



Professor David Williams

David Williams was trained as a materials scientist at the University of Birmingham, UK (B.Sc. 1965, Ph.D. 1969, D.Sc. 1982). In 1968 he took up a faculty position in the School of Medicine at the University of Liverpool, UK, where he remained for 40 years, writing, researching and teaching on the science of biomaterials. He created the Department of Clinical Engineering in the University and was its Head for 20 years. He was granted a Personal Chair in the University in 1984, then the youngest person in the history of the University to receive such an honour. Towards the end of his career in Liverpool, he became the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (equivalent to Academic Vice-President) of the University, and then won major funding from the British Government to form, in collaboration with the University of Manchester, the UK Centre for Tissue Engineering, of which he became Director. He was instrumental in obtaining over 25 million euro for a European Union Integrated Project, involving 25 partners across Europe, for a systems engineering approach to tissue engineering (STEPS). Professor Williams has extensive experience with medical device and regenerative medicine companies, and significant experience in both patent and product liability litigation.

Professor Williams is the Editor-in-Chief of *Biomaterials*, now the leading journal in the field of biomaterials science. During his research career he has published over 30 books, including the first text book in this area, *Implants in Surgery*, and the *Williams Dictionary of Biomaterials*, and around 400 papers. He has presented keynote and plenary lectures at conferences in over 30 countries over the last 30 years. He has received the major awards from the US (Clemson Award 1982, Founders Award 2007), European (George Winter Award, 1996), UK (Presidents Award 2004, Chapman Medal of the Institute of Materials, 2007) and Indian (Sharma Award 2008) societies of biomaterials. He was a scientific adviser to the European Commission and wrote many Opinions on which European laws in health technology and nanotechnology are based. In 1999 he was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering in recognition of his contributions to engineering in medicine.

Professor Williams left the University of Liverpool, and the UK, at the end of 2007. While retaining the title of Emeritus Professor at Liverpool, he is currently Professor of Biomaterials and Director of International Affairs, Wake Forest Institute of Regenerative Medicine, North Carolina, USA., where he has responsibilities for establishing and managing international collaborations. He is also a Visiting Professor in the Christiaan Barnard Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Cape Town, South Africa, a Visiting Professorial Fellow at the Graduate School of Biomedical Engineering, University of New South Wales, Australia, and a Guest Professor, Tsinghua University, Beijing, and Visiting Professor, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China. He spends approximately 5 months a year in the USA, 1 in Europe, 2 in South Africa, 2 in Australasia and 2 in Asia.

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