#### Fred L.M. Pattison



(1923–2010) Fred Pattison was born in Scotland, where he received his early education. He enrolled at the University of Cambridge in England in 1941 to study Natural Science. Fred remained there to obtain a Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry under the supervision of Dr. B.C. Saunders. He then moved to Halifax, Nova Scotia to lecture at Dalhousie

University for a year before joining Western in 1948 as an Assistant Professor of Chemistry.

Fred established a Ph.D. program in the department. His research on biologically active organic fluorine compounds produced many scientific papers, garnered the award of an Sc.D. by the University of Cambridge, and resulted in the publication of a book, *Toxic Aliphatic Fluorine Compounds*. In 1959, he became Professor and Head of the Department, and he presided over the expansion of the department and its move to new facilities.

In 1965, Fred decided on a career change. At the age of 42, he enrolled at Western as a first-year medical student. After completing his M.D. four years later, he interned at St. Joseph's Hospital in London and served for a year as resident in the Family Practice Program. As well, he was enrolled in a diploma program in venereology at the University of Liverpool. In 1971–73, Fred followed up a long-standing interest in the peoples of Canada's North by working with the International Grenfell Association. He provided solo medical care to about 6,000 people scattered along 120 miles of the Atlantic coast of Newfoundland.

Fred returned to London in 1973, when he joined Western's Student Health Services, holding the position of Director at his formal retirement in 1988. During the same period, he was a clinical assistant professor in the Faculty of Medicine, giving instruction in venereology, and director of the Middlesex-London Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic.

After retiring, Fred was able to resume his connection with the Chemistry Department as Professor Emeritus. In light of his long service and many contributions to chemistry and medicine at Western, it is entirely fitting that the department dedicate a lecture series bearing his name.

#### **Contact Information**

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### Previous Fred Pattison Senior Lectureships

1992	Sir Derek Barton, Texas A & M University
1993	Barry Trost, Stanford University
1995	Stephen J. Benkovic, Penn State University
1996	Steven V. Ley, University of Cambridge
1997	Anthony J. Kirby, University of Cambridge
1998	Larry E. Overman, Univ. of California, Irvine
1999	Sir Fraser Stoddart, Northwestern University
2000	Dennis Curran, University of Pittsburgh
2001	Joseph Lambert, Northwestern University
2002	Anthony Barrett, Imperial College
2003	Richard Wolfenden, UNC Chapel Hill
2004	Victor Snieckus, Queen's University
2005	Lutz F. Tietze, Georg-August University, Göttingen
2006	Juan C. (Tito) Scaiano, University of Ottawa
2007	François Diederich, ETH Zürich
2008	Erik J. Sorensen, Princeton University
2009	Chad A. Mirkin, Northwestern University
2010	Dennis A. Dougherty, CalTech
2011	Guy Bertrand, Univ. of California, Riverside
2013	Darren Dixon, University of Oxford
2014	Stephen K. Hashmi, Heidelberg University
2016	Craig J. Hawker, Univ. of California Santa Barbara

Light snacks and refreshments will be served 15 minutes prior to each lecture.

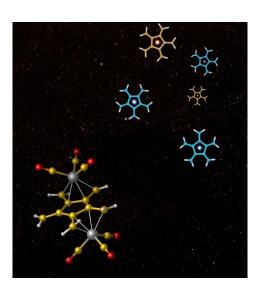


If you require this information in an alternate format, or if any other arrangements can make this event more accessible to you, please contact us.

# The Department of Chemistry presents the 2017 Fred Pattison Senior Lecturer

### Michael S. Sherburn

**Professor Research School of Chemistry Australian National University** 



A two-part lecture series May 23 and May 24, 2017



#### Michael S. Sherburn



Michael Sherburn is Professor of Chemistry at the Research School of Chemistry at the Australian National University in Canberra, Australia. He studied chemistry first at The University of Nottingham in England, from where he obtained his PhD degree in 1991, then as a postdoctoral fellow at the Australian National He held positions at Massey University. University in New Zealand and The University of Sydney before returning to the Research School of Chemistry in 2002. His group's research interests are largely focused the development of efficient synthetic methods, strategies and tactics for the synthesis of natural and unnatural structures.

He has been awarded the Le Févre Memorial Prize (2006), an Erskine Fellowship (2008) and the A.J. Birch Medal of the RACI (2008). He was promoted to Professor at the Research School of Chemistry in 2011.

## Lecture I Putting the Fun Back Into Fundamental Hydrocarbon Chemistry

Tuesday, May 23, 3:00 pm Room 3250, 3M Centre

The two simplest branched acyclic structures comprising only conjugated C=C units were first reported in 1955 and 1962, respectively. No higher members of the series were described in the literature until we reported them in 2000. Before we prepared them, most "experts" (myself included) considered these structures un-synthesizable. This presentation will describe the modern phase of dendralene—and related  $\pi$ -bond rich hydrocarbon—chemistry.

In this talk I will try to convince you of four things: (a) that you should always have a healthy scepticism for *absolute* statements regarding what is possible in terms of chemical structure and chemical synthesis; (b) that fundamental hydrocarbon chemistry still has enormous potential for important, original, and widereaching discoveries; (c) that at least some of your assumptions about the instability of "polyenes" are wrong, and (d) that  $\pi$ -bond rich olefinic hydrocarbons are, at long last, coming of age.

# Lecture II Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Synthesis But Were Afraid to Ask

#### Wednesday, May 24, 3:00 pm Room 3250, 3M Centre

OK, perhaps not *everything*, but some insights will be offered into the development of new and efficient methods for the preparation of diverse classes of organic compounds with unprecedented structures and important functions.

These findings will be accompanied by an uncompromising critique of the existing strategies and tactics of chemical synthesis; and the (often conflicting) factors that influence modern synthesis design. Highly subjective and inflammatory remarks pertaining to future developments in the field will be delineated.