

American Chemical Society National Historic Chemical Landmark Celebration

Professor Izaak Maurits Kolthoff and
Modern Analytical Chemistry and Smith Hall Centennial

Friday, Sept. 12, 2014
4 p.m. Public Ceremony
5–6:30 Tours and Reception

Welcome & Opening Remarks

William Tolman, Chair, Department of Chemistry
College of Science and Engineering
University of Minnesota

Remarks

Steven L. Crouch, Dean
College of Science and Engineering
University of Minnesota

Karen Hanson, Provost and Senior Vice President
Office of Academic Affairs
University of Minnesota

Clyde Allen, Regent
Board of Regents
University of Minnesota

Rebecca Guza, Chair
Minnesota Local Section of the American Chemical Society

Susan King, Senior Vice President
Journals Publishing Group, American Chemical Society

Marinda Li Wu
Immediate Past President, American Chemical Society

Plaque Unveiling

Reception and Tours



Izaak M. Kolthoff

The work of legendary University of Minnesota chemistry professor Izaak M. Kolthoff (1894–1993) in establishing the field of analytical chemistry as a scientific discipline has received the prestigious honor of being named a 2014 American Chemical Society National Historic Chemical Landmark. This news coincides with recognition of the centennial of Smith Hall, the classic chemistry building on the Northrop Mall of the University's campus.

The American Chemical Society established the National Historic Chemical Landmark program in 1992 to recognize important achievements in the history of the chemical sciences. This is only the second landmark designation in the five-state region. In 2007, 3M was recognized for the invention of Scotch tape.



Kolthoff, who was a professor at the University of Minnesota from 1927 to 1962, is widely recognized within his field as the “father” of modern analytical chemistry. Kolthoff's research transformed the way that scientists identify and quantify chemical substances, from a collection of empirical recipes and prescriptions to a branch of chemistry grounded on solid theoretical principles and experimental techniques. Today, analytical chemistry is used in fields as varied as clinical medicine, environmental studies, forensics, and food and drug safety.