

Guy C. Berry, emeritus University Professor of chemistry, is widely recognized as a leader in rheology and light scattering of polymers. Rheology, a branch of mechanics, is the study of those properties of materials that determine their response to mechanical force.

Berry has a long history of outstanding contributions to the literature in experimental fluid physics using mechanical methods and light scattering, as well as in theoretical concepts of the rheology and thermodynamics of complex fluids. His work has advanced the study of important issues in the conformation and dynamics of macromolecules.

His contributions have impacted both academia and industry in many fields, including polymer science, fluid physics, chemistry and chemical engineering. Over the course of his career Berry has been a leader in the polymer community. He served as a founding member of the Governing Board of the International Symposium on Polymer Analysis and Characterization since 1988, and as the Chair of that group from 2004 through 2014. He was one of 12 delegates and speakers at the China-U.S. Bilateral Symposium on Polymer Chemistry and Physics in Beijing, China, in 1979.

Berry began his career in polymer science as an undergraduate laboratory assistant at the University of Michigan. After earning his doctoral degree in 1960 he accepted an appointment as a Fellow at Mellon Institute to work on the light scattering studies of dilute solutions of polymers. He became a senior Fellow of the Mellon Institute in 1965 and joined the faculty of Carnegie Mellon when Mellon Institute merged with the Carnegie Institute of Technology in 1967. He was promoted to professor in 1973 and became a University Professor in 2001.

During his tenure at the university Berry was head of the Chemistry Department and acting dean of the Mellon College of Science. He developed and directed the polymer science curriculum, which has been used by students from various departments and colleges over the past 25 years.

Berry has authored about 200 publications and is co-editor of Progress in Polymer Science and the Journal of Polymer Science: Polymer Physics. He served as an editor of the Journal of Polymer Science, Physics Edition for several years and has been an editorial board member of several other journals as well. He received the prestigious Bingham Medal in 1990 from the Society of Rheology and the Pittsburgh Award in 1994 from the American Chemical Society's Pittsburgh Section. He became a Fellow of the American Physical Society in 1995, and was selected as an American Chemical Society PMSE Fellow by the Polymeric Materials: Science and Engineering Division in 2003.