

## The Robert A. Meyer Award 2019

Dr. Robert A. Meyer is best remembered for his gentle demeanor and his dedicated service to the American Carbon Society. His commitment to the goals of the Society and his assistance in organizing the Society's technical conferences has contributed to the continued success of the Society.

Bob was born in Brooklyn, NY. He received his B.S. degree from the University of Rochester and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Yale University. He spent the majority of his career in California working in the nuclear and aerospace industries. At the General Atomic Division of the General Dynamics Corporation in San Diego he studied the thermal conductivity and irreversible dimensional changes of irradiated graphite, the use of boron carbide-graphite for control rods, and the effects of irradiation on boron oxide matrix fuel pellets. At the Aerospace Corporation in El Segundo CA, his research focused on the microstructure of carbons and its effect on erosion, sublimation, and mechanical properties- principally of carbon-carbon composites.

While at the Aerospace Corporation, he also worked on a variety of other materials problems for the United States Space Program, including work on tile structures for the Space Shuttle program. In addition, he led a team that resolved the issue of the premature failure of satellite structural systems, for which he received the company's President's Award.

His service to the carbon community was extensive. After serving 6 years on the Advisory Board, he served twelve years (1983–95) as an elected member of the Executive Committee of the American Carbon Society and was Chairman during his final two years of service. He was chairman of the organizing committee for the 1991 US carbon conference at the University of California, Santa Barbara, an event well remembered by those who attended, not only for the scenic setting, but also its efficient organization.

This triennial award has been established by the *American Carbon Society* in memory of Bob Meyer. The award package consists of \$500, a complimentary conference registration and a certificate. Since Bob was a great champion of student involvement in R&D, the award is intended as a travel grant for graduate students and post-docs to attend the World Carbon Conferences held in the Americas.

The award will be made upon evaluation of three documents:

- (1) abstract submitted to the *Carbon 2019* conference,
- (2) a short CV (with date of award of PhD degree) and
- (3) a recommendation letter provided by the applicant's supervisor or a close colleague.

Self-nominations will be accepted. All carbon-related topics will be considered, but applicants doing research on structural carbons, carbon fibers and filamentous carbons, as well as characterization of micro- or nano-structure of carbon materials are especially encouraged to apply.

Nominations for the 2019 award are now being solicited. It is a condition of the award that the winner attends the conference and presents his or her paper either orally or as a poster.

The application closing date is ***March 15, 2019***. The applications should be sent electronically (in MS Word or PDF format) to:

Dr. Karla L. Strong

[carbonaward@gmail.com](mailto:carbonaward@gmail.com)