

Glass professor emeritus named Distinguished Member of ceramics society

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The American Ceramics Society (ACerS) has announced that Dr. Arun Varshneya, professor emeritus of glass science and engineering at Alfred University (AU) and president of Saxon Glass Technologies in Alfred, has earned the distinction of Distinguished Life Member.

The award is the highest bestowed by ACerS and is given in recognition of an individual's outstanding contribution to the ceramic and glass profession. Varshneya, along with two other honorees, will be inducted as Distinguished Life Members at the Society's annual awards and honors banquet Oct. 13, 2014, in Pittsburgh, PA.

"Each year, the Society presents the title 'Distinguished Life Member' to our preeminent members who have made great advances in ceramic science and technology, given significant contributions to the benefit of the Society, and who have helped mentor and inspire our younger leaders through their research and teaching," said ACerS President David Green.

Varshneya's retired from AU after 28 years as a teacher and researcher. His research and development career spans nearly five decades and his work contributed greatly toward the understanding of glass-to-metal seals, chalcogenide glasses, and glass chemical strengthening.

An Acers Fellow, Varshneya's involvement with the Society dates back to the late '60s. He held offices in the Northern Ohio section and the ACerS Glass and Optical Materials Division (GOMD) and served as treasurer of the Society from 2008-10. He continues to champion the ACerS mission and has endowed the Darshana and Arun Varshneya Frontiers of Glass Lectures, which are presented at the annual GOMD meeting.

He is also the 2007 recipient of the President's Award from the International Commission on Glass. He joins a small group affiliated with Alfred University who previously received this honor. They include John F. McMahan, Samuel R. Scholes, Van Derck Frechette, Richard M. Spriggs, and L. David Pye.

Varshneya earned a bachelor of science degree from Agra University, India; a bachelor of science degree in glass technology from the University of Sheffield, United Kingdom; and master of science and a Ph.D. degrees in materials science, both from Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio.

Founded in 1898, the American Ceramics Society is the leading professional membership organization for ceramic and materials scientists, engineers, researchers, manufacturers, plant personnel, educators, and students. The society serves more than 9,000 members from more than 70 countries.