# Wonwoo Nam Ewha Distinguished Professor

#### Department of Chemistry and Nano Science Center for Biomimetic Systems Ewha Womans University Seoul, Korea

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Education		

California State University, Los Angeles	B.S.	1985	Chemistry
University of California, Los Angeles	Ph.D.	1990	Chemistry

## **Professional Career**

Postdoctoral Fellow	UCLA	1990 - 1991
Assistant Professor	Hong Ik University	1991 - 1994
Assistant &		
Associate Professor	Ewha Womans University	1994 - 2000
Professor	Ewha Womans University	2000 - Present
Distinguished Professor	Ewha Womans University	2005 - Present
Director	Center for Biomimetic Systems	2003 - Present
Chair of Directors' Association of		2009 - 2010
Creative Research Initiat	ive (CRI) Program	

Director of Metal Oxygen Bioinspired Chemistry Laboratory 2008 – Present MOBIC in World Class University Program with Foreign Distinguished Professors Joan S. Valentine (UCLA, USA),

Kenneth D. Karlin (Johns Hopkins University, USA),

Shunichi Fukuzumi (Osaka University, Japan), and Antoni Llobet (ICIQ, Spain) Associate Editor; *Chemical Science* (RSC, the multidisciplinary flagship journal of the Royal Society of Chemistry), 2011 – Present

# Awards & Honors

- The 4<sup>th</sup> Young Scientist Award (A highly honored award given in chemistry field every other year by the President of Korea), 2000
- Excellent Research Award at Ewha Womans University, 2001
- Korean Chemical Society Award in Division of Inorganic Chemistry, 2003
- Best Research Paper by Korean Federation of Science and Technology Societies, 2004
- The 1<sup>st</sup> Ewha Academic Award, 2005
- Monthly Best Scientist Award by Ministry of Science and Technology of Korea, 2005
- Korean Chemical Society Award, 2006
- The 5<sup>th</sup> DuPont Science and Technology Award, 2006
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> Kyeong-Am Academic Award, 2007
- Named as a Role Model Scientist, Korea Science Foundation, 2008
- Excellent Research Award at Ewha Womans University, 2008
- Taikyu Rhee Academic Award, 2012
- Outstanding Achievement Award, Society of Asian Biological Inorganic Chemistry, 2014

- Commendation for Excellent Research in Basic Science, Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Planning, 2015
- Korea Science Award (A highly honored award given by the President of Korea), 2015
- Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC), 2014 Present
- Junior Fellow and Fellow, Korean Academy of Science and Technology, 2002 Present
- University of Hong Kong, Honorary Professor, 2007 Present
- Peking University, Guest Professor, 2018 2022
- Nanjing University, Concurrent Professor, 2012 Present
- Nagoya Institute of Technology, Professor for the Brain Circulation Project, 2015 2017
- Lanzhou Institute of Chem Phys, Chinese Academy of Science, Honorary Professor, 2015 Present
- Sun Yat-sen University, Part-time Professor, 2015 2018
- One Thousands Talents Program Given by Chinese Government, 2016 2019
- "Qujiang Scholar", Shaanxi Normal University, 2017 2022
- Jinan University, Honorary Professor, 2017 Present
- Tohoku University, Visiting Professor, 2015
- Osaka University, Distinguished Scientist in COE Program, 2007 2010

#### Activities as Editor or Editorial Board Member

- Associate Editor; Chemical Science (RSC), 2011 Present
- Editorial Advisory Board; Accounts of Chemical Research (ACS), 2006 2015
- Editorial Advisory Board; Chemical Communications (RSC), 2012 Present
- Editorial Advisory Board; Inorganic Chemistry Frontiers (RSC), 2013 Present
- Editorial Advisory Board; *Progress in Inorganic Chemistry* (John-Wiley & Sons, Inc.), 2012 Present
- Editorial Advisory Board; Journal of Inorganic Biochemistry (Elsevier), 2007 Present
- Editorial Board; Bioinorganic Reaction Mechanism (De Gruyter), 2011 Present
- Editorial Advisory Board; Inorganic Chemistry (ACS), 2010 2012
- Editorial Advisory Board; Dalton Transactions (RSC), 2009 2013
- International Advisory Board; Chemistry An Asian Journal (Wiley-VCH), 2010 2013
- Editorial Advisory Board; Journal of Biological Inorganic Chemistry (Springer), 2003 2011
- Associate Editor; Journal of Korean Chemical Society (KCS), 2004 2006
- General Secretary (Elected), Society of Biological Inorganic Chemistry, 2011 2015
- Council Member, Society of Biological Inorganic Chemistry, 2007 2011
- Chair Elect, Society of Asian Biological Inorganic Chemistry, 2019 2021

#### Major Symposium Activity as an Organizer or Co-organizer (2003 - Present)

- Organizer, The 6<sup>th</sup> International Ewha Bioinorganic Chemistry Symposium, 2019 (Seoul, Korea)
- Organizer, The 5<sup>th</sup> International Ewha Bioinorganic Chemistry Symposium, 2017 (Seoul, Korea)
- Organizer, The 4<sup>th</sup> International Ewha Bioinorganic Chemistry Symposium, 2016 (Seoul, Korea)
- Organizer, ChemComm Symposium, 2015 (Seoul, Korea)
- International Advisory Panel, 41<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Coordination Chemistry

(ICCC-41), 2014 (Singapore)

- International Advisory Committee, AsBIC 7, 2014 (Gold Coast, Austrialia)
- Organizer, 3<sup>rd</sup> International Bioinorganic Chemistry Symposium in Seoul, 2013 (Seoul, Korea)
- Organizer, KAST Symposium on the Impact of Chemistry on Biology, 2013 (Seoul, Korea)
- International Advisory Committee, AsBIC 6, 2012 (Hong Kong, China)
- Treasurer, 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Porphyrins and Phthalocyanines, 2012 (Jeju Island, Korea)
- Organizer, 2<sup>nd</sup> International Bioinorganic Chemistry Symposium on Small Molecule Activation by Heme and Nonheme Enzymes and Models (Associated with Chemical Science of RSC), 2012 (Seoul, Korea)
- Organizer, Ewha-Berkeley-Princeton Joint Symposium in Functional Biomimetic Materials, 2011 (Seoul, Korea)
- Organizer, ChemComm Symposium, 2010 (Seoul, Korea and Osaka, Japan)
- International Advisory Committee, AsBIC V, 2010 (Kaohsiung, Taiwan)
- International Advisory Committee, 2<sup>nd</sup> Asian Conference on Coordination Chemistry, 2010 (Nanjing, China)
- Session Organizer, 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Porphyrins and Phthalocyanines, 2010 (Texas, USA)
- International Advisory Committee, Singapore International Chemical Conference VI, 2009 (Singapore)
- Session Organizer, 14<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Biological Inorganic Chemistry, 2009 (Nagoya, Japan)
- Organizer, The 4<sup>th</sup> Asian Biological Inorganic Chemistry Conference, 2008 (Jeju Island, Korea)
- International Advisory Committee, 1<sup>st</sup> Asian Conference on Coordination Chemistry, 2008 (Okazaki, Japan)
- Organizer, 1<sup>st</sup> International Bioinorganic Chemistry Symposium, 2006 (Seoul, Korea)
- International Advisory Committee, AsBIC-III, 2006 (Nanjing, China)
- Session Organizer, Pacifichem 2005, 2005, 2010, 2015 (Hawaii, USA)
- Session Organizer, 11<sup>th</sup> Asian Chemical Congress, 2005 (Seoul, Korea)
- International Advisory Committee, AsBIC-II, 2004 (Goa, India)
- Steering Committee, Asian Bioinorganic Chemistry Society, 2003 (Okazaki, Japan)
- International Advisory Committee, Activation of Dioxygen and Homogeneous Catalytic Oxidation, 1999 – present

#### **Research Interest**

- 1. Biomimetic studies of heme and nonheme iron enzymes: Synthesis and spectroscopic and structural characterization of heme and nonheme iron-oxygen intermediates in dioxygen activation chemistry by biomimetic compounds. Mechanisms of oxygenation reactions of organic compounds by iron-oxygen intermediates. Mechanisms of oxygen-oxygen bond cleavage of iron-dioxygen complexes. Development of environmentally benign catalytic oxidation systems using heme and nonheme iron complexes.
- 2. Metal-oxygen intermediates: Synthesis, spectroscopic and structural characterization, and reactivity studies of nonheme metal-oxygen intermediates. Mechanisms of oxygen atom transfer from metal-oxygen intermediates to organic compounds. Catalytic oxidation of organic substrates by metal complexes.
- 3. Water oxidation & artificial Photosystem II: Elucidation of the mechanism of O-O bond

formation using metal-oxygen intermediates. Mechanistic studies of metal ion effects on the reactivities of high-valent metal-oxo intermediates. Development of efficient water oxidation catalysts using inorganic and nano materials.

- 4. Density functional theory (DFT) calculations: Combined experimental and theoretical approaches to understand reactivities of metal-oxygen intermediates in electrophilic and nucleophilic oxidative reactions, such as activation energy barriers, geometries, and spin density distribution to support or exclude experimentally proposed mechanisms. Searching for new mechanisms and predict reactivities where experiments are not available.
- 5. Photoluminescent sensors for metal ions in biological systems: Understanding photophysical processes of luminophores under physiological conditions. Development of novel sensory systems for *in vivo* & *in vitro* detection of metal ions and reactive oxygen species (ROS).

## Short Summary of Publications

More than 320 papers, including Nature (1), Science (2), Nature Chemistry (4), Nature Communications (2), Accounts of Chemical Research (6), Journal of the American Chemical Society (JACS, 77), Angewandte Chemie International Edition (28), and Chemical Science (14), have been published in the fields of Bioinorganic and Biomimetic Chemistry.