



HONORARY FELLOWS

SYLVIA JOHNSON USA



Sylvia M. Johnson retired as the Chief Materials Technologist for Entry Systems and Vehicles at NASA-Ames Research Center in Moffett Field, CA, USA in 2016. She served as President of the American Ceramic Society in 2018-2019.

Sylvia received a B.Sc. (Hons). in Ceramic Engineering from the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia. She received an MS and Ph.D. in Materials Science and Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley, CA, USA. From 1982 to 2000 she worked at SRI International in Menlo Park, CA, USA, most recently as Director of Ceramic and Chemical Technology. She joined NASA-Ames Research Center in 2000 as chief of the Materials and Systems Branch and later as the Chief Materials Technologist for Entry Systems and Vehicles.

Her research interests are in processing and characterization of ceramics. AT SRI International she worked on preceramic polymers, coating and fiber synthesis, and composite materials amongst other materials. At NASA-Ames her work focused on thermal protection materials for space vehicles. She worked extensively on Ultra High Temperature Ceramics, and was instrumental in restoring interest in and attention to these materials. She has approximately 60 published papers and 8 patents.

She has been an Honorary Professor of Materials Science and Engineering at the University of Birmingham, UK since 2017.

She has served the American Ceramic Society in many capacities, most recently on the Board and as President. Dr. Johnson is a recipient of the 2011 James I. Mueller Award from the American Ceramic Society and was inducted into the World Academy of Ceramics in 2014. She presented the Edward Orton Jr. Memorial Lecture for the American Ceramic Society in October 2015 and is featured in the book, *Women in Ceramics*, (2015) and on the women of NASA website. She received numerous awards from NASA. She was Technical Committee Chair for the International Ceramic Federation from 2008-2019.

As President of the American Ceramic Society Sylvia helped to lead the effort to organize greater coordination with the European Ceramic Society, resulting in the formation of a joint award, symposia, and planning meetings.