

## **Nobel Laureates to speak at Symposium "From Cyclotrons to Cytochromes" to honor Martin Kamen**

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Seven Nobel laureates will be among the featured speakers at a symposium to honor the 65th birthday of Martin Kamen, co-discoverer of Carbon 14. He is professor emeritus of chemistry at the University of California, San Diego.

The symposium entitled "From Cyclotrons to Cytochromes" will be held August 28-30 at Sumner Auditorium, Scripps Institution of Oceanography. It is sponsored in part by the UC San Diego Foundation and the Linus Pauling Institute of Science and Medicine.

Forty scientists from around the world will discuss Kamen's early work, which revolutionized the field of biochemistry, and subsequent discoveries which have stemmed from it.

The Nobel Prize winners who are scheduled to speak are: Glenn Seaborg (1951, Chemistry); Edwin McMillan (1951, Chemistry); Willard Libby (1960, Chemistry); Arthur Kornberg (1959, Physiology and Medicine); Carl Cori (1947, Physiology and Medicine); Fritz Lipmann (1953, Physiology and Medicine), and Linus Pauling (1954, Chemistry and 1962, Peace).

Professor Kamen discovered Carbon-14 in collaboration with the late Dr. Samuel Rubin early in his illustrious career and his research had a revolutionary impact on the development of biochemistry and molecular biology as well as carbon dating.

He is the author of more than 200 publications covering such diverse fields as nuclear physics, nuclear chemistry, biochemistry and chemical microbiology.

"Kamen's discovery of Carbon-14, a long lived radioactive isotope of carbon, has made possible roughly half of all the research in biochemistry for the past quarter century," said one of Kamen's colleagues, Robert Haselkorn, chairman of the department of biophysics at the University of Chicago.

Dr. Kamen also developed an interest in photosynthesis, the process by which plants and some bacteria use light energy from sunlight, and is regarded as one of the world's leading authorities on the subject.

More recently in his career Dr. Kamen has turned his attention to the study of a group of iron-containing proteins, called cytochromes, which have essential life functions in all known living organisms from microbes to mammals.

In addition to his scholarly work, Dr. Kamen is also recognized as a leader in the creation of the UC San Diego campus and its rise to prominence as a center for scientific research and teaching.

"He, along with Professor David Bonner, was the instrumental and guiding force in developing the concept of the medical school at UCSD," said Chancellor William D. McElroy.

"No other person on this campus has played such a significant part in the recruitment of new faculty," McElroy continued.

During his career, Dr. Kamen has been the recipient of numerous awards and honors. Among these are the 1963 American Chemical Society Award for Nuclear Applications in Chemistry. He was also one of the first 10 scientists to earn the Charles F. Kettering Research Award, intended to encourage creative research on photosynthesis and related problems in biochemistry.

Dr. Kamen has also been awarded honorary doctorates from the University of Paris, Sorbonne, Washington University and his alma mater, the University of Chicago.

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