

Speaker Profile



Richard W. Siegel, Ph.D.

Robert W. Hunt Professor, Materials Science and Engineering and Director, Rensselaer Nanotechnology Center

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Dr. Siegel is the Robert W. Hunt Professor of Materials Science and Engineering and founding Director of the Nanotechnology Center at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He is also Director of the National Science Foundation Nanoscale Science and Engineering Center for Directed Assembly of Nanostructures.

He was graduated from Williams College in 1958 with an AB degree in physics and received an MS degree in physics in 1960 and a PhD degree in metallurgy in 1965 from the University of Illinois in Urbana. After two years of post-doctoral materials research at Cornell University, Siegel served from 1966 to 1976 on the faculty of the State University of New York at Stony Brook in the Department of Materials Science. He was a research scientist in the Materials Science Division at Argonne National Laboratory from 1974 to 1995, serving for most of that time as group leader in the areas of metal physics and defects in metals and as a research program manager.

Dr. Siegel has been a visiting professor in Germany, Israel, India, Switzerland and Japan and has been active in local, national, and international professional organizations. He is currently a member of the Nanotechnology Technical Advisory Group of the US President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology. He was chairman of the World Technology Evaluation Center worldwide study on nanostructure science and technology during 1996-98 that led to the US National Nanotechnology Initiative in 2001. He was past chairman (1992-96) of the International Committee on Nanostructured Materials.

Dr. Siegel has authored more than 200 publications in the areas of defects in metals, diffusion, and nanophase metal, ceramic, composite, and biomaterials, presented more than 400 invited lectures around the world, and edited ten books on these subjects. He is a founder and Director of Nanophase Technologies Corporation, and was recognized for this effort by a 1991 US Federal Laboratory Consortium Award for Excellence in Technology Transfer. Dr. Siegel is an Honorary Member of the Materials Research Societies of India and Japan, and a 1994 recipient of an Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Senior Research Award in Germany. In 2001, he was named a RIKEN Eminent Scientist in Japan. Dr. Siegel recently received a 2003 Deutsche Bank Prize "Pioneer of Nanotechnology – Nanomaterials" in Germany.

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