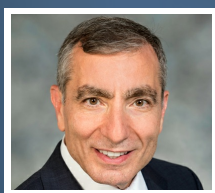


# Organic Chemistry as a Vehicle for Affecting Humankind



**James Tour**

Professor, Materials Science and NanoEngineering Professor, Computer Science T. T. and W. F. Chao Professor, Chemistry

## CURRENT RESEARCH

How the intersection of chemistry, nanotechnology and faith have allowed Dr. Tour to create real-life solutions to pressing technological, medical and environmental issues

Dr. James Tour of Rice University feels that the gifts he was given make chemistry the best vehicle to help others and this is exactly what he has devoted his professional career to doing. As a synthetic organic chemist, he has transitioned his skills to work on carbon materials including graphene chemistry and nanoelectronics. As one of the top-10 most highly cited chemists in the world over the past decade, Dr. Tour's research covers vast studies from medical and healthcare to environmental waste cleanup and alternative energies. With great dedication, he takes his research through the steps of basic scientific discovery, into engineering applications, and finally, to field deployment. In this way, he is able to observe the real-life applications and positive impacts that his research has on society as a whole.

While the basic research and application of his research are highly technical, Dr. Tour believes that the mission of his research is simple: "we really want to affect humankind; that is why we are here." This philosophy is largely based upon Dr. Tour's strong faith as a Messianic Jew, defined as a Jewish individual who believes that Jesus is the Messiah. His continual devotion to both chemistry and the Christian faith have led him to believe that there is no incompatibility between the two. Dr. Tour states that when he looks at biological systems, he is "amazed by what God has made." These insights have therefore earned him the title of Scientist of the Year in 2013 and brought him closer to the discussion of the advancement of civilization through profound environmental stewardship, advanced technologies, and in building community with those around him regardless of their background or religious...

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## AFFILIATION



## EDUCATION

- National Institutes of Health Postdoctoral Fellow in Organic Chemistry 1988, Stanford University
- Postdoctoral Fellow in Organometallic Chemistry 1987, University of Wisconsin
- Ph.D in Organic Chemistry 1986, Purdue University
- B.S. in Chemistry 1981, Syracuse University

## AWARDS

- The 50 most Influential Scientists in the World Today, 2014
- Scientist of the Year, 2013
- ACS Nano Lectureship Award, 2012
- "Top 10 chemists in the world over the past decade," 2009
- Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, 2009
- and 11 more...

## RESEARCH AREAS

Clean Energy, Veteran's Causes, Health IT, Technology

## FUNDING REQUEST

Your contributions will support the necessary \$1.5 million per year for Dr. Tour's research programs. Donations will cover the costs of 30 graduate students, postdocs, and professional staff in addition to equipment as they work towards discovering, developing, and implementing nanotechnologies and carbon materials that will advance solutions that are more life-giving and sustainable.