The Ojima Distinguished Lecture 2024

Dr. Hiroaki Suga

Department of Chemistry The University of Tokyo

"Therapeutics based on New Modalities of Pseudo-Natural Peptides, Products and Neobiologics"





2023 Wolf Prize in Chemistry 2022-2014 President, Chemical Society of Japan 2020 Prelog Medal, ETH-Zurich 2020 Research Award, Alexander von **Humboldt Foundation** 2019 The Vincent du Vigneaud Award, American Peptide Society 2017 Nagoya Silver Medal **2016 Japan Innovator Award** 2015 Max-Bergmann Medal 2014 Akabori Memorial Award, **Japanese Peptide Society 2012 President Award Science Council of Japan** 2006 Co-founder: PeptiDream

Friday, April 26, 2024 4:00 PM Charles B. Wang Center Theater

Prof. Hiroaki Suga is awarded the 2023 Wolf prize in chemistry for developing an exceptionally innovative in-vitro selection system for cyclic peptides as inhibitors of protein-protein interactions. He invented an RNA-based catalyst, **flexizyme**, that transcends natural mechanisms and vastly expands the range of amino acids that can be incorporated with ribosomal machinery. Prof. Suga's strategy enables rapid construction and screening of enormous cyclic peptide libraries. His unique discovery has established a new approach to medicinal chemistry and generated new tools for drug discovery.

Prof. Suga is a co-founder of **PeptiDream**, which became a publicly traded company on the Tokyo Stock Exchange and is one of Japan's most successful startup companies.



Stony Brook University Department of Chemistry