education City a world-class center for innovative education. Qatar Foundation's Research Division, with Education City's branch campuses and Research Centers, is aiming at pursuing cutting-edge research and development that helps build Qatar's innovation and technology capacity, supports the growth of Qatari society and uncovers solutions to national challenges in health, climate change, the environment, clean energy and other fields.

Qatar Foundation's research strengths will be organized around core platforms of medicine, biotechnology, information and communication technologies, environmental sciences, molecular sciences and nanotechnology. Each of the university branch campuses boasts a research element, and SIDRA Medical and Research Centre will be as much cutting-edge research facility as clinical care provider. And Qatar Science and Technology Park will be an incubator where private companies can partner with government agencies and academic institutions and developing research into commercial applications. Qatar National Research Funds plays a vital role in providing financial support to researchers at all levels, from students to professionals, in the private, public and academic sectors.

As part of Qatar Foundation supporting national aspirations for research and development, the Research Division implements a number of programs that relate to achieving the development in niche areas of science that give the country competitive advantage while raising the research profile at the global stage. The QF distinguished lecture series provides an avenue to invite renowned

scientists to share their experiences through lectures and to provide opportunities for local scientists to approach them for potential research collaborations. The Scientific Research Exchanges serves to establish collaborative programs with hosting institutions for junior scientists to receive training in niche areas of research which are not available locally.

The Scientific Advancement and Coordination program highlights Ethical, Environmental, Economic, Legal and Social Issues of science and technology that must be addressed in a country in order to progress. The International Science Cooperation program helps to initiate targeted areas of research that give strengths to Qatar Foundation, Qatari Centres and Institutions by directing concentrated efforts in a particular area of work that is of strategic importance to Qatar Foundation and Qatar.

Qatar Foundation envisions research as a catalyst for expanding and diversifying a country's economy; enhancing the education and well-being of its citizens and the training and development of its workforce.

ABOUT QATAR FOUNDATION

Founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani, Emir of Qatar, and chaired by Her Highness Sheikha Mozah Bint Nasser Al Missned, Qatar Foundation is a private, non-profit organization committed to the principle that a nation's greatest natural resource is its people.

Qatar Foundation's flagship project is Education City which has branch campuses of six major American universities. Others are expected to join in the coming years from various parts of the world. The branch campus concept-world-class universities bringing their best-regarded programs to Qatar as full-fledged partners with Qatar Foundation - is unique in the history of education.

Education City is, in essence, a university of universities, a community of education and research institutions that serve the whole citizen, from early childhood education to post-graduate study. A string of knowledge-based organizations is being created at Education City, including the Qatar Science and Technology Park which will house technology-based companies and entrepreneurs, and link the universities with industry.

For more information please visit: <http://www.qf.org.qa/>