

Uwe D. Neue Award winner in 2023

It is our pleasure to announce that the award selection committee selected Dr. Thomas H. Walter as a recipient of the Uwe. D. Neue Award in Separation Science. The award will be presented to Dr. Walter at HPLC 2023 in Dusseldorf.



Since joining the Waters Division of Millipore in 1987, Dr. Walter has served in a number of roles, including as Senior Director of Chemistry R&D from 1999 – 2015. He was a colleague of Uwe Neue for 23 years. An expert in the characterization of stationary phases, Dr. Walter co-invented multiple technologies and directed programs that led to the development of Waters most successful HPLC and UPLC column families, including Symmetry, XTerra, Atlantis, SunFire, XBridge, XSelect, ACQUITY and CORTECS. Some of his key contributions include establishing the industry-leading reproducibility specifications for Symmetry columns, elucidating the mechanism of retention loss when C₁₈ columns are used with highly aqueous mobile phases and selecting ethylene-bridged hybrids (BEH) for development. He has authored sixty articles, white papers and technical notes and delivered a number of presentations at leading scientific conferences.

In celebration of the U.D. Neue Award Dr. Walter will present an invited talk at HPLC 2023 entitled: “In Pursuit of the Ideal HPLC Column: Improving Reproducibility, Stability, Efficiency and Inertness”.

Abstract: The ideal HPLC column is highly reproducible, stable when exposed to a wide range of mobile phases and temperatures, and able to produce narrow and symmetrical peaks for all analytes of interest. Since the development of the first commercially available HPLC columns 50 years ago, the technologies used to synthesize stationary phases, to fabricate column hardware and to pack columns have steadily improved to allow us to come closer to reaching these ideals. This presentation will highlight several of the key advancements made over the last 30 years, including high purity stationary phases, hybrid organic/inorganic particles, UHPLC columns and hybrid surface technology hardware. The importance of these advancements for addressing some current separation challenges will be demonstrated.