

Honoring the ACerS

Over its long history, The American Ceramic Society has established a tradition of awards to recognize its members' outstanding contributions and accomplishments and to create career benchmarks for aspiring young scientists, engineers, and business leaders. The most prestigious of ACerS awards is Distinguished Life Member designation, a recognition bestowed upon only two or three members each year.

In 2026, two individuals will receive DLM honors: Makio Naito and George Quinn. The Society will elevate 13 members to Fellow and recognize many more outstanding members with various Society and Class awards during the ACerS Annual Honor and Awards Banquet Reception on Oct. 5, 2026.

2026 DISTINGUISHED LIFE MEMBERS

Makio Naito



The development of advanced ceramics can feel almost clinical, requiring high-end cleanrooms and demanding processing conditions. But spending time in nature can give you an appreciation for how much ceramics have evolved from traditional clay until now. For Makio Naito, it also motivated him to use those advanced technologies for environmental protection.

"During high school in the 1970s, the global environmental movement prompted my interest in how we could balance industrial development and climate awareness," Naito says. But even before then, he had developed an appreciation for the environment by conducting soil sample and analysis near Mt. Fuji through his junior high science club.

Naito pursued a bachelor's in chemical engineering, but it was during his graduate studies at Nagoya University that his early experience with soil analysis came full circle. He met Genji Jimbo, a professor known for his work on powder technology, which "is a bit related to soil handling," Naito says. Jimbo had also published articles on the relationship between industrial development and sustainable societies, which prompted Naito to join his group.

Naito first studied dust collection to improve air quality and then transitioned into researching particle surface modification to control powder mechanical properties. It was then that Jimbo introduced him to the book *Ceramic Processing Before Firing*, edited by Larry Hench and George Onoda, and "It was the first time I became interested in ceramic science," Naito says.

After graduation, Naito worked at Hosokawa Micron Corporation on developing an ultrafine grinding machine, which brought him into contact with numerous ceramic manufacturers. He then joined the Japan Fine Ceramics Center in 1993, where he developed advanced characterization tools for ceramics defects, before becoming a professor in the Joining and Welding Research Institute at

Osaka University in 2002. He is now Emeritus Professor at Osaka, as well as managing director of Hosokawa Powder Technology Foundation and director of Toyo Tanso Co., Ltd.

Among Naito's many accomplishments, he has developed heat- and binder-free mechanical methods to achieve direct bonding between particles in the dry state. He has also helped edit all three editions of the *Nanoparticle Technology Handbook*, and he is grateful to Hosokawa Powder Technology Foundation President Masuo Hosokawa for supporting the publication and continued success of this book.

Naito has been involved in many national and international projects, including a New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization grant, an International Energy Agency project, and a Versailles Project on Advanced Materials and Standards, all of which aimed to develop powder characterization methods for international testing standards. It was through such collaborative projects that Naito first met ACerS members George Onoda (FACerS) and Stephen Freiman (FACerS, DLM), both from the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

"I was especially surprised to meet George because he was one of the editors of the book that I knew in my graduate student days!" Naito says.

Naito eventually joined ACerS after presenting a talk on powder characterization techniques in a NIST-organized symposium at the 100th ACerS Annual Meeting in 1998. He became a Fellow in 2010.

Naito says that the Society's ability to develop good relationships between industry and academia helped him organize and launch the International Conference on the Characterization and Control of Interfaces for High Quality Advanced Materials (ICCCI) in 2003. The next edition of this conference will be held near Mt. Fuji in July 2028—back to where it all began for Naito in junior high.

Naito would like to thank Mrityunjay Singh (FACerS, DLM) for being "my best adviser to support international network and collaborations between powder technology and advanced ceramics." He would also like to thank Kevin Ewsuk (FACerS), who has been "my best partner to organize ICCCI from the very first one."

Awards Class of 2026

George Quinn



Not everyone can say they stuck with one niche throughout their entire profession. George Quinn, however, can.

Quinn's first experience with ceramics was during his mechanical engineering undergraduate studies at Northeastern University (Boston, Mass.). As part of their cooperative education program, he was sent to the Army Materials and Mechanics Research Center in 1969, which

required him to travel to the nearby town of Watertown, Mass., to work in the ceramics division.

Quinn says the division chief's first attempt at explaining ceramics to him "did not make very much of an impression."

"He fumbled in his desk drawer and pulled up a little tungsten carbide cutting tool insert, and he said, 'Well, this is a ceramic,'" Quinn recalls.

Quinn says the co-op eventually became a "synergistic relationship" as he learned more about ceramic materials, and he ultimately adapted to the research quite well. He also had the serendipity of meeting his late wife, Janet (Gorcenski) Quinn, during the co-op. She was another Northeastern student participating in the program who also later became a ceramic engineer.

After graduating from Northeastern with his bachelor's in 1973, Quinn joined the Army Research Center as a ceramic engineer and became a member of The American Ceramic Society. He then worked at the German Aerospace Research Laboratory in Cologne before joining the National Institute of Standards and Technology in 1990.

"I must tell you that at that formative period in my life, particularly in the 1960s and 1970s, I met a lot of interesting scientists," Quinn says.

ACerS Fellow James Varner is one of those "interesting" scientists. Quinn taught a fractography summer course alongside Varner at Alfred University for 25 years, and they organized various conferences together on fractography and mechanical properties. Quinn also taught graduate courses at Northeastern following encouragement from his former instructor, ACerS Fellow Thomas Vasilos.

Quinn's passion for materials and teaching has manifested in numerous achievements, including his book, *Fractography of Ceramics and Glasses*, now in its fourth edition. Quinn says this book is one of his top five career accomplishments.

Another one of Quinn's greatest accomplishments is helping develop standard procedures and methods for various organizations, including ASTM, ISO, and the military, to determine the mechanical properties of advanced ceramics. In particular, he developed the only reference material in the world for fracture toughness (NIST's Standard Reference Material 2100).

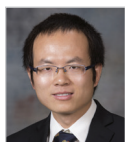
While working at NIST, Quinn's wife joined him nearby at the American Dental Association (ADA). After Janet died from lung cancer in 2008, Quinn retired as a civil government worker and collaborated with the ADA for five years to continue her work on edge chip testing and the fractography of dental crowns and bridges. This decision gave him "a chance to grieve for my wife's passing while also doing something about it," Quinn says. Now, he serves as a guest researcher and consultant for NIST.

Throughout his lengthy career in ceramics and glass, Quinn has remained active in the Society and was recognized as a Fellow in 2001. Based on his personal and professional involvement within the ceramics community, Quinn likes to joke that rather than materials science, his Ph.D. is from the "school of experience."

"I've met a lot of wonderful people, scientists, and colleagues from a variety of disciplines that I would not normally have been exposed to, and I have learned a lot from them," Quinn says. "The American Ceramic Society has been the ground where these interactions have been done."

Quinn would like to extend his gratitude to former Lieutenant Thomas Rankin, Lieutenant Jack Stiglich, R. Nathan Katz, James McCauley, Thomas Vasilos, Van Fréchette, James Varner, Susanne Scherrer, Edwin Fuller, Wolfgang Braue, and Janet Quinn. ■

The 2026 Class of Fellows



Bai Cui is professor of mechanical and materials engineering at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He received his Ph.D. in materials science and engineering from Imperial College London. He joined ACerS in 2014 and belongs to the Manufacturing Division, as well as Basic Science and Engineering Ceramics Divisions. He has served the Manufacturing Division in various roles, including secretary (2022–2023), vice-chair (2023–2024), chair-elect (2024–2025), and chair (2025–2026). He currently serves on the ACerS Meetings Committee (2025–2029) and has served as an associate editor for *Journal of the American Ceramic Society*. He is a recipient of numerous ACerS awards, including the Global Ambassador Award (2023), Global Star Award (2022), and the Outstanding Associate Editor Award for *Journal of the American Ceramic Society*.



Matthew D'Ambrosia is adjunct professor of civil and environmental engineering at Northwestern University and principal at MJ2 Consulting. D'Ambrosia received his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He joined ACerS in 2000 and belongs to the Cements Division, where he co-chaired four of the Division's annual meetings and progressed through the Executive Committee. He is also a Fellow of the American Concrete Institute and 2025 ASCE Construction Engineering Person of the Year.



Qiang Fu is principal scientist at Corning Incorporated. Fu received his B.S. and M.S. degrees in materials science from Tongji University, China, and a Ph.D. in ceramic engineering from Missouri University of Science and Technology. He joined ACerS in 2012 and belongs to the Glass & Optical Materials Division, as well as Basic Science and Bioceramics Divisions. Fu was program chair of GOMD 2023, and he has organized eight bioactive glass-related symposia at major conferences, including ICG, GOMD, and MS&T. From 2017–2021, he was a committee member of ACerS Diversity & Inclusion Subcommittee, and he currently serves on the ACerS Rishi Raj Medal Subcommittee (2025–2030). Fu has served as an editor for *Journal of the American Ceramic Society* since 2023. He has received numerous awards, including the ACerS Tadashi Kokubo Award (2024) and the Darshana and Arun Varshneya Frontiers of Glass Technology Lecture Award (2022).



Ashutosh Goel is professor of materials science and engineering at Rutgers University. He earned his B.S. and M.S. in physics from Guru Nanak Dev University, India, and his Ph.D. in materials science and engineering from the University of Aveiro, Portugal. He joined ACerS in 2012 and belongs to the Glass & Optical Materials Division, as well as Bioceramics Division. Goel served as chair of the Bioceramics Division from 2021–2022, and he currently serves as associate editor for both *Journal of the American Ceramic Society* and *International Journal of Applied Glass Science*. He received the ACerS Tadashi Kokubo Award in 2023.



Timothy Gross is research and development director for inorganic materials at Corning Incorporated. He received his B.S. in ceramic engineering from Alfred University, M.S. in materials science and engineering from Rochester Institute of Technology, and Ph.D. in materials engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Gross joined ACerS in 2012 and belongs to the Glass & Optical Materials Division. He has given 15 talks at GOMD meetings and has also co-authored 18 GOMD talks given by junior scientists. From 2020–24, he was a session organizer and chair for the Mechanical Properties of Glass session at GOMD. Gross currently serves on the ACerS Finance Committee. He is a recipient of the ACerS Stookey Discovery Award (2025) and the Darshana and Arun Varshneya Frontiers of Glass Technology Award (2026).



Shiho Kawashima is associate professor of civil engineering and engineering mechanics at Columbia University. Kawashima received her B.S. in civil engineering from Columbia University and her M.S. and Ph.D. in civil engineering from Northwestern University. She joined ACerS in 2013 and belongs to the Cements Division. She served as chair of the Cements Division from 2020–2022 and currently serves as a guest editor for upcoming special issues in *Materials and Structures* and *Journal of the American Ceramic Society*. Kawashima is a recipient of the ACerS Cements Division Early Career Award (2022) and the ACerS Global Ambassador Award (2024).



Dietmar Koch is managing director of the Institute of Materials Resource Management at the University of Augsburg, Germany. He received his Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from the University of Karlsruhe (now Karlsruhe Institute of Technology). He joined ACerS in 1999 and belongs to the Engineering Ceramics Division, as well as Basic Science Division. Koch currently serves on the ACerS Strategic Planning & Emerging Opportunities Committee (2024–2027) and as associate editor for *International Journal of Applied Ceramic Technology*. In 2025, Koch helped organize the CMC-Europe event with the ACerS International Italy Chapter.

The 2026 Class of Fellows (continued)



Peter Kroll is professor of chemistry and biochemistry at The University of Texas at Arlington. He received his undergraduate diploma in physics from Ruprecht-Karls University Heidelberg and Ph.D. in materials science from the Technical University of Darmstadt. Kroll joined ACerS in 2010 and belongs to the Basic Science Division, as well as Engineering Ceramics Division. He has organized and co-organized more than 30 symposia focusing on polymer-derived ceramics, ultrahigh-temperature ceramics, and computational modeling. He is a co-founder of the ACerS Technical Interest Group on polymer-derived ceramics and a recipient of the ECD Global Star Award (2026).



Nathan Orloff is the microwave materials project leader at the National Institute of Standards and Technology. He received both his B.S. in physics and Ph.D. in physics from the University of Maryland. He joined ACerS in 2016 and belongs to the Electronics Division. Orloff has made a variety of contributions to ACerS at the local and conference-wide levels. In 2018, he helped found the ACerS Colorado Section and then served as treasurer and secretary. He also organized five special sessions on telecommunications at the Basic Science and Electronic Divisions' Electronic Materials and Applications conference. Additionally, he has served as chair of the Corporate Relations Committee of the Electronics Division.



Laetitia Petit is professor of photonic glasses at Tampere University, Finland. She received her Ph.D. in solid-state chemistry and materials science engineering from the Université of Bordeaux. She joined ACerS in 2014 and belongs to the Glass & Optical Materials Division. She currently serves on the John Jeppson Award Subcommittee (2023–2028). She is vice-chair of the Technical Committee 20 in the International Commission on Glass and an associate editor for *Optical Materials*.



Marissa Reigel is director of research at Saint-Gobain NorPro. She received her Ph.D. in metallurgical engineering from the Colorado School of Mines. She joined ACerS in 2006 and belongs to the Manufacturing Division, as well as Energy Materials and Systems and Refractory Ceramics Divisions. She is an active ACerS volunteer, having recently completed a three-year term on the ACerS Board of Directors. She continues to serve on multiple ACerS committees and task forces, such as the Material Advantage Committee, the Society Awards Committee (2025–2027), and the Nominating Committee (2025–2028).



Lisa Rueschhoff is senior materials research engineer at the Air Force Research Laboratory. She received her B.S. in materials engineering from Iowa State University and Ph.D. in materials engineering from Purdue University. She joined ACerS in 2010 and belongs to the Engineering Ceramics Division, as well as Basic Science Division. She has served in ACerS leadership roles since her student years, first as chair of the Material Advantage Chapter at Iowa State and then as chair of ACerS President's Council of Student Advisors during her graduate studies at Purdue. Rueschhoff has also served as chair of the ACerS Membership Services Committee (2020–2024) and associate editor for *International Journal of Applied Ceramic Technology*. She has co-organized more than six technical symposia and acted as program co-chair for the 10th ICC. A 2017 ACerS Global Ambassador and recipient of the ACerS Du-Co Ceramics Young Professional award (2023), Rueschhoff will continue her dedicated service as an incoming member of the ACerS Board of Directors starting in 2026.



Shunpei Yamazaki is chairman and CEO of Semiconductor Energy Laboratory, Japan. He earned his B.E., M.E., and Ph.D. from Doshisha University, Japan. He joined ACerS in 2015 and belongs to the Engineering Ceramics Division, as well as the Basic Science and Electronics Divisions. Yamazaki holds the Guinness World Records title for the most patents credited to an individual, with 20,120 patents recognized as of July 2025. His achievements have been recognized with numerous prestigious honors, including five major ACerS awards: the Richard M. Fulrath Award (1984), the Medal for Leadership in the Advancement of Ceramic Technology (2016), the W.D. Kingery Award (2018), the Rustum Roy Lecture Award (2024), and the Mrityunjay Singh Bridge Building Award (2025). ■

Visit <https://ceramics.org/awards/society-fellows>
to learn more about the **2026 Fellows**

Society Awards

W. DAVID KINGERY AWARD recognizes distinguished lifelong achievements involving multidisciplinary and global contributions to ceramic technology, science, education, and art.



John C. Mauro, FACerS, is the Dorothy Pate Enright Professor and associate head for graduate education in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering at The Pennsylvania State University.

He is a pioneer in the use of physics-based and machine learning models to design new glassy materials. He has invented or co-invented new glass compositions for Corning Incorporated, including Gorilla Glass products, and invented new models for supercooled liquid and glass viscosity, glass structure and topology, relaxation behavior, and thermal and mechanical properties.

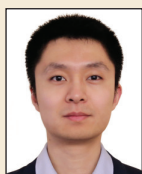
JOHN JEPPSON AWARD recognizes distinguished scientific, technical, or engineering achievements.



Ungyu Paik is Distinguished Professor in the Department of Energy Engineering at Hanyang University, Korea.

His research centers on the exploration and development of materials for advanced lithium-ion batteries and next-generation electronic devices, particularly those designed for environmentally benign and carbon-neutral energy systems.

ROBERT L. COBLE AWARD FOR YOUNG SCHOLARS recognizes an outstanding scientist conducting research in academia, industry, or at a government-funded laboratory.



Yanhao Dong is associate professor in the School of Materials Science and Engineering at Tsinghua University, China.

During the five years he spent as a postdoctoral researcher at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Dong proposed and developed new concepts, theories, and techniques for robust ceramic materials and devices, including ultrauniform nanocrystalline materials beyond Hillert's theoretical limit, stress corrosion cracking and self-healing phenomena in high-voltage battery cathodes, planetary centrifugal deagglomeration for single-crystalline cathode synthesis, and rejuvenated cathode-electrolyte interface in protonic ceramic fuel and electrolysis cells. His current research involves advanced ceramics for structural and energy applications.



Scott McCormack is assistant professor of materials science and engineering at the University of California, Berkeley.

His research focuses on ultrahigh-temperature thermochemistry for materials in extreme environments for applications in hypersonic platforms, nuclear energy, and space exploration. He is also passionate about STEM outreach, and much of his activity in ACerS has been in that direction, including partnering with the regional Math Engineering Science Achievement program.

RICHARD AND PATRICIA SPRIGGS PHASE EQUILIBRIA AWARD honors authors who made the most valuable contribution to phase stability relationships in ceramic-based systems literature during the calendar year prior to selection.

"Key phase diagram experiments and thermodynamic modeling of the $\text{ZnO-B}_2\text{O}_3$, ZnO-SiO_2 , and $\text{ZnO-B}_2\text{O}_3\text{-SiO}_2$ systems," *Journal of the American Ceramic Society* 2025, 108(3): e20252.

Min-Kyung Kim, Seoul National University, Korea
Jaesung Lee, Seoul National University, Korea
In-Ho Jung, Seoul National University, Korea

ROSS COFFIN PURDY AWARD recognizes authors who made the most valuable contribution to ceramic technical literature during the calendar year two years prior to selection.

"Mechanical tailoring of dislocations in ceramics at room temperature: A perspective," *Journal of the American Ceramic Society* 2024, 107(3): 1425–1447.

Xufei Fang, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany

MORGAN MEDAL AND GLOBAL DISTINGUISHED DOCTORAL DISSERTATION AWARD recognizes a distinguished doctoral dissertation in the ceramics and glass discipline.



Petra Špringer Šimonová is postdoctoral researcher and Humboldt Fellow at the University of Bayreuth, Germany.

Her dissertation focused on understanding the relationships between microstructure, composition, and properties in oxide and silicate ceramics, and her work has now expanded to exploring how microstructural design influences the mechanical and functional properties of ceramic matrix composites.

Society Awards (continued)

MEDAL FOR LEADERSHIP IN THE ADVANCEMENT OF CERAMIC TECHNOLOGY recognizes individuals who have made substantial contributions to the success of their organization and expanded the frontiers of the ceramics industry through leadership.



Seon-kyu Jeon is founding chairman of MiCo Group, Korea.

Over nearly three decades, Jeon positioned MiCo as the parent of a cluster of specialized affiliates, including KoMiCo for semiconductor equipment part cleaning and coating, MiCo Ceramics for high performance heaters and electrostatic chucks, and MiCo Hightech for vacuum and high temperature ceramic equipment. He also championed MiCo Power and related initiatives in solid oxide fuel cells, waste to energy systems, and carbon capture, reflecting a strategic shift toward eco-friendly and net-zero solutions.

DU-CO CERAMICS YOUNG PROFESSIONAL AWARD recognizes a young professional member of ACerS who demonstrates exceptional leadership and service to ACerS.



Xuan Song is associate professor of industrial and systems engineering at the University of Iowa.

Song currently serves as co-chair (2024–2026) of the ACerS Young Professionals Network, and he previously served on the

ACerS Committee on Strategic Planning for Emerging Opportunities. He has also collaborated with the ACerS Education and Professional Development Council, contributing to the alignment of ACerS leadership strategies with early-career engagement. Song has continuously served as a symposium organizer for ceramic additive manufacturing at major ACerS conferences, and he has served on the International Advisory Board for the International Ceramics Congress. Two of his articles on ceramic additive manufacturing have been chosen as Editor's Choice in *Journal of the American Ceramic Society*.

RISHI RAJ MEDAL FOR INNOVATION AND COMMERCIALIZATION recognizes an individual whose innovation lies at the cusp of commercialization in a field related, at least in part, to ceramics and glass.



Vincent Harris is University Distinguished Professor and William Lincoln Smith Chair Professor at Northeastern University and CEO of Metamagnetics Inc.

Harris's research interests encompass a wide range of advanced materials and topics, including magnetoceramics, critical materials and global supply chain dynamics, and the impact of technology upon global climate change. As founder and CEO of Metamagnetics Inc., a company that produces innovative solutions for the defense and aerospace communities, he has led efforts

in the productization of self-biased circulators, Autotune Filters, high-efficiency power conversion and conditioning components, among others. He has received the distinction of Fellow in numerous science organizations and is a recipient of the ACerS Edward C. Henry (2020) and W. David Kingery (2023) and Awards. ■

ECerS-ACerS JOINT AWARD recognizes individuals who foster international cooperation between The American Ceramic Society and the European Ceramic Society, in demonstration of both organizations' commitment to work together to better serve the international ceramics community.



Mrityunjay Singh, FACerS, DLM, is chief scientist at Ohio Aerospace Institute. Singh is an ACerS past president and currently president of World Academy of Ceramics. He is a Fellow of ACerS, ASM International, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Indian Institute of Metals, and National Academy of Inventors. He is an Honorary Fellow of the European Ceramic Society, Indian Institute of Ceramics, and honorary member of Materials Research Society of India, Indian Ceramic Society, and Distinguished Life Member of Alpha Sigma Mu. He is the recipient of nearly 100 national and international awards and has received honorary doctorates from Nagaoka University of Technology, Japan; Slovak Academy of Sciences, Slovakia; and AGH University of Krakow, Poland.

ECerS-ACerS JOINT YOUNG PROFESSIONAL AWARD recognizes individuals who foster international cooperation between The American Ceramic Society and the European Ceramic Society, in demonstration of both organizations' commitment to work together to better serve the international ceramics community.



Scott McCormack is assistant professor of materials science and engineering at the University of California, Berkeley. During his student years, McCormack was an active member in ACerS President's Council of Student Advisors (PCSA), serving as a member (2016–2017) then chair (2017–2018) of the Outreach Committee and then as chair of the PCSA (2018–2019). Since 2024, he has served as a Mentor-at-Large for the PCSA. The PCSA is an international student-based group, and McCormack's involvement with the PCSA has allowed him to help connect European and U.S. ceramic students, along with students from Asia, Africa, and South America." ■

Society Awards (continued)

DAVID W. RICHESON EDUCATIONAL

OUTREACH AWARD is given annually to honor up to two undergraduate or graduate student members of the ceramic and glass materials community who have made a significant impact in outreach to primary and secondary school students.



Katelyn Kirchner is a 2024 graduate of The Pennsylvania State University and currently glass process scientist at CelSian Inc. During her academic studies, Katelyn earned the Graduate

Student Online Teaching Certificate (June 2021) and Graduate Student Teaching Certificate (May 2022), skill sets which she now uses as an industrial trainer at CelSian Academy. Kirchner co-organized student events for the 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024 Glass & Optical Materials Division annual meetings, and she currently serves as the GOMD Young Professional Network liaison and U.S. representative for the ECerS Young Ceramics Network.



Fox Thorpe is a 2024 graduate of the University of California, Davis, and now founding engineer and materials scientist at Calectra. Thorpe was a delegate of the ACerS

President's Council of Student Advisors during his student years, and in his current role, he continues materials science outreach work with teachers in California and Kentucky. ■

Corporate Environmental Achievement Award

The Corporate Environmental Achievement award recognizes a single outstanding environmental achievement made by an ACerS Corporate Partner in the field of ceramics.



Elkem, headquartered in Oslo, Norway, is a global leader in silicon-based advanced materials. In 2020, the company was rated among the world's top 5% on climate. Elkem already uses 83% renewable electricity in its operations, and the company aims to reduce its total carbon dioxide emissions by 28% from 2020–2031 while growing its supplies to the green transition, thereby delivering a 39% improvement of its product carbon footprint in the same period. Elkem's long-term goal is net-zero emissions by 2050. ■

Corporate Technical Achievement Award

The Corporate Technical Achievement award recognizes a single outstanding technical achievement made by an ACerS Corporate Partner in the field of ceramics.

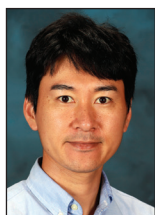


Niron Magnetics' proprietary iron nitride permanent magnet technology provides a rare-earth-free permanent magnet composition for motors, consumer electronics, and industrial applications. This innovation helps improve supply chain security and reduces environmental impact while still providing high-performance magnetic properties.

Niron Magnetics spun out of the University of Minnesota in 2013 and is currently supplying magnets to select customers from its Minneapolis pilot plant. The company broke ground on its full-scale manufacturing facility in September 2025 and expects to be operational in 2027. ■

Richard M. Fulrath Symposium and Awards

Promote technical and personal friendships between Japanese and U.S. ceramic engineers and scientists.



U.S. industrial:
Takaaki Koyanagi,
Oak Ridge National
Laboratory



Japanese academic:
Shintaro Yasui,
Institute of Science
Tokyo



Japanese industrial:
Takayuki Nakao,
Osaka Gas Co., Ltd.



Japanese industrial:
Kenji Shinozaki,
National Institute of
Advanced Industrial Science
and Technology

Society Award Lectures

ACERS/EPDC ARTHUR L. FRIEDBERG CERAMIC ENGINEERING TUTORIAL AND LECTURE provides a tutorial that reviews and instructs in some area of ceramics or glass with a distinct engineering flavor.

Extending the Weibull framework: High-throughput and in-situ approaches to understanding fracture



Frank DelRio is a principal member of technical staff in the Department of Materials Mechanics and Tribology at Sandia National Laboratories.

DelRio's research focuses on the development and use of materials and assemblies for small-scale mechanical applications via advancements in stand-alone and integrative mechanical measurement and microscopy techniques.

EDWARD ORTON JR. MEMORIAL LECTURE provides a learned lecture in a field related to the interests of the Society's membership.

Advanced ceramics for energy transition and decarbonization



Alexander Michaelis, FACerS, is director of the Fraunhofer Institute for Ceramic Technologies and Systems, Germany, and chair of inorganic nonmetallic materials in the Institute of Materials Science at Dresden University of Technology, Germany.

Michaelis' research focuses on advancing electroceramics and energy systems using hybrid manufacturing approaches that couple additive processes with 2D thick film functionalization. These efforts have seeded spin outs and first-of-their-kind demonstrations, such as integrated co-electrolysis/Fischer-Tropsch pilot concepts and ceramic membrane oxygen generation for medical ventilation.

ACERS FRONTIERS OF SCIENCE AND SOCIETY RUSTUM ROY LECTURE provides a learned lecture about the relationship between science, technology, and society.

Powder processing technology for high-quality advanced materials



Makio Naito, FACerS, DLM, is Emeritus Professor at Osaka University, Japan, as well as managing director of Hosokawa Powder Technology Foundation and director of Toyo Tanso Co., Ltd.

Naito is globally recognized for his pioneering contributions to powder technology, nanoparticle processing, and advanced ceramic materials. His work focuses on interfacial engineering of particulate systems and "smart" powder processing for high-performance materials. ■

Class Awards

EPDC OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR AWARD recognizes outstanding work and creativity in teaching, directing student research, or the general educational process.



Ghatu Subhash, FACerS, is the Newton C. Ebaugh Professor and UF Research Foundation Professor of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at the University of Florida. He received his M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of California, San Diego, and conducted post-doctoral research at the California Institute of Technology.

Subhash seeks to foster students' interests in ceramic and glass sciences by empowering undergraduates to lead independent research in his laboratory and attend international conferences to present their research. He also encourages his senior graduate students to mentor the junior students under his close supervision. Furthermore, Subhash has pioneered efforts to incorporate relevant topics on ceramics not only in classroom lectures but also in specialized technical courses offered at professional society conferences, industries, and academic institutions. ■

The American Ceramic Society

2026

Annual Honors and Awards Banquet

128 Years of Advancing the Ceramics and Glass Community

Monday, Oct. 5 at MS&T26

Location: Omni William Penn Hotel (Pittsburgh, Pa.)

6–6:30 p.m. Reception (Urban Room)

6:30–9 p.m. Dinner and awards (Grand Ballroom)

Purchase banquet tickets with your conference registration or contact Erica Zimmerman at ezimmerman@ceramics.org.

Tickets must be purchased by **Sept. 21, 2026**

Division Award Lectures

GLASS & OPTICAL MATERIALS DIVISION

COOPER DISTINGUISHED LECTURE PRESENTATION



Vincenzo Sglavo, professor of materials science and technology, University of Trento, Italy

"From vision to practice: Advancing the chemical strengthening of silicate glass"

GEORGE W. MOREY AWARD



Sabyasachi Sen, Blacutt-Underwood Distinguished Professor of Materials Science and Engineering, University of California, Davis

"An oxygen-centric view of the network former vs. modifier role of high field strength cations in oxide glasses"

NORBERT J. KREIDL LECTURE

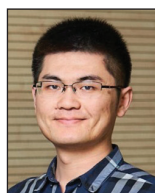


Cosmin-Constantin Popescu, senior staff engineer, 2Pi Inc., Mass.

"Phase-change metasurfaces with 2D pixel-level addressability"

ENERGY MATERIALS AND SYSTEMS DIVISION

D.T. RANKIN AWARD



Yang Bai, associate professor of energy harvesting materials and sensing, University of Oulu, Finland

"Advances and bottlenecks in energy harvesting technologies—How far are we from sustainable IoT?"

Attend your Division business meeting at MS&T26

Monday, Oct. 5

Electronics: 11 a.m.–12 p.m.

Engineering Ceramics: 12–1 p.m.

Energy Materials and Systems: 5:30–6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 6

Basic Science: 12–1 p.m.

Glass & Optical Materials: 1 p.m.–2 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 7

Art, Archaeology & Conservation Science: 2–2:20 pm

2026 ALFRED R. COOPER YOUNG SCHOLAR AWARD



Rafael Baságlio Rosante, Federal University of São Carlos, Brazil

"Leakage-free, interpretable machine learning for glass-forming ability"

2026 ALFRED R. COOPER YOUNG SCHOLAR AWARD RUNNERS-UP

Azriel Carr, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, Tenn.

"Versatile additively manufactured stained glasses via transition metal acetylacetonate dopants"

Kai Penner, University of Manitoba, Canada

"The structure and durability of phosphorus-doped borosilicate glass for nuclear waste immobilization"

Isaac Schrooten, Iowa State University, Iowa

"Influence of oxide precursors on the structure and properties of the $\text{Li}_{2.35}\text{SiS}_{2.8}\text{O}_{0.38}$ glass system"

BIOCERAMICS DIVISION

LARRY L. HENCH LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



Robert Hill, Emeritus Professor of dental physical sciences, Queen Mary University of London, U.K.

"Designing bioactive glasses based on an understanding of chemical structure"

BIOCERAMICS YOUNG SCHOLAR AWARD



Ngoc Huu Nguyen, research associate, Flinders University, Australia

"Multifunctional bioceramic interfaces for infection-resilient and regeneration bone implant"

TADASHI KOKUBO AWARD



Maziar Montazerian, professor of materials science and engineering, The Pennsylvania State University, Pa.

"Past, present, and future of bioactive glasses and glass-ceramics"