

The Mathias P. Mertes Memorial Lecture Series
Mertes Memorial Lecturer for 2009



Arun K. Ghosh

Ian P. Rothwell Distinguished Professor
Organic Chemistry/Medicinal Chemistry
Purdue University

Arun K. Ghosh received his B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Calcutta in 1979 and an M.S in Chemistry from the Indian Institute of Technology at Kanpur, India in 1981. He then obtained his Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh in 1985 under the direction of Professor Alan Kozikowski. From 1985-1988, he completed a postdoctoral research fellowship at Harvard University with Professor E. J. Corey. From 1988–1994, he was a Research Fellow at Merck Research Laboratories, West Point, PA.

He then left industry and became an Assistant Professor of Chemistry at the University of Illinois, Chicago in 1994. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1997 and to full Professor in 2000. In 2005, he joined Purdue University as a Professor in the Departments of Chemistry and Medicinal Chemistry and in 2009 was promoted to Distinguished Professor.

Dr. Ghosh has published more than 180 peer-reviewed research articles, including contributions to synthetic methodology development and bioorganic/medicinal chemistry. Furthermore, Dr. Ghosh has been instrumental in the development of several drug classes throughout his career. Of special note is the aspartyl protease inhibitor, Darunavir, which is active in drug resistant HIV and recently approved for clinical use. Dr. Ghosh was awarded the 2008 Robert Scarborough Award from the Division of Medicinal Chemistry of the American Chemical Society and in 2010 will receive an ACS Arthur Cope Scholar Award.