

## 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/>



## The Eighth lecture of Qatar Foundation Distinguished Lecture Series



Tuesday December 14, 2010

### Professor Peter Agre

Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2003

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, USA

Venue: Lecture Hall 238, Texas A&M University at Qatar, Education City-Doha

Time	Program
09.30 - 10.00 am	Registration and Coffee
10.00 - 10.15 am	Welcome and Introductory Remarks
10.15 - 11.15 am	Lecture: "A Life in Science" Professor Peter Agre Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, USA Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2003
11.15 - 12.00 pm	Dialogue & Discussion Session
12.00 pm	Closing



TEXAS A&M  
UNIVERSITY at QATAR

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF PROFESSOR PETER AGRE



Peter Agre (born January 29, 1949) is an American medical doctor, professor, and molecular biologist who was awarded the 2003 Nobel Prize in Chemistry (which he shared with Roderick MacKinnon) for his discovery of aquaporins. Aquaporins are water-channel proteins that move water molecules through the cell membrane. In February 2009, Peter Agre was inducted as the 163rd president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the nation's largest scientific organization.

Agre was born in Northfield, Minnesota. He received his B.A. from Augsburg College in Minneapolis, Minnesota and his M.D. in 1974 from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland. From 1975 to 1978 he completed his clinical training in Internal Medicine at Case Western Reserve University's Case Medical Center under Charles C.J. Carpenter. He served as the Vice Chancellor for science and technology at Duke University Medical Center in Durham, NC, where he guided the development of Duke's biomedical research. Agre leads the Johns Hopkins Malaria Research Institute (JHMRI). Agre became director at JHMRI and joined the faculty of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health on January 1, 2008. He was elected to membership in the National Academy of Sciences in 2000 and to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2003. He is also a founding member of Scientists and Engineers for America (SEA), and serves on its Board of Advisors.

Agre is known among science students for his humanity and humility. One of the reasons he gives for this is the grade of "D" Agre received in his first chemistry class, despite having a father who was a chemistry professor. He also notes that his prize-winning research was originally an investigation of the molecular identity of the human blood Rh factor, and his initial discovery of aquaporins was purely serendipitous. He appeared on The Colbert Report, discussing SEA, sound science in politics, and the decline of American knowledge of science, among other topics.

## 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 Centers 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.