



University of
Lethbridge

NEWS RELEASE

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Internationally recognized inorganic chemist, Dr. René Boéré, earns 2024 Speaker Research Award

An internationally recognized inorganic chemist and leader in his field of chemistry, Professor Emeritus Dr. René Boéré has been named the 2024 winner of the University of Lethbridge's Speaker Research Award.

Boéré has inspired his fellow scientists within the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry at ULethbridge since he became a faculty member in 1988. In addition, his work has spawned collaborations with scientists at universities across the globe, all while leading a highly productive research program that has been continuously funded for more than 30 years.



The Speaker Research Award recognizes the importance of research, scholarship and performance to the philosophy and goals of the University.

Boéré will be presented with the Speaker Research Award at Spring 2024 Convocation, Ceremony I, on Thursday, May 30, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. in the 1st Choice Savings Centre gymnasium.

René Boéré

Professor Emeritus Dr. René Boéré has had a major impact on the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry at the University of Lethbridge, where he served as Chair for a decade and was an active proponent for a new science building. He devoted countless hours to propelling the department forward and procuring specialized state-of-the-art

equipment such as X-ray diffractometers and spectrometers. He has been continuously funded by Discovery Grants from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) for more than three decades.

Boéré has also been at the forefront of his field, developing and employing new concepts and techniques and sharing them with colleagues and students at other universities. His broad-ranging expertise includes electrochemistry, X-ray crystallography, sulfur-nitrogen chemistry and he is a leader in a technique called electron paramagnetic resonance spectroscopy. His unique skill set has earned him recognition around the world. Other chemists seek him for possible collaborations, and he has also been an external examiner for several PhD defences. Boéré has mentored many students at all levels as well as post-doctoral fellows.

After earning an honours Bachelor of Science from Dalhousie University in 1979, Boéré then completed a PhD in inorganic chemistry at the University of Western Ontario in 1984. Following an NSERC post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Guelph, he received a Humboldt Research Fellowship, a prestigious fellowship for researchers with above-average qualifications, at the Free University of Berlin. Boéré joined the University of Lethbridge in 1988. While he faced many challenges in establishing his research program at the start, he persevered and has since succeeded in creating a program that rivals those found in larger chemistry departments. For evidence of his research productivity, one need not look further than his publication record, which includes more than 160 manuscripts in peer-reviewed journals, five reviews and book chapters and his work has been showcased in more than 120 conference presentations. He has involved undergraduate students in research and 45 publications have co-authorships with undergrads. Boéré has also mentored 10 master's and six PhD students and trained three post-doctoral fellows and research associates. In addition to teaching at ULethbridge, Boéré has been a visiting professor and Humboldt Scholar in Germany, Brazil, Australia, Japan, Finland and France. He has extensive teaching experience in general and inorganic chemistry, solid-state chemistry, organic chemistry, analytical chemistry and aspects of physical chemistry.

Boéré has lent his expertise to organizations and committees within the University and outside organizations. He served as Chair for the NSERC Scholarship Selection and General Grant Distribution and the Canadian Council of University Chemistry Chairpersons. He was a member of the Canadian Society for Chemistry's Degree Accreditation Committee from 2008 to 2014. Closer to home, Boéré was part of the University Library Committee and contributed to obtaining Canadian Society for Chemistry accreditation for the Bachelor of Science major. He also led efforts to obtain specialized scientific equipment.

To view online: <https://www.ulethbridge.ca/unews/article/internationally-recognized-inorganic-chemist-dr-ren%C3%A9-boer%C3%A9-earns-2024-speaker-research-award>

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Our University's Blackfoot name is Iniskim, meaning Sacred Buffalo Stone. The University is located in traditional Blackfoot Confederacy territory. We honour the Blackfoot people and their traditional ways of knowing in caring for this land, as well as all Indigenous Peoples who have helped shape and continue to strengthen our University community.