

## Véronique Gouverneur

<b>Date of birth:</b>	November 11, 1964
<b>Nationality:</b>	Belgian
<b>Position:</b>	Professor of Chemistry at the University of Oxford; Fellow and Tutor of Merton College
<b>Education:</b>	1981–1985 MSc in chemistry, Université Catholique de Louvain (Belgium) 1985–1991 PhD with Prof. L. Ghosez, Université Catholique de Louvain 1992–1994 Postdoctoral fellow with Prof. R. A. Lerner, Scripps Research Institute (USA) 1994–1998 Université Louis Pasteur Strasbourg (Frankreich); Maître de Conférence (with Dr. C. Mioskowski); Associate Member of ISIS (with Prof. J.-M. Lehn)
<b>Professional associations:</b>	Chairman of the RSC Fluorine Group, Member of the Editorial Board of <i>Organic &amp; Biomolecular Chemistry</i>
<b>Awards:</b>	1992 Prix Bruylants und Prix De l'Académie Royale des Sciences 2005 AstraZeneca Award for Organic Chemistry 2008 RSC Bader Award
<b>Current research interests:</b>	Synthetic organic chemistry with a focus on fluorine chemistry; asymmetric fluorination; synthesis of $^{18}\text{F}$ -radioligands for positron emission tomography with applications in diagnosis and drug discovery
<b>Hobbies:</b>	Walking with my dog



V. Gouverneur

The author presented on this page has recently published her **10th article** since 2000 in *Angewandte Chemie*:

"Fluorous Synthesis of  $^{18}\text{F}$  Radiotracers with the  $[\text{F}^{18}]\text{Fluoride Ion}$ : Nucleophilic Fluorination as the Detagging Process": R. Bejot, T. Fowler, L. Carroll, S. Boldon, J. E. Moore, J. Declerck, V. Gouverneur, *Angew. Chem.* **2009**, 121, 421; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2009**, 48, 413.

### The biggest challenge facing scientists is...finding a way to make clean energy.

If I could have dinner with three famous scientists from history, they would be...Marie Curie, Dmitri Mendeleev, and Henri Moissan.

The three things I would take to a desert island would be...an efficient solar-powered computer with access to the internet (somehow) and a supply of "House and Garden" magazines.

I chose chemistry as a career because...it is fascinating to try to understand nature at a molecular level and to correlate structure with function.

If I wasn't a scientist, I would be...I keep changing my mind all the time but it would have been anything to do with the conservation of planet earth.

The most exciting thing about my research is...to see my students solving difficult problems and starting their own independent careers.

In ten years time I will be...doing exactly what I am doing today. I am having so much fun that I hope it will never stop!

The best advice I have ever been given is...whatever you do, do it at your own pace.

I would have liked to have discovered...the structure of DNA.

If I could be a piece of lab equipment, I would be...a pocket-sized cyclotron.

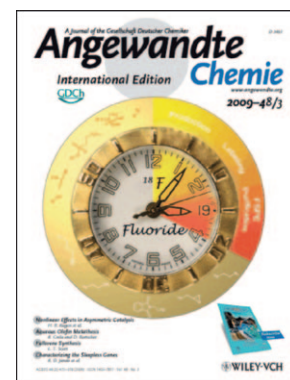
A good work day begins with...an empty diary, which would give me time to read, write, and think.

My favorite food is...I should really say fish and some boiled vegetables, but the reality is steak, fries, and a green salad on the side.

### My 5 top papers:

1. "Fluorous Synthesis of  $^{18}\text{F}$  Radiotracers with the  $[\text{F}^{18}]\text{Fluoride Ion}$ : Nucleophilic Fluorination as the Detagging Process": R. Bejot, T. Fowler, L. Carroll, S. Boldon, J. E. Moore, J. Declerck, V. Gouverneur, *Angew. Chem.* **2009**, 121, 594–597; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2009**, 48, 586–589.
2. "Gold(I)-Catalyzed Alkoxyhalogenation of  $\beta$ -Hydroxy- $\alpha,\alpha$ -difluorones": M. Schuler, F. Silva, C. Bobbio, A. Tessier, V. Gouverneur, *Angew. Chem.* **2008**, 120, 8045–8048; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, 47, 7927–7930.
3. "Fluorine-Directed Diastereoselective Iodocyclisations": M. Tredwell, J. A. R. Luft, M. Schuler, K. Tenza, K. N. Houk, V. Gouverneur, *Angew. Chem.* **2007**, 119, 363–366; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2007**, 47, 357–360.
4. "A Concise Synthesis of Enantioenriched Fluorinated Carbocycles": Y.-h. Lam, C. Bobbio, I. R. Cooper, V. Gouverneur, *Angew. Chem.* **2007**, 119, 5198–5202; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2007**, 46, 5106–5110.
5. "Regio- and Enantioselective Synthesis of Allylic Fluorides by Electrophilic Fluorodesilylation of Allyl Silanes": B. Greedy, J.-M. Paris, T. Vidal, V. Gouverneur, *Angew. Chem.* **2003**, 115, 3413–3416; *Angew. Chem. Int.* **2003**, 28, 3291–3294.

...which also featured on the cover:



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