

The Roy L. Whistler International Award in Carbohydrate Chemistry 2010



The International Carbohydrate Organization is very pleased to announce that the Roy L. Whistler International Award in Carbohydrate Chemistry for 2010 has been awarded to Professor Jesús Jiménez-Barbero of the Centro de Investigaciones Biológicas (Center for Biological Research) of the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (Higher Council for Scientific Research), abbreviated CIB-CSIC, Madrid, Spain.

In 1984, the International Carbohydrate Organization established the Award in honour of Professor Roy L. Whistler, to recognize scientists 'who have made contributions of excellence in carbohydrate chemistry and biochemistry and with promise of continuing significant contributions'. The Award is recognized with a plaque, a cheque for US \$10,000, and an invitation to present the opening lecture at the International Carbohydrate Symposium (ICS). The next ICS will be held in Tokyo, Japan from August 1 to 6, 2010.

Jesús Jiménez-Barbero was trained as a structural carbohydrate chemist, and from the beginning, was interested in the great potential of the application of NMR spectroscopy in carbohydrate research. His major contributions to the field of glycoscience comprise the unraveling of the molecular basis of the recognition of oligosaccharides by receptors in solution, using a multidisciplinary approach, which employs carbohydrate synthesis, protein biochemistry and molecular biology, molecular modeling, and NMR spectroscopy. Major contributions include his systematic studies on the interactions of oligosaccharides with the lectins ricin, hevein, and more recently, galectins. Such detailed investigations have contributed significantly to our general understanding of carbohydrate-mediated interactions in health and disease. Jesús is regarded as one of the few experts who not only applies NMR methods but also develops advanced NMR methods for studying the conformational properties of carbohydrates and their interaction with proteins as well as with other carbohydrates. He is firmly ensconced in the carbohydrate community and has brought his broad NMR expertise to many collaborative works worldwide. He has published over 300 papers, 1 book, and 12 book chapters. His contributions have been recognized by the Award in Organic Chemistry of the Spanish Royal Society of Chemistry in 2003 and by the Award in NMR Spectroscopy of the Spanish Royal Society of Chemistry / Bruker in 2008.

Utrecht, August 17, 2009

Professor Johannis P. Kamerling

Secretary of the International Carbohydrate Organization (ICO)