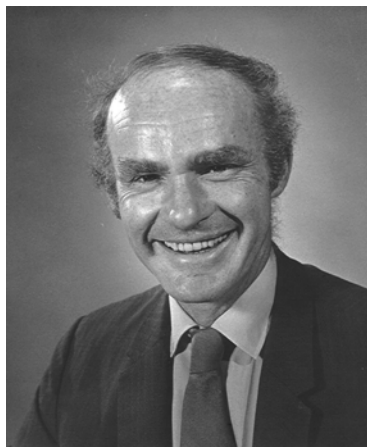


## The 1999 Ralph and Helen Oesper Awardee

Honoring

**George S. Hammond**

*Bowling Green State University*



George Hammond was born in Auburn, Maine in 1921. He attended local schools and graduated from Bates College in 1943. He worked for a brief period with the Rohm and Haas Company in Bridesburg, Pa and then went to Harvard for graduate work, receiving the PhD in 1947. He then spent a year at UCLA as a postdoctoral fellow. In 1948 he went to Iowa State College (now University) as Assistant Professor and advanced to the rank of Full Professor at that institution. In 1958 he joined the faculty at Caltech.

At Caltech he continued work on the mechanisms of free radical and ionic reactions which he had started at Iowa State and also brought into full fruition the program in photochemistry which had been initiated at the former institution. Throughout his career he has demonstrated catholicity of research interests ranging through the entire gamut of classical chemistries and is especially proud of the fact that at one meeting of the American Chemical Societies he and his coworkers presented papers in five different divisions.

In 1972 he moved to the University of California at Santa Cruz as Professor of Chemistry and Vice Chancellor of Natural Science. He relinquished the administrative position in 1974 when he became Foreign Secretary of the National Academy of Sciences but retained his professorial position and continued his research program.

In 1978 Hammond left the academic world to accept a position as Research Director at Allied Chemical Corporation (now Allied Signal). His final position at Allied was Executive Director for Metals, Ceramics and Bioscience Research. He retired in 1988 but has continued an active career of both academic and industrial consulting. He now has active working relations with Bowling Green State University, Georgetown University, and Portland State University.

Throughout his career Hammond has had active and creative interests in both teaching and research and has received numerous awards for his work in both. In 1963 he was elected to the National Academy of Sciences, was the recipient of the Priestley Medal in 1976 and in 1994 received the National Medal of Science.