



Peter Hauser to Receive the Olney Medal

Peter J. Hauser is this year's recipient of the AATCC Olney Medal Award for his contributions to the textile industry, first as an industry scientist and then textile chemistry professor, in industrial textile wet processing research and development.

Hauser graduated from NCSU with a BS in chemistry in 1969, and a PhD in Chemistry in 1974. He began his career as a senior research chemist for Milliken Research Corp. in 1973, where he worked to develop internally-colored fugitive tints for nylon fibers, aqueous and non-polar solvent-soluble fugitive tints, as well as durable soil release and anti-soil re-deposition for polyester fabric through the application of small amounts of modified cellulose acetate. In 1985, he joined Burlington Industries as manager of the chemical development laboratory in Greensboro, NC, USA, where he and coworkers developed flame retardant treatments for polyester cotton blends. In 1987, he moved to The Virkler Co. as a senior research chemist.

He began his teaching career at the College of Textiles in the Textile Engineering, Chemistry & Science Department at North Carolina State University (NCSU) in 1997 as an associate professor teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in all areas of textile wet processing and became director of graduate programs and associate department head in 2004. He became a full professor in 2005, and served as interim department head from 2014-2017. He has also served as a technical consultant for textile wet processing and as an experienced expert witness for patent litigation.

Achievements

Hauser's early research involved developing and commercially verifying a mathematical model for continuous indigo yarn dyeing. He went on to develop cationic bleach activators for cotton bleaching, as well as demonstrating that cationized cotton is a viable, sustainable approach to dyeing cotton with fiber reactive dyes that eliminates the need for electrolytes and produces deeper shades with less water and energy. Most recently, Hauser has been pioneering research in the practical use of atmospheric pressure plasma for textile finishing.

Hauser has authored or co-authored 120 peer-reviewed papers, three book chapters, one book on chemical textile finishing, and edited two books on textile wet processing. He and co-workers have been issued 10 US patents, including patents for flame retardant cotton blends, exhaust process for dyeing aramid fibers, cationic bleach activator, and ionic cross-linking of ionic cotton. He has directed 31 MS and 21 PhD students and has made more than 95 research presentations, many of them at AATCC International Conferences and symposia.

Professional Societies

Hauser has been a member of AATCC since 1977. He served as AATCC President-Elect (2011-2012), President (2013-2014), and Immediate Past-President and chair of the Appropriations Committee (2015-2016). He chaired AATCC Foundation Board of Directors while President of AATCC, and continues to serve on the Foundation Board. Currently, he serves on the Appropriations, Building and Grounds, and Employee Benefits Committees. He also serves or has served on the following research committees: Preparation, Finish Analysis, and Home Laundering Technology Test Method Committees; Garment Wet Processing; and Water Resistance, Absorbency & Wetting Agent Evaluation Test Method.

Hauser is also a member of the American Chemical Society, the Society of Dyers & Colourists, and the Textile Institute.

Hauser and his wife, Helen, have three sons and four grandchildren.

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 conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency, Greenville, SC, USA, from March 6-8, 2018. The Association will present the Olney Medal at the Awards Luncheon on March 8, 2018.

Hauser will deliver the traditional Olney Medal Address on March 8 at 8:15 a.m. The title of his talk is "Cationized Cotton: Opportunities and Challenges."

For a complete list of our esteemed past award recipients, visit
www.aatcc.org/abt/awards/olney/olney-medal-recipients