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UCSB Chemist Named Fellow of the American Chemical Society

Michael T. Bowers, professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at UC Santa Barbara, has been named a Fellow of the American Chemical Society (ACS) in its inaugural class of 162 Fellows. He recently received the award at a ceremony in Washington, D.C.

The organization has approximately 150,000 members worldwide, and is the world's premier chemical society. Fellows were chosen based on excellence in science and on service contributions to the ACS or the field of chemistry as a whole.

"It is a tremendous honor to be selected in the inaugural class as an ACS Fellow, certainly one of the premier honors an American chemist could receive," said Bowers.

Bowers has published more than 380 papers in peer-reviewed journals. His articles have been cited more than 14,000 times -- in publications across the chemical sciences, from chemical physics to the chemistry/biological interface.

For the past 20 years, he has served as an editor of the Journal of the American Chemical Society, the top journal in chemistry. For the past 23 years, he has served as editor of the International Journal of Mass Spectrometry, the premier journal in mass spectrometry. He has also served on many important boards of the ACS.

Bowers's current research includes efforts to understand the molecular basis of Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, and Diabetes Type II, and to develop therapeutic strategies for them.

"Mike Bowers's career in chemistry is a model of dedication, determination, and accomplishment," said Alec M. Wodtke, chair of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at UCSB. "His being recognized by the ACS in this way is indeed highly deserved, and long overdue."

Bowers has received numerous other awards including the Nobel Laureate Signature Award, shared with his student Nick Kirchner; the Field and Franklin Award (ACS), given for outstanding achievement in mass spectrometry; the Thomson Gold Medal, the top award of the International Mass Spectrometry Society; the Distinguished Contribution Award, the highest award of the American Society of Mass Spectrometry; the Humboldt Senior Research Award, given for lifetime achievement in science; and the UCSB Faculty Research Lecturer, the highest award the UCSB Academic Senate can give to one of its members. Bowers is also a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry in the U.K., the oldest chemistry society.

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