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Professor Craig Hawker, Director of the Materials Research Laboratory, Honored with 2013 ACS Award in Polymer Chemistry



Craig Hawker, professor of materials, is one of two UC Santa Barbara professors who have been named recipients of the American Chemical Society's 2013 national awards for professional advancement.

Professor Hawker, who is also the Director of the Materials Research Laboratory, has been named recipient of the ACS Award in Polymer Chemistry. The award citation states that Hawker was nominated for transforming the field of polymer chemistry through the clever adaptation of synthetic organic chemistry concepts and the advancement of macromolecular engineering. ExxonMobil Chemical Company sponsored this award.

"I am thrilled with the award and the recognition that it brings to my students, collaborators, and co-workers, as well as to the unique research environment at UCSB," said Hawker. "The sustained success of cross-disciplinary research has been a key driver in reinforcing UCSB's international standing in the materials chemistry arena. I am grateful for the enormous benefits that this proud tradition has brought to my research."

Hawker is among 64 award winners from across the nation. In only one other year, 1996, did UCSB claim more than one winner of the American Chemical Society (ACS) awards. The awards will be presented at the national ACS meeting in New Orleans in April.

Hawker received his Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge, and then completed a postdoctoral fellowship with Jean M. J. Fréchet at Cornell. In 2004, he joined the faculty at UCSB from the IBM Almaden Research Center. Some of his recent awards include the 2012 Centenary prize from the Royal Society of Chemistry; the 2011 Arthur C. Cope Scholar from the American Chemical Society; and the 2008 DSM Performance Materials Award from the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry. In 2010, he was named a Fellow of the Royal Society.