Dr. Linus Pauling named recipient of Priestley Memorial Award

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Dr. Linus Pauling, Professor of Chemistry in Residence at the University of California, San Diego, was recently named the 18th recipient of Dickinson College's Priestley Memorial Award.

Presentation of the award next March 27 will be the highlight of the annual Priestley Day celebration at the Carlisle, Pa., college. Howard L. Rubendall, Dickinson president, said Pauling will be honored for his work in physical chemistry.

The award is named for Joseph Priestley, discoverer of oxygen, and consists of a portrait medallion of Priestley. A check for $1,000 accompanies it. Dickinson, which owns one of the largest collections of Priestley memorabilia in America, created the award in 1952 to recognize modern scientists for research, discovery or other production benefiting mankind.

Pauling is a winner of the Nobel Prize in chemistry and also holds the Nobel Peace Prize.

During recent years, much of his work has been on the application of chemistry to biological and medical problems. Last spring he advanced a highly controversial theory that mental patients could well be treated by giving them "optimum amounts" of vitamins, amino acids and certain fatty acids.

During the early war years, he worked on rocket propellants and other explosives but was among the scientists who opposed dropping atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. His work to abolish war began in 1945.

Few scientists have been honored so often. Pauling holds the Roebling Medal of the Mineralogical Society, the American Chemical Society Award in Pure Chemistry, the Nichols Medal, Presidential Medal for Merit, Gibbs Medal, Richards Medal, the Gilbert Newton Lewis Medal, the Davey Medal of the Royal Society, the Thomas Addis Medal of the National Nephrosis Foundation, the Phillips Medal of the American College of Physicians and other awards.

Nearly 30 universities have honored him with degrees, including Chicago, Yale, Cambridge, Oxford, London, Paris, Toulouse, Montpelier, Liege and Berlin.

In addition to 300 scientific papers and numerous books, he has published more than 100 articles on world peace and related subjects and the book "No More War."

His widely-used text "General Chemistry" revolutionized the teaching of chemistry, because it presented chemistry as a subject to be understood in terms of molecular structure and the laws of atomic physics.