

Professor Raphael Mechoulam

(updated 2007)

- 1930 Born Sofia, Bulgaria
- 1952 M.Sc. in Biochemistry, Hebrew University, Jerusalem
- 1953-56 Army Service
- 1956-58 Ph.D. studies with Professor F. Sondheimer, Weizmann Institute, Rehovot. Research on steroid synthesis.
- 1959-60 Postdoctoral research at Rockefeller Institute, New York. Research on the structure of triterpenes.
- 1960-65 Junior and later Senior Scientist, Weizmann Institute. Resesearch on chemistry of natural products, including cannabinoids, terpenes, alkaloids.
- 1966- Hebrew University, Jerusalem; 1968 – Associate Professor; 1972 – Professor.
- 1975- Endowed chair: Lionel Jacobson Professor of Medicinal Chemistry.
- 1979-82 Rector (Academic Head) of Hebrew University.
- 1983-85 Pro-Rector, Hebrew University.
- 1993-94 Visiting Professor, Department of Pharmacology, Medical College of Richmond.
- 1999-2000 President of the International Cannabinoid Research Society.
- 2007- Head, Natural Sciences Section, Israel Academy of Sciences

Research interests:

chemistry and biological activity of natural products and synthetic drugs.

Honors

Somach Sachs Prize for “best research by a scientist below 35 at the Weizmann Institute”, 1964.

Distinguished Visiting Professorship, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, 1982-1983.

International Biannual Cannabis meeting (held in Colymbari, Crete), 1990, dedicated to R.M.

“Pharmacology, Biochemistry and Behavior” Nov. 1991 issue dedicated to R.M. for achievements in the cannabinoid field.

Kolthof Prize in Chemistry, 1994, The Technion, Haifa.

Elected, Member Israel Academy of Sciences, 1994.

Hanf Prize, Germany, 1997, for “the discovery of THC and lasting research on Cannabis – anandamides”.

Hanus Medal, 1998, by Czech Chemical Society in recognition of contribution to cannabinoid chemistry.

David R. Bloom Prize, 1998, for “excellence in pharmaceutical research”, Hebrew University.

The International Cannabinoid Research Society (ICRS) establishes an annual award to be named The R. Mechoulam Annual Award in Cannabinoid Research, 1999.

Israel Prize in Exact Sciences – chemistry, 2000.

Ariens Award and Lecture. 2000. Dutch Pharmacological Society sponsored by Solvay Pharmaceuticals. Amsterdam.

Doctor Honoris Causa.
Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, 2001.

Elected, Honorary Member,
Israel Society of Physiology and Pharmacology, 2002.

Heinrich Wieland Prize, endowed by Boehringer-Ingelheim, to promote research on “lipids and related substances in the fields of Chemistry, Biochemistry, Physiology, and Clinical Medicine”, Munich, Germany, 2004.

Henrietta Szold Prize for achievements in medical research,
Tel-Aviv Municipality, June 2005

Doctor Honoris Causa,
Complutense University, Madrid, Jan. 2006

Lifetime Achievement Award, European College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ECNP), Paris, Sept. 2006.

International Association for Cannabinoids in Medicine (IACM) Special Award for "outstanding work on the cannabinoids and the endocannabinoid system", Cologne, Oct. 2007.

Name lectures:

Copenhagen, Denmark, 1977, Ferosan Lecture, School of Pharmacy.

Tuscon, Arizona, 1983, Golden Headed Cane Memorial Lecture,
Faculty of Medicine.

Stockholm, Sweden, 1994, Ulf von Euler Lecture in Physiology,
Karolinska Institute.

Maale Hamisha, 2000, Magnes Memorial Lecture, Israel Society for
Physiology and Pharmacology.