

Biographical Sketch  
Don Eigler  
The Wetnose Institute for Advanced Pelagic Studies

Don Eigler is a physicist, Kavli Laureate and former IBM Fellow. Don was the founding leader of the Low Temperature Scanning Tunneling Microscopy Project at IBM's Almaden Research Center. He is most renowned for his 1989 demonstration of the ability to manipulate individual atoms – famously positioning individual atoms to spell out “IBM,” a landmark accomplishment in mankind's quest to build ever-smaller structures. While at IBM, his research was aimed at understanding the physics of nanometer-scale structures and exploring their applications to computation. In 2011 Don left IBM to found *The Wetnose Institute for Advanced Pelagic Studies*, a private institute devoted to facilitating and creating opportunities for scientists to conduct studies free of the administrative responsibilities, financial demands and diversionary cacophony that accompany more traditional positions.

Don received both his bachelors and doctorate degrees from the University of California San Diego and was named its Outstanding Alumnus of the year in 1999. He has been recognized for his accomplishments with the Kavli Prize in Nanoscience, the Davisson-Germer Prize, the Dannie Heineman Prize, the Newcomb-Cleveland Prize, the Grand Award for Science and Technology, the Nanoscience Prize, and numerous honorary lectureships. He is a Fellow of the American Physical Society and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and a member of the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters, the Max Planck Society and the United States National Academy of Sciences.