



## S. Haig Zeronian is the 2014 Olney Medal Recipient

**S. Haig Zeronian** is the 2014 recipient of the Olney Medal for his significant research contributions on the relationship between polymer structure and single fiber mechanical properties in natural and manufactured fibers.

Zeronian received an Honors in BSc Tech and a MSc Tech in Textile Chemistry from Manchester University in 1953 and 1955, respectively. After receiving his masters, he was drafted into the UK Royal Air Force for national service. From there, he worked for two years as a research officer in the Chemistry Department of the British Cotton Industry Research Association (also known as the Shirley Institute), before returning to the University of Manchester in 1960. He received his PhD in Cellulose Chemistry in 1962, and went to work as a research fellow at the Institute of Paper Chemistry in Appleton, WI, USA. After a year, he returned to Manchester, UK, as a senior research fellow in Nonwoven Fabrics at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology. Two years later, he took an appointment as a research associate in the Cellulose Research Section of Columbia Cellulose Co., Ltd., in Vancouver, BC, Canada.

In 1968, Zeronian became an assistant professor in textile science at the University of California,

Davis, CA, USA. From 1978 through 1986, Zeronian chaired the Division of Textiles and Clothing. He received a DSc in Polymer and Fiber Science from the University of Manchester in 1983, while continuing to progress to full professor at the University of California, Davis. In 1983, he added professor of Mechanical Engineering (Materials Sciences) to his list of duties at University of California, Davis. He is now professor emeritus of the Division of Textiles and Clothing, University of California, Davis, and continues to speak on the chemistry of cellulose.

### Achievements

Zeronian has made significant contributions to the understanding of the relationship of fiber structure and properties for natural and manufactured products, manufactured fiber structure, and degradation mechanisms; as well as the location of water, dyes, and textile finishes in cotton fibers. Zeronian's research on the mechanical properties of natural and manufactured fibers has been primarily tensile, but has also included brittleness (measured by the breaking twist angle [BTA] method), and flex life. Some of his research used various probes to determine structure, including dyes and other chemical treatments, and high-energy radiation. His research on cotton has included the effects of mercerization, liquid ammonia treatment, and crosslinking on physical properties, including differences in the brittleness, flex life, and tensile properties of different species.

Zeronian's research group of graduate students, colleagues, and visiting scholars to the Zeronian Laboratory have made significant contributions to the understanding of cellulose water relations, and the cause of hysteresis in the sorption isotherms of cellulose. Zeronian also studied the many aspects of textile finishing, including the influence of moisture on the flame resistance of fabrics, a comparison of the hydrolysis of cotton after slack and tension mercerization by enzymatic and acid hydrolysis, and the effect of fine structure and morphology on the properties of crosslinked cellulosic fibers.

Zeronian has published more than 120 papers and three textbooks, and has presented over 75 technical talks at professional meetings.

### Honors and Awards

Zeronian is a member of the American Chemical Society (Cellulose, Paper, and Textile Division), and

from this society he received two awards: The Division Fellow Award in 1993, and the Anselme Payen Award in 1996.

Zeronian is a senior emeritus member of AATCC; he joined the Association in 1969. He is a member of the Fiber Society, and this year, was accorded honorary membership. He also served on the editorial board of the journal, *Cellulose*.

## 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 Hilton Savannah Desoto, Savannah, GA, USA from March 24-26, 2015. The Association will present the Olney Medal at the Awards Luncheon on March 26, 2015.

Zeronian will deliver the traditional Olney Medal Address on March 26 at 8:15 a.m. The title of his talk is "Contributions to the Chemistry and Physics of Cotton Fibers."

For a complete list of our esteemed past award recipients, visit [www.aatcc.org/awards/olney.htm](http://www.aatcc.org/awards/olney.htm)



## Kanti A. Jasani is the Harold C. Chapin Award Recipient

In recognition of his outstanding service to the Association, AATCC has named **Kantilal** ("Kanti") **A. Jasani** as the 2014 recipient of the Harold C. Chapin Award.

### AATCC Activities

Kanti Jasani has served the Association with honor and distinction since he became a member in 1972. Jasani has viewed his career in textiles and member-

ship in AATCC as a harmonious blending of service to the worldwide textile community.

Jasani is currently the Regional Board Member for the Central Atlantic Region; he also serves on the AATCC Board of Directors. Jasani has served on the following test method committees for over 20 years: Home Laundering Technology, Colorfastness to Washing, Appearance Retention, Color Measurement, and Colorfastness to Atmospheric Contaminants. He has served on UV Protective Textiles, Global Sustainability Technology, Evaluation of Materials & Products for End User Performance, and Global Sustainability Technology for 15 years or more. He is a member of the Committee on Conferences and Membership Committee. He also serves on the AATCC Foundation Student Research Support Grant Committee, and has served in this capacity since 2000.

Jasani was a member of Hand Evaluation and Colorfastness to Perspiration Test Method Committees. He served on the Education Advisory Board, Textile Education Committee, and Publications Committee. He also served on the AATCC Olney Award Committee from 1998-2002, and chaired this committee in 2003.

Nationally, Jasani was AATCC Regional Vice-President from 2003-2005, and AATCC Central Atlantic Regional Board member from 2005-2008. Locally, he joined the AATCC Delaware Valley Section in 1999, and is an active member of this section. He also was a member of the AATCC Hudson Mohawk Section from 1975 to 1993 and, during this time, was active in several positions.