

Prof. (Emeritus) William Jones, University of Cambridge, visits Bhattadev University.



Professor (Emeritus) William Jones, Yusuf Hamied Department of Chemistry, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom, visited Bhattadev University on 29th January 2025. Prof. Jones, popularly known as Bill Jones among his peers, delivered a special lecture on the topic ‘The Searching and Finding of New Polymorphic Forms of Organic Molecules Only to Lose Them.’ The session, organized by the Department of Chemistry, Bhattadev University, was inaugurated with a welcome address by Prof. Dhanapati Deka, Vice Chancellor of Bhattadev University. Dr. Ranjit Thakuria, Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry, Gauhati University, also graced the occasion as a guest. Delegates from nearby educational institutes were also present at the lecture session, making it a successful event.

Prof. Jones earned his Ph.D. degree from the University College of Wales in 1974 and moved to the University of Cambridge in 1978. There he founded the materials chemistry group along with Prof. Sir John M. Thomas. Prof. Jones has contributed extensively to the fields of solid-state chemistry, pharmaceutical material science, and surface chemistry. He has also served as the deputy director of the Pfizer Institute of Pharmaceutical Material Science and has been a visiting professor at various institutes throughout his career. His contributions to the field of material and solid-state science have brought him many accolades, such as the Jacob London Fellowship from the Weizmann Institute and the Royal Society of Chemistry Corday Morgan Prize.

Prof. Jones delivered an interesting lecture primarily focusing on his research journey in the field of pharmaceutical cocrystals and polymorphs of organic molecules. Very graciously, the lecture was tailored toward the understanding of the undergraduate and postgraduate students present

at the event. He began with his early career discovery of the ‘mechanochemical preparation’ method of pharmaceutical cocrystals, eventually proceeding to the phenomena of ‘disappearing polymorphs.’ He also discussed the unanswered questions in the field of pharmaceutical cocrystal formulation and the stability of their polymorphic structures. Students of Bhattadev University had an interactive session with the invited special guest, where he talked about the enthralling history of the University of Cambridge.

