

Yvan Guindon

President

(2007-2009)

Dr. Yvan Guindon, a graduate of the Université de Montréal (PhD in Organic Chemistry, 1981), is RSC: The Academies of Arts, Humanities and Sciences' President since November 2007 and has been elected for a two-year period. Dr. Guindon brings a remarkable range of research and research management experience to RSC.

Dr. Guindon began his career with Merck Frosst Canada in 1979 as a Senior Research Chemist, becoming Director of Medicinal Chemistry in 1984 and Senior Director in 1985. During this period, he completed the synthesis of various leukotrienes involved in allergic and inflammatory responses.

In 1987 he became Scientific Director of Bio-Méga and was soon promoted to the position of Vice President of Bio-Méga/Boehringer Ingelheim Research Inc. There he was involved in efforts to identify an anti-herpetic drug, an HIV protease inhibitor, and an anti-hypertensive drug. His work in medicinal chemistry has resulted in over 50 patents and many compounds that have been selected for development and evaluated in clinical trials.

Dr. Guindon maintained close ties with academia throughout his career and pursued research related to the total synthesis of biologically interesting compounds, new synthetic methodology, and free-radical based reactions. As a professor at the Université de Montréal's Department of Chemistry he has taught and supervised numerous graduate students. He is also an Adjunct Professor at the Department of Chemistry of McGill University.

In 1994 Dr. Guindon was appointed CEO and Scientific Director of the Institut de recherches cliniques de Montréal (IRCM), a renowned



biomedical research center. Through his vision, determination and dedication, he gave IRCM a much needed boost, which led the Quebec government to invest \$30 million to expand the institute. Dr. Guindon recruited a dozen high-quality researchers and modernized the institute's research infrastructures. He also set up the Institute's Bio-organic Chemistry Research Unit, where he continues his research in organic and medicinal chemistry with a team of 12 graduate students and post-doctoral fellows.

Dr. Guindon's 100-plus publications are a testimony to his significant contributions in basic and applied research. Throughout his career, he has received many distinctions and awards. He became a Fellow of the Chemical Institute of Canada in 1988 and was elected to the Royal Society of Canada in 1990. In 2004, he was made a member of the Order of Canada and in 2006, received the Lionel-Boulet award, one of the prestigious Prix du Québec, which highlights his remarkable contribution to Quebec's technological and economic development in the area of medicinal chemistry.