



## Ian Hardin to Receive Olney Medal

**Ian Russell Hardin** is the 2010 recipient of the Olney Medal for outstanding achievements in the field of textile chemistry.

Hardin was born in Glasgow, Scotland and raised in Birmingham, Ala., USA. He earned a BS degree in textile science from Auburn University, an MS in textile engineering from the Institute of Textile Technology, and a PhD in chemistry from Clemson University.

Hardin's career began in 1971 at Auburn University where he spent the next 22 years and attained full professorship. In 1994, Hardin moved the University of Georgia (UGA) to serve as professor and department head. In 2005, he was chosen to serve as the Georgia Power Professor of Textile Science at UGA.

### Achievements

Hardin's scholarly work has provided international impetus in applications of enzymes to fiber and textile treatments, and in substituting natural protein catalysts for conventional chemical applications. His laboratory was the first to publicly report evidence (1996 *AATCC International Conference Book of Papers*) that pectinases could effectively substitute for conventional alkaline scouring. Hardin and his graduate students have continued research toward totally enzymatic preparation treatments for cotton. They use microwave radiation to enhance enzyme accessibility to recalcitrant ligno-hemicellulosic structures in seed coat fragments.

Another area of innovative research has been Hardin's research on white rot fungi, particularly *Pleurotus ostreatus*, as a source of oxidases and laccase enzymes to decolorize textile wastewater.

Hardin has also collaborated with scientists involved in studying complex interactions between calcium and magnesium hardness and the use of *Ceriodaphnia dubia*, a "water flea," in assessing chronic toxicity of textile effluents. Their work has shown the need for revision of standard whole effluent toxicity protocols to better represent local surface water chemistries.

### Honors and Awards

Hardin is a member of several honor societies and has been recognized with university awards, including "Outstanding Faculty Member in the School of Human Sciences" and "Award for Distinguished Service" from the Auburn University Faculty Senate, and the "Love of Learning Award" from Phi Kappa Phi's UGA chapter. He was selected as an honorary guest professor at Donghua University in September 2002.

Hardin joined AATCC in 1963. He currently serves as chair of the newly established Young Entrepreneur Award Committee and is the faculty advisor for

UGA's student chapter of AATCC. He also served on the Awards Oversight Committee, AATCC Foundation, Concept 2 Consumer Interest Group, Henry E. Millson Award for Invention Committee, Executive Committee on Research, Textile Education Committee, and RA75 Correlation of Laboratory Tests with End Use Performance. He has published numerous articles in AATCC magazines and has made several presentations at AATCC conferences and symposia.

Hardin is president of The Fiber Society, and is a member of the American Chemical Society and Sigma Xi. He has published more than 95 research articles, book chapters, and research reports, and has presented more than 115 research presentations, some as keynote addresses, at conferences in North America, Europe, and Asia.

## The Olney Medal

Established in 1944 in honor of Louis Atwell Olney, the founder and first president of AATCC, the Olney Medal recognizes outstanding achievement in textile or polymer chemistry or other fields of chemistry of major importance to textile science. The award consists of a gold medal, a scroll, and an honorarium.

Presentation of the medal each year is a highlight of AATCC's International Conference. This year, the Association will present the Olney Medal at the conference awards luncheon at noon on Thursday, March 24, at the Francis Marion Hotel in Charleston, S. C., USA. Hardin will deliver the traditional Olney Medal Address, "The Organic Ties Between Biology and Textile Chemistry: Fungi, Enzymes, and Green Chemistry," on Thursday morning, March 24, at 8:15 a.m.

For a complete list of past Olney medalists, visit [www.aatcc.org/general/awards/olney](http://www.aatcc.org/general/awards/olney)

