



Professor Robert M. McMeeking

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Department of Mechanical Engineering and Department of Materials
University of California, Santa Barbara

Robert M. McMeeking earned a B.Sc. (with 1st class Honours) in mechanical engineering at the University of Glasgow, Scotland in 1972, finishing first in his class of mechanical engineers. He then completed his M.S. and Ph.D. in solid mechanics at Brown University under the supervision of Professor James R. Rice with dissertations on finite deformation plasticity methods for finite elements and ductile crack tip blunting in metals. He was at Stanford University for 2 years working on metal forming problems with Professor Erastus H. Lee. After seven years at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign on the faculty of the Theoretical and Applied Mechanics Department, Dr. McMeeking came to UCSB in 1985 as Professor of Materials and of Mechanical and Environmental Engineering. He was Chair of the Department of Mechanical and Environmental Engineering at UCSB in 1992-1995 and again during 1999-2003.

He has published over 230 scientific papers on such subjects as plasticity, fracture mechanics, computational methods, glaciology, tough ceramics, composite materials, materials processing, powder consolidation and sintering, ferroelectrics, structural evolution, nanotribology, actuating structures, blast and fragment protection of structures, fluid structure interactions arising from underwater blast waves, and the mechanics of the cell and its cytoskeleton.

In 1983, Professor McMeeking was a Science and Engineering Research Council Senior Visiting Fellow at Cambridge University. Later, in 1995-1996 he spent a year as a Visiting Professor at Cambridge University and honored as a Visiting Scholar at Pembroke College. He was Southwest Mechanics Lecturer in 1988, a Plenary Lecturer at the Seventh International Congress on Fracture in 1989, was honored as a Midwest Mechanics Lecturer in 1992-93, and as the Arthur Newell Talbot Lecturer at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2007. In 1998 he was elected to Fellow grade in the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and in 2002 was recognized by the Institute for Scientific Information as a Highly Cited Researcher in the fields of Materials Science and Engineering. He was also promoted to Fellow of the American Academy of Mechanics in 2002 and in 2004 given an Alexander von Humboldt Research Award for Senior U.S. Scientists.

Dr. McMeeking was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 2005, and given the Brown Engineering Alumni Medal by Brown University in 2007. He has served as a reviewer for funding agencies such as NSF, DOE and ARO in the US and for those of the United Kingdom, Austria, Denmark, Hong Kong, Ireland and Sweden. He is active in consulting for medical devices manufacturers and other companies on mechanical stress, fatigue life, fracture and ferroelectric devices. He was Associate Editor of the ASME Journal of Applied Mechanics, 1987-93 and is currently Editor for the term 2002-2012. He is an editorial board member for several journals in the fields of solid mechanics and materials and has reviewed for all the major journals in his field. In addition to his appointment at UCSB, Dr. McMeeking is Sixth Century Professor of Engineering Materials (Part-time) at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland, Visiting Professor of Materials Engineering at the University of the Saarland, Germany, and External Member of the Leibniz Institute for New Materials, Saarbruecken.