

The Engineering Institute of Canada Fellow Citation - 2003

Dr. Murray R. Gray - A Member of the Canadian Society for Chemical Engineering

Dr. Gray received a Bachelor of Applied Science in Chemical Engineering from the University of Toronto, a Master of Engineering and a PhD. in chemical engineering from the California Institute of Technology. He is currently a Professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering at the University of Alberta.

Dr. Gray has spent his career to date with the University of Alberta as a researcher and teacher. During that time he has also held the position of Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research for a five-year term. In his own research Dr. Gray has become one of the most accomplished chemical engineers in Canada. He has special expertise in the general area of hydrocarbon processing, combining broad knowledge with innovative research ideas and experimental measurements. In particular he has made very significant contributions to the understanding of the kinetics of high temperature carbon reactions. As you might expect this work is of direct relevance to the tar sands of northern Alberta, which we all recognize as one of the future principal sources of energy for North America. His work has brought a greater understanding of the complexities of the reaction processes, and has contributed greatly to Syncrude in its efforts to improve their technology for extracting energy from oil sands bitumen and heavy oil. Dr. Gray has been recognized for this work by the awarding of the NSERC Industrial Research Chair about two years ago, as well as a number of other prestigious honours. As we move into the twenty-first century the work of Dr. Gray will no doubt provide great value for Canada, and society in general, in recognition at the central role that energy will play in world affairs.

Dr. Gray also serves the CSChE with distinction, having been president over the last year. He has also chaired the Grant Selection Committee for NSERC, spearheading an effort that resulted in increased funding and its reallocation across Canada.

In recognition of diverse interests and work on behalf of his University and all Canadians, Dr. Gray has been awarded the honour of Fellow of the Engineering Institute of Canada.

Ladies and Gentlemen, and Mr. President – Dr. Murray R. Gray