

## American Ceramic Society honors Pye

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The American Ceramic Society will honor Dr. L. David Pye for his contributions to the field of glass science and education, and to the glass industry by conducting a symposium in his name during the annual meeting April 28-May 1 in St. Louis, MO. The L. David Pye Symposium on Structure and Properties of Glass-Forming Systems, will begin Monday, April 28, and will feature nine invited papers covering topics ranging from the properties of glass melts to the structure of glass and strategies for industrial glass research. "This is a distinct honor for David Pye, and for Alfred University," said Dr. David Szczerbacki, AU provost. "In naming a symposium in his honor, the American Ceramic Society is recognizing Dr. Pye for his lifetime achievements. He is the first faculty member at AU to be so honored by the ceramic society." "I am very pleased and honored to have a symposium convened in my name," said Pye. "In a larger sense, it is a reflection of some wonderful interactions with students, fellow faculty members and friends throughout the United States and the world." Pye is immediate past president of the International Commission on Glass, which includes members from 30 different countries, and is a past chair and trustee of the Glass and Optical Materials Division of the American Ceramic Society. A 1959 alumnus of what is now the School of Ceramic Engineering and Materials Science at Alfred University, Pye is a professor of glass science at the school. He served as dean of the College of Ceramics at Alfred University, which includes the School of Ceramic Engineering and Materials Science; was founding director of the National Science Foundation's Industry-University Center for Glass Research at Alfred, and co-founder of the Paul Vickers Gardner Glass Center at the University. International participants in the Pye Symposium include Dr. Helmut Schaffer, who heads the German Glass Society which formed a research alliance with the Center for Glass Research during Pye's tenure as director, and Dr. Adrian Wright from England, a leading researcher in the structure of glass and a former visiting professor at Alfred. Among the highlights of the symposium will be a presentation by Dr. George Beall of Corning Incorporated, one of the pioneers in the formation of glass-ceramics. Beall's topic for the symposium, however, will be strategies for industrial glass research. Alfred faculty members participating in the symposium will be Dr. Alastair Cormack, the Van Derck Frechette Professor of Ceramic Science; Dr. Alexis Clare, professor of glass science; and Dr. William C. LaCourse, professor of glass science. Margaret Rasmussen, associate director of the Center for Glass Research at Alfred, will deliver the opening talk, reviewing the advances in glass science, technology and education since 1968, the year Pye received his Ph.D. degree from Alfred University. Pye has been called "one of this country's most influential glass scientists over the past 30-plus years." His research on the behavior of glass-forming melts including nucleation, crystallization, redox effects, and nuclear waste vitrification "have not only contributed to the base of scientific knowledge but have been the thesis research topics of many of today's young research scientists," said LaCourse, who has been a colleague of Pye for more than three decades. He has edited a number of conference proceedings and co-founded a continuing series of conferences on "Advances in the Melting and Processing of Glasses, Natural Glasses and Borate Glasses." Pye has published more than 80 articles on glass and ceramics. As a member of the AU faculty, Pye was instrumental in building the reputation of Alfred University as the third world-renowned center for glass research and education, the first being in Jena, Germany, and the second at the University of Sheffield in England. During his tenure as dean of the College of Ceramics, he oversaw construction of a \$4 million Hall of Glass Science and Engineering, and a \$12 million renovation of Binns-Merrill Hall, and played a major role in securing more than \$7 million in funding to construct a new building for the Schein-Joseph International Museum of Ceramic Art. He guided the redesignation of the NSF Center for Glass Research and the New York State Center for Advanced Ceramic Technology, and growth of the college's annual research program from \$3 million to \$5 million. Additionally, new master's level degree programs were added in integrated electronic arts and materials science and engineering under his leadership. The Van Derck Frechette Chair in ceramic science was inaugurated; the Kazu Inamori International Scholarship Program was developed, and the School of Art and Design grew by nearly 100 students. Pye has won international acclaim for his work, particularly as founding director of the Center for Glass Research from 1985 to 1996, and former president of the International Commission on Glass. He won the Phoenix Award for "Glassman of the Year" in 1996 and the Dominik Labino Lecture Award in 1995, two of the highest honors in the world-wide glass community. He is a member of the prestigious Academy of Ceramics and the New York Academy of Sciences, and is only the third AU faculty member to receive an Excellence in Teaching Award from the American Society for Engineering Education. He is a Fellow of the American Ceramic Society, and last year was inducted as a Fellow of the Society of Glass

Technology during the 18th International Congress on Glass in Edinburgh, Scotland. His biography appears in a number of standard references including Who's Who in the World and Who's Who in America.