

Robert Schoonheydt

Robert A. Schoonheydt is emeritus professor of the KU Leuven, where he obtained his bioengineering degree in 1966 and his Ph.D. in 1970 under the guidance of prof. Jan .B. Uytterhoeven. He did a postdoc in the chemistry department of the Texas A&M University under guidance of Jack H. Lunsford on adsorption of SO₂ on MgO. His research interests at the KU Leuven are the surface chemistry of clay minerals and zeolites with special emphasis on transition metal ions and spectroscopy.

Presently he is a member of an international research collaboration of zeolite chemists, spectroscopists and quantum chemists on active sites in Cu- and Fe-zeolites for selective oxidation, NO_x abatement and electrophilic aromatic substitution reactions. He has been dean of the faculty of bioscience engineering from 1998 till 2004 and president of the International Association for the Study of Clays from 2001 till 2005.