



Richard R. Schrock

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Richard R. Schrock obtained his B.A. degree in 1967 from the University of California at Riverside and attended graduate school at Harvard University from which he received his Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry in 1971 as a student of J.A. Osborn. After one year as an NSF postdoctoral fellow at Cambridge University, Schrock accepted a position in the group of George Parshall at the Central Research and Development Department of E. I. duPont de Nemours and Company in 1972. He moved to M.I.T in 1975 where he became a full professor in 1980 and in 1989 the Frederick G. Keyes Professor of Chemistry. Schrock has received numerous awards and medals, the most prominent of which are the ACS Award in Organometallic Chemistry (1985), the Harrison Howe Award of the Rochester ACS section (1990), the August Wilhelm von Hofmann Medal from the German Chemical Society (2005), and the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 2005, which he shared with R. H. Grubbs and Y. Chauvin. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the National Academy of Sciences, and is a Foreign Member of the Royal Society (London). Schrock has published more than 575 research papers and supervised over 180 Ph.D. students and postdocs. He is best known as the discoverer of alpha hydrogen abstraction reactions in high oxidation state metal alkyl complexes that yield "high oxidation state" alkylidene and alkylidyne complexes, and for synthesizing those that are active for olefin and alkyne metathesis, respectively.