



JOHN RICHARD PRESENTED WITH SCHOELLKOPF AWARD

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Jan. 25, 2009 -- American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology member John P. Richard, professor of chemistry at the State University of New York, Buffalo, was named the winner of the 2009 Jacob F. Schoellkopf Award, given annually by the American Chemical Society Western New York section for outstanding work and service in chemistry or chemical engineering. Richard was cited for his "outstanding research in the field of physical organic and bioorganic chemistry; specifically, the study of reaction mechanisms of biologically significant enzymatic and non-enzymatic reactions."

Richard's early work focused on the mechanisms of organic reactions in water that serve as models for enzyme-catalyzed reactions. These include nucleophilic substitution and proton transfer reactions at carbon and catalysis of phosphate diester hydrolysis by metal ion complexes. His research program since has expanded to include studies of the mechanisms for the stabilization of reactive intermediates at the active sites of enzymes such as beta-galactosidase, triosephosphate isomerase, isopentenyl pyrophosphate isomerase and orotidine 5'-monophosphate decarboxylase. This has led to work that defines the critical role of flexible protein loops in stabilizing reactive enzyme-bound intermediates.

Visit John P. Richard's [homepage](#) at the State University of New York, Buffalo.

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