

Researcher Biographies

Akos Vertes

GW professor of chemistry, biochemistry, and molecular biology

Founder and co-director of GW's W. M. Keck Institute for Proteomics Technology and Applications

Akos Vertes is a Professor of Chemistry and a Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at The George Washington University in Washington, D.C. He is a co-founder and co-director of the W. M. Keck Institute for Proteomics Technology and Applications, a center of strategic excellence at the university. His research interests span from fundamental studies in analytical and physical chemistry to the development of new technologies for biomedical analysis. His research has been presented in over 100 peer-reviewed publications, in two books, the first on laser ionization and the second on the medical applications of mass spectrometry, which he co-edited and co-authored and in numerous conference presentations. He is an internationally recognized expert in bioanalytical methods. The research in his laboratory has been funded by the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy, the National Institutes of Health and the W.M. Keck Foundation. His honors and awards include the Oscar and Shoshana Trachtenberg Prize for Scholarship, Fellow of the Royal Flemish Academy for Science and the Arts in Brussels, Belgium, Fellow of the World Innovation Foundation in Huddersfield, United Kingdom, the Doctor of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Budapest, Hungary, Visiting Professor of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich, Switzerland, the Elsevier/Spectrochimica Acta Award, and Member of the Science Advisory Board of Protea Biosciences, Inc., Morgantown, WV. Vertes and his colleagues are developing instrumentation and methods for problem solving in proteomics. Their efforts have led to innovative instrument design for the analysis of proteins as well as better understanding of the fundamental processes involved in matrix-assisted laser desorption ionization (MALDI) and electrospray ionization (ESI).

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Peter Nemes

GW graduate student and Ph.D. candidate

Nemes is a research assistant with the Vertes Research Group at The George Washington University. He previously held research positions at the Water Resources Research Centre in Budapest, Chemical Research Center of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, and the EGIS Pharmaceutical Company also in Budapest. Nemes received an M.S. in chemistry from Eotvos Lorand University in Budapest and is a Ph.D. candidate at GW. He is co-inventor of the laser ablation electrospray ionization (LAESI) ion source and the related novel analytical methods. His research is presented in eight papers and more than ten conference contributions.

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