

Mark Lautens

Finalist

Canadian Association for Graduate Studies
Award for Outstanding Graduate Mentorship
2018

Mark Lautens is an outstanding graduate student mentor. A distinguished Professor in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Toronto, he has supervised 35 Master's students, 51 doctoral students, and 100 postdoctoral researchers, many of whom have become leaders in both industrial and academic settings in Canada and around the globe.

Dr. Lautens' mentoring philosophy is based upon a process that embodies freedom yet offers close support and feedback. He provides his students with opportunities to stoke independent development while remaining present and accessible. This method enables students to rapidly develop their scientific abilities not just in research, but also in communication. Students are given numerous opportunities to sharpen these skills by writing drafts for papers and review articles, and by making contributions to the review journal, *Synfacts*. Dr. Lautens has a reputation for integrating students into the culture of their discipline, and for helping them network with relevant individuals. He encourages students to think creatively and to engage in collaboration, while emboldening them to pursue projects that stimulate innovation and productivity. Dr. Lautens is a lifelong mentor, and maintains a steadfast commitment to supporting his students well after they leave his laboratory. "To this day," one of his former students reports, "he continues to provide support when needed and constantly encourages us to challenge ourselves to achieve our best."

Dr. Lautens is a model of excellence in scholarship, professional conduct, and integrity, and he instills in his graduate students a desire to emulate these qualities. "Students learn early in their studies that, with Dr. Lautens' patient support, their opportunities are endless."



Mark Lautens is University Professor in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Toronto. He holds the Astra Zeneca Endowed Chair in Organic Synthesis and the J. B. Jones Distinguished Research Chair. His research focuses on inventing new chemical reactions and strategies that improve the efficiency of synthetic routes to bioactive compounds of medicinal interest. He is an Officer of the Order of Canada.



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