February 27, 2014, in the presence of Mr. Fabrice Maiolino, Deputy Consul General in Los Angeles, Professor Jean-Pierre Changeux bestowed the Legion of Honour of the rank “Chevalier” (Knight) on Professor Palmer Taylor, Dean of the Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Associate Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD). The ceremony took place in San Diego, in the presence of several eminent scientists such as Guy Bertrand, distinguished professor at UCSD and director of the UCSD/CNRS Joint Research Chemistry Laboratory, Roger Guillemin, distinguished professor at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies, Pradeep K. Khosla, Chancellor of UCSD, and J. Craig Venter, UCSD alumnus and founder of several research institutes in genomics and synthetic biology.

Professor Taylor researches are related to the structures, recognition capacities, and regulation of expression of proteins governing neurotransmission in junctions between cells called cholinergic synapses.

“Palmer Taylor is a world-leading scientist whose commitment to international research has yielded strong and productive collaborations between French and American scientists. He is a great ambassador of the excellent partnerships that exist between France and the United States in the fields of science and technology.”

Annick Suzor-Weiner - Counselor for Science and Technology at the Embassy of France in the United States (2009-2013)

“This honor is very well deserved not only for your outstanding work on cholinergic systems, and for your exceptional devotion to teaching and training in the pharmaceutical sciences, but also for your generous and creative co-operation and friendship with French scientists, including myself.”

Jean-Pierre Changeux - Professor of molecular neurobiology at the Collège de France and the Institut Pasteur, Grand’Croix (Grand Cross) in the National Order of the Legion of Honour