

## **2021 G. Lombard Kelly Lecture**

**Dr. Krzysztof Palczewski**

**October 14, 2021**

Dr. Krzysztof Palczewski is best known for his discovery of the structure, folding and binding properties of rhodopsin, a light-sensitive photoreceptor protein. His findings profoundly increased comprehension of the molecular basis of vision and the structure of photoreceptor cells in the retina and contributed to the development of molecular therapies for age-related macular degeneration and other retinopathies. Dr. Palczewski is a world renowned expert in the pharmacology of vision and his work has had a tremendous positive impact on efforts to restore vision in people suffering from retinal degenerative disease.



In 2019, Palczewski was elected to the National Academy of Medicine, one of the highest distinctions accorded to professionals in medicine and health care.

Dr. Palczewski holds more than 30 patents. He is the recipient of the 2015 Bressler Prize in Vision Science and the inaugural 2014 Beckman-Argyros Award in Vision Research. He is the only person to have won both the Cogan Award (1996) for most promising young vision scientist and the Friedenwald Award (2014) for outstanding ophthalmology research from the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology. Dr. Palczewski earned his Ph.D. in biochemistry at the Wrocław University of Science and Technology in Poland.

At the time of the lecture, Dr. Palczewski held the Donald Bren Professorship and was Distinguished Professor of Ophthalmology, School of Medicine and Irving H. Leopold Chair of Ophthalmology, Professor of Physiology and Biophysics, University of California, Irvine California, USA.