

Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur

Institute Lecture

Science and Scientists

V. Ramamurthy

Professor of Chemistry,

University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL, USA

December 23, 2016, Time: 4:30 pm, Venue: L-1



Abstract

This talk is directed towards students and young researchers who wish to lead a life of a scientist and be satisfied and respected by their colleagues for their contributions. Life of a scientist could be a bit more complex than that of an engineer, a physician, a businessman and an office employee whose job often does not require to be constantly creative and innovative. Life of a scientist could be really exciting although it could be demanding in terms of time and energy. In addition, a country's economic prosperity, to a large extent, relies on the contributions of scientists and their ability to add new knowledge that could be turned into monetary benefits for the society. This talk outlines various aspects of 'science and scientists' and is based on the following books by well-known scientists.

Advice for a Young Investigator, *Santiago Ramon-y-Cajal, Spanish version, 1898, (English version, MIT Press, 1999)*

Advice to a Young Scientist, *P. B. Medawar, 1979*

Reminiscences and Reflections, *H. Krebs, 1981*

The Beginner's Guide to Winning the Nobel Prize, *P. Doherty, 2006*

In Search of Memory, *E. Kendal, 2006*

A Mathematician's Apology, *G. H. Hardy, 1940*

About the speaker

V. Ramamurthy born in a village in Tamilnadu, India had his early education in and near the village. Following the receipt of M.Sc degree in Chemistry from IIT, Madras he pursued Ph. D degree and postdoctoral training at University of Hawaii, Honolulu, USA, University of Western Ontario, London, Canada and Columbia University, New York, USA. In 1978 he returned to India to join the Organic Chemistry faculty at Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore where he conducted research in the area of photochemistry. Following a successful career he migrated to USA in 1987 and held positions at the Central Research and Development Department of The Du Pont Company (Wilmington, DE; Senior Scientist; 1987-94) and at Tulane University (New Orleans, LA; Bernard-Baus Professor; 1994-2004) before joining the University of Miami (Coral Gables, FL) in 2005 as Professor. His current research interests are in the general area of supramolecular photochemistry. He is the co-author of over 400 research publications and two textbooks (co-authored with N. J. Turro and J. C. Scaiano), co-editor of 14 monographs and co-guest editor of 6 journal special issues. Currently he serves as a Senior Editor of Langmuir. His scientific accomplishments have been recognized by several local, national and international awards and fellowships.

Tea at 4.15 pm

Amalendu Chandra

Dean of Research and Development, IIT Kanpur

All interested are welcome.

