

Mary Anne White

Harry Shirreff Professor of Chemical Research (Emerita) at Dalhousie University

Halifax, NS, CA

Science Expert, with Specialty in Chemistry of Materials

Biography

Mary Anne White is Harry Shirreff Professor of Chemical Research (Emerita) at Dalhousie University, Halifax. She is a specialist in the research area of energetics and thermal properties of materials. Mary Anne is an author of more than 180 research papers and also a textbook, "Physical Properties of Materials," now in its second edition. She also is Editor for Materials Science for the McGraw-Hill Encyclopedia of Science and Technology. Mary Anne has been active throughout her career in bringing science to the general public: helping establish the hands-on Discovery Centre in Halifax; many presentations for schools, the general public and others (including a lecture for Members of Canada's Parliament and Senate in the Bacon & Egghead series); booklets on science activities for children; more than 150 articles for educators or the general public; appearances on television; 14 years as a regular contributor on CBC Radio's "Maritime Noon" fielding listeners' science questions live on air. Mary Anne was awarded the 2007 McNeil Medal of the Royal Society of Canada, and a Doctor of Science (honoris causa) from both McMaster University and from UWO. She is also the recipient of the Noranda Award for contributions to physical chemistry and the Union Carbide Award for Chemical Education. In 2012, she received an American Chemical Society Award for Incorporation of Sustainability into Chemical Education. In 2013, she was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, and in 2016 she was installed as an Officer of the Order of Canada.

Industry Expertise

Chemicals, Cleantech

Areas of Expertise

Materials Science, Energy Storage, Thermoelectrics, Chemistry (General), Ice

Event Appearances

Chemistry Cafe
Chemistry Cafe

Mixing and Unmixing
SuperNova Science Camp

What's New About the Elements?
Royal Society of Canada public lecture

What's hot about cold?
public outreach

Education

McMaster University
PhD Chemistry

UWO
BSc Chemistry

Accomplishments

Officer of the Order of Canada

for her contributions to chemistry, which have advanced our understanding of the thermal properties of materials, and for her leadership in science outreach initiatives

Fellowship in the Royal Society of Canada

Mary Anne White is a world leader in experimental investigations of thermal properties of materials, at the overlap of chemistry, physics and materials science. Her contributions to the basic understanding of thermal conduction in solids and phase stability in complex systems have advanced science and led to new directions in applications such as more efficient thermoelectric materials and thermally erasable paper.

Doctor of Science (honoris causa)

from the University of Western Ontario

Doctor of Science (honoris causa)

from McMaster University

McNeil Medal of the Royal Society of Canada

for Public Awareness of Science

American Chemical Society Award for Incorporation of Sustainability into Chemical Education
American Chemical Society Award for Incorporation of Sustainability into Chemical Education

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