

Joint Universities Consortium on Biomedical Engineering (JUCBE)

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Bioengineering: 50 Years of Progress, But Still Only a Beginning

Professor Robert M. NEREM

**Petit Institute for Bioengineering and Bioscience
Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia
USA**

Date : 15 February 2008 (Friday)
Time : 5:30 – 6:30pm
Venue : Room PQ306, 3/F, Core P,
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Abstract:

Although the formative years began in the 1940s, a critical mass of therapeutic medical technologies emerged in the second half of the last century. The impact of these technologies has been greatest in orthopedics, cardiovascular disease, and neurological disorders. The field of bioengineering has also evolved dramatically, from the application of classical engineering disciplines to solve medical problems to a revolutionary biology-based engineering perspective that is emerging today. With this there are a number of new biomedical engineering departments that have been established including the one at Georgia Tech and Emory. This expanding portfolio of engineering capabilities predicts an exciting range of possibilities for patients suffering from serious diseases as innovative new medical technologies are developed to restore function and replace failing organs with living engineered ones. In the future, however, this new biology-based engineering will have just as much application outside of the medical field as within it.

Brief Biography:

Prof. Nerem joined Georgia Tech in 1987 as the Parker H. Petit Distinguished Chair for Engineering in Medicine. He currently serves as the Director of the Parker H. Petit Institute for Bioengineering and Bioscience, and he also is the Director of the Georgia Tech/Emory Center (GTEC) for the Engineering of Living Tissues, an NSF-funded Engineering Research Center. He received his Ph.D. in 1964 from Ohio State University and was promoted to Professor in 1972, serving from 1975-1979 as Associate Dean for Research in the Graduate School. From 1979 to 1986 he was Professor and Chairman of the Department of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Houston. Professor Nerem is the author of more than 200 publications. He is a Fellow and was the founding President of the American Institute of Medical and Biological Engineering (1992-1994), and he is past President of the Tissue Engineering Society International. In addition, he was the part-time Senior Advisor for Bioengineering in the new National Institute for Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering at the National Institutes of Health (2003-2006). In 1988 Professor Nerem was elected to the National Academy of Engineering (NAE), and he served on the NAE Council (1998-2004). In 1992 he was elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences and in 1998 a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Professor Nerem serves on the scientific advisory board of AtheroGenics, Inc. (Alpharetta, GA) and Tension (Winston Salem, NC). Research interests include biomechanics, cardiovascular devices, cellular engineering, vascular biology, and tissue engineering and regenerative medicine.

Any enquiries, please contact Miss Lillian Lee at 3400-8643.

All are Welcome!

