

Press Release, 4 July, 2007

AIMCAL and the Society of Vacuum Coaters have agreed, using the resources of the Society of Vacuum Coaters Foundation, to establish the The Bernard Henry AIMCAL and SVC Scholarship Fund in honor of the late Bernard Henry. Members of AIMCAL and the SVC have shown their commitment to the education of students worldwide whose educational trajectory is likely to enhance science and engineering in general, and potentially vacuum and roll-coating technology in particular, and that it is appropriate to honor the memory of Bernard Henry by creating a scholarship fund in his name.

These scholarships are open to students world wide to attend qualified institutions of higher learning. By combining SVC and AIMCAL donations into a designated fund, it is believed that sufficient donations may be received to indeed create an endowed scholarship fund in Bernard Henry's memory. If the total principal donated reaches \$50,000, an endowment fund will be created, and this fund will fund an annual Bernard Henry AIMCAL-SVC Scholarship in the amount of 5% of the endowment fund assets, or a minimum of \$2500. If less than \$50,000 but more than \$5000 is collected by January 1, 2009, the principal of the fund will be used directly until exhaustion to fund an annual Bernard Henry AIMCAL-SVC Scholarship whose amount will be set by the SVC Foundation Board, but in no case will be less than \$2500. The first scholarship will be awarded in 2010. (If the principal increases to more than \$50,000 at any time, a permanent endowment will be created.)

Donations to the fund should be addressed to the SVC Foundation, 71 Pinon Hill Place NE, Albuquerque, NM 87122-1914, and should specify the Bernard Henry AIMCAL-SVC Scholarship Fund. Questions regarding this Fund or the SVC Foundation may be addressed to John Fenn (818-888-8649, [johnfenn@earthlink.net](mailto:johnfenn@earthlink.net)) or James Seeser (314-918-0160, [jseeser@aol.com](mailto:jseeser@aol.com)).

The Society of Vacuum Coaters Foundation (SVCF) is a nonprofit corporation recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

#### *About Bernard Henry*

After first degree in Materials Science and doctorate on the microscopy of semiconductor materials, both at Imperial College in London, UK, Bernard moved to Oxford University in 1995. He worked briefly on high performance cements and then on textured superconducting materials, but the major contributions for which he will be remembered as a scientist really started with his work on flexible gas barrier materials. Bernard immersed himself in the question "what really determines the permeation barrier properties of polymer/inorganic composites?" Characteristically, he was unwilling to follow the path that others had taken, being much more interested in designing new research strategies - requiring measurements in laboratories on 3 continents. The key ideas that came from this work - the importance of micron-scale defects, the

role of chemical modifications in improving permeation properties, and practical solutions to old problems on how to fabricate new and better materials - have all contributed to a better understanding of transparent permeation barriers. From 2000, Bernard started to work on polymer solar cells where his especial interest was in the transparent conducting materials like TiO<sub>2</sub> and ZnO that are a key component in these complex composites, whilst maintaining a very active interest in the thin film barrier field, and in 2006 he became the project manager for the production-scale web coater facility in the Oxford Materials Department in which role he could combine his long-standing interest in the science of thin films with the development with his industrial colleagues of new commercial materials.

To those of us who collaborated with Bernard as a busy scientist, it is remarkable to learn that he also had huge commitment to sport; for himself at the highest possible level of performance (200 and 400 meters) as a long standing member of the Thames Valley Harriers, and also organising events for young people. Bernard made friends all over the world both as a scientist and a sportsman, and we will remember him as a genuinely nice man with huge personal dignity who we were proud to know.

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For questions about this release, contact James Seeser, Chair, SVC Foundation, 5 Old Westbury Lane, St. Louis, MO 63119, USA, 314-918-0160.