

Dr. Karl M. F. Wamsler (1928–2016) studied chemistry and business administration in Munich and Chicago and earned his doctorate in chemistry with *magna cum laude* in 1955. He first worked for Shell and joined Süd-Chemie in Munich in 1962. In his career there and also as family legacy shareholder, he built up Süd-Chemie from a small regional company into an international corporation, always with an emphasis on innovation, specifically in the area of catalysis. On behalf of his dedication to the TUM University Foundation, TUM awarded Karl Wamsler the rank of Honorary Senator in 2015. Already in 2011 Clariant AG, a sustainability-focused specialty chemistry company based in Pratteln, Switzerland, acquired Süd-Chemie, and in 2017 established the “Dr. Karl Wamsler Innovation Award”. With this Award, Clariant is proud to support catalysis research at TUM and promote excellence in the field of catalysis. Clariant is especially proud to sponsor this award and thereby recognize the world leading researchers and their performance in this essential field of chemistry.

Bert M. Weckhuysen is Distinguished University Professor at Utrecht University (The Netherlands). He received his Master’s degree from Leuven University (Belgium) in 1991. After obtaining his PhD degree in Surface Chemistry, Spectroscopy and Catalysis from Leuven University in 1995, he worked as a postdoctoral fellow at Lehigh University (USA) and at Texas A&M University (USA). From 1997 until 2000 he was a research fellow of the Belgian National Foundation for Scientific Research (NFWO, later named FWO-Flanders) affiliated with Leuven University. Since 2000, Weckhuysen has been Full Professor at Utrecht University. In 2012, he was appointed as first Distinguished Professor of the Faculty of Science at Utrecht University. His main research interests are the development of structure-activity relationships and expert systems in the field of heterogeneous catalysis and materials science with special emphasis on the development and use of advanced in situ characterization techniques.

Weckhuysen receives the 2024 Dr. Karl Wamsler Innovation Award “for his contributions to visualizing heterogeneous catalysts in operando for the conversion of fossil and renewable feedstocks”.

The Technical University of Munich and the Catalysis Research Center cordially invite you to

The Dr. Karl Wamsler Innovation Award Symposium 2024 – Advancing Catalysis Science

On Thursday, November 14th 2024 at 2:00 pm

in the Hans-Fischer Lecture Hall CH21010 at the TUM Department of Chemistry Lichtenbergstraße 4, 85747 Garching bei München

The symposium honors the recipient of the Dr. Karl Wamsler Innovation Award 2024

Bert M. Weckhuysen (Utrecht University, The Netherlands)

Program

Opening of the Symposium

Roland A. Fischer
Chief Academic Director of the TUM Catalysis Research Center

Greetings of the TUM Board of Management

Gerhard Kramer
TUM Senior Vice President Research & Innovation

Lecture “Catalysis – The indispensable Technology to Drive the Energy Transition”

Friedemann Rohr
Head of Sustainability & Business Intelligence, Business Unit Catalysts, Clariant

Presentation of the CRC Best Paper Award

Thorsten Bach
Academic Director of the TUM Catalysis Research Center

Laudatio in honor of the 2024 Dr. Karl Wamsler Innovation Awardee

Jennifer Strunk
Academic Director of the TUM Catalysis Research Center

Lecture “Operando Spectroscopy of Heterogeneous Catalysts to Make Fuels and Chemicals from Renewable Resources”

Bert M. Weckhuysen
Distinguished University Professor at Utrecht University and 2024 Awardee