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Biography

Samy El-Shall is a Professor of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU). He received his B.S. and M.S. degrees from Cairo University in Egypt, and a Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry with Distinction from Georgetown University in 1986. He did postdoctoral research in nucleation and clusters at the University of California, Los Angeles from 1986-1989. His research interests are in the general areas of molecular clusters, ion-induced nucleation, gas phase and cluster polymerization, synthesis and properties of nanostructured materials, photoluminescence properties of nanoparticles and nanocatalysis. He has published over 185 papers in the most prestigious and widely read journals of Chemistry, Chemical Physics, Chemistry of Materials, and Nanomaterials. Dr. El-Shall was awarded several US patents (7 issued, 4 pending) on the synthesis of nanoparticles, photoluminescence of silicon nanocrystals, magnetic intermetallic nanoparticles, nanoparticle catalysts, and nanoparticle additives for fuels and lubricants. Dr. El-Shall received the Exxon Education Award in 1994 and 1995. In 1999, he was honored with the Outstanding Faculty Award of the State Council of Higher Education of Virginia (SCHEV), Virginia's highest faculty honor. Dr. El-Shall received the Distinguished Research Award in 2009 from the Virginia Section of the American Chemical Society. In 2009, he was awarded the Innovative Research Award from the Society of Automotive Engineering International for his research on novel oil soluble nanoparticles to reduce friction and enhance lubrication.

Dr. El-Shall is a member of the Editorial Advisory Boards of the Journal of Physical Chemistry, the Journal of Photoenergy and the Physical Chemistry Reviews. He is member of the US National Committee for the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry since 2005. He was the chairman of the “*International Conference on Nanoparticles from the Vapor Phase Synthesis with Chemical and Biochemical Applications*” in Davos, Switzerland, 2004. He also organized and chaired several workshops sponsored by the National Science Foundation on *Advanced Materials, Lasers in Chemistry and Biomedical Applications, Nanomaterials and Nanotechnology*. He is the Chair of the NSF Advanced Studies Institute on *Nanocatalysis for Energy and Environmental Applications* to be held in Cairo, Egypt in 2010. Dr. El-Shall’s research has been supported by the National Science Foundation, NASA, NIST, Petroleum Research Fund, Dreyfus Foundation, Jeffress Memorial Trust, Exxon, Dow Corning, Philip Morris, and Afton Chemical.