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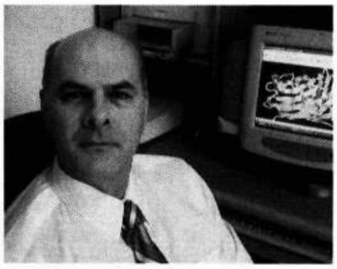
## Profile of the Author



**René Roy**, Professor in the Department of Chemistry of the Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM), is the recipient of the 2003 Melville L. Wolfrom Award for his outstanding contributions in the design of novel neoglycoconjugates and glycodendrimers. He is a native of Montreal where he received his education. He obtained his Ph. D. in chemistry in 1980 from the University of Montreal under the supervision of Prof. S. Hanessian who also received the Award in 1993 and who was a Ph. D. student under M. L. Wofrom. Prof. Roy joined the Division of the Biological Sciences of the NationalResearch Council in Ottawa where he worked from 1980 to 1985 as a Research Fellow. He has contributed to the design of new bacterial polysaccharide vaccines and he is the co-inventor of the recently commercialized *Neisseria meningitidis* vaccine. He then joined the Department of Chemistry of the University of Ottawa, Ontario, where he worked until december 2002 before returning to his home town in Montreal. In 1997, he has received the Hoffmann-LaRoche award for his distinguished contribution to medicinal chemistry, in 2001 the Ottawa Life Science Council Award and the Paul Harris Fellowship from the Rotary Int. for his work on *H. influenza* vaccine with cuban scientists, and the NRC- Royalty sharing award for meningitis C vaccine. Prof. Roy has used modern synthetic chemistry to tackle problems associated with the synthesis and applications of neoglycoconjugates and polymers. He developed the concept of active and latent glycosidation methods applied to thioglycosides. His designed of novel carbohydrate architectures, glycodendrimers, has paved the way for a better understanding of multivalent carbohydrate protein interactions. He has recently contributed to the first semi-synthetic bacterial polysaccharide vaccine against *H. influenza* that was shown successful in infants. The clinical trials were done in Cuba and vaccines has been approved on Nov.6, 2003.