



Dr. R. Byron Pipes



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W I N N E R

MEDAL OF EXCELLENCE

IN COMPOSITE MATERIALS

The 1994 Medal of Excellence in Composite Materials is awarded to Dr. R. Byron Pipes, President of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and former Director of the University of Delaware Center for Composite Materials. Pipes was selected for the award based on his pioneering research on interlaminar stresses in laminated composites as well as on his innovative approach to working with industry. As CCM Director, Pipes initiated the University-Industry Research Consortium, which over the years has attracted most of the major composite materials suppliers and end users in the U.S. and worldwide. Pipes holds a master's degree from Princeton and a Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Arlington.

In 1985, under his leadership, the Center was named the NSF National Engineering Research Center for Composites Manufacturing Science and Engineering. Later that year, Pipes became Dean of the College of Engineering. In 1987, he was elected to the National Academy of Engineering, and two years later he was named Robert L. Spencer Professor of Engineering. After serving as Provost from 1991 to 1993, Pipes left Delaware to become President of Rensselaer.

Despite his extensive administrative responsibilities, Pipes maintained an active research program in sheet and stretch forming of thermoplastic composites. He has co-authored four books and edited one book series (the Elsevier Publishers COMPOSITE MATERIALS SERIES). His 80-plus refereed publications have received some 350 citations. Pipe's most recent book, *Experimental Characterization of Advanced Composite Materials*, was published in 1987 and has since been translated into several other languages.

Pipes is on the editorial boards of *Polymer Composites*, *Reinforced Plastics and Composites*, and the *International Journal of Composite Structures*. He has served on some 20 state and national panels and committees, including the Aeronautics and Space Engineering Board, the U. S. Army Science Board, the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment Advisory Panel, and the State of Delaware Governor's High-Technology Task Force.