

The Michael Baird Lecture Series

The Michael Baird Lecture Series was established in 2017, the Golden Anniversary of Mike's arrival at Queen's, through generous donations from former students.

Mike was raised in Dundas, Ontario, and obtained an Hon. B.Sc. in Chemistry from McMaster University (where he also won several OUAA and CIS intercollegiate sprint championships). He completed his Ph.D. within three years at the University of Toronto, and then spent two extremely productive postdoctoral years with Sir Geoffrey Wilkinson (1973 Nobel Prize) at Imperial College, London. He joined the faculty at Queen's in 1967.

Mike has carried out research on many aspects of organometallic chemistry and catalysis, publishing over 275 papers and ten patents. He has received almost every national award for scholarship in his field including the Alcan Lecture Award, the Catalysis Award and the Catalysis Lectureship Award of the Chemical Institute of Canada. He was elected to Fellowships of the Chemical Institute of Canada and the Royal Society of Canada, and received the Queen's University Prize for Excellence in Research in 1998. Mike was elected to the McMaster University Sports Hall of Fame and received the 2015 McMaster University Distinguished Alumni Award.

Mike Baird is a much respected teacher who guided about 90 graduate students and 25 postdoctoral fellows. He has taught literally thousands of undergraduate students at all levels, of whom about 350 were introduced to research in his laboratory. As a result, Mike received the Chemistry Department Student Council Prize for Excellence in Teaching five times.

The Baird Lecture Series represents a fine legacy to the Baird career, and the Department thanks former Baird group members Helen Ferkul (M.Sc. '81) and Will Rogers (Ph.D. '80) for organizing the funding drive.

PREVIOUS BAIRD LECTURERS

2021 • C. Turro

2020 • D. J. Mindiola

2019 • D. W. Stephan

2018 • K. I. Goldberg

2017 • R. Schrock

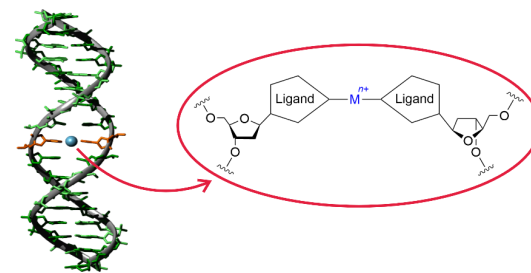


The Department of Chemistry,
Queen's University

is honoured to host the
2024 Dr. Michael Baird Lecture:

Jens Müller
University of Münster

"Metal-Modified Nucleic
Acids: From Silver(I)-
Mediated Base Pairs to
Phosphorescent Platinum(II)-
Bearing DNA"



Friday, March 15, 2024
11:30 AM
Chernoff Hall, Room 117

DR. JENS MÜLLER



Jens Müller

University of Münster
Graduate School of Molecules and Interfaces
Wilhelm-Klemm-Straße 10
48149 Münster

Jens Müller holds a Chair of Inorganic Chemistry (2018) at the Department of Chemistry and Pharmacy, Universität Münster, Germany. He obtained his doctoral degree (1999, summa cum laude) from the Technische Universität Dortmund, working with Bernhard Lippert. He was awarded a Feodor Lynen Fellowship by the Alexander von Humboldt-Foundation to conduct postdoctoral work in the groups of Stephen J. Lippard (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) and Gerhard Wagner (Harvard Medical School). Upon his return to Germany, he started an independent career at the Technische Universität Dortmund in 2002, funded by the prestigious Emmy Noether Program. After having received his Habilitation in 2008, he became Professor of Inorganic Chemistry at the Universität Münster. His research focuses on the bioinorganic chemistry of nucleic acids, with a particular interest in metal-mediated base pairing. He was Dean of Student Affairs from 2011–2014, chair of the European research initiative COST Action CM1105 (“Functional metal complexes that bind to biomolecules”), and guest editor of several themed issues of chemistry journals. Since 2018, he has served as editor of *Inorganica Chimica Acta*. He is a council member of the Society of Biological Inorganic Chemistry and chair of the 17th Biological Inorganic Chemistry Conference (2024 in Münster, Germany).

SELECTED HONOURS & AWARDS

- 2020 Students' award for best chemistry lecture
- 2018 - present Editor, *Inorganica Chimica Acta*
- 2013 Students' award for best chemistry lecture
- 2010 Students' award for best chemistry lecture
- 2002 Emmy Noether Fellow, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft
- 2000 Feodor Lynen Fellow, Alexander von Humboldt-Foundation