

The Engineering Institute of Canada 2020 Award Citation EIC Fellow



Michael Cunningham

Nominated by the Canadian Society for Chemical Engineering

Professor Cunningham has made research achievements in sustainable engineering which have attracted the attention of academics worldwide, as well as numerous companies, several of whom have sent their graduate students and researchers to study with him.

His career began at the Xerox Research Centre of Canada where he developed water-based coatings to replace existing solvent-based coatings. Xerox commercialized the product that is still being manufactured for global use. At Queen's, he has focused on making polymeric materials by processes that have reduced environmental impact but are also feasible for industrial use. He has pioneered the development of new polymers using water-based processes, and polymers derived from renewable, bio-based polymers. His research work has significantly advanced the sustainability of engineering practices and been recognised through several national and international awards.

He has been an active contributor to the engineering community, including many years of service to the CSChE. He has given lectures to the community including schools, children's summer camps, Kingston Chamber of Commerce, and City Council. He has taught industrial courses for over 15 years, participated in several Ontario Ministry of Environment events, and consults internationally.

Ladies and gentlemen, and Mr. President, please welcome Michael Cunningham as a Fellow of the Engineering Institute of Canada.