

**Professor Steve Ley** has been the BP (1702) Professor of Chemistry at the University of Cambridge since 1992. His work involves the discovery and development of new synthetic methods and their application to biologically active systems. He has published over 700 papers and has been honored with numerous prestigious awards and accolades. His recent awards include the Paracelsus Prize, the Heinrich Wieland Prize, the Tetrahedron Prize, the Perkin Prize for Organic Chemistry, the High Throughput Drug Discovery Methodologies Award, the Prous Institute-Overton and Meyer Award for New Technologies in Drug Discovery and the Hans Heroff Inhoffen Medal. Steve has also been the recipient of 84 named lectureships and given 337 special invited lectures. He was made Fellow (FRS) in 1990, served as President of the Royal Society (2000–2002) and was named CBE by Queen Elizabeth II in January 2002. He received a BSc (First Class Hons) in 1969 and a PhD with Professor H. Heaney in 1972, both from Loughborough University. After Post Doctoral Fellowships with Professor Leo A. Paquette at Ohio State University and Professor Sir Derek H. R. Barton at Imperial College, London, he joined Imperial College as Lecturer in 1975, was appointed Professor of Organic Chemistry in 1983 and Head of Department in 1992.