



IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
**Professor Sir Fraser Stoddart**  
1942 - 2024

MEMORIAL SERVICE  
26 February 2025



**Memorial Service Commemorating Professor Sir Fraser Stoddart**  
Nobel Laureate and Chair Professor at the Department of Chemistry



Date: **Feb 26, 2025 (Wed)**

Time: **4:30pm**

Venue: **Digital Interactive Lab, 2/F, Main Library, HKU**

Master of Ceremonies: **Professor Pauline Chiu**  
*Associate Vice-President of Teaching and Learning and  
Professor, Department of Chemistry*

## PROGRAMMES



Silence Tribute and Opening Remarks:

**Professor Qiang Zhou**  
*Dean of Science*

Eulogies and Reminiscences:

**Professor Xiang Zhang**  
*President and Vice-Chancellor*

**Professor Peng Gong**  
*Vice-President and Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic Development)*

**Professor Aspen X Y Chen**  
*Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry*

**Dr Ken Cham-Fai Leung**  
*Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry, HKBU;  
Honorary Associate Professor, Faculty of Dentistry, HKU*

**Dr Kaikai Ma**  
*Assistant Professor, School of Fashion and Textiles, PolyU*

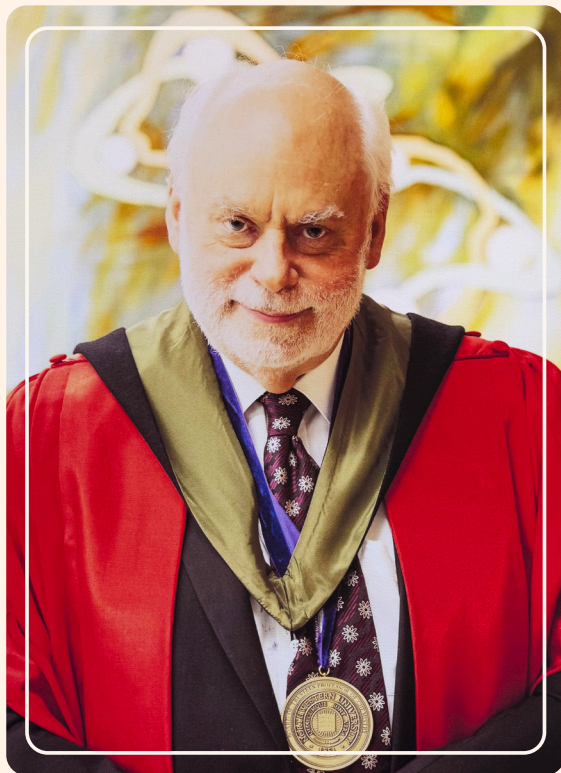
**Mr Chuck Ng**  
*Co-Founder of World Leading Scientists Institute*

**Dr Chun Tang**  
*Research Assistant Professor from Professor Stoddart's research group*

Closing Remarks:

**Professor Xiaoyu Li**  
*Head of the Department of Chemistry*

# Honouring a True Luminary and Towering Figure in Chemistry



*Professor Sir Fraser Stoddart  
Nobel Laureate and Chair Professor at Department of Chemistry, HKU*



With heavy hearts, we gather to honour the remarkable life and contributions of Professor Sir Fraser Stoddart, a Nobel Laureate whose profound impact on the field of chemistry has forever changed the landscape of materials science and molecular nanotechnology. His passing at the age of 82 marks the loss of a visionary scholar and a cherished mentor, leaving a legacy that will inspire future generations.

## A Visionary Scholar

Professor Stoddart dedicated his life to advancing scientific understanding through innovative research. His pioneering work establishing the mechanical bond transformed how chemists conceptualise chemical interactions.

Among his numerous achievements is the development of mechanically interlocked molecular architectures, such as catenanes and rotaxanes, which have paved the way for molecular machines and nanoelectronic devices. His recent endeavours in creating molecular pumps and motors further showcased his unparalleled creativity and commitment to pushing the boundaries of science.

## An Illustrious Career

Beyond the 2016 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, Professor Stoddart's illustrious career was adorned with numerous accolades, including the Centenary Prize from the Royal Society of Chemistry and the 2007 King Faisal International Prize in Science. He was recognised as a Highly Cited Researcher for 11 consecutive years and was a Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences, USA, the Royal Society of London, UK, and a foreign member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

## A Legacy of Mentorship

At The University of Hong Kong (HKU), where he served as Chair Professor in the Department of Chemistry, Professor Stoddart established a cutting-edge laboratory that fostered collaboration and innovation among students and scholars alike. His dedication to mentoring young scientists enriched the academic community, enhancing HKU's reputation as a global leader in research and education.

## Remembering His Passion

As we reflect on his extraordinary achievements, we remember Professor Stoddart not only for his scientific brilliance but also for his genuine passion for teaching and nurturing the ambitions of others. His legacy will continue to inspire us all, reminding us of the transformative power of knowledge and the importance of nurturing the next generation of thinkers.

## A Lasting Impact

We extend our deepest condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues during this difficult time. Professor Stoddart will be dearly missed, but his contributions to science and education will endure, leaving an indelible mark on the world.



Professor Sir Fraser Stoddart after receiving his Nobel Prize at the Stockholm Concert Hall, 10 December 2016. © Nobel Media AB 2016. Photo: Pi Frisk



Professor Stoddart’s Key Milestones and Achievements

1964	Obtained a BSc degree from Edinburgh University.
1966	Completed his PhD at Edinburgh University.
1970s	Joined Sheffield University as an Imperial Chemical Industries (ICI) Research Fellow. Pioneered a new field of chemistry by developing mechanical bonds in molecular compounds and investigated the synthesis of carbohydrate-based chiral crown ethers, leading to key components in interlocking chemical structures.
1980s	Awarded a DSc degree by Edinburgh for research into ‘Stereochemistry Beyond the Molecule.’ Developed the first template-controlled synthesis of a catenane, a mechanically interlocked molecule.
1990s	Appointed Chair of Organic Chemistry at Birmingham University and served as Head of the School of Chemistry. Advanced template-directed protocols for synthesising bistable mechanically interlocked molecules (MIMs), such as catenanes and rotaxanes, generated novel interlocked architectures. Moved to University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) as the Saul Winstein Professor of Chemistry and investigated self-assembly processes and developed electronically reconfigurable molecular switches and molecular Borromean rings.
Late 1990s-2000s	Employed MIMs in the fabrication of molecular electronic devices (MEDs) and NanoElectroMechanical Systems (NEMS) and in the development of artificial molecular machines (AMMs). Created a molecular elevator based on the stepwise descent of a ring structure sliding down supporting molecules.
2003	Appointed Director of the California NanoSystems Institute (CNSI) and assumed the Fred Kavli Chair of NanoSystems Sciences.
2004	Received Nagoya Gold Medal in Organic Chemistry.
2007	Joined Northwestern University as a Board of Trustees Professor of Chemistry. Awarded the Albert Einstein World Award of Science.
2008	Appointed Emeritus Professor of Chemistry at UCLA and continued his contributions to advancements in molecular machines at Northwestern University. Awarded the Davy Medal of the Royal Society of London.
2012	Honoured as a Fellow of American Academy of Arts and Sciences.
2014	Received the Centenary Prize, Royal Society of Chemistry. Honoured as a Member of National Academy of Sciences, US.
2016	Awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for the design and synthesis of molecular machines, shared with Jean-Pierre Sauvage and Ben Feringa.
2018	Honoured as a Foreign Member of Chinese Academy of Sciences.
2023	Became Chair Professor of Chemistry at The University of Hong Kong (HKU). Established a research lab comprising 17 members and led young scientists in pioneering research in materials science and molecular nano-technology.

Reminiscence Messages



Professor Ben L Feringa .....  
University of Groningen, one of the co-winners of Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2016 with Professor Stoddart

We have lost a dear friend and great colleague.

We have been engaged at symposia and meetings all over the world for decades. Fond memories of a passionate scientist and fine person. My personal memories at this moment go also back to Mrs Stoddart whom I also met at so many occasions.

Fraser was indeed a great friend, a bit like an elder brother to me with always very valuable advice, a passionate chemist. His creativity and dedication and in particular his support for students and young scholars is an example to all of us. Many of the young scientists will benefit their entire career from the enthusiasm and spirit he brought to them. I personally also shared the common background growing up as a farmer boy and we often discussed precious moments from our youth at the farm. His legacy and name are eternal in the world of science and scholarship.



Professor David MacMillan .....  
Princeton University

So saddened to hear the news about Fraser Stoddart’s passing. He was a remarkable man in so many ways. I consider myself very fortunate to have shared some really great times with him, discussing our upbringing and our intense pride in being Scottish. For me, he was a role model, a groundbreaking chemist -with an insatiable drive — but most of all, a truly decent and generous person, who cared deeply for so many. To steal one of his favourite sayings..... you played a blinder Fraser!

Professor Ali Coskun .....  
University of Fribourg

It was a privilege and an honor to be your student. There are so many memories over the past 20 years that I don't even know where to begin. You have always been there for me, guiding, inspiring, and supporting me every step of the way. You will be dearly missed Fraser!



**Professor Omar Farha** .....  
Northwestern University

Beyond his scientific brilliance, Fraser was a steadfast friend and mentor, always generous with his time, wisdom, and encouragement. His contributions to our community went far beyond his accolades, as he supported and elevated each of us through his boundless energy and spirit.

Fraser’s legacy extends globally, including the recent establishment of a state-of-the-art laboratory at Hong Kong University, a testament to his vision and commitment to advancing science worldwide.

As we reflect on his remarkable life and career, let us honor Fraser by continuing to pursue our work with the passion and curiosity that he exemplified every day.

We will miss him dearly. May he rest in peace.

**Professor Les Field** .....  
The University of New South Wales

Fraser Stoddart is one of the absolute giants of modern Chemistry. Very few Chemists haven’t been fascinated by the almost science-fiction world of molecular engineering—designing and building machines and architectures at the molecular level. Fraser had the creative genius to make the fields of molecular machines and molecular mechanics a reality.

I remember Fraser, not only for his chemistry, but for his drive to nurture, mentor and motivate future generations of chemists. One of the enduring Stoddard legacies will be his focus on giving up-and-coming researchers the firm foundations to establish and drive their emerging careers.

I knew Fraser as a colleague at UNSW in Sydney. We taught a few undergraduate courses in parallel and the aura surrounding him was an inspiration to the students he taught. We will all miss his tremendous presence. May he rest in peace.



**Professor Makoto Fujita** .....  
University of Tokyo

I remember first meeting Fraser at the Gordon Conference in the summer of 1995. It was the summer following our report on self-assembling catenanes (1994). At that time, I was completely unknown internationally, but Fraser kindly accepted my request for a discussion. I still vividly remember the wonderful moments we spent on the terrace before dinner, enthusiastically talking about catenanes. Since then, for 30 years, Fraser has continued to encourage me as my international mentor. I am truly grateful for his unwavering support. Catenanes have connected not only molecular rings but also our hearts — I firmly believe this.

Saying goodbye to Fraser is incredibly painful, and my heart is filled with sadness. However, I send him off with deep gratitude. May he rest in peace.



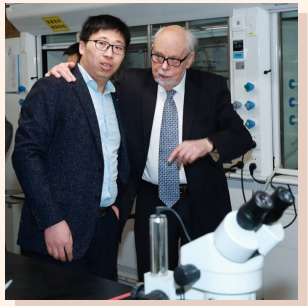
**Professor Stephen Goldup** .....  
University of Birmingham

I count myself very lucky to have been able to visit Fraser in December. I found him, as ever, sharp as a pin and excited to be doing amazing research surrounded by his team of brilliant young scientists —his unwavering passion for discovery was only matched by his passion for supporting his group and the community. I know I am far from alone in treasuring the inspiration, advice and support he gave so generously. He leaves behind a very big hole. You will be missed, Sir Fraser.



**Professor Qing-Hui Guo** .....  
Tsinghua University

It is difficult to believe, and I am still struggling to accept the reality that Fraser is no longer with us. I have been looking at his photos, trying to refresh my memory. A brilliant scientist, a supportive mentor, and a warm friend — your absence is keenly felt. RIP, Fraser.



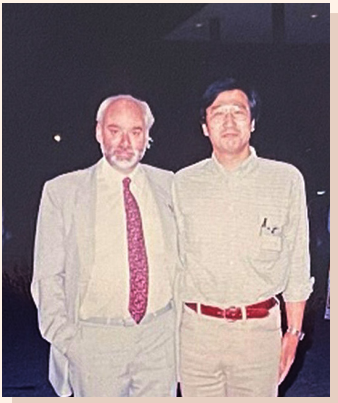
**Professor Jiaxing Huang** .....  
Westlake University

Fraser has influenced so many minds with his authentic passion for innovative science, his extraordinary generosity for young scientists, and his unwavering commitment to the global scientific community. Each of us has proudly carried a piece of his inspiration forward in our lives, and we will continue to honor his legacy by passing it on to future generations.



**Professor Susumu Kitagawa** .....  
Kyoto University iCeMS

I would like to write about two memorable experiences with Professor Stoddart. The first time I met Professor Stoddart was at the 28<sup>th</sup> ICCG (Gera, Germany) in 1990, the year after the fall of the Berlin Wall. He was 48 years old and a professor at the University of Birmingham before moving to the United States. His new dynamic molecular chemistry and presentation style fascinated me, which was completely different from other researchers. I still vividly remember our conversation outside the venue.



The second time was in October 2016. I flew to Chicago to give an invited lecture (Fred Basolo Medal) at Northwestern University. On the day of my arrival, I was informed that Professor Stoddart had won the Nobel Prize. That night, I was invited to an informal celebratory party at Professor Chad Mirkin’s house, and I witnessed the university professors celebrating together. I saw Professor Stoddart’s personality as he listened quietly to the congratulatory speeches interspersed with jokes.

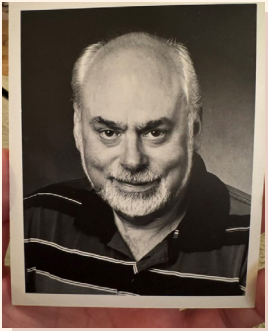
I work on MOF chemistry (soft porous crystals) with flexible local motion. I still remember the excitement when Professor Stoddart and his colleagues published their research on rotaxane + MOF, a combination of MOF and dynamic molecules. Again, I want to thank Professor Stoddart for his outstanding achievements in creating new academic fields and encouraging and nurturing many young researchers. I pray for his happiness in the next world.

**Professor Rafal Klajn** .....  
Institute of Science and Technology Austria

One of the many powerful quotes of encouragement I received from Fraser over the years. Like so many other researchers, I wouldn’t be where I am today without his continued, unconditional, strong support. Fraser believed young scientists can reach the stars.



“Now is your opportunity, Rafal, to go out there in search of that ‘big problem’ - i.e., the one which, if you bring it through to fruition, will be associated very firmly with you and your lab for the rest of time. Try coming up with 39 possibilities and select the best one.”



**Professor Lei Fang** .....  
Texas A&M University

This picture of Fraser, with his warm message, has always been, and will forever remain a part of my home. His legacy lives in every corner of our hearts.

**Professor Ognjen Miljanić** .....  
University of Houston

Travel far, dear Fraser.

You’ve taught me so much, in 6am conversations at Young Hall, over fancy dinners from Santa Monica to Shanghai, emails and crisis phone calls. I will miss your kindness, generosity, humor, and chuckles. Your spirit lives on in us.



**Professor Chad A Mirkin** .....  
Northwestern University

I was deeply saddened to hear of Fraser’s passing. He was not only a mentor, colleague, and confidant but also a tireless supporter and dear friend. I met Fraser and Norma 25 years ago, and our mutual respect, rooted in our shared passion for science and people, was immediate. When he joined Northwestern a decade later, our bond grew even stronger, and I came to regard him as one of the few people I truly trusted and respected. His move to Northwestern remains one of the university’s greatest achievements.

We shared countless unforgettable moments—traveling, celebrating milestones (his 65<sup>th</sup> birthday in Edinburgh), and venting about the things that should be right but never quite are. Above all, we worked tirelessly to build Northwestern Chemistry. While Fraser was a professorial nomad, he became a true Wildcat, deeply passionate about Northwestern. Fraser’s legacy goes far beyond his Nobel Prize. His dedication to his students, colleagues, and the community left an extraordinary impact, and we owe him our deepest gratitude.



**Dr Yunyan Qiu** .....  
National University of Singapore

I have been privileged to work with Fraser, first as a postdoc and later as a research assistant professor from 2017 to 2022. During that time, I learned a great deal from him, not only about being a good researcher but also about being a supportive mentor. I still remember that at the Telluride conference in 2018, Fraser invited several students and postdocs from different groups to dinner, where we shared our life stories. For me, it was a rare opportunity to see Fraser as more than just a brilliant scientist; he is also a remarkable person who genuinely cares about younger generations. Before my departure from NU to take on an independent role at NUS, Fraser asked me about my future plans and whether I intended to continue working on artificial molecular machines (AMMs). He was pleased to learn that I would indeed continue focusing on AMMs, but within the context of polymer chemistry. It is my sincere hope to carry the torch in this direction. RIP, Fraser, you will be forever missed.

**Margaret Schott** .....  
Northwestern University

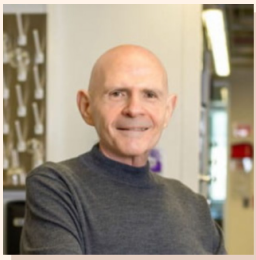
I will miss Fraser a great deal. Today marks 17 years since I became his personal assistant, and what a run it has been! We worked hard and also loved to joke around a wee bit. Best job I could ever have hoped for.



**Professor Samuel Stupp** .....  
Northwestern University

Reflecting on my dearest friend and colleague

I will always consider myself very lucky for the privilege of having known Fraser Stoddart as a dearest friend and colleague. I met him in the 1990s and during my very first encounters with him the resonance between us was a wonderful and unique experience. In addition to his creativity and passion for frontier science, Fraser was a genuine, supportive, and most generous colleague at a level that is very rare in our community. I already miss his beautifully written witty emails, the lunch time conversations on campus, and the research meetings about our collaborations. I will grieve his absence for a long time but hope to eventually turn my memories of him into inspiration and energy for all that we do as scientists.



**Dr Sebastian Vidal** .....  
French National Centre for Scientific Research

Fraser was not only my mentor during my postdoc 2000-2003 at UCLA but he was also like a second father to me. My Chem Dad offered to me confidence in my skills and many friends and colleagues from the JFS Group at UCLA. Thank you so much Fraser.

**Professor Huang Wu** .....  
Tianjin University

It is still hard to believe that Fraser is no longer with us. My heart is deeply broken. Fraser was not only a brilliant scientist but also a cherished mentor. I had the immense privilege of working with him for nearly seven years—first as a joint-training PhD student and postdoctoral researcher at Northwestern University, and later as a research assistant professor at The University of Hong Kong. During that time, Fraser imparted to me numerous invaluable lessons, both professionally and personally.

Fraser’s dedication to science and his boundless enthusiasm for research profoundly shaped my academic career. When I joined the Stoddart group in 2017, I was amazed to find that, despite being a Nobel Laureate, he often worked late into the night — a work ethic that was truly inspiring. Moreover, he was always steadfast in his support of students and young scholars. Every time I met him, he would ask, “What can I do for you?” His wisdom, kindness, and generosity have guided and helped countless young scientists.

I sincerely appreciate his patient guidance, firm support, and kind assistance. I will forever treasure the memories of our time together. I miss you, Fraser. Rest in peace. Your legacy will endure forever.





**Professor Yu Wang** .....  
Tianjin University

Fraser's passing comes as an immense shock and deeply saddens me. It was my incredible privilege to work with him at both NU and HKU, and I am forever grateful for the invaluable guidance he offered. His dedication to science was unparalleled. Before submitting a manuscript, he would revise it word by word multiple times, attending to every detail—even punctuation. He gave us complete freedom to explore our own research interests. He always asked, "Are you happy?" His concern went beyond our research, and he genuinely cared about our lives. His office door was always open, and he welcomed anyone who wanted to talk or needed his help. Fraser was not only a giant scientist, but also a remarkable mentor and a great friend. He has profoundly shaped who I am, and his wisdom continues to guide me. Whenever I face a problem, I will ask myself, "What would Fraser do?" You will always be with us, Fraser. Rest in peace.



**Professor Changxia Shi** .....  
Institute of Chemistry, Chinese Academy Services

It was one of the most heartbreaking moments of my life when I learned of Fraser's sudden passing. We had just seen each other before Fraser left for Australia — on the very day I officially departed from The University of Hong Kong to join the Institute of Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences and begin establishing my own research group. I consider myself incredibly fortunate to have spent that final year under Fraser's mentorship. Fraser was not only a highly respected scientist, but also a dear friend and a wonderful father figure, always generous with his wisdom, warmth, and unwavering belief in others.

I joined his lab in October 2023, never imagining that I would be lucky enough to work with a Nobel Laureate who offered not only unparalleled freedom, but also cultivated a vibrant, stimulating research environment —one that encouraged curiosity, collaboration, and the fearless pursuit of new ideas. I still vividly recall that before my very first group meeting, I submitted my "Group Therapy" slides. Fraser immediately came by, exclaiming, "Colorado boy has a great proposal!" He then proceeded to go through each word and symbol with me in meticulous detail. I still keep those printed slides as a cherished keepsake and will treasure them always. From that moment on, Fraser's enthusiastic support and personal guidance filled me with tremendous encouragement.

Fraser always found a way to celebrate every success, no matter how big or small. "Marvelous" and "tour de force" were among his favorite phrases. When I told him I had been offered a faculty position at the Institute of Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Fraser was overjoyed — perhaps even more than I was — and insisted that we celebrate at a Chinese restaurant the very next day. Fraser's unwavering support and high expectations spurred me to tackle ever more challenging problems in my independent research career.

Goodbye, the one and only Fraser. Your brilliant mind will be missed beyond measure, and your legacy will continue to inspire scientists for generations to come.





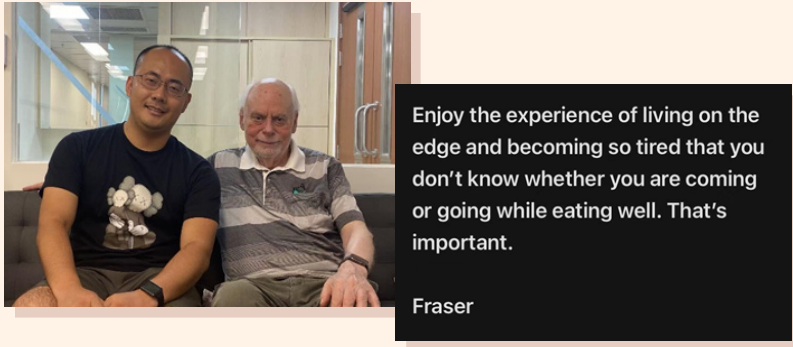
Professor Stoddart’s Research Group at HKU



Dr Shuai Fang.....

Fraser was an extraordinary individual who consistently treated everyone with profound respect, deep understanding, and unwavering support. Undoubtedly, he possessed an immense passion and keen insight for scientific research. His insights and understanding of research have continually inspired me to reflect and ponder, leaving an indelible impression and profound influence on me. I deeply appreciated Fraser’s words; they were powerful, just as he was a powerful man. “The detail lies in the detail.”

My last meeting with Fraser occurred the day before he left for Australia. He called me over and generously gave my wife cosmetics from his company, Noble Panacea, as a Christmas gift. This gesture deeply moved both my wife and me, and the emotions it stirred, along with our longing for him, will endure forever. Thank you, Fraser. I hope you rest in peace in heaven. Shuai will miss you.



Dr Han Han.....

Dear Fraser,

I am honored and grateful to have spent 40 months learning and growing alongside you. Your boundless passion for science, unwavering enthusiasm for work, and your equal care and unconditional support for all of us have deeply inspired me. I will never forget the warmth you brought into every detail of my life and work over the past three years. I’ll always remember when I first joined your lab, and you drove me home through the heavy snow in Evanston. I’ll never forget, in the cold winter, how you stayed up late in the office with your adorable hat, revising my manuscripts. And your daily heartfelt greetings and care — “Are you happy? What can I do for you?” — have echoed in my ears. I will always cherish these memories. Your legacy will continue to inspire me to move forward. Rest in peace, Fraser!



Miss Pramita Kundu.....

My dear Fraser,

I suppose in the end, the whole of life becomes an act of letting go, but what always hurts the most is not taking a moment to say goodbye.

So much remains unsaid, so many stories left unfinished... As we traversed beyond scientific discussions into literature, history, and childhood memories, I found within you a philosopher, a friend, a mentor, and a grandpa, I had always longed for. I’ll nurture all your words in the garden of my mind to lend me colors on the gloomiest days. With all my being, I’ll strive to keep the torch you lit within me burning, just as I promised. Sleep well, Fraser! I love you and will miss you, always and forever....

Yours,

Pramita



Dr Shengnan Lei .....

The final conversation between Fraser and me took place on December 19, 2024, the day prior to his departure for Australia. As I walked by the door of his office, he beckoned me in and invited me to select Christmas gifts. I was deeply flattered and picked one, yet he was insistent that I chose another, emphasizing that I should take two. Dear Fraser, you were not Santa Claus, yet you bestowed upon me the most precious gift I could have ever hoped for. Thank you for illuminating our lives. You will forever sparkle in our memories. May you rest in eternal peace.



Dr Baitong Li.....

Professor Sir Fraser Stoddart was a towering figure in science, a dedicated mentor, and a dear friend to all of us. His unparalleled contributions to chemistry and his unyielding support for his students and colleagues left an indelible mark on the field—and on all who had the privilege of working alongside him.

We remember the time he spent assisting us in refining our manuscripts and sharing his insightful stories about science and life. His guiding principle of “People First, Science Second, Money Third”, steadfast as the Scottish Highland, remains a compass for all of us who follow in his footsteps.

Fraser knew well the role of serendipitous discoveries in scientific research, and embraced it with humor, grace, and an unyielding drive to persevere. Fraser’s influence will live on through the research we undertake in the years to come. As we continue to build on the foundation he laid, may our ideas and collaborations be as enduring as his impact on science, “till a’ the seas gang dry, my dear, and the rocks melt wi’ the sun”.







**Dr Bohan Tang** .....

I feel so lucky for meeting Fraser. He is such a giant in my life. I have never met another man with such great enthusiasm for chemistry. He devoted his entire life to the pursuit of chemistry, push the cutting edge of science, raising up young scientists for future and making the chemical community better and better. “Just keep moving!”, as he said, his passion, persistence and optimists will always encourage me to forge ahead.

**Dr Chun Tang** .....

Fraser is a wonderful human being who spreads all his love and unwavering support to his students and friends. We feel incredibly fortunate to be his students. “A teacher for a day, a father for a lifetime”. I know Fraser never leaves us as he has profoundly shaped us both academically and personally. Fraser’s philosophy, personality, and spirit will be carried forward throughout our lives.



**Dr Guangcheng Wu** .....

We lost our chief before New Year’s Eve. It’s hard to relieve our endless grief. But rest assured, your belief is what we believe...

**Dr Yong Wu** .....

It was the most heart-wrenching moment in my life when hearing Fraser’s sudden passing. Fraser has not only been a respectful mentor but also a dear friend of mine.

In 2020, when I was on the verge of giving up during my first postdoc, Fraser offered me a position just three days after I reached out to him. During our first meeting, Fraser didn’t inquire about the progress of my project but simply asked, “Are you enjoying working in the research lab?” My answer was simply “Yes”. I never imagined that I would have the privilege of working with a Nobel Laureate while enjoying complete freedom.



Fraser was always ready and willing to offer praise. I can’t count how many times he used phrases such as “marvelous” and “tour de force” when I was presenting my work to him. Fraser’s encouragement was the reason why I had the bravery to take scientific research as my career.

Goodbye, the one and the only Fraser, your beautiful mind will be dearly missed and your legacy will endure forever!



**Dr Ruihua Zhang** .....

Dear Fraser,

Where are you now? We miss you so much. Don’t worry about us. I know you always have faith in us, and we will overcome every challenge we face.

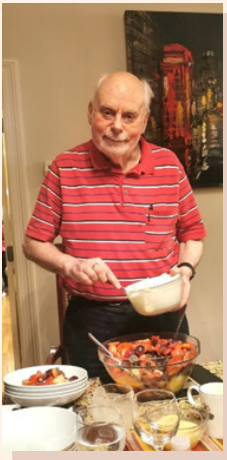
Your words, actions, attitude, and behaviour have depicted and written your life while influencing countless people. Your warmth, encouragement, kindness, support, and inclusiveness have raised us up and inspired us all.

Love will transform into strength and courage, helping us tackle every problem.

Please take good care of yourself and Norma. Don’t worry about us.

Your spirit, kindness, and warmth have inspired people around the world and will continue to do so, passing from generation to generation.

Ruihua



**Dr Xueze Zhao** .....

During the two years I worked with Fraser, I came to know a dedicated and meticulous giant in scientific research. He tirelessly supported young researchers, striving to create a better research environment. Even in his eighties, he remained at the forefront of science, setting an inspiring example. His open office door and warm words, “What can I do for you?”, will always stay with us.

I was fortunate to join Fraser’s research group during my postdoctoral stage, where I was deeply inspired and encouraged by his mentorship. He supported me as I ventured into unfamiliar fields and provided selfless assistance. From revising slides to meticulously polishing manuscripts, his rigor and pursuit of excellence left a lasting impact.



Although the era of a legend has come to an end, his scientific spirit will continue to inspire us to forge ahead on our research journey.

Thank you, my postdoctoral mentor, Sir Fraser Stoddart. May you rest in peace.







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