

**PRESS RELEASE
WINNERS ANNOUNCED
2003/1423H KNG FAISAL INTERNATONLAL PRIZE
FOR
SCIENCE**

Topic: CHEMISTRY

Riyadh, 26 November 2002, HRH Prince Khaled Al-Faisal, Managing Director of King Faisal Foundation, tonight announced the winners of the King Faisal International Prize in the field of Chemistry. The prize for Science is jointly awarded to:

Professor Marion Frederick Hawthorne
University Professor of Chemistry, University of California
and
Professor Koji Nakanishi
Centennial Professor of Chemistry, Columbia University

Professor Hawthorne is one of the most creative and productive chemists in the world. His research extends over many fields, ranging from the syntheses of new compounds to novel therapies for cancer. He has been influential in the field of boron chemistry, particularly in its industrial applications to catalysis of polymerization. Professor Hawthorne's research could lead to the development of a "silver bullet" to target cancerous cells for destruction while sparing healthy ones. Such an achievement would have a profound impact on cancer therapy.

Professor Nakanishi, an equally eminent chemist, has a wide field of scientific accomplishments. His research in biologically active natural products has exceptional scientific and economic value. He has established the properties and elucidated the structures of many chemical compounds including antibiotics, carcinogenic materials, and anticancer products. Professor Nakanishi's recent research concentrates on the interaction of light with the molecules responsible for vision. These studies are likely to accelerate the development of a treatment for macular degeneration which afflicts many elderly people and leads to the loss of sight.

Note to Editor:

- Over the past 25 years, a total of 32 scholars from 8 different countries have won the King Faisal International Prize for Science.
- The topic for the 2004 King Faisal International Prize for Science is Biology. The deadline for nomination is **31 May 2003**.