

BIOGRAPHY

John T. Yates, Jr.
Professor of Chemistry
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Professor John T. Yates, Jr. received his B.S. degree from Juniata College and his Ph.D. in physical chemistry from M.I.T. Following three years as Assistant Professor at Antioch College, he joined the National Bureau of Standards, first as a NRC Postdoctoral Research Fellow and then, from 1965 until 1982, as a member of its scientific staff. His research in the fields of surface chemistry and physics, including both the structure and spectroscopy of surface species, the dynamics of surface processes, and the development of new methods for research in surface chemistry, has put him at the forefront of an exciting rapidly growing field of science.

Professor Yates joined the University of Pittsburgh in 1982 as the first R.K. Mellon Professor of Chemistry and as the Founding Director of the new University of Pittsburgh Surface Science Center. In 1994 he was jointly appointed to the Department of Physics. He established the Surface Science Center and has created a strong research program there. Here, working with students and postdoctoral staff, his influence was evident over a wide range of research activities.

He moved to the University of Virginia in 2006 as a Professor and Shannon Research Fellow and has established a new research program in Surface Science in the Department of Chemistry. He is also becoming active in the new field of astrochemistry. He is active in undergraduate and graduate teaching. In addition, he maintains close relationships with a number of surface science research programs in academic, government, and industrial research laboratories throughout the world, as well as serving on the editorial boards of six journals and two book series in surface science and catalysis. He was Associate Editor of the ACS journal, *Langmuir*. He served on the Advisory Board of *Chemical & Engineering News*. He is on the International Advisory Board of *Chemistry World*. He has been active in AVS, APS and ACS affairs for the last 30 years, including being a past member of the AVS Boards of Directors and Trustees, past Chairman of the Surface Science Division of the AVS (for the second time), past chairman, APS Division of Chemical Physics, and the past chairman of the ACS Division of Colloid and Surface Chemistry. He has organized a number of symposia for ACS National Meetings, APS National Meetings, and has been Chairman of three Gordon Research Conferences. He is the coeditor of two books, "Vibrational Spectroscopy of Molecules on Surfaces," Plenum, 1987 and "Chemical Perspectives of Microelectronic Materials," Materials Research Society, 1989. He is the co-

author of a book entitled “The Surface Scientists Guide to Organometallic Chemistry,” ACS, 1987. The book, “Experimental Innovations in Surface Science,” was published by Springer-Verlag and The American Institute of Physics in 1998. A new textbook “Molecular Physical Chemistry for Engineers,” University Science Books, was published in 2007.

Currently, he is the author of 708 published and submitted papers.

Honors and awards

- Senior Visiting Scholar – University of East Anglia (1970-71)
- Silver Medal - U.S. Department of Commerce (1973)
- Sherman Fairchild Distinguished Scholar – Caltech (1977-78)
- Stratton Award for Distinguished Research – NBS (1978)
- Gold Medal - Highest Award, U.S. Department of Commerce (1981)
- 24th Most Highly Cited Chemist in the World-ISI (1984)
- Kendall Award – Colloid or Surface Chemistry, ACS (1987)
- First President’s Distinguished Research Award - University of Pittsburgh (1989)
- E.W. Morley Medal - Cleveland ACS (1990)
- Fellow – American Physical Society (1992)
- Peter Debye Lecturer - Cornell University (1993)
- Medard Welch Award - American Vacuum Society (1994)
- Fellow – American Vacuum Society (1994)
- Alexander von Humboldt Senior Research Award (1994)
- Elected to National Academy of Sciences (1996)
- 85th Most Highly Cited Chemist in the World - ISI (1981-97)
- Pittsburgh-Cleveland Catalysis Society Award (1998)
- Pittsburgh Award - Pittsburgh ACS (1998)
- Arthur W. Adamson Award for Distinguished Service in the Advancement of Surface Chemistry - ACS (1999)
- J.W. Linnett Professor - Cambridge University (2000)
- Outstanding Alumnus – Juniata College (2000)
- G.N. Lewis Lecturer, University of California-Berkeley (2002)
- Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Fellowship (2002)
- Advisory Board, *Chemical & Engineering News* (2001-03)
- Gwathmey Visiting Professor, University of Virginia (2002-03)
- Elected a Fellow of The Institute of Physics (2004)
- Peter Debye Award in Physical Chemistry – ACS (2007)
- h-index 78, ranking him 72nd amongst living chemists in the world (2007) for citations