**DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY**

**Lecture Series on**

**FRONTIERS IN CHEMISTRY**

**Friday, April 6, 2018**

**W. M. Keck Foundation Amphitheater**

**Beckman Center for Chemical Sciences**

**The Scripps Research Institute**

**10650 North Torrey Pines Road**

**La Jolla, California 92037**

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**Bristol-Myers Squibb Lectures in Synthetic Organic Chemistry**

*Introductions by Professor Jin-Quan Yu*

2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Ke Chen, Ph.D.**

**Chemical & Synthetic Development, Bristol-Myers Squibb, New Brunswick, New Jersey**

“Taming Down Those Nitrogens: Design and Development of the Commercial Synthesis of a Novel Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitor”

Dr. Ke Chen received her undergraduate education at Beijing University in China, 1997-2011, followed by her Ph.D. in Chemistry at the University of Rochester in 2006 under Professors Robert Boeckman, Jr. & Michael A. Calter. She then joined the laboratory of Professor Phil S. Baran at The Scripps Research Institute as a postdoctoral fellow, 2006-2009. Dr. Chen joined Bristol-Myers Squibb in 2009 as a Research Investigator where she is currently a Principal Scientist in the Chemical & Synthetic Development group.

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3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Jan-E. Bäckvall**

**Professor, Stockholm University, Sweden**

“Biomimetic Catalysis in Green Organic Transformations”

Prof. Jan-E. Bäckvall graduated from the Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm in 1971, completing his Ph.D. from the same in 1975. He spent the next year as a postdoc with K.B. Sharpless at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He became Assistant Professor in 1976 and Associate Professor in 1977 at the Royal Institute of Technology. In 1986, he moved to Uppsala University as a Full Professor and in 1997 he moved to his current position as Professor at Stockholm University. Prof. Bäckvall is a Member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Finnish Academy of Science and Letters, Academia Europaea, and European Academy of Sciences. He was a member of the Nobel Committee for Chemistry from 2008-2016. He is a member of a number of Editorial Boards for scientific journals and is the Chairman of the Editorial Board of Chemistry – A European Journal.

He is renowned for his contribution to organopalladium chemistry and catalytic oxidation reactions where he has done mechanistic work and developed new reactions. He has also pioneered the development of efficient systems for dynamic kinetic resolution of alcohols and amines based on combined metal and enzyme catalysis. More recently the enantioselectivity of enzymes was improved by directed evolution. The Bäckvall group has also developed a variety of useful aerobic biomimetic oxidation reactions. In these reactions electron-transfer mediators are employed to facilitate low-energy electron transfer similar to that occurring in natural systems. Recent applications of the latter topic involve palladium-catalyzed oxidative carbocyclizations.

**Hosted by:** Department of Chemistry

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