

Raymond John Butcher, Ph.D., is a professor in the Department of Chemistry at Howard University. He earned his B.Sc. (Hons) in 1968 and his Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry and X-ray Crystallography in 1974, both from the University of Canterbury in Christchurch, New Zealand. He joined Howard University in 1977 as an assistant professor and advanced to full professor in 1997, bringing extensive experience in chemical research and education to the institution.

Butcher's distinguished research career centers on inorganic chemistry and structural crystallography, with a long record of scholarly contributions spanning synthesis, molecular structure determination, and transition-metal chemistry. His work has been published broadly in the chemical literature and reflects deep engagement with structural and spectroscopic studies of coordination compounds and related systems. He has also served as Co-Editor for *Acta Crystallographica E: Data Reports* and *IUCr Data Reports* and held visiting and research appointments at leading institutions, including the University of Virginia, the Naval Research Laboratory, the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, and Los Alamos National Laboratory.

In addition to his research and editorial leadership, Butcher has contributed to the scientific community through national educational service, including roles as AP Chemistry Reader, summer faculty fellowships at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, and international teaching and research collaborations. Throughout his tenure at Howard University, he has been committed to mentoring students in chemistry and structural science, expanding opportunities for undergraduate and graduate researchers to engage in original inquiry and professional development.