

Michael Bendikov (1971 – 2013)

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Published Date: 04 July 2013

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Professor Michael Bendikov, Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel, passed away on July 2, 2013. Bendikov was a promising young chemist: He won many awards for his work in the field of organic electronic materials and physical organic chemistry, including the 2007 DuPont Young Professor Award, the 2009 Israel Chemical Society (ICS) Outstanding Young Scientist Prize, and the 2010 [Journal of Physical Organic Chemistry](#) Award for Early Excellence in Physical Organic Chemistry.

Michael Bendikov was born in the Ukraine and immigrated to Israel in 1991. He received his B.Sc., M.Sc., and Ph.D. degrees from the Faculty of Chemistry of the Technion – Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa, under the direction of Professor Yitzhak Apeloig. In 2001, he joined the group of Professor Fred Wudl at the University of California, Los Angeles, USA, as a postdoctoral fellow and in 2004 he became a faculty member at the Department of Organic Chemistry, the Weizmann Institute of Science.

His research focused on the design of novel organic electronic materials, including the synthesis of the first highly conductive polyselenophene, and the application of physical organic chemistry tools to materials chemistry to improve the understanding of the properties of new and existing materials.

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