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## News & Publications

### Yaghi wins Faisal Prize for Science

February 03, 2015

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The 2015 King Faisal International Prize for Science has been awarded to Berkeley chemistry professor Omar Yaghi. He shares the award with Michael Grätzel of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology.

The award is presented by the King Faisal Foundation, a philanthropic organization established in 1976 by the sons and daughters of the late King Faisal in commemoration of their father. The science prize was first awarded in 1984 and rotates among the fields of physics, chemistry, biology and mathematics.

Yaghi, who is co-director of the Kavli ENSI, co-director of CARA by BASF and a Faculty Scientist at LBNL, was awarded the Faisal prize for his “seminal contributions in the field of metal organic frameworks (MOFs).” Grätzel was recognized for his “foundational and practical discoveries in the development of photo-electrochemical systems for solar energy conversion.”

Previous winners of the Faisal science prize include chemists Richard Zare and James Fraser Stoddart and Nobel Laureates Stephen Chu, former LBNL director and DOE secretary, and Ahmed H. Zewail, a former College of Chemistry postdoc.

The prize includes a 24-carat gold medal and \$200,000, distributed equally between the winners.

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## Science

I am honored tonight to receive one of the world's most prestigious prizes in science, the King Faisal International Prize. I am honored for the recognition of the science, and for being the first Arab to win this prize. I have been fortunate to obtain other international recognitions and honors, but the King Faisal Prize is special.

[Speech of Professor Ahmed H. Zewail](#)

### DATABASE OF WINNERS

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**2015** Chemistry Professor Michael Grätzel **2015** Chemistry Professor Omar Mwannes Yaghi **2014** Mathematics Professor Gerd Faltings **2013** Physics Professor Paul B. Corkum **2013** Physics Professor Ferenc Krausz **2012** Biology Professor Alexander J. Varshavsky **2011** Chemistry Professor George M. Whitesides **2011** Chemistry Professor Richard Zare **2010** Mathematics Professor Enrico Bombieri **2010** Mathematics Professor Terence Chi-Shen Tao **2009** Physics Professor Sir Richard H. Friend **2009** Physics Professor Rashid A. Sunyaev **2008** Biology Professor Rudiger Wehner **2007** Chemistry Professor James Fraser Stoddart **2006** Mathematics Professor Mudumbai S. Narasimhan **2006** Mathematics Professor Simon Kirwan Donaldson **2005** Physics Professor Anton Zeilinger **2005** Physics Professor Federico Capasso **2005** Physics Professor Frank Wilczek **2004** Biology Professor Semir Zeki **2003** Chemistry Professor M. Fredrick Hawthorne **2003** Chemistry Professor Koji Nakanishi **2002** Mathematics Professor Yuri I. Manin **2002** Mathematics Professor Peter W. Shor **2001** Physics Professor Sajeew O. John **2001** Physics Professor Chen Ning Yang **2000** Biology Professor Edward O. Wilson **2000** Biology Professor John Craig Venter **1999** Chemistry Professor Ryoji Noyori **1999** Chemistry Professor Dieter Seebach **1998** Mathematics Professor Andrew J. Wiles **1997** Physics Professor Carl E. Wieman **1997** Physics Professor Eric Allin Cornell **1996** Biology Professor Gunter Blobel **1996** Biology Professor Hugh R. Pelham **1996** Biology Professor James E. Rothman **1995** Chemistry Professor K. Barry Sharpless **1994** Mathematics Professor Dennis P. Sullivan **1993** Physics Professor Herbert Walther **1993** Physics Professor Steven Chu **1992** Biology Professor Sydney Brenner **1991** Mathematics (Withheld) **1990** Chemistry Professor Frank A. Cotton **1990** Chemistry Professor Mustafa Amr El Sayed **1990** Chemistry Professor Raymond U. Lemieux **1989** Physics Professor Ahmed H. Zewail **1989** Physics Professor Theodore W. Hanch **1988** Biology Professor Pierre Chambon **1988** Biology Professor Ricardo Miledi **1987** Mathematics Professor Sir Michael Atiyah **1986** Biochemistry Professor Sir Michael J. Berridge **1985** Biochemistry (Withheld) **1984** Physics Professor Gerd Binnig **1984** Physics Professor Heinrich Rohrer **1983** Physics (Withheld)

### ABOUT CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

#### About

The Science subcategories cover a broad scope alternating between physics, chemistry, biology and mathematics.

Prizes for Science were added in 1982 and first awarded in 1984.

One is considered qualified to win the King Faisal International Prize for Science if they have carried out and published an original scientific research on the prize's topic, with major benefits to humanity, and meeting one or more of the prize's objectives as determined by the respective Selection Committee.

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