

Announcing the Third Lecture of Qatar Foundation Distinguished Lecture Series

Professor Sir Martin Evans,

Nobel Laureate in Medicine 2007
Cardiff School of Biosciences
Cardiff University, UK

“The Origins of Embryonic Stem Cells”

The QF Research Division is pleased to present to the public a lecture and dialogue session with a Nobel Laureate who will speak on a niche area of science that affects our daily lives.

Date: Sunday, November 16, 2008
Time: 10:00 am – 12:30 pm
Venue: Lecture Hall 4 – WCMC-Q
Qatar Foundation, Doha

Lunch and **student dialogue** with the speaker will follow the lecture. For lecture and/or student dialogue registration, please RSVP cmadreja@qf.org.qa or call +974 454 0522

Admission is free and reservation is on first come first served basis.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF SIR MARTIN EVANS



Sir Martin J. Evans was born in Stroud, Gloucestershire, England in 1941. He received his early education in St Dunstan's College, an independent school for boys in South East London and obtained his B. A. degree from Christ's College at University of Cambridge in 1963. Following his graduation, he moved to University College London where he was awarded a PhD in 1969. He became a lecturer in the Anatomy and Embryology department at University College London. Then he returned to University of Cambridge, where in 1978 he moved to the Department of Genetics and in 1990s he was a fellow at St Edmund's College. In 1999 he became Professor of Mammalian Genetics and Director of the School of Biosciences at Cardiff University where he worked until the end of 2007.

After graduating from Cambridge, he decided on a career studying the genetic control of vertebrate development. In 1981, after his return to Cambridge, he was able to isolate embryonic stem cells from normal mouse embryos. He demonstrated that these cells can be used to fully regenerate fertile breeding mice from the tissue culture cells and that these could therefore carry mutations introduced and selected or screened for in culture. This is now the basis of all mouse knockout and targeted genetic manipulation. Since then, Sir Martin, has been exploiting gene knockout and gene trap methods both for novel discovery and to create animal models of human disease. From his laboratory came the first demonstration of gene therapy to cure the deficit in Cystic Fibrosis in a whole animal and recently, from a mutated mouse model, insights into the breast cancer gene BRCA2 function.

Sir Martin has published more than 120 scientific papers. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1993 and is a founder Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences. In 1993 he was awarded the Walter Cottman Fellowship and the William Bate Hardy Prizes. He was awarded the prestigious Albert Lasker Award for Basic Medical Research in the US in 2001. In 2002 he was awarded an honorary doctorate from Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York, regarded as one of the world's foremost centres for medical and scientific training. In 2007, he was a co-winner of the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in recognition of his gene targeting work. In 2008, he was awarded Genome Valley Excellence Award, Freedom of the Society of Apothecaries of London Honoris Causa and Doctorate honoris causa from University of Athens

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:

- [Professor Ferid Murad, Nobel Laureate In Medicine \(May 4, 2008\)](#)
- [Professor Richard Schrock, Nobel Laureate In Chemistry \(March 9, 2008\)](#)

QATAR FOUNDATION - RESEARCH DIVISION

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, Science and Technology 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 Education City's 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 Science and Technology Division implements a number of programmes 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 programmes with hosting institutions for junior scientists to receive training in niche areas of research which are not available locally.

The Scientific Advancement and Coordination programme 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 programme 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.