Speaker Bio

James Stevens

Dr. James C. Stevens is a Corporate Fellow in the Core Research and Development Department of The Dow Chemical Company, where he has worked for 30 years. Jim's primary field of research is in the area of new catalysts, particularly in the area of polyethylene, polypropylene, ethylene/styrene copolymers, and the high-throughput discovery of organometallic single-site catalysts. He has been involved with the discovery and commercial implementation of Dow's INSITE* Technology and Constrained-Geometry Catalysts, which are used in the production of over 2 billion pounds of polyolefins per year. Dr. Stevens is now working to develop solar energy products and is involved in the development of Dow's PowerHouse Solar Shingle. Dr. Stevens is an inventor on 88 issued US patents, has 18 publications, and two books. Jim has won a Dow "Inventor of the Year" award 5 times, and was presented the Dow Central Research "Excellence in Science" Award. In 1994, Jim was a co-recipient of the United States "National Inventor of the Year" Award, presented in the United States Congress. In 2002, The Dow Chemical Company was awarded the National Medal of Technology by President George Bush, based in part on the work of Dr. Stevens in the area of olefin polymerization catalysis. Jim is the 2004 recipient of the ACS Delaware Section "Carothers Award", honoring scientific innovators who have made outstanding advances and contributions to industrial chemistry. Jim was awarded the American Chemical Society "ACS Award in Industrial Chemistry" in 2006. Dr. Stevens also received the Herbert H. Dow Medal, the highest honor Dow awards to the company's scientists and researchers. Jim was awarded the 100th presentation of the Perkin Medal in 2007, widely considered to be the highest honor in American industrial chemistry. Jim was the 2007 recipient of the University of Chicago Bloch Medal.

Jim has invented or contributed significantly to the commercialization of a large number of commercial products, including AFFINITY* polyolefin Plastomers, ENGAGE* polyolefin elastomers, ELITE* enhanced polyethylene resins, NORDEL*-MG EPDM rubber, NORDEL*-IP elastomers, Dow XLA-fibers, INDEX* ethylene/styrene copolymers, VERSIFY* propylene copolymers, and INFUSE* Olefin Block Copolymers.

Jim received a B.A. in Chemistry from The College of Wooster in 1975. He obtained a Ph. D. in Inorganic Chemistry from The Ohio State University in 1979. He is a member of the American Chemical Society and a Fellow of the AAAS. Jim is an advisor on the NSF Center for Chemical Innovation, Solar Fuels based at Caltech.